

Hello to you all, and thank you for your interest in the Cornwall Public Library. I am Tom Dames. My wife, Margaret, and I have lived in Cornwall for over 40 years. My undergraduate degree is from Manhattan College and my graduate degree is from SUNY-New Paltz. Our 3 children went through the Cornwall School District. In addition to our careers in education, we have devoted much of our time and efforts to community service. I coached Little League, both boys and girls for many years. I coached CYO basketball with St Thomas parish and ran a boys Hoop League for a few years. I also coached youth soccer and was a President of the Cornwall Youth Soccer League.

I retired as a High School Social Studies teacher in Monroe-Woodbury School District after 33 years, and have been an Adjunct History Professor at Mount Saint Mary College for the last dozen years.

The public library has been a central part of my life. I enjoyed meeting many people at the various lectures sponsored by the library. In addition to contributing to two book clubs and the Great Decisions foreign policy discussion group, I have served on the Cornwall Public Library Board of Trustees for the last 3 years. I look forward to serving another term.

This library has been a center of Cornwall activities. The recent newsletter was very expansive with the details, and I am very proud to have contributed to this organization. We have a very fiscally sound budget, an excellent Director and staff, and I hope you will support my candidacy and the budget vote on April 17. It is wonderful to see 5 candidates. I ask you all to become involved in Cornwall community activities, not just the library. I hope that those Board candidates not chosen this year will dedicate part of their life to the greater Cornwall community. I know I will. Thank you.

**Tom Dames**