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**COLA's 2nd Annual Friends Groups Workshop**

***Newsletter Design***

**Facilitated by Caroline Evans**

Technical Coordinator, Tiverton Library Services

**Saturday, October 13, 2007**

**9:30 am to noon**

Computer Room, Rochambeau Branch

Providence Public Library

708 Hope Street, Providence



**Enjoy a light breakfast compliments of COLA**

**Attendance is limited to 22—Register Now!**

**Basic word-processing skills required.**

**A CD with software will be available  
for a \$5 donation.**



**Register Now!**

Send your registration to:  
**[cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com](mailto:cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com)**.  
Include the friends group you  
represent, your name, address,  
phone number, and email.

Please register by September 28.

You will receive a confirmation  
by email.

**To COLA Members who have not been receiving emails from COLA:**

Please forward your email address to [cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com](mailto:cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com). It is essential that COLA have a method of communicating with you quickly when we are supporting or opposing library-related legislation or when emergencies in the Rhode Island library world need quick action.

**Spread the Word About Your Friends Group's Activities!**

COLA invites all RI Friends Groups to submit information about your book sales, author visits, and "open to the public" programs. Your Friends' listings will be published on the COLA website ([www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm](http://www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm), or search for Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates). Look for the Book Sales/Programs tab. Online submission is easy using the "click here" link. And while you are there, check the calendar for other groups' postings of interest. Items of general interest can be sent to [cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com](mailto:cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com).

Announcing the **Second National Friends of Libraries Week** October 21-27, 2007, coordinated by Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA)

The [folusa.org](http://folusa.org) website explains, "The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate the Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the

Friends for their help and support of the library." Website resources for planning your Friends celebration include sample public relations documents and promotion ideas for your Friends Group.

- ◆ How could your Friends Group use a proclamation signed by your local community official?
- ◆ Would your library staff write personal notes thanking volunteers that can be posted throughout your library or published?

Visit [www.folusa.org/sharing/national-friends-week.php](http://www.folusa.org/sharing/national-friends-week.php) for the complete listing.

**We love ideas!**

Contributors to [folusa.org](http://folusa.org) shared these successful programs and fundraisers, and we've added some ideas of our own. Visit [www.folusa.org/sharing/good-ideas.php](http://www.folusa.org/sharing/good-ideas.php) for the complete listing.

- ◆ Sponsor a travel photo contest. "On location" photos need to feature a book or book bag from your library.

- ◆ Organize a fantasy sports teams program.
- ◆ Collaborate with a local university, historical society, or special interest club to celebrate shared local history or a unique part of your library's collection.
- ◆ Books are being retold as movies, plays, comics and audio. In what alternate formats are books being presented in your community? Plan a program comparing local favorites.
- ◆ Pick a local food or beverage of interest. Coffee? Tea? Chocolate? Blueberries? Ice Cream? How has it evolved in your community? Invite local producers to participate in a tour, a sampling, or a more formal tasting event.
- ◆ Host a spelling event or bridge tournament, with local businesses sponsoring prizes.
- ◆ Does your Friends Group produce or commission unique gift items? Take your store on the road as a boutique at a convention or a community fair.

Encyclopedias, business journals, health articles, newspapers, biography, history, and literature resources, and much, much more! Enabling legislation for statewide database licensing has been enacted, but no funding has been allocated for this year.

Stay tuned for action needed to get funding for SurfRI into the fiscal 2008-2009 budget!



Rhode Island Senate (S390) and House (H5589), as enacted, provide for state-funded access to a wide range of informational resources that would be accessible to all Rhode Islanders at their favorite library or from their home or work computer. At this time, Rhode Island is one of only four states in the nation that does not offer its citizens access to statewide databases. Senator Bates' press release spoke of the advantages of enacting SurfRI Legislation:

"Statewide databases as envisioned under the LORI network will provide equal access to quality information resources for all Rhode Islanders from Burrillville to Westerly. It will serve to level the playing field by providing access from home, school, work or the local library at any time... At the same time, every community will see cost savings through consolidated, statewide purchasing."

Letter to the COLA Chair from Helen Antonizio, Friends of the Mohr Public Library, Johnston, RI:

*Note: Helen attended the COLA Friends Groups Share and Shmooze Workshop on October 14, 2006. Following that workshop, Helen contacted COLA for help in the “ins and outs” of incorporating a Friends group. We are delighted to share her recent correspondence on the progress of the revitalized Mohr Public Library Friends Group.*

“Dear Toby,

First, thanks for your assistance back in the beginning when we began trying to revitalize the group. We have incorporated, and are working on our application for non-profit status. We've gone from a tiny group to an enthusiastic Board of nine, with additional members. Our new president is Carole Norberg. We started out meeting weekly, now we're meeting bi-weekly. One of these days we may feel like we've gotten far enough along to go back to monthly meetings, but there is so much to do. The materials and ideas that we got when we attended COLA's *Share and Shmooze* Workshop have been helpful, especially the information about FOLUSA. Will there be another workshop of that kind anytime in the future? The best thing about it was that we weren't just reading about something, we were hearing the successes and problems of other groups, and able to have conversations about them.”

## Library News

Public Library Consortium changes its name

The Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN) has a new name and logo.

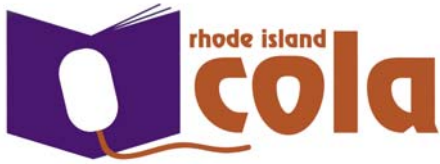
Did you know that:

- the 49 public library systems in Ocean State Libraries offer access to a combined total of 4.4 million items.
- library users borrow over 6.9 million items a year.
- over 450,000 people are Ocean State Libraries card holders.
- member libraries send 1.5 million items annually through the state-wide interlibrary loan system.



Two new members approved for the Library Board of Rhode Island

The Library Board of Rhode Island is responsible for research, planning and development of library service in the state, as well as the distribution of state and federal funds appropriated for that purpose. Fifteen board members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the senate to represent 11 categories of library services and their users. The commissioner for elementary and secondary education and the commissioner for higher education serve as ex-officio members. New members are Phyllis Humphrey, librarian at the Eldredge School in East Greenwich (representing school libraries); and Shirley Long, director of the South Kingstown Public Library (representing large or medium public libraries).



Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates

P.O. Box 3777

Cranston, RI 02910

Forwarding Service Requested.

[www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm](http://www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm)

Email: [cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com](mailto:cola.rhodeisland@gmail.com)

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US POSTAGE  
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PROVIDENCE RI

## Quotable Facts—American Library Association

- ◆ Students made 1.5 billion visits to school library media centers during the school year—this is 100 million more than attendances at movie theaters (2005).
  - ◆ College libraries receive less than two cents of every dollar spent on higher education.
  - ◆ Americans check out an average of more than seven books a year. They spend \$30.49 (in taxes) a year for the public library—about the average cost of one hardcover book.
  - ◆ If the cost of *People* magazine had risen as fast as the cost of academic library periodicals since 1990, its subscription would cost about \$150 per year.
  - ◆ Americans spend more than twice as much on salty snacks as they do on public libraries.
- COLA is a statewide, grassroots library support group. COLA's work includes legislative advocacy, community education, public awareness, and support for library Friends groups.

Library Quotables...

"If you have a garden and a library you have everything you need."

~Cicero

[www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm](http://www.bodees.com/COLA/COLA.htm)

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