Immerse Yourself in Altruism!

Overflowing with positive energy? Have an interest in History, Literature or Art? We have recently redesigned and expanded our volunteer opportunities.

Have a talent you want to share? Want to get to know your community better? Our door is always open to NEW Volunteers! Simply fill out a short form on our website or stop in the office and we’ll do our best to match our opportunities with your special skills.

Knack for decorating? Flair for entertaining? Wood can provide a place for you to use your unique talents and give back to our community at the same time! We are grateful to everyone who volunteers their time at programs and events, in the archives, as a docent and at the front desk. Our dedicated, friendly, knowledgeable, and helpful volunteers are the life blood of The Wood.

Come join our team!

Fall 2018
Immerse Yourself in the Wood Community!

We are excited to announce that the Wood is now offering memberships. Some of the benefits of membership will include advanced notice of special programs and events and member-only offers and invitations. These benefits are in addition to the satisfaction of knowing you are contributing to the preservation of the culture heritage of South Windsor. A defined membership improves our ability to qualify for grants and attract sponsorships.

We are offering four levels of Basic membership and one opportunity for Enhanced membership, the Vibert Circle, named in honor of one of the Friends of Wood Memorial Library founders and its first librarian as a non-profit organization, Edith Vibert.

Please note that a membership is NOT required to check out books or to attend most Wood programs and events. Membership may be purchased in person at the library or on our website at www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org. Thank you for your support!

Immerse Yourself in History!

This past spring The Wood Collaborated with the South Windsor Public Schools to celebrate the shared history of East Windsor and South Windsor with an Open House at Ellsworth School. It was a resounding success. Over 350 people including many town officials visited the school to meet up with former classmates and share with their families and friends the wonderful memories they had of their time at Ellsworth School. Many attendees then decided to share their memories with our Oral History interviewers and now they can be shared with everyone as the latest contributions to our ongoing Oral Histories collection. Memorable moments at Ellsworth were shared, sweet and silly stories that had an impact on their lives along with musings about growing up on Main Street and road trips to athletic and academic events.

Attendees’ generosity was not limited to priceless memories as donations of precious historical Ellsworth Memorabilia and artifacts were also donated to our archives including a mint condition cheerleading uniform, programs and photos. A wonderful display containing all of the Ellsworthian yearbooks led to their being digitalized so that they too may be available to everyone including future researchers and genealogists.

These new Oral Histories and many more collected over the past several decades are available to read on our website where information on how to access the Ellsworthian Yearbooks can also be found. Our Oral History Committee is always accepting new volunteer interviewers and suggestions for interviewees.

Wood is preparing to celebrate Notable South Windsor Women in conjunction with the celebration of the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage and will be focusing on increasing the representation of women histories in the collection.

Immerse Yourself in the Archives and Art!

Wood will be hosting a special exhibit in conjunction with its annual Harvest Moon Dinner to be held September 25th at the Wood and catered by the Pond House Cafe of West Hartford. The theme of this year’s soirée is “A Night at the Museum” and in celebration we will be showcasing items from the Wood archives that are rarely on display. In addition to the treasures from Wood’s archives we will be exhibiting art and artifacts generously on loan from neighboring museums and historical societies. Much of the exhibit will be on display from the beginning of September through October with the exception of some very delicate and fragile pieces which will only be on display the night of the dinner.

Main Street resident and recent Civil War book collaborator Bob Starr will also be loaning Wood part of his collection of Civil War letters and artifacts which are the basis for the newly published book “For My Grandchildren: The Civil War Journey of Pierre Starr, Surgeon 39th Ohio Infantry transcribed, edited and researched by Brad Quinnin & Jason Rusk. The book is a firsthand account of Bob’s great grandfather, Pierre Starr’s experiences as a surgeon for the Union Army during the Civil War. From simple everyday observations, to the horrors of decomposing bodies and missing limbs, the book is an amazingly detailed and accurate account of what Pierre Starr saw, heard and felt as he went from battle field to battle field and wrote back to his mother and brothers of what was happening all around him.

Autographed copies of “For My Grandchildren” are currently for sale at Wood or by emailing bobstarroffice@aol.com. For tickets or more details about the Harvest Moon Dinner visit www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org.