

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Official newsletter of Meriden Public Library, January 2024

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! HELP US CELEBRATE OUR NEW LIBRARY AND CREATE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER! CLICK HERE FOR THE SURVEY.

PERMANENT LOCATION: 105 MILLER ST MERIDEN, CT 06450

HOLIDAYS:

CLOSED MONDAY, 1/1 for New Year's Day

CLOSED MONDAY, 1/15 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day





REGULAR HOURS:

Monday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am to 8:30 pm

Friday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday: 9:30 am to 5:00 pm

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Be sure to regularly check our Facebook page or website for any weather-related closings that may require us to close the library or cancel a program.



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MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! HELP US CELEBRATE OUR NEW LIBRARY AND CREATE OUR FUTURE TOGETHER!

Complete this brief survey and enter to win an Amazon Fire II Tablet. The <u>survey</u> will be used to evaluate our current services, and to plan for the future. Your participation is voluntary and anonymous, and we can't emphasize enough how important it is that we hear from YOU!

The link to the survey is the following: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MPL2023-24

Thank you for providing your feedback. To become more involved in the future of the library, email Will Bailey (willhbailey@gmail.com) for details about participating in conversations about the future of your library.

Take The Survey



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NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS



As we begin another year - our 40th - we wish to thank all those who volunteered with the Friends during the past year: Judy Adamowicz, Marian Amodeo, June Banack, Ann Biernacki, Tom Biernacki, Peter Burch, Alexis Burgess, Russ Burgess, Mario Cavallo, Susan Chappo, Sheryl Clay, Winnie Clay, Jerry Dion, Joan Dion, Teri Dolan, Joan Edgerly, William Glick, Laurel Haley, Janet Hiller, Sally Kamerbeek, Roger Kemp, Carol Leduc, Jan Levine, Jocelyn Linnekin, Irene Masse, Dan Metz, Norma Paggioli, Mariella Racco, Lou Racco, Frank W. Ridley, Karen Roesler, Casey Russo, David Skinnon, Jayme Solak, Gini Sonstrom, Jean Starjos, Terri Trenholm, Steve Volpini, Laura Van Wormer, Fred Zierler, and Risa Zierler. Without these people, we could not do the work we do.

We also wish to thank the library staff under the able direction of Becky Starr, and the Library Board of Trustees, under the leadership of Thomas J. Welsh (and Joan Edgerly, who stepped down as President during 2023). We work closely with both groups to accomplish the goals and objectives of our library.



Many thanks to the Meriden Foundation for granting us \$20,000.00 to use for library programming and the purchase of computers!

Annual Meeting News

At our annual meeting, held on December 11, 2023, the following individuals were elected as officers for 2024:

Frank W. Ridley, President Marian Amodeo, Vice President Alexis Burgess, Secretary Ann Biernacki, Treasurer Dan Metz, Assistant Treasurer

President Ridley gave the annual report for the Friends. A copy of his remarks is available in the bookstore.

Our bookstore has been in existence in various locations since 1994. During that time, we have had many volunteers, but we have had only one volunteer who has been with us since the beginning. We recognized **Mario Cavallo** for his faithful and dedicated thirty years of service.

We thanked **Sheryl Clay** for her work as both Vice President and Chairperson of the Fundraising Committee during the past several years. Sheryl served at a challenging time. We thank her for all that she did.

We belatedly thanked **Jerry Dion** for his time as treasurer. When Jerry stepped down we were in the middle of COVID and the library renovation and we failed to thank him. Sorry, Jerry! We appreciated all that you did for us.

We awarded the 2023 Friend of the Year Award to **Raymond "Russ" Burgess**. Russ helped in so many ways during 2023. He worked with restocking and reopening the bookstore, doing repairs, refurbishing all the doors on the second level of the library, painting where needed, hanging pictures, etc. etc. We are so thankful for all of Russ' work and hope he will continue with us well into the future.

