

Diana Link Bio

Born in Chicago on 2/5/1921, raised in NYC, but summered with grandmother in Haddam. As a child, she used to take a boat from NYC to a CT river landing at the base of Jail Hill Rd and walk up to the house on Turkey Hill, splashing through the puddles in the dirt road and chasing the frogs that hopped out. Moved to Haddam in 1940s and Haddam will always be “home” no matter where she is living.

- Kitchen worker then first paid Librarian at Haddam Elementary School – 1960s
- Secretary of Burr School Building Committee: 1966 – 1971, Librarian at Burr School until 1986 retirement
- 4-H Club leader 1961-1971
- Haddam PTA in 1960's then President of PTO in 1971
- Co-founder and host of The Haddam Travel/Camera Club 1976-1996
- Founder of The Crafting Bee 1982-1998
- Co-founder of Haddam Art League 1984-2000
- Worked at Haddam Polling Places and was Moderator in 1990
- The Village Parks Society 1990-2010
- Brainerd Memorial Library Trustee for 10 years
- Brainerd Library Friends of the Library – Member, Treasurer, Membership Chair
- Member of Haddam Land Trust
- Member of VFW Auxiliary
- Haddam Bulletin staff and delivery person, bringing copies to every place in town and adjacent towns where people from Haddam might see them, garage waiting rooms, shops, nursing homes...
- Ran the Haddam Neck Fair Brainerd Library booth for many years
- Chester Fair - Superintendent of Antiques Building
- Habitat for Humanity – helped build house in Yakima, WA, worked at Restore in Cromwell
- Goodspeed Opera House office rescue volunteer in charge of mailings
- Haddam Historical Society – worked at many of the Hartford Antique shows
- Catails volunteer – for years, collected empty cans from all over and brought them by the vanful to Hartford to be recycled, the money going to Catails.

Travels:

All 50 states

Kenya, New Zealand, Australia, Peru, Puerto Rico, Japan, St. John VI, Costa Rica, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Canadian Maritime Provinces, Borneo

Some of these trips were with tours, others were simply Dee and her backpack. On her trip to Thailand she stayed in what she thought was a backpacker hostel. That evening she heard knocking on her door. She ignored it. Later, more knocking. Curious, she took a chair to the door, stood on the chair and peeked out the transom window to see men lined up outside the doors down the hall. It was then that she realized she wasn't in a backpacker hostel! Did she leave? No. She shoved the chair up beneath the doorknob and went to sleep for the night. She wasn't going to waste the money she'd already spent on the room!

After turning 90 Dee decided she wanted to go ziplining, so we all had to go with her to Empower in Middletown. She completed the whole course! That was an exciting day.

Dee loves all animals and was a Wildlife Rehabilitator before there was such a thing. We always had animals in the house, yard and, sometimes, freezer. Over the years we had birds, snakes, a skunk, a sheep, squirrels, raccoons, rabbits, dogs, cats, a woodchuck, hamsters, opossums, guinea pigs, chinchillas, ferrets, a fox, a lizard, cans of meal worms tucked away in kitchen cabinets (food for the birds). Some were pets, many were injured or orphaned animals/birds that were brought in, fed and cared for, then released back into the wild. She brought animals into the Burr School library when she worked there so that the children could learn about them.