

Friends of Brookline Public Library Annual Meeting



“Brookline’s Puzzling History”

Presentation by Anne D. Williams,
Professor Emerita of Economics, Bates College

June 3, 2009, 7 p.m.,

Brookline Public Library,
361 Washington St. Brookline, MA

Jigsaw puzzles will be 250 years old in 2010. Although they began as educational aids for children, they soon grew into a pastime for adults. Anne will cover the great crazes for puzzles in 1907-10 and during the Great Depression of the 1930s, including how Brookline and other Boston area residents shaped those manias. She will focus on the craftsmanship, creativity, and artistry of the puzzle makers, as well as on how puzzle subjects reflect culture and give us a window into the past.

Will Shortz (NPR puzzle master and crossword editor of NYT) calls Anne “the world's foremost expert on jigsaw puzzles.” She has written extensively on jigsaw puzzle history, including 2 books: (“Jigsaw Puzzles, An Illustrated History & Price Guide” and “The Jigsaw Puzzle: Piecing Together A History”); and has been featured in publications such as Yankee, Smithsonian, DownEast, Forbes, and Boston Globe.

CURIOUS?

Check out: http://mgcpuzzles.com/mgcpuzzles/puzzle_history/index.htm

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