



## NEWSLETTER

January 2022

[Friends of the Ames Free Library](#)

P.O. Box 61

North Easton, MA 02356

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President: Barbara A. Beech

Vice President: Frank Smith

Secretary: Janice Narsasian

Treasurer: Chris Mullin

### Welcome Back to the Queset House!



You are welcome to visit the Queset House and the Friends Book Room! Closed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ames Free Library and the Queset House (bear right at the fork) reopened to the public in September 2021 with safety protocols in place. Masks must be worn at all times and only six people are allowed in the book room at a time (a child counts as one person).

#### FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Ames Free Library,

I hope that you all have been able to come through the long and difficult pandemic with only minor difficulties and inconveniences. Our hearts go out to the people who have lost

loved ones or have been sick from this terrible virus. Let's hope that 2022 is a much better year for everyone.

Along with the reopening of the Friends Book Room at Queset House, our other exciting announcement is the development of our new newsletter. The newsletter will be published four times a year, and each volume will contain interesting and informative information about the books, the book room, and our activities.

The newsletter editor is Sylvia Frank Rodrigue. Sylvia acquires history and criminology books for Southern Illinois University Press. Previously she was editor-in-chief at Louisiana State University Press and managing editor at Stackpole Books. She is coauthor of *Historic Baton Rouge* and *Images of America: Baton Rouge* and coeditor of a book series, the Concise Lincoln Library. She also works as a freelance copyeditor.

We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter.

—Barbara A. Beech, President  
Friends of the Ames Free Library

## BOOK SALES IN THE QUESET HOUSE

Sales of used books, in addition to membership fees and donations, supply the funding we need to provide library materials and programs not included in the library's budget. Browse the Book Room from Monday thru Thursday, 1 to 8 pm, and on Friday and Saturday, 1 to 5 pm. The Queset House is at 51 North Main Street, North Easton, MA 02356.

### Half-Price Book Sale October 6-16, 2021

We were thrilled to prepare for our re-opening half-price book sale in October. Cheryl Brigante and many other Friends organized our books and placed signs around town. You may have seen our advertisements on Facebook, in the weekly Town Crier email, and on the Friends of the Library website, thanks to the outstanding efforts of Michele Blake, Linda White-Habelt, and Kate Kazlauskas. Despite challenging Covid-19 conditions, the Friends did an outstanding job! During the sale we operated on our usual honor system, and volunteers kept the Book Room stocked and looking neat and inviting. On the two sale Saturdays—the

days with the highest attendance—we displayed books in the dining room and on the rear patio. We sold hundreds of books and raised more than \$300.

### Book Room Update

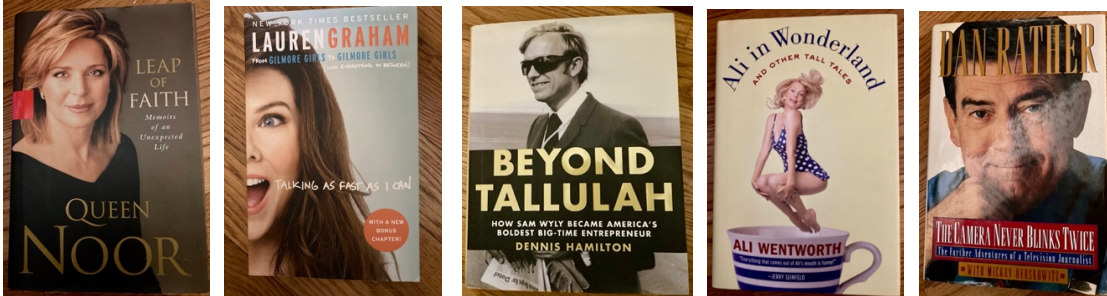
Thanks to Gloria and Ken Nykiel, we added two six-foot tall bookshelves. Now we have more books on display for visitors to browse and buy! We swapped the History section and the How-To sections.



## WHAT'S IN THE BOOK ROOM?

In each newsletter we'll look at some of the high-quality used books available in different subject areas. The books might be sold before you arrive, so hurry in!

A 2019 survey showed you want more true-life biographies available. We heard you! The Biographies section contains six shelves' worth of life stories—memoirs, biographies, and autobiographies. Step into someone else's shoes: read about politicians, actors, and real-life brave men and women who faced difficult situations and overcame them. Here are a few examples, each a tremendous bargain:



## DONATE YOUR BOOKS

Between 1 and 5 PM on Saturdays, you're welcome to donate **gently** used books in good condition—**no mold, torn pages, or notes in the margins**—at the Book Sale Room in the Quset House. If your books are damaged, please recycle them instead of donating them. Please note that we cannot accept textbooks, magazines, or CDs.

Unless you have prior authorization, do not leave books outside the building—if they were in good shape, they won't be after they sit outside! If you'd like to donate at other times, please contact Cheryl Brigante at [cherylbrigante@hotmail.com](mailto:cherylbrigante@hotmail.com).

## GET INVOLVED - JOIN US!

Tax-deductible membership fees entitle you to one free book per quarter (four per year) from the Book Room. To join us, fill out a form in the Book Room or print and fill out the membership application found at our [website](#). Make your check payable to "Friends of the Ames Free Library," and mail the application to: Friends of the Ames Free Library, PO Box 61, North Easton, MA 02356-0061. Look for our membership drive in February.

## YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Your membership fees and donations, in conjunction with money from book sales, have funded many exciting initiatives at the library. Here are two examples:

We purchased colorful bistro tables and chairs for the Queset House patio! We are looking forward to gathering outside again next summer, using the courtyard as an outdoor office, and participating in crafts like dyeing silk scarves.



We purchased a Koala Kare baby changing station for the Queset House! Find it in the second-floor bathroom, near the back of the building.



Board of Directors: Ken Nykiel, Gloria Nykiel, Sylvia Frank Rodrigue  
Book Room Chair: Cheryl Brigante  
Membership Chair: Sue McGarry  
Publicity Coordinator: Michele Blake  
Volunteer Coordinator: Linda White-Habelt

The Friends of the Ames Free Library is a nonprofit organization integral to promoting and supporting the [Ames Free Library](https://www.amesfreelibrary.org/friends-library) of Easton, MA. For more information please visit our website at <https://www.amesfreelibrary.org/friends-library> and our Facebook page @[weloveamesfreelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/weloveamesfreelibrary).

Send monetary donations to Friends of the Ames Free Library, PO Box 61, North Easton, MA 02356-0061.

Contact the Friends at [amesfreefriends@gmail.com](mailto:amesfreefriends@gmail.com) and Sylvia Frank Rodrigue, newsletter editor, at [AFLFriendsNewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:AFLFriendsNewsletter@gmail.com).