Bookstore News

JANUARY 2024 SPECIALS:

BOOKS BY

TOM CLANCY, CLIVE CUSSLER, ROBERT LUDLUM, AND VINCE FLYNN Hardcovers and Paperbacks:

Buy One, Get One FREE (of equal or lesser value)

Donations

Now that the renovation/expansion is complete, we will refocus to raise funds for library programming. You can mail your gift to the library or drop it off in the bookstore.

Additionally, you can donate by going to the Friends webpage,

https://www.meridenlibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library, scrolling down to Thank You to
Our "Friends," and clicking on the Helping the Library Friends drop-down button directly
below it

Library Donors

We wish to thank those who have donated to library programming or the Holocaust fund since our last update:

Rebecca Williams
Carmine J. Trotta
Leonard & Natalie Cheerman

Mario R. Cavallo Joan S. Edgerly Thomas Mottram Karen Roesler Alice Slie

Still Available

It is still possible to be listed on the "donor plaque" for a gift of \$1,000.00, and we also still have several rooms that can be named. Please contact Frank Ridley (fridley@cox.net) for more information.

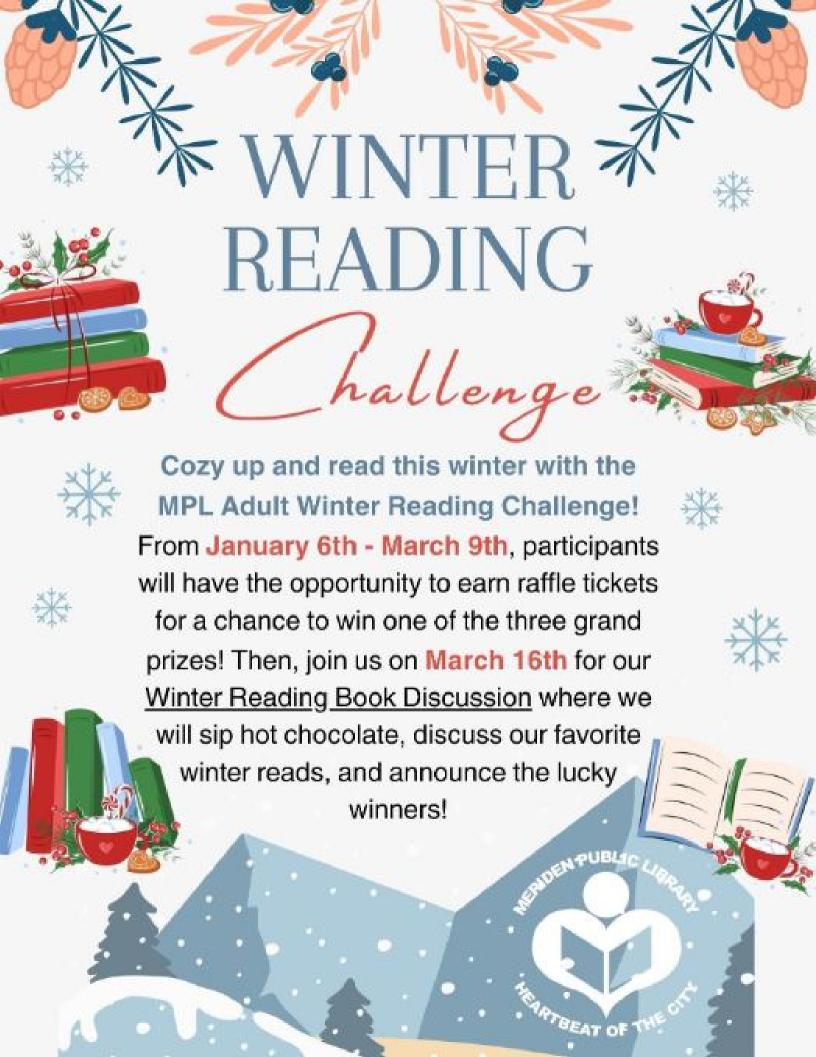




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Featured January Programs

To register for events, go to: https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month

Three Kings Day Celebration

Come celebrate Three Kings Day at the library!

