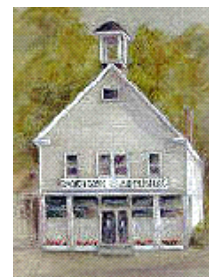


News from DARIEN BOOK AID PLAN, Inc.



1926 Post Road Darien, Connecticut 06820 USA

Spring, 2009

Our lobby is always open for book donations. You can also stop in during our regularly scheduled Workshop Hours.



Workshop Hours:

Tuesday: 2:00—4:00
Wednesday: 9:30—12:00
Wednesday: 6:00—8:00
Thursday: 9:30—12:00
Saturday: 10:00—12:00

Have Questions?

Contact us:
(203) 655-2777
<http://dba.darien.org>

Celebrating World Book Day in Paraguay with Book Aid Shipment

On April 20, Peace Corps Volunteer Rebecca Montero received a shipment of books from Darien Book Aid, just in time for *Día del Libro* (World Book Day) on April 23.

World Book Day is a yearly event organized by UNESCO to promote reading. It was first celebrated in 1995 and is celebrated on April 23 to honor the deaths of Cervantes and Shakespeare.

The books arrived in Carapegua, Paraguay just in time to be introduced in a public pres-



entation to the community. Students, teachers and town officials were present to receive the books. The local television station produced a segment and it was discussed on the local radio show.

In her letter, Rebecca writes "The librarians were very excited about the school books that were sent as well as the novels. *Como Agua para Chocolate* ("Like Water for Chocolate") was the only one from that shipment that I had read, so I gave that one a

little extra publicity."

Darien Book Aid receives many requests for Spanish texts and novels. Our supply is limited, but the recipients are always grateful for those books we are able to send.

Rebecca adds, "Your books have made an excellent addition to the library and I think they are the first set of new books that they have received in many years."



Medical Texts Sent to Senegal

In March, Darien Book Aid was contacted by St Christopher Iba Mar Diop College of Medicine in Dakar, Senegal. The school was looking for medical texts for its library.

The medical school was built by the African American Islamic Institute, an international humanitarian NGO, in cooperation with several other international organizations. The college's current goal is to become an

accredited affiliate of a New York medical school. One of the many steps in this process is to establish an accredited medical library.

Thanks in large part to the McGraw-Hill donations program, Darien Book Aid was able to supply the school with books such as the *Essential of Human Anatomy and Physiology*, *Human Reproductive Biology*, *Atlas of Skeletal Muscles*, and *Basic Neurology*, as well as *Pediat-*

ric and Standard First Aid. Because the university had funds to pay all shipping costs, we were able to send 8 boxes of books weighing 283 pounds to St Christopher Iba Mar Diop College of Medicine.



Join us for our Annual Luncheon and Meeting on Friday, May 29, 2009 at 12 noon.

Call us for more details.



Volunteers recently unpacked a large shipment of children's paperback books from McGraw-Hill.



Our volunteers are trying to help keep the world green! We use biodegradable packing materials in our book shipments. Cardboard egg cartons make a great packing filler. We roll up National Geographic to fill spaces too small for books. We reuse paper packing that comes in donations of new books from publishers. You can help too. Leave your cardboard egg cartons and National Geographics from the last 5 years in our lobby. Help us protect the environments worldwide from plastic debris.



From the President

Dear Friends,

Difficult economic times call for new strategies. In December we discovered that low cost international surface mail is available again. We can now send 30 pounds of books to clients in the developing world for about \$45 instead of \$83!

Recently we have partnered with agencies that have shipping resources, but no books. Co-operative effort sent medical texts to Senegal, middle school science to New Guinea and children's books to primary schools in St. Kitts and Nevis. At no cost to Darien Book Aid, each program received several hundred pounds of books. That is a win-win for everyone! Despite these shipping economies, we have still operated in a deficit this year.

We constantly try to craft more effective ways to deliver books to those who need them, but sometimes we are hit with unexpected costs. One cold day in January the furnace died. Fortunately the pipes didn't freeze and we had a new unit and heat within a few days. The bill was modest, but exceeded our maintenance budget for the year.

We are grateful for your friendship. Your financial support helps people in need of books all over the world.

With thanks and warmest regards,

Joanne Leaman
Joanne Leaman