



A Message from our Presidents...

Dear Friends,

As always, we thank you for your support and continued enthusiasm for the Wellesley Free Libraries. Your commitment, passion and genuine love of all things book-related are the driving forces that sustain our mission year after year. We are particularly delighted to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Friends of the Wellesley Free Libraries this year! The Friends was founded in 1952 and has been a cornerstone of our community’s generous contributions to our public libraries. You are part of the history of our libraries and we are deeply thankful for your membership!

In this great season of giving, consider putting the Friends on your shopping list! Gift memberships and sponsoring a Fish Friend of the Month are great ways to include others in the meaningful work our libraries do every day. Remember also that we are listed on AmazonSmile, where the AmazonSmile Foundation donates a small percentage of your eligible purchase prices back to the Friends of the Wellesley Free Libraries when you shop through <https://smile.amazon.com> and select the Friends as your charity.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming book sales and hope you will grab an apron and volunteer your time! As always, thank you for being a friend in every sense of the word.

Happy Holidays!

Shannon Smith
Co-President, FWFL

Susan Calcio
Co-President, FWFL

**Happy 65th
Anniversary!**

Upcoming Book Sales:



Winter Book Sale: Friday, February 2 - Sunday, February 4, 2018
Thursday, February 1 (Members’ Night)

Spring Book Sale: Friday, April 25 - Sunday, April 29, 2018
Thursday, April 26 (Members’ Night)



THE ANNUAL ARNOLD LECTURE
OF THE FRIENDS OF THE WELLESLEY FREE LIBRARIES



On May 10, 2017, we welcomed Wellesley resident Ben Coes as our guest for the Annual Arnold Lecture. Ben is a New York Times bestselling author of seven international political and espionage thrillers. Delivering a genuine and thoughtful perspective on his writing process, Coes entertained an audience filled with avid readers and fans – both new and old – who responded with hearty laughs and thoughtful questions.

“The challenge writers face is getting people to read,” he commented, highlighting the hurdles that abound in our social media-driven world. As writers navigate an increasingly tech-savvy society, Coes is cognizant of the need for adaptation, as well as the perils of adapting too much. In a nod to the audience, he observed that “readers *read* ... and recommend books,” which helps both writers and readers alike.

Speaking freely about his research on all matters related to espionage and the military, the audience was delighted to listen to his commentary on the intersection of investigative procedure and the political arena. We were even regaled with anecdotes of a few run-ins with authorities when his tales hit a little too close to home or his fiction lent itself closer to reality than government agencies may have preferred.

Reflecting on his writing process, Coes shed some light on what he termed “a harrowing editing experience” – the first of many; however, he appreciates being edited, recalling his speechwriting days and the value of fresh perspective. He views his writing process as “bricklaying,” setting a personal goal of productively writing five pages per day. He believes that a continual writing process is essentially what separates writers. Further, Coes constantly endeavors to “demonstrate the resolve of the individual,” as portrayed through his characters. Insightfully, he reminded us of our potential: “Everyone has a dream – listen to your heart and take a shot, just don’t leave anything on the table.”

The Friends were honored to have such an engaging and amiable author share his thoughts, experiences and humility with all of us. Visit Ben Coes’ website for more details on his writing at <http://www.benco.es.com/>. Join us for the Spring 2018 Arnold Lecture!

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Need a new book?

**Visit the on-going book sale shelves and
pick up some books for the
long winter ahead!**