JOIN US AT THE BOOK SALE

Looking for a Good Book? Then the upcoming Friends of the Library book sale is the place for you. The dates and times are:

Thursday, October 18, 2007
12 Noon - 6:00 PM (Friends members only)

Friday, October 19, 2007
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (open to general public)

Saturday, October 20, 2007
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (open to general public)

This sale will feature over 50,000 books, sorted by category so that it’s easy to find what you’re looking for. There will also be a large selection of CDs, DVDs, VHS, and Books on Tape.

Our collectible section features over 200 unique selections that have special value to book collectors.

The special Holiday section features books on holiday crafts, cooking, and decorating, as well as fiction and children’s books.

There are special price reductions in all categories (look for the signs), including sports, cooking, medical, diet and exercise, children’s, religion, and more…..

Our large fiction section has what you’re looking for, including mysteries, suspense, Sci-Fi, romance, action and adventure, etc.

And there is a great nonfiction section with bargains in biography, textbooks, history, psychology, politics, art and music, finance and investing, and much more. We have lots of free books, too, so come join us and plan on getting a real bargain.

The Library Book Club Needs You

The Library Book Club meets the second Wednesday in the Library Board Room at 10:15 a.m.

Nov.: The Constant Princess by Phillippa Gregory

Dec.: The Worst Hard Times: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl by Timothy Egan

January: The Long Road Home: A Story of War by Martha Raddatz
February: The Girls Who Went Away by Anne Fessler
March: The March by E. L. Doctorow
April: The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
May: Presidential Courage by Michael Beschloss
June: Returning to Earth by Jim Harrison
THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With the financial help and support of all the members of the Friends of the Library (FOL), we were able these past couple of months to fund the young adult summer reading program, the summer children's reading program, the Shakespeare play, Much Ado About Nothing in July, and the Robinella music performance in August. With your membership dues, and the proceeds from the used book sales, we continue to enable the library to put on these successful cultural programs, plus buy much needed equipment that is not normally funded through the regular library budget. You FOL members ought to be very proud of what you are doing to make Blount County such a wonderful place for children and adults to participate in these extraordinary educational and fine arts activities, not available in most small communities our size. All of us who volunteer with the FOL feel very fortunate and honored to be a part of this organization and the Blount County Library in general.

In the July FOL Board meeting, Phil Baker, Bob Harris, and Marie Harris were presented with special gift certificates to Sullivan’s for their outstanding service in organizing and coordinating the FOL used book sales. We do these sales four times a year, every July, October, January, and April, and almost everyone who comes from out of town to buy our books compliment us on how well organized the sales are conducted. This is primarily due to the continuous guidance and leadership provided by Phil, Bob and Marie. All who are involved with the book sales salute these three for making our book sales the great success they have become. In reality, we have about 30-40 volunteers who actually participate in the total work process in collecting, shelving and selling the books, but these three folks provide the critical leadership rolls in making it all come together! Remember our next book sale is Oct. 18, 19 and 20! FOL members are encouraged to come and see for yourself how efficiently the sale is organized.

Keep up the good work, everyone!!!

Bob Ramger, President

Donations and Gifts for August and September, 2007

Betty Smith          Stuart and Sarah McNeill
Teresa Vogt          J.N. and Blanche Badgett, Jr.
Jill Halberg         Robert and Mary Helton
Bob Tingle           William K. and Merle P. Stair
Deane Brown          Marion T. and Virginia R. Hall
John and Mary Bauques

In memory of Jan Lyndon
B. Susan Thompson    Bob and Marie Harris

Thank you!

What is a book? Why, it’s a front and back cover; a spine; and pages of adventure, romance, mystery, knowledge, reverence and whatever else the author deems to include. Or not.
Books For Soldiers
Program is a big hit!

The Books for Soldiers program is a unique activity of the Blount County Friends of the Library. In the eight months from January 1, 2007 to September 5, eight FOL members have sent 164 boxes containing 2,183 books, 100 magazines, and at least 50 CD’s or DVD’s to members of the US military deployed overseas. These boxes go to all branches of our military stationed in many areas of the world and on ships at sea.

Through the generosity of donors in our community the Friends of the Library receive many duplicate copies and paperbacks of popular books. So we became a certified volunteer. Individuals search the website for troop requests, then search the bookshelves in the basement for donated books that can fill these requests. They usually fill group requests of a general nature, such as; “my platoon would appreciate books, magazines, DVD movies and/or games for recreation during downtime”. Each box includes a form letter telling a little about Blount County and our library and a personal note of appreciation for the work our troops are doing.

Many times individual troops request specific types of books, often of an educational nature. Recently one volunteer filled a request books on improving writing skills and use of English language; one a request for biology textbooks, and yet another a request for books on starting and running a small business. Chaplains ask for books to explain Christianity simply, coping with parenting from a distance, and more usual religious topics. One chaplain asked for guitar music to help in worship – we found several appropriate music books and a couple of CDs. We have even sent children’s books to a couple of units that requested them so parents could be taped and webcast reading to their children, and to a hospital for the waiting room for visiting children.

We receive thank you notes, both through the US mail and through Friends’ e-mail. Units have sent letters, certificates of appreciation, and even an American flag. Three of the many responses are reproduced below.

How can you help?

You can support this program in two important ways. You can send a check to the BCFOL at 508 N. Cusick St, Maryville TN, 37804 with a note “books for soldiers postage donation”, or you can become a volunteer. Volunteers must follow certain procedures, and must be willing to spend 2-3 hours once or twice a month. If you are interested, please contact Vivian Seleman at 379-2568.

Sample Letters from Soldiers

July 2 " Thank you and those who support the Friends of the Library group! We truly appreciate the books you have sent and they will continue to be appreciated even when we depart. Thanks again! w/friendship, Jessica"

July 16 "Thank you so much for the very generous gift. Your kindness is an amazing thing. Please pass on our thanks to those who have contributed. I do miss my family very much, but I really do enjoy my role here in Iraq. I see incredible progress and many smiling faces when we move down the street. Thank you for being so kind and thoughtful. . . .Ethan "

10 July "Thank you! Please let the other people in the Friends of the Library group know that they have my thanks. I have always enjoyed the library. I hope to pass that feeling on to my oldest daughter . . . . . . I have visited the Great Smokey Mountains in the past few years and hope to do so in the future. If you have any pictures of the local scenery that you are willing to pass on I would enjoy seeing them. Thank you for your support. Sincerely . . . . Gist"

(the person who received this thank you letter subsequently bought a couple of calendars and sent him several pictures of local scenes)
Remember the Book Sale!
October 18, 19, and 20
See inside this issue for details

Your Opinion Counts!

We would like to have your input about improving Between Friends, your FOL newsletter. What type of articles would you like to see? How can we make it better?

You may e-mail us at friendsbcpl@hotmail.com or drop a line to:

Blount County Friends of the Library
508 N. Cusick St.
Maryville, TN 37804

We value your comments and respect your opinions.

Thank you!

WHAT IS A BOOK?

A good book is the best of friends, the same today and for ever

Martin Tupper 1810-1889

A good book is the purest essence of a human soul

Thomas Carlyle 1795-1881

Check out our new and improved web page!

www.discoveret.org/bcfol