



Friends of the  
Brandywine  
Hundred Library

*We support, encourage and promote quality library services*

# News

December 2011

## Jim Conrad: Bids adieu to leading the Friends Board

### *Dear Friends,*

It's Farewell Time. I have enjoyed many years in helping Friends help New Castle libraries bring ever more to New Castle County people. I encourage you to give serious consideration to the interesting challenges offered with the Friends of BHL.

I first joined Friends of Concord Pike Library in 1986. (CPL was later discontinued and its contents moved to the then brand new BHL in 2003.) I recall sitting at home reading one evening when a phone call from one of our bridge playing friends offered me the "opportunity" to join Friends as VP of Programs at Concord Pike. Having retired 2 years earlier from DuPont, I must have felt a need – who normally says yes to that kind of offer? I mean – no pay. My first program was a great idea that failed – imagine 2 professors from UD, one to explain how to "get your child into UD" and another "how to help him thru". One Mother showed! We have made much progress, but how to get our message to those we're trying to "help" continues.

That was 25 years ago. I have enjoyed being active for Delaware Libraries – working with many people planning, fund raising, and helping to get new libraries established. So I give my **thanks** to those many good people.

My interest gives me a destination in every city I visit – go see "their library". What can we learn from their operations? I have been fortunate to be active in Delaware libraries during a time of great improvement. A time when there is continuing talk about who needs a library when it's all available on the computer, whatever version you use? Yes, but people still crowd into libraries. Librarians help you with your pursuit of knowledge – a noble task. Help them help.

Friends' members have been very supportive in helping Friends help Brandywine Hundred Library help its patrons. But I am finally saying, at age 87, it's time for others to join our organization and get involved in continuing a wonderful standard for your community – maybe you can do a better job than I did with my first program.

We have always invited you to attend **board** meetings. This invitation is still open for you to assist at many different levels. The pay I leave you – mine – take it when you help to make good things happen.

**Jim Conrad, President,  
FBHL Board of Directors**

## Friends to elect officers, directors

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Brandywine Hundred Library (BHL) will be held January 10 at 7 p.m. at the library. Election of officers and directors will take place at this meeting. All members of the Friends in good standing are invited to attend and are eligible to vote.

Officers proposed for the election are: President – Mary Bowler; Vice President – Claire Kantar (to serve remaining term of current Vice President, Mary Bowler, until December 2012); Secretary – Camille Rafferty. Brief biographies of these candidates follow.

**President**, Mary Bowler, until 2014. She has been a director since 1995 and has a special interest in programming for children and teens. She is a corporate and securities attorney, and corporate secretary of DuPont Co. She volunteers for a number of other charitable and educational organizations.

**Vice President**, Claire Kantar, until 2013. She has served as a director since 2007. She has served as a professional librarian for more than 30 years in fields as diverse as school and Navy libraries and technical research facilities.

**Secretary**, Camille Rafferty, until 2014. A director since 2011, Camille has worked for the DuPont Co. for 35 years in various capacities. She volunteers at Winterthur and the Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Officers continuing in position until December 2012:  
Treasurer, Jim Scanlan.

Candidates newly proposed for election as directors, to serve terms until 2014, are: Kay Bowes, Martha Gessler, Michelle Mastitis-Mooney, and Lynne Rosa. Brief biographies can be found on [www.friendsbhl.org](http://www.friendsbhl.org).

Directors continuing in service until December 2012 are: Helen Butler, Agnes Galvin, and Kristie Moore.

## Moving to website emphasis

This issue of your newsletter signals the earliest start of a transition to a more website based communication. We will continue to publish a newsletter, but it will be only one page, front and back. This will help us save mechanical production and mailing costs, in keeping with the times of "going green". The assets of providing you with more web content are many: more timely information, stories and photos for you without the space constraints of a hard copy newsletter; color in the graphics in both the design of the web pages and actual color photographs. Your next newsletter will have more information, or take a jaunt periodically to our website to view a work in progress... and catch up on our latest news!





NAME

E-MAIL

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

DATE

PLEASE CHECK ONE

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

**Membership Categories**

- \$500 (or more) Benefactor
- \$100 Good Neighbor
- \$50 Patron
- \$25 Sponsor, Organization, Business
- \$12 Regular Member
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (write-in) Senior Citizen or Student

**Contributions are tax-deductible. Dues are renewable annually. If your company matches funds, please consider the Friends of Brandywine Hundred Library.**

Make check payable to Friends of BHL  
Mail to: Friends of BHL, 1300 Foulk Road, Wilmington, DE 19803

**If you are interested in working with the Friends, please indicate below:**

- Newsletter Mailings
- Shelf Reading
- Check AV Equipment (for damage)
- Annual Membership Drive
- Artwork/Posters
- Newsletter and/or Web site

**When Does My Membership Expire?**

To find out when your membership expires, look at your mailing label. New members and renewals are welcome at any time.

*Mailing label shows membership expiration date*

Return Service Requested

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