



September 28, 2023

Dear Friends of Scarborough Library,

Whether you are a long-time member or just joined this year, thank you so much for supporting our wonderful library as a Friend. This is my first letter to you as the new President of the board, and I thank Kathy Markan for her many years of service and leadership! Two more board members also ended their terms this June, so thank you as well to Mary-Kathryn McHugh and Ellen Detlefsen. We welcomed two new board members as well, Kathy Little and Miriam Leonard.

**Before I say anything else, I want to invite you all to our annual meeting, which will take place at the library on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 pm.** We're doing things a little differently this year. First of all, the meeting is open to the public. You do not need to be a Friend to attend, so you are welcome to bring people—and I'll tell you why. We will be keeping the "agenda" to a minimum this year and giving most of the time to our special guest author, **Katherine Hall Page**.

Katherine Hall Page is an Agatha Award winning mystery author who also lives in our great state. She writes the Faith Fairchild series, the newest of which is called *The Body in the Web*. She has graciously agreed to join us, so she deserves a nice big audience of both Friends and community members. We hope those who are not yet Friends members will be inspired to join us.

Because we have not been able to hold our traditional "big book sale" with Friends-only night, our membership numbers have been low these past couple of years. This year, we hope to bring our numbers back up with some of the perks you like best, and some new ones as well.

This year, our smaller book sales and book bag sales totaled \$5,333.00 in income. At our most recent sale on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, we started accepting credit cards for the first time. This increased our income quite a bit. We also brought back the members-only preview sale the night before, which added to our income and brought in several new members. Donations, membership fees, and interest from other accounts brought in \$3,916.64. 2023 saw the return of our Emerson lecture series. We hosted two well-attended events with meteorologist Sarah Long and professor/researcher Marilyn Gugliucci.

I'll be honest, it hasn't been a big year from income due to the loss of the big sale, which continues to be a challenge for us. In its best years, it typically brought in \$10,000 in a single weekend. We've been making plans for new fundraisers and enhancements to current ones and have considered this year a time to reassess and invest in entering the 21<sup>st</sup> century infrastructure like accepting credit cards, PayPal and Venmo. A surplus from previous years has allowed us this flexibility. Next year, we plan on adding a mini-golf event inside the library!

Our 2023 income combined with this surplus allowed us to continue the same annual gift to the library totaling \$4,000, which we will present at the annual meeting. We also contributed \$5,000 to Nancy's Generator Fund in honor of Nancy Crowell's retirement. The summer reading program included some additional elements for our town's young readers, and we were happy to fund this program with \$1,580.

As always, we have been pleased to fund the licensing fees for Monday Movie Matinees, the free museum passes the library offers, and we have doubled our subscription to Book Pages due to increased demand.

Friends, becoming and remaining a member of our organization is more important than ever, because libraries are more important than ever. Free access to accurate information and diversity of thought is essential in a time when books are being challenged and banned. Thank you for your membership. I look forward to seeing you all at our annual meeting.

Our board for 2023-2024:

President	Kate Kearns
Vice President	Julie dePersis
Treasurer	Elizabeth Hersey
Secretary	Kim Corthell
Membership	Abigail Am
Member	Kathy Little
Member	Miriam Leonard

There is room for more on our board! If you would like to join us, please reach out to [info@scarboroughlibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@scarboroughlibraryfriends.org). Follow our activities on Facebook and Instagram @friendsofscarboroughlibrary.

With Gratitude,

Kate Kearns

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## 2023/2024 Committee Reports

### Secretary/Archives

After a review and culling of all FOSL documents, including those already archived, a revised document retention and destruction schedule, and assignment of roles and responsibilities, were presented to and approved by the full board. Archived documents were reorganized using the new file structure, all FOSL artifacts were placed in labeled archival boxes, an inventory was created, and the working file system was created. The board also approved an updated Officer Roles and Responsibilities, and the Committee Objectives and Duties. A new member orientation packet was created. Updated form templates for Program/Event Proposal and Event Check List were created and approved by the board.

### Membership

Over the last year we focused on adding an online option for membership renewals and new membership sign-up, with multiple options for payment including Venmo and PayPal. We also modified our membership levels and increased our membership dues. We are following similar trends for membership volumes compared to this time last year, and currently have 28 members. However, with the new membership levels, we've brought in 2.4 times the membership dues, up from \$580 during Q1 of the 2022-23 membership year to \$1375 during the same time period this membership year. We also focused on developing strategies over the last year to increase membership and have plans underway to implement some of these strategies in the next year, including standing-up new events and rebranding to attract new members.

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**Annual Treasurer’s Report – Elizabeth Hersey Morrow, Treasurer**

All accounts are at Saco & Biddeford Savings Bank. The account balances as of end of fiscal year beginning June 1, 2022, and ending on May 31, 2023, are below.

CD and Savings Accounts:

CD \$10,045.10 Earning 1.85% interest – matures 10/24/2023	\$11,234.67
Emerson CD \$70,000.00 Earning 3.93% interest – matures 08/13/2024	\$70,143.20
Emerson CD \$32,700.00 Earning 3.75% interest – matures 06/23/2024	\$35,225.16
Emerson Savings Account (Current interest rate 0.5%)	\$3,971.61
<b>Total CDs and Savings:</b>	<b>\$120,574.64</b>
Checking Account:	\$21,611.74
<b>Total of All Accounts:</b>	<b>\$142,186.38</b>

**Sales and Outflow Summary, Elizabeth Hersey Morrow, Treasurer**

Our annual book sale was held for one day at Scarborough Public Works in September 2022, which generated \$3,949.00.

We held a micro book sale in February 2023 which raised \$383.00 in a combination of sales, donations, and memberships.

Although we have smaller book sales and reduced income from previous years, we have still been able to meet our obligations and maintain our usual support to the library, including our annual \$4,000 pledge, funding the summer reading program, and maintaining various licenses and passes for the library and patrons use (including Children’s Museum of Maine, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, State of Maine Park Passes, Bookpages).

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Hersey Morrow