



Between Friends

Is Listening Reading?



By Bonnie Holmes

Having grown up thinking of a book as something in ink and paper format, I love the feel of a book in my hands and haven't made the transition to e-readers. I'm not a Luddite; I enjoy new technology including my cell phone that I now prefer to the landline phone.

In addition to reading a book, a good storyteller can captivate me. For the past ten to fifteen years, I've enjoyed listening to books while gardening, driving long distances, quilting, and doing household chores. Books on tape/disc can also put me to sleep when my mind is restless if the reader has a

soothing voice like George Guidall's. AARP recommends audio books in "Loot-Free Listening," AARP Bulletin, 11/16/2010.

The recent short supply of portable CD players (you can't even find portable tape players any more) and the assurance from salespersons that manufacturers were phasing them out put me in a panic. Having voiced my complaint and frustration, relatives recently gave me an IPOD to replace the portable CD players I love to use.

My new MP3 player (IPOD) does have several advantages over my CD player. First, it is so much smaller

continued on page 2

Volunteer Corner

By D. Leigh Caldwell

(This little corner of the paper will spotlight volunteers... those wonderfully delightful people who make a difference in the community and the library in particular.)

Lasting Impressions

In the 1950's, Airman Second Class Albert Meyers, was stationed with the Air Police Radar Site in Germany. Television was in its infancy; the internet hadn't yet been invented; and the Armed Forces Radio Network wasn't all that entertaining. This left most young soldiers, including Albert, at a loss during personal time. That all changed when boxes of books began to appear several times a year at his site. Albert still isn't quite sure who sent them, or where they came from, but the pleasant memories stayed with him.

It wasn't just the gift of books that left a lasting impression on Albert. As a child, Albert lived on a farm across the railroad tracks from a neighboring farm where a young girl named Wilma lived. After knowing each almost fifty years, they just married ten years ago in at the church each belonged to most of their lives.

The expression "Pay it forward" are words Albert and wife Wilma live by. Early each Monday, Wilma mentors children at Friendsville Elementary School then hops in her car to meet Albert for a tasty biscuit, then joins him at Blount

continued on page 3

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Don't Miss the Spring Book Sale! April 14th - 16th!

President's Message

Dear Friends,

We need help! With the county budget being squeezed, the importance of the 'friends' has never been greater. Our membership has grown, but we've become a victim of our success. Our loyal volunteers are aging & enduring the accompanying health issues. We need new blood.



The donated book bins must be emptied daily; this normally takes about one hour. We need several men to help one day/week or be available to fill in during an illness or vacation. Each Tuesday AM @ 8-10 men & women (we could use a few more of each) shelve books for a couple of hours. The paperback novels and our give-aways currently have no one to shelve them. If you have 1-2 hours/week, please contact Myra Reisinger or me thru the library. You'll be helping our community and working with some wonderful folks. Thank you for your past and future help.

See you at the library,
Larry Moore, President

facebook

Check Out Our Facebook Page

If you have a facebook account, log in. In the search box, type in Blount County Friends of the Library, then click "Become a Fan."



If you don't have a Facebook account visit our Web Site: www.bcfol.org and click on link!

Navigating the E-Library

By Bonnie Holmes

For those who lose track of library material due dates, Blount County Library has joined forces with ELF. ELF is a internet service that can:

- **Help you return materials on time by sending you email and/or RSS alerts before your items are due.**
- **Provide email alerts on overdue material and holds**
- **Provide consolidated lists of your borrowed material**
- **Provide cell phone alerts for holds**

Just go to www.libraryelf.com and sign up.

Reading, continued from page 1

and lighter, easily fitting into a pocket so I don't have to use a carrier pack. Second, I don't have to keep loading CD's, frequently cleaning borrowed ones before they will play. And, third, I can easily mark my place.

You can listen to books on your computer, MP3 player, and/or smartphone. Audiobook sources are numerous. Our library has books on CD, which can be used on your computer or downloaded to your MP3 through your computer. It also provides a method to allow you to download e-books directly from the library. Instructions are provided in the library flier "Introducing Digital Books."

