

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 2015-2016 Season

The Friends have just completed another exciting "46th Season" with a great array of programs and events. This has been made possible by the dedicated volunteers noted below. I wish to thank each of them for their efforts. They have truly been the life blood of the success of this organization.

Teresa Stefanski---Vice-President and Bake Sale Chair (2014 Fall and 2015 Spring)

Anthony Arruda---Treasurer

Mary Rowe---Secretary

Judy McCabe---Art Chair—45th Annual Regional Juried Art Show

Leslie Haven---Music Chair—Oct. 8th--The Jalapeno Quartet, Nov. 5th--Rhythm Future Quartet,
Mar. 11th—Prelude to Spring concert and May 20th--18th Anick Young People's
Performing Arts Festival Concert

Jayne Stokes--- Web Manager

James Nims---Photography Chair—"Veterans Special Tribute Program"

Gaye Rowe--- Membership Chair

Peggy Schwarz Ayers---Special Programs Chair—Oct. 15th—Susan B. Anthony, Oct. 21st--Marlborough
Authors, Nov. 12th--Julia Ward Howe, Dec. 20th--Children's Magic Show,
Jan. 21st--Rudyard Kipling, May. 26th--Truman and the Bomb, and Co-Chair
"45th Anniversary Celebration Committee"

Bonnie Dunbar---Membership Chair

Helen Barsamian---Historian and Co-Chair 2014 Annual Christmas Holiday Party

C. John Minnucci, Paternoster Trust Chair—April 8th --Opera Classics Concert and "45th
Anniversary Celebration Season" logo artist

Jean Peters---Book Sale Chair—2015 Fall Book Sale and 2016 Spring Book Sale and

Alison Grice, Director of the 2015 Author Series—Mar. 18th—Archer Mayor, April 15th--Elizabeth Graver,
May 13th—Lois Lowry and June 10th—Michael Blanding
All four programs Hosted by Hank Phillippi Ryan

The 2015-2016-46th Season programs and events were presented in the Bigelow Auditorium of the Library except for the Author Series Program with author Lois Lowry--held at the new Marlborough Senior Center—all at free admission. This has given many people in the greater Marlborough area a great opportunity to experience programs in all the performing arts.

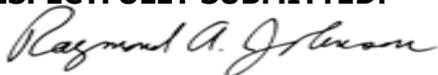
We held a "Special 45th Anniversary Program" on Saturday, April 18th at the Whitcomb Middle School Veterans Auditorium featuring renowned Boston radio talk show and author Howie Carr. He presented a very lively show along with his side-kick Sandy and author Anthony Amore. Thanks to Jean Peters and Peggy Ayres, Co-Chair of the event and all the volunteers for their work on this 45th Anniversary Show. Also many thanks go to Jim Ash, Publisher of the Main St. Journal, for his generous support of the Howie Carr Show.

As I complete my forty-third year serving as President of The Friends, I can hardly believe all that has been accomplished by so very many people over the last forty-five years. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for their dedicated efforts in improving the quality of life of the Marlborough Public Library by presenting programs in all the performing arts to add to the cultural life of the library and the citizens of Marlborough. Where in the City of Marlborough has one had the chance to experience meeting over 130 authors and celebrities first hand, enjoying over forty-five years of wonderful musical programs, many years of varied special programs from caring for your antiques, experiencing first hand the creations of a chef, a belly dancer, Shakespeare, Hawthorne, Emerson, a place to exhibit one's art works or photo works and the list goes on and on. Personally this has been the most wonderful experience in the world where everything has been brought right here to the doorstep of the Marlborough Public Library. I am most humble once again at having had the

greatest opportunity of a lifetime to experience all the great joys of leading this most distinguished organization. I could never have envisioned at the onset of serving that there would be so very many wonderful moments to share with so many people. It has been a deep personal pleasure to have served with so many wonderful people—all volunteers—helping to build such a unique organization. I also would like to thank the many volunteers that have assisted Peg Carlin in the sorting of the used books for the sales. They have been so dedicated for the many hours they have spent to accomplish their task. I also would like to thank Teresa and her volunteers and especially Beverly Hutch in making the Spring and Fall Bake Sales so successful.

I would like to thank on behalf of The Friends our wonderful and dedicated Library Director Margaret Cardello for her support of The Friends programs and events in this her fifth year as Director. She is always ready with suggestions and recommendation as to the direction of The Friends. We all thank her for her tremendous vision for the future of the Marlborough Public Library. In addition I would like to thank the dedicated Board of Trustees of the Marlborough Public Library for their continuing support of The Friends. Their dedication in working to make the library the very best possible library for all the citizens of Marlborough is greatly appreciated by The Friends. Also I would like to thank all of The Friends Members for their donations of membership fees once again. This commitment to The Friends efforts is what gives us the financial backing to present all of the free programs that we do each season. Along with the grants from the Ezra Cutting Trust-Bank of America Trustee, the Marlborough Cultural Council and Massachusetts Cultural Council, and The Friends Memorial Fund, The Friends are able to present the programs and events we do. I would also like to acknowledge the Cummings Properties once again for their generous donation of \$1,000 in Honor of Ginger Ryan and the Brigham Family Trust for their grant of \$2,600 for our 2014-2015 Special Program Series. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the MetroWest Daily News and the Marlborough Enterprise for their generous media sponsorship of our 2015 McConnell Author/Celebrity Series #32 through the support of Richard Lodge, MetroWest Regional Publisher and Jeff Adair, Editor of the Marlborough Enterprise. Thanks also to Matthew Graul, Gateway Media New England for all his efforts in designing the Ads for the Series as part of the media sponsorship. We are also proud to sponsor and fund several projects in the Children's Department and the Young Adult Department plus several Museum Passes. Our budget of over \$30,000 this season gave us the opportunity to "add to the cultural life of the library" and for this we have been deeply grateful to be able to do so.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raymond A. Johnson".

Raymond A. Johnson, President, FMPL