Join us for an afternoon of festive music, delicious refreshments, and gifts for all children ages eight and under.

This event is generously sponsored by The Carrero Family with music by The Cardona Family.

~Children must be present to receive gift~

Sunday, January 7th 1-3 pm

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Travels through Mongolia, with Marian Amodeo

- Join Marian Amodeo as she takes you on a journey to Mongolia, land of the big sky,
- nomads, the Gobi Desert, and Genghis Khan.
- Learn about the people, the animals, the food, and the culture of this amazing country.
 - Registration requested.

Tuesday, January 9th 6:30-8 pm





January 2024 Virtual Author Talks



Rebecca Serle Writer of epic love stories such as One Italian Summer" and "In Five Years"

- New York Times bestselling author
- Developed the hit TV adaptation Famous in Love, based on her Young Adult series of the same name

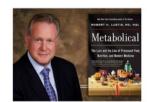
Wednesday, January 10th at 8 pm EST



Rajiv Nagaich Your Retirement: Dream or Disaster?

- Elder law attorney, speaker, and retirement planning visionary
- Host of two popular public television shows and the Aging Options radio show

Tuesday, January 23rd at 2 pm EST



Robert Lustig, M.D. Metabolical: The Lure and the Lies of Processed Food, Nutrition, and Modern Medicine

- NYT bestselling author of Fat Chance
- . Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Endocrinology, at UCSF
- Neuroendocrinologist with expertise in
- metabolism, obesity, and nutrition

 One of the leaders of the current "antisugar" movement

Tuesday, January 30th at 2 pm EST

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Featured January Programs

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Protect Your Financial Info From Scams

Presenter Kathleen Titsworth, Banking Outreach Coordinator for the Connecticut Department of Banking, will provide information on common scams and share important tips to help you understand the methods of identity theft, take action steps to reduce your risk, and recognize signs to help you avoid becoming a victim.

Thursday, January 11th 6-7 pm





Introduction to Tarot

- Intrigued by tarot?
- Want to learn more?
- Join Professional Reader Lauren Condron for this tarot information session, and, if time permits at the end, a free mini reading!

Registration required.

Saturday, January 13th 1-3 pm



Peregrine Road Live

Peregrine Road plays captivating acoustic music somewhere between chamber and folk music, with complex arrangements and lush textures alongside raw energy and multi-cultural influences. Karen Axelrod and Rachel Bell are a powerhouse duo capable of a huge variety of styles, in-demand worldwide for concerts, workshops, festivals, and more. Their music is rooted in Celtic, English, French, Québécois, New England, and Appalachian traditions while at the same time infused with the excitement of new compositions and dynamic improvisation.

Friday, January 19th 7 3-4:15 pm



Matinee Monday: "Gone with the Wind" (1939) - Starring Clark Gable & Vivien Leigh

- On the eve of the American Civil War, rich, beautiful,
- and self-centered Scarlett O'Hara (Leigh) has
- everything she could want--except Ashley Wilkes
- (Leslie Howard). But as the war devastates the South,
- Scarlett discovers the strength within herself to protect
- her family and rebuild her life. Through everything, she
- longs for Ashley, unaware that she is already married
- to the man she really loves (Gable)--and who truly
- loves her--until she finally drives him away. Only then
- does Scarlett realize what she has lost, and decides to
- try to win him back.
- Considered one of the greatest classic American
- movies, *Gone with the Wind* won 10 Academy Awards.
- Intermission halfway through.
- Monday, January 29th 11:30am - 3:30pm

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Career Resource & Coming Attractions!



To register for events, go to: https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month

American Job Center Table

American Job Centers (AJCs) provide free help to job seekers for a variety of career and employment-related needs. Nearly 2,300 AJCs, funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, are located throughout the United States.

