



Between Friends

“Thank You Friends”

I've been Director of the Blount County Public Library for nearly 20 years now and during that time I have seen tremendous changes – a new facility, of course – but, no more dramatic that the development of a viable and truly active Friends group. Don't misunderstand, the Friends have always been the backbone of the library – as advocates, volunteers, raisers of money for the building on McGhee Street, cheerleaders, and “friends” – but with the opening of a brand new magnificent facility, the Friends grew as the library did and is today an even more vibrant and successful organization than ever.

The Library has been able to grow in ways that would not have even been possible without the help of the Friends and their generosity due primarily to the ongoing success of the quarterly used book sales. Many members of the Friends have asked – what does the money provide and are we providing resources that should more appropriately come from local funding bodies (the cities of Maryville and Alcoa, and Blount County). In a perfect world, libraries would receive adequate funding from their respective governmental funding bodies, just as schools would. But we all know that there is a long standing aversion to tax increases even for those agencies whose primary responsibility is for the common good. Consequently, friends groups and library foundations are increasingly underwriting library projects, both long-term and immediate.

We are fortunate to have a Friends group locally which is so phenomenally successful with its quarterly book sales. As a result we have

phenomenal summer reading programs for children and young adults (the Friends are the sole source of funds for book bags, prizes, programs, art supplies, and other materials). Adults have participated in two reading programs locally (almost entirely underwritten by the Friends) in the last year, not including “The Big Read” effort. Annually, the Friends provide resources to bring the Tennessee Stage Company to the Library for a Shakespeare production on the front lawn. Other programs are frequently financed by the Friends too – like a 2 day workshop with



Richard Peck, the Newbery Award winning author of young adult books, and numerous musical performances during the Library's annual summer Hot Summer Nights series.

Some assistance that the Library has received from the Friends is not so obvious. A computer project to hire a professional software company to “clean up” the bibliographic database we share with several other libraries was an

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Don't Miss the Spring Book Sale!

Let's Meet Kathleen

I am a happy transplant to the South. I was born and raised in Western Pennsylvania, the seventh of nine children. I loved to read and used the services of my school libraries and public library. I sometimes think that being in a large, vocal and opinionated family prepared me for interacting with a wide variety of personalities and getting along with different people, including patrons at the reference desk.

Even though I struggled for years as a teenager and young adult with “what would I do with my life?”, once in a while I thought about librarianship. I occasionally remembered my fifth-grade teacher asking us what career we would like. My firm answer? A librarian, because when the work was done, I could put my feet on my desk and READ! (I have yet to do that!)

I went to a small liberal-arts Lutheran college in Pennsylvania, which I loved. My major was English. After college, I married a wonderful man and got my Master's in Library Science from Clarion University of Pennsylvania. I took a job as Director of the Library of a small technical college and was there several years. Our first and second children were born during that time. It was time to make a change, and my husband and I volunteered to work with the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. We lived and worked with the Tuhoe and Whakatohea Maori tribes. My husband is a Presbyterian minister and we served in two churches in the Bay of Plenty for three years. That was a wonderful experience, although trying at times. The Maori were / are going through a cultural revitalization. It would be similar to working with Native Americans who were trying to maintain their culture. Our third child was born in New Zealand. If you get the chance to visit New Zealand, you should do so – it is beautiful!

One of the churches that contacted us as our time in NZ was finishing up was Clover Hill Presbyterian Church of Maryville. That, of course, is where we have ended up. Our children are still growing up here. Our two youngest are in William Blount High School and our oldest goes to Pellissippi.

I have worked in all aspects of library work and truly have enjoyed and found meaningful every department – administration, InterLibrary Loan,

cataloging, but I think reference literally fits me like a glove. The stereotype of librarians is that we are quiet, unfriendly, dour, shushing. One out of four is about where I am. Although I may start out being quiet, that doesn't stay for long (old habits from being in a large family die hard). I like people and exchanging smiles. Being friendly and knowledgeable is important when you want to be approachable by other people. Anyone who talks with me for long knows that even though I can't tell a joke, I love to laugh. This is why I do have to do the shushing, because the noise just might get out of hand!



Kathleen Christy
Head of Reference

Yes, I was a Yankee, although I tease my coworkers and tell them the South has been the ruination of me. When we moved to Blount County I'd had more practice than I wanted driving in the snow. I am happy to say that now I am the first one to stay home and watch snowflakes through my window instead of forcing myself into going out. Since we don't get snow very often here, when we do, everything slows down and it's like a gift.

I work with eleven great people here in Reference. They all bring special skills and experiences to our team. Added together, we have worked at Blount County Public Library for over 100 years and have over 50 years of post-high school education.

When I'm in a generous mood, I call myself a Renaissance person, otherwise known as a generalist, or someone who is interested in myriad hobbies but has not quite focused on anything enough to become an expert. From writing children's stories, to stained glass, to photography, to travel, to drawing, to digital art, to gardening, to chess, to composting, to weaving, to being outdoors, to helping my husband literally build our house from the ground up, I have lots of things I wish I had more time to do.

With patrons, reference questions, administrative paperwork, internet issues, I have yet to be able to sit back and read when my work is done, but I still love my job!

The President's Corner

Dear Friends,

First, I want to say a great big “thank you” to all of the great Friends volunteers that help with the Love 2 Read program on February 14th. It was a very successful day, with over 400 people attending. It’s amazing what our library does for the community, and the Friends of the Library are pleased that we’re able to help a little.