The transition to using these devices seems to depend largely on a listener's experience and age group. According to Kathryn Zickuhr, Generations and Gadgets, February 3, 2011, "While almost half of all adults own an MP3 player like an iPod, this device is by far the most popular with Millennials, the youngest generation – 74% of adults ages 18-34 own an MP3 player, compared with 56% of the next oldest generation, Gen X (ages 35-46)." According to the Pew Research Center, only 42% of those ages 47-56, 26% of those ages 57-65, and 16% of those ages 66-74 use MP3 players.

Perhaps the fact that the younger generation has been using them for music makes it easier for them to set up the MP3 players for audio books. MP3 players are a lot like cell phones in that each type is a learning experience even when comparing those made by the same manufacturer.

continued on page 3

Reading, continued from page 2

The user has to find and download the software that will work with each particular device in order to listen to books instead of music, as well as learn how to use the device.

Some useful sites to help include: <http://aldoblog.com/audiobooks/itunes/importing-audio-cds/> and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_free_software_for_audio.

Think of this as another brain exercise. Even AARP recommends audio books in "Loot-Free Listening," (AARP Bulletin, 11/16/2010). You can listen to books on the computer, MP3 player, and/or smartphone.

Audiobook sources are numerous. Our library has books on CD, which can be used on your computer or downloaded to your MP3 through your computer. It also provides a method to allow you to download e-books directly from the library. Instructions are provided in the library flier, "Introducing Digital Books."

There are several sites that allow you to download classics. AARP recommends BooksShouldBeFree, NewFiction, OpenCulture, Libriphile, and Project Gutenberg. Also, librivox.org, freeclassicaudiobooks.com, audiobooksforfree.com, itunes.apple.com are sites for free audiobooks. Some

of these sites have a 14-day time limit. There are other sites that charge a small fee, such as Audio Books, audible.com, audiotogo.com, audiobooks.net, Barnes and Noble, weread4you.com and theaudiobookstore.com. You can find many more sources by searching the net under audiobooks.

Now, pick up your CD, MP3 player or smartphone and listen to a good book while you do the dishes, garden, work on your needlework, build a model, drive to Nashville or California, exercise, or fall asleep. Some new vehicles even have a port so you can listen to your MP3 player through the speakers.

Volunteer, continued from page 1

Library where they spend hours together selecting and packing anywhere from two to four boxes of books for our men and women in the Armed Forces. If by chance they miss a Monday at the library, which rarely happens, they pack up even more books the following week.

Wilma's favorite requests from soldiers are children's books. Soldiers often ask for them to read and record their voices to send home for their children's bedtime stories. Over the years Albert and Wilma have shipped thousands of books to soldiers around the world. Besides the self satisfaction of helping others, the couple has received hundreds of heartfelt letters thanking them and sharing tales of being away from home.

Albert and Wilma are a charming couple with tireless spirits, often volunteering in the community. Whether it is doing Books for Soldiers or, at their home-away-from-home, Salem Baptist Church, they are always on the go. Albert shares an easy smile when he says he is busier now than when he was employed as a mechanic at



Albert and Wilma Myers

ALCOA for thirty-seven years. So busy in fact, that he sold his boat and hasn't been fishing in years. Wilma, who taught grade school for six years and was a librarian in the Knox County School System for thirty years, agrees she is busier now than when she worked full-time.

Albert and Wilma are part of a missionary team which has done work on a Navajo Reservation as well as in Brazil. They are looking forward to their fifth mission to Brazil this summer. They are dedicated to Salem Baptist; he is the purchasing agent for the church and the couple does a phenomenal amount of volunteer chores, includ-

ing baking biscuits for the Fellowship Hall and teaching Sunday school.

Albert and Wilma are native Tennesseans, he being the seventh of eight children and Wilma the eldest of two sisters. One of Albert's sons teaches school in town and the other son and daughter-in-law are in the Air Force stationed in Afghanistan.

What leisure time they do have they enjoy exploring Tennessee's walking trails. They have stories to tell of discovering glorious riots of colorful wildflower meadows to almost rubbing shoulders with black bears. Wilma loves the mild weather for working in her gardens, Albert has a knack for satisfying a sweet tooth by being an accomplished candy maker. They are both voracious readers, although Wilma now prefers to listen to books so she can get more accomplished throughout the day.

Stop by the library just about any Monday morning, I'm sure Albert and Wilma would be happy to share their passion and knowledge of how to participate in Books for Soldiers. Both can attest to the happiness of offering lasting impressions.

Bringing the Library to others, It all adds up

by Linda Arnold

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds. Or so goes the unofficial motto of the United States Post Office. But it might also be true, at times, of library volunteers.