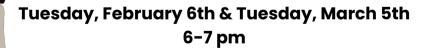
The American Job Center table will be located in the entrance hallway on two separate occasions.

Wednesday, January 17th & 31st 1-3 pm

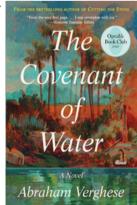


COMING ATTRACTIONS!

In February, the library will be hosting a "Long Winter's Read." Join us as we read **Abraham Verghese's The Covenant of Water**, a monumental family saga set in Kerala, India. We will divide our discussion into two sessions, which you can attend either inperson at the library or via Zoom.



For more information: Barbara Belejack (bbelejack@meridenct.gov) or Sanna Cheema (scheema@meridenct.gov)



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Ongoing January Programs To register for events, go to: https://www.meridenlibrary.org/events/month



Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night: Birdseed Bell

We will make birdseed bells using Audubon-approved ingredients for our feathered friends. A simple craft to feed the birds in the coming winter months.

Tuesday, January 2nd 6-7pm

Twice-a-Month Tuesday Craft Night: Frosted Luminaries

We will use glass jars, covered with mod podge and epsom salts, to create lovely winter luminaries. These can be embellished to represent our long, cold winter, or perhaps Valentine's Day!

Tuesday, January 16th, 6-7pm

Knit & Crochet Club

Join us at the Morning Knit & Crochet Club! Bring your project (supplies not provided by the Meriden Public Library) and join with others who also love to knit and crochet and craft together! This is a drop-in event, so registration is not required.

Wednesday, January 3rd & 17th 10am-12pm





Practice English Conversation

Join us to practice English in a fun and comfortable environment! This program presents an opportunity to practice your English conversational skills in a group with a certified TESOL teacher! Some knowledge of English is recommended. Ages 12+. LEARN ENGLISH

Thursday, January 4th & 18th, 3-4 pm

Classics Clique Book Club, Meeting #1

This club is for people who love classics, or who just want to try reading more of them. There will be a group book to read every month, as well as a viewing of the movie adaptation. In this meeting, we will be discussing the December book pick, The Crucible, by Arthur Miller, as well as its 1996 movie adaptation.

Monday, January 8th 3-4 pm

Classics Clique Book Club, Meeting #2

This club is for people who love classics, or who just want to try reading more of them. There will be a group book to read every month, as well as a viewing of the movie adaptation. In this meeting, we will be watching the movie, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (1958), based on Tennessee Williams' book of the same name.

Tuesday, January 30th 6-8 pm

What's Next? Book Club

Our January selection is So Close to Home, by Michael Tougias. A tale of a Russian sub in the Gulf of Mexico who hits its mark on a U.S. vessel with a civilian family on board. Excellent writing by a bestselling author.

Wednesday, January 10th 6:30-7:30 pm



BookTok Book Club

Join us for BookTok Book Club where we discuss books that have trended on social media platforms including TikTok and Instagram. Share thoughts on your latest read or gather ideas for the next one!

January Book: Iron Flame, by Rebecca Yarros Limited copies will be available at the Visitor Services desk in early January. eBook & eAudiobook available on Libby (there is a waitlist).

Wednesday, January 24th 6:30-8 pm

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MERIDEN ROOM HISTORICAL & GENEALOGY COLLECTION

Now open for visits by appointment only!

To arrange your appointment, visit:

MeridenLibrary.org/history-genealogy

The purpose of the Meriden Room Historical and Genealogy Collection is to collect, preserve, and make available for public use, materials relating to the history of the city of Meriden. Included in the collection is an assortment of newspaper articles, photos, yearbooks, city directories, genealogy books and magazines, maps, and more.

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Tomie dePaola Children's Library

To register for a program, call the Children's Desk at (203) 630-4737, or sign up online!



Registration is now open and is required unless otherwise noted

STEM Airplanes



Friday, January 5th at 3:30pm Ages 5 and up | Registration Required

Join us for a fun afternoon of creating a paper airplane that flies farther. Fold up your creation and send it flying. How far will it go? This event is best suited for children ages 5 and older. Registration is required for this event.

Location: Children's Project Room

Lego Block Party

Saturday, January 6th from 10am-2pm Grades K-5 | Drop-In

Imagination and creation combined! Join us **once a month** to make a LEGO creation to be put on display at the library. You can show up anytime between 10 am and 2 pm on January 6th to work on your creation.

Location: Children's Project Room

Joy Blooms: Let's Bubble Poppin' Boogie!

Monday, January 8th at 10:30am Ages 0-5 | Registration Required



Get ready to pop some bubbles and boogie at this Children's Music and Story Time event with Joy Blooms! Joy will encourage music and movement with her catchy and interactive songs, and present a reading of "Curly's Fun With Bubbles" by Sherry Boddie.

Location: Meeting Room 1+2+3

Family Art Night: Silly Sculptures

Wednesday, January 10th at 6:30pm Grades K-5 | Drop-In



Let your imagination run wild and make your masterpiece sculpture using pipe cleaners, colorful pasta, and beads.

Location: Children's Project Room

/meridenlibrary

Woven Bookmark Craft



Friday, January 12th at 3:30pm Ages 7-11 | Registration Required

Join us for a fun time weaving your own bookmark! Participants will use cardboard and yarn to create their very own unique bookmark. This event is best suited for children ages 7 and older. All supplies are included and registration is required for this event.

Location: Children's Project Room



Watercolor Penguins



Tuesday, January 16th at 6pm Ages 5 and up | Registration Required

Brrrrr! It's cold outside! Join us for an icy good time painting a penguin. Participants will use watercolor paper, watercolor paint, and brushes to create their very own penguin. This event is best suited for children ages 5 and older. All supplies are included and registration is required for this event.

Location: Children's Project Room



Colors of My Jewish Year: Green

Wednesday, January 17th at 4:30pm Ages 3-8 | Registration Required

At each gathering of Colors of my Jewish Year, children and caregivers join together to learn about the holiday, hear/read stories, complete a variety of activities, and eat a holiday treat. At this gathering the symbol is trees for Tu b'shevat.

Location: Children's Project Room







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Registration is now open and is required unless otherwise noted

Arm Knitting with the Knitting Coach

Saturday, January 20th at 2pm Ages 8-11 | Registration Required

Learn the fast and fun knitting craze called arm knitting. At the end of the in-person, 90-minute program, participants will be able to cast on, knit, and bind off. This event is best suited for kids ages 8 and older, and will be taught by certified Knitting Instructor Dawn Zillich. All supplies are included. Registration is required for this event.

Location: Children's Project Room

Joy Blooms: Winter Fun!

Monday, January 22nd at 10:30am Ages 0-5 | Registration Required

Why does everyone like Frosty the Snowman so much? Because he's so cool! Joy Blooms brings a program of music and movement for children and their families, to celebrate the winter season! Joy will include a reading of the classic story *Frosty the Snowman* by Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins.

Location: Meeting Room 1+2+3

Nutmeg Newts

Tuesday, January 23rd at 6pm Ages 8-11 | Registration Required

Join us for our all new monthly book club, the Nutmeg Newts! The Nutmeg Newts Book Club is for children with a 4th through 6th grade reading level. This month we are reading **Ben Yokoyama and the Cookie of Doom** by Matthew Swanson and Robbi Behr. Read the book on your own and then join us at the library for a fun discussion and related activity. We have limited copies of the book at our library. Stop by the children's department to borrow a copy of this month's pick.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Iceberg Rescue

Thursday, January 25th at 4pm Ages 6 and up | Registration Required

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to save a sea creature frozen in an iceberg! Using a combination of water, salt, and persistence, participants will rescue and take home a small sea creature (toy) at the end of the program.