Just before Christmas, 2010, I awakened to an ice storm. All of Blount County was glazed over. This couldn't be! It was a special morning. You see, I work with a group of volunteers through what is known as the Ex Libris Library Extension Program. We bring the library to those who can no longer visit it themselves. As individuals, we go out and deliver short programs for residents of nursing homes and assisted living centers.

My program was to include a Christmas Carol quiz, a discussion of the perennial favorite, *White Christmas*, a quick reading from *Pride and Prejudice* in honor of Jane Austen's birthday, and the singing of a few boisterous carols (the groups especially enjoy singing "Falalalala"!) And, did you know, "Jingle Bells" is not a Christmas song; it was actually written for a Thanksgiving program. The things you learn through Ex Libris.

My condo unit, atop a hill, was iced over, along with my car. Worse, I discovered the concrete patio outside my door had been transformed



into an ice rink. A person cannot walk downhill on ice, can she? But, the sad thought of some very special seniors being stood up for their Christmas program formed in my mind.

Luckily, the satellite TV truck arrived at my neighbor's. There was only one thing for it. Off came the sheets from my bed! I stretched them out to get from my front door, downhill to the level parking lot. "Yes," said the technician, with a local drawl. "I think you could make it down the hill-though you might slide a tad. Wait about an hour."

Great, but where was that ice scraper? Well, there was only one choice: I had to bring heated water in jars and pour it on the car windows. About an hour later, I held my breath going down the hill. Whew-no sliding.

Inside the assisted living center was a group of seniors, quite surprised to see anyone on such a day,

and cups of warm coffee that were nowhere near as warm as their welcome. We had a blast reading and singing. One lady was able to take the Christmas song sheets I brought, with chords, and play them by ear on the piano. She was quite talented, and I do not know if anyone knew she could do this. Others asked me if I could get them *White Christmas* on DVD. That was easily done, as the library had it, so they can now watch a favorite old film this holiday season. Tales of Christmas long ago were told, and everyone agreed that when the "ghost of Christmas past" shows up, we have come to the best part of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*."

Today, my heart is a little bit warmer thanks to some wonderful seniors and the joy I received from visiting them. For my non-volunteer work, I supervise student math teachers for the University of Tennessee. But it is also here in my volunteer work that I see "it all adds up." Volunteers, working just a few hours a month, can bring so much joy to others.

If you live in Blount County, please consider spending a few short hours each month volunteering for Ex Libris. I promise that the programs are easy to put together, and the audience is the most appreciative you could find. We would love to have you join us, even just to observe a program to see what it's like.

Books for Soldiers Project Report

by Vivian Selecman

Books for Soldiers report for the first quarter.

Since the first of January six volunteers have been busy packing up books for our troops overseas. They consult a website, www.booksforsoldiers.com where our service men and women all over the world post requests, either for specific books or for general selections such as

"science fiction" or "health and fitness books." They then choose from our collection in the basement to fill these requests. They have mailed boxes to 46 different individuals, which included 40 DVD's and 578 books. Since these materials are usually shared, they have brightened the lives of thousands.

Donations are always welcome for this program, as Friends of the

Library funds cannot be used for postage. We have collected \$250 in donations, but have spent \$265 in postage during this time period.

Volunteers are also welcome. If you would like to participate in this program, please e-mail Selecman@msn.com or call Vivian at 279-2568.



Friends from the Library – From A to Z

Ex Libris Library Extension Program a/k/a Friends From the Library is a volunteer program in partnership with Blount County Friends of the Library, Blount County Public Library and seven Assisted Living and Health Care Centers in Blount County.

Twice a month, hour long programs are delivered at each facility and incorporate reading from a wide range of sources including poetry, magazine articles, humor, children's literature, jokes, trivia, very short stories and songs. Some presenters utilize music, either playing their own or using MP3s. Programs are interactive and have included an

Apron Show, a Quilt Trunk Show, a hands-on History of Christmas cookies (bringing the ingredients and talking about their fascinating history). In honor of Blount County History Week, a very special program entitled *The Duggans: A Pioneer Family* will be presented at Asbury Place Assisted Living on April 25, 2011 by Linda Arnold, tracing her family roots back to the 1700s.

All that is required is a desire to share a love of reading with others and the willingness to spend a couple of hours each month doing so. For additional information about the program or to schedule a time to observe a presentation, please

contact Barbara Zurl, Program Coordinator at 865-977-5034 or via e-mail at badger630@aol.com.

THE EX LIBRIS TEAM

Linda Arnold
Janetta Baker
Suzanne Ensslin
Alice LaFoy
Sharon Laney
Dolores Philpot
Joan Worley
Barbara Zurl,
Program Coordinator

Lexophile Corner

by Leigh Caldwell

- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine was fully recovered.
- You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- Local Area Network in Australia: The LAN down under.
- He broke into song because he couldn't find the key.
- A calendar's days are numbered.
- A lot of money is tainted: 'taint yours and taint mine.
- A boiled egg is hard to beat.
- He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
- A plateau is a high form of flattery.
- When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.

Scenes from the last "Cardboard Boat Race"

Photos submitted by Blount County Library



Speedy Gonzales
with Tori Simmons



Ship-Shape
with Doug and Madison Dickery

Winter 2010 Donations

Albert Auxier
Sylvia Cappa
Garry and Lana Ernsberger
Travis Jacques
Robert & Eloise Landers
Henry & Shirley Law
Marion and Norma Stokes
Janet Taylor
Susan Thompson
George Williams
Richard and Deborah
Yarbrough
Vanessa Roach
in honor of
John D. C. Roach
Mary Helen Large
in memory of
Bonnie Stubblefield
Life Members
Pete Dolan
Sherrie Liafsha

The Impact of Summer Reading Programs

News from The Voice for America's Libraries Volume 11 (ALTAFF Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations, a division of the American Library Association)

Do Public Library Summer Reading Programs Impact Student Achievement?

A Dominican University SLIS study found that public library summer reading programs help close the reading gap for elementary school students.

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University received a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for a three-year research study to answer the question: do public library summer reading programs impact student achievement?

Dominican University, as the lead

agency, contracted with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning to conduct the research and also partnered with the Colorado State Library and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to help identify possible sites. The study was piloted at three public libraries. The full study was conducted at 11 sites across the US and was overseen by an Advisory Committee that helped shape and guide the research parameters.

Among the findings: Students who participated in the public library summer reading program had better reading skills at the end of third grade and scored higher on the standards test than the students who did not participate.

Families of students who participated in the public library summer reading program had more books in their homes, reported that they like to

read books, like to go to the library, and picked their own books to read. Parents reported that their children who participated in the program spent more time reading over the summer.

Based on the findings of this study, which took place from 2006 to 2009, several recommendations were made by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University: engage families in public library program to promote early childhood literacy, invest more money in summer reading programs especially in economically depressed areas, market to parents of school age children the importance of the summer reading program. This complete report is available online at www.dom.edu/gslis.

Upcoming National Events: National Library Week April 10-16, 2011.

Food for Fines program to benefit community

Kathy Pagles reports that during National Library Week, April 10-16, the Blount County Public Library will accept food for fines. She asks that the Friends please help spread the word. Local food pantries will eventually benefit from the collection of these items and will be selected with the assistance of United Way Blount County.

Only full serving canned or boxed foods will be accepted. Items must not be "expired" and should be free of dirt and bugs. Acceptable items might be canned applesauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables or soup, canned tuna, dry rice, or peanut butter. NO perishable items will be accepted (no bread, fresh fruit, fresh veggies, for instance) no exotic food, or items that require special cooking methods. Be sure to

check expiration dates; food pantries cannot distribute expired items, and the library cannot give credit for them either.

Patron fines for overdue materials will be reduced \$1 for each acceptable item donated. This "food for fines"

program does not apply to lost materials, only fines.

Also, the program does not apply to accounts which have been referred for "collection."

Kathy asks that Friends who want to volunteer can staff a receiving table

Sunday, April 10 from 1-5:30

p.m. Monday through Thursday, April

11-14 from 9-9, and Friday and Saturday,

April 15-16 from 9-5:30p.m. Chosen food

banks will pick up collected items through the

week. Call Myra Reisinger at 856-3333 or

email her at mlbe@bellsouth.net if you want to

volunteer for this duty.



Volunteer Opportunities

(Please call Myra Reisinger at 856-3333.)

The Friends of the Library Book Sale Team needs volunteers to organize and shelve books in preparation for the Book Sales themselves. *Commitment:* 2-3 hours per week any time you choose during library open hours.