Location: Children's Project Room

Saturday Family Flicks

Saturday, January 27th at 10am & 1pm All Ages | Registration Required

Join us for a family double feature! Our morning film is **PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie** (Rated PG), and in the afternoon we'll be viewing **Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse** (Rated PG). Cozy up and bring something comfortable to sit on! Unfortunately, no food is allowed.





10AM: Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie

Across the Spiderverse

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Coffee Filter Snowflakes

Tuesday, January 30th at 6pm Ages 5 and up | Registration Required



January 31st is 'Inspire Your Heart with Art Day.' Come celebrate early with us on January 30th! Children can create unique snowflakes out of coffee filter paper. Participants will be invited to fold, cut out, and color their very own vibrant snowflake to take home and one to leave at the library. This event is best suited for children ages 5 and older. All supplies are included and registration is required for this event.

Location: Children's Program Room

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Registration is now open and is required unless otherwise noted

Storytime Classes

All storytimes start the week of January 17th

Wiggle Worms

Wednesdays at 10:30am Ages 0-3 | Registration Required

Join us for special storytime for your little wiggle worm. This storytime will be high energy and filled with songs, puppets, dancing, and more. Stay after storytime is over for playtime. Siblings are welcome.



Bebes Activos

Fridays at 10:30am Ages 1-3 | Registration Required

Bebes Activos is a bilingual playgroup where children ages 0-5 years, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers get together to participate in activities designed to teach early literacy skills and enhance school readiness and success.



Family Storytime

Wednesdays at 6:30pm Ages 2-5 | Registration Required

Join Miss Melissa each week for stories, songs, and music and stay afterwards for a fun craft. This program is geared towards ages 2-5, but all ages are welcome.



Drop-In Weekly

Video Game Club

Thursdays from 5-8pm Ages 8 and up | Drop-In Anytime!



Drop-in to the library on Thursday nights for video game club! We will be taking turns playing on the Nintendo Switch. Board games and coloring sheets will be provided while waiting for your turn! Parents must stay in the children's library. For seamless game play, no younger siblings in the storytime room.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

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January Teen Programs





Monthly Meetups

Rainbow Roundtable

Wednesday, January 3rd 6 to 7pm

Teen Movie Matinees

Saturday, January 6th & 20th 1 to 2:30pm

Tabletop Club

Wednesday, January 10th 6 to 8pm

Beyond the Book Club

Friday, January 12th 3 to 4:30pm

Trading Card Club

Tuesday, January 30th 6 to 7:30pm

Manga Club

Wednesday, January 31st 6 to 7:30pm

DIY Bird Feeder Friday, January 5th

3:30 to 4:30pm

Celebrate National Bird day by creating your own bird feeder out of recycled tin cans, popsicle sticks, and acrylic paint.

DIY Bulbasaur

Wednesday, January 10th

3:30 to 4:30pm

Using recycled materials, teens will create their own Bulbasaur planter.
Most suitable for teens 12-18.

DIY Programs



DIY Polymer Clay Earrings

Monday, January 22nd 3:30 to 5pm Recreate your favorite pie in earring form!

Neon Light Painting Tuesday, January 23rd

5-6:30pm

Create neon painting out of a simple line drawing using acrylic paint.

Nintendo Tennis Tournie Wednesday, January 17th

Pick your tennis partner and battle it out to win this tournie on the Nintendo Switch!

Teen Crochet Club Thursday, January 11th & 25th

6 to 7pm
Learn how to make scarves, coasters, granny
sauares, and more!



Popcorn Taste Test Friday, January 19th 3:30 to 4:30pm

Celebrate National Popcorn Day by taste testing different flavors of popcorn!

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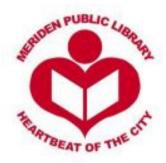












Friends of the Meriden Public Library

Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print):				
Additional Names (list others in hou	usehold covered by th	s membership):		
Address:			**************************************	
City:		State: ZIP code:		
Home Phone:		Work Phone:		
E-mail:		Cell Phone:		
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() \$40.00 - PATRON	() \$10.0	() \$10.00 - BASIC		
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Thank you!				