The Library itself needs volunteers to re-shelve books. After two hours of training, the volunteer may set his/her own schedule. *Commitment:* 2 hours a week per volunteer or more really helps.

The Library Reference Department needs an instructor to teach basic computer classes. *Commitment:* 3 hours/week for 1 year.

The Children's Summer Read-

ing Kick-Off on Saturday, June 4, needs 4 volunteers to help serve lunch. *Commitment:* 2 hours from 11:00a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Edible Book Contest on Thursday, June 23, needs 4 volunteers to assist with registration and intake of entries. *Commitment:* 4 hours from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Cardboard Boat Races, Friday July 15, needs 6 volunteers to assist with registration and intake of entries. *Commitment:* 4 hours from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Shakespeare on the Lawn in July (date pending) needs 6 volunteers to assist directing traffic, patrons to seats, and crowd control.

"Edible Book Contest" Coming in June!

*Below are winners from
the last contest.*



Arlo Gets Lost
by Erin Wilson



Dragon Song
by Clay Berry



Square Foot Gardening
by Becky and Dennis Berry

Photos submitted by Blount County Library

Spring Library Events

AARP Tax Consultants: 865-982-2251, ext. 20 to make an appointment. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 9 to 1 p.m. Thursday Afternoon: 2-6 p.m.

"Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland: Lessons for Us Today" by Ronald A. Wells
Thursday, March 31: 7:00 p.m.

Children's Library: Elementary Craft Activities: Tuesdays, 4 p.m. Preschool: Tuesday and Friday 10:00 a.m. Stories, puppets, coloring, crafts. Wednesday 10 & 10:30 stories for toddlers two and under. The **Summer Reading Program Kick-off:** June 4.

Edible Book Contest: begins on Thursday June 23.

Collectibles available at Spring Book Sale

Biography

William Shakespeare (Victor Hugo)
Kefauver, a Political Biography
Memorial Service for Kefauver
The Life of Kit Carson (1902)
The Life of Daniel Boone

Children's

Swine Lake (Sendak)
The Mouse and His Child (Hoban)
The Prince and the Pauper (Twain)
The Sign on Rosie's Door (Sendak)
The Absolutely Essential Eloise (50th anniversary ed.)
Just So Stories (Kipling)

Fiction

Gone with the Wind (1936)
The Naked and the Dead (Mailer)
When West Was West (Wister)
Taras Bulba (Gogol, 1888)
Snow Bound at Eagle's (Harte, 1886)
Jane Eyre/Wuthering Heights (in slip-case)

History

George Washington's World
History of Oklahoma (Dale)
Over the Misty Blue Hills (story of Cocke County)
Back Home in Blount County

Non-Fiction

Honor Your Partner (Durlacher)
Clausen's Commentaries on Morals and Dogmas (Freemasonry)

Science

Galaxies (Ferris)
Atlas of the Heavens (Becvar)
Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineering

Sets

John Steinbeck - 6 vols.
Abraham Lincoln (Sandburg) - 6 vols.
R. E. Lee (Freeman) - 4 vols.
Bret Harte (1903) - 5 vols.



508 N. Cusick St.
Maryville, TN 37804

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Blount County Friends
of the Library

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. postage paid
Permit #216
Maryville, Tennessee

Don't Miss the Spring Book Sale! April 14-16!

Friends of the Library 2011 Spring Book Sale

Thursday, April 14, Noon to 6 pm (for Friends of the Library Members Only)

Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16, 9 am to 5 pm.

Spring Sales Features

CLASSIC MYSTERIES – Agatha Christie,
Earl Stanley Gardner
MODERN MYSTERIES – \$2 Like New
Hardbacks: James Patterson,
John Grisham, Patricia Cornwell & More
CRAFT/QUILTING/COOK BOOKS
CHRISTIAN FICTION BOXES \$4
Advance copies of
YOUNG ADULT FICTION

**Friday and Saturday
April 15th and 16th
9:00am to 5:00 pm**



CDs, DVDs, Intact Puzzles,
Children's Chapter
and "I Can Read" Books



Collectibles!

**FOL Members Only
Thursday, April 14th!
12:00 to 6:00 pm**



Blount County Friends of the Library

508 N. Cusick, Maryville TN www.bcfol.org

Lower Level of Library