Be sure to mark your calendar for two important events. First, the spring book sale will be held Thursday, April 16th through Saturday, April 18th. Remember, as an active member of the Friends you can join us on Thursday for “Members only” day and select your books ahead of the general public.

Second, The Native American Festival will be held the following weekend, Saturday, April 25th. You don’t want to miss this one! Mr. Samuel T. Holiday, World War II Native American Code Talker will share his experiences with us. There will also be lots of Native American music, dance and craft demonstrations, plus a tribute to veterans of all wars.

As you can see, your Library is becoming one of the major cultural and educational centers in the community. Thank you for being a member of the Friends. Your support makes all of the wonderful programs possible.

Sincerely,

Phil Baker, President

Meet the Rest of Our Officers & Directors...



Bob Ramger

I graduated from Maryville College in 1956 and was later drafted into the Army where I spent 2 years - mostly in Nuremburg, Germany from 1957-59. I returned to teach at Maryville College (for 43 years) retiring in 1999. I married Sue Kindred in 1957, and we have 3 children, Evelyn, Cathy, and David, and eight grandchildren. We attend New Providence Presbyterian Church. I am a Board member of the Alcoa Kiwanis Club and was a 6 year board member of Leadership Blount. I hike almost every Wednesday up in the Smoky Mts., and am the past president of the Friends of the Blount County Library.



Jerry Wagner

I was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After schooling I served 6 years in the Air Force traveling the world. After my discharge I worked in the automotive industry for the next 15 years as a materials manager. In Then I was recruited by Boeing in Seattle as an aerospace planner. I finished my career in the aerospace industry with Goodrich Aerospace as a materials manager. My wife of 35 years, Jan and I retired to Maryville in 2006 and enjoy our life with our church friends, hiking in the mountains, fishing and playing with our Sheltie.



Garry Ernsberger, Treasurer

Moved from Davenport, Iowa to Maryville with work in 1974. I have been a Friends volunteer for three years, shelving books and working book sales until this year as treasurer. I retired from work in 1997 and enjoy many physical activities including running, biking, hiking, skiing, and until recently refereeing high school soccer. I keep busy reading, traveling the world with my wife Lana, attending Tennessee football and basketball games, and socializing with friends and family, especially our six grandchildren, three of whom, live in Maryville.

Ex Libris Reading Program Celebrates 5th Anniversary

On Thursday, February 5, 2009 residents and staff at Morningview Transitional Care Center (TCC) in Maryville came together to share cake and coffee, stories, songs, poems, jokes and trivia in celebration of the five year anniversary of the formerly named Book Club.

Ex Libris Library Extension Program was born out of an idea put forth by TCC Activities Director, Alison Garner when she sought “someone to come from the library and read to residents”. Barbara Zurl, an officer and member of the Blount County Friends of the Library accepted the offer and on February 6, 2004, the first of 108 programs got underway. Since that time 697 people have attended sessions.

Mighty oaks from little acorns grow.

In other words, great things may come from small beginnings. Since that cold February morning, Ex Libris has grown from one reader, once a month, at one facility to a team of four extremely talented, extremely dedicated and extremely passionate readers bringing the richness of the library to members of the community unable to get to go there themselves. Four venues are currently served within Blount County. According to Zurl, “Ex Libris runs the gamut – from A to Z – literally. Our reading team is comprised of Linda Arnold, Janetta Baker, Suzanne Ensslin and myself – Barbara Zurl”- A to Z.”



At TCC and the other facilities, residents are invited to spend 45 minutes to an hour listening to stories, articles, poems, recollections and personal anecdotes relating to today’s goings on as well as Days Gone By. No session is complete without its share of jokes and puns, and depending upon the reader, songs. According to the four women the best part of the program is the interchange with residents. They all agree that they learn much more from the attendees than they feel they can ever bring them from the library.

Wanted

A few good “Readers” to help bring the Library to those unable to get to it themselves. Contact Barbara Zurl at 977-5034 or badger630@aol.com for more details.



Branching Out

A fifth “anniversary” traditionally is symbolized by a gift fashioned of wood. How perfect. The wealth of experience and knowledge embodied in the folks at TCC and the other three sites (Wellington Assisted Living, Liberty Assisted Living and Asbury Place TCC) reaffirms the connectedness of Life – with roots stretching into the past, a tough and vital core of being here now, and with branches spreading steadfastly into future generations. According to the women of Ex Libris, they “wooden” have it any other way.

Friends of Library Book Club

A long-running program of the Friends of the Library is the Book Discussion group. This is open to anyone in the community but is at present an all woman group. They meet on the second Wednesday of the month in the board room at the library at 10:00 am. Books are chosen by the members at their summer meetings, and are not necessarily best sellers but are quality current literature.

Some books that have been read this past year are:

Presidential Courage – Michael Beschloss
Devil in the White City, Erik Larson
The Constant Princess, Phillippa Gregory
The Long Road Home – Marhta Raddatz
A Thousand Splendid Suns, Kaled Hosseini
Time and Again, Jack Finney
The Female Brain – Louann Brizendine
Team of Rivals – Doris K. Goodwin
On Hitler’s Mountain – Irmgard Hunt

Any woman who is interested in good reading and lively discussion is welcome to join.

Books for Soldiers – 2008

Books for Soldiers is an ongoing project of the Friends of the Library. Ten dedicated volunteers search a web site for requests from our troops in isolated posts all over the world. They then fill these requests from our donations. During calendar year 2008 they send 243 boxes, filled with 133 CD’s or DVD’s, and 4,267 books. They spent \$1,370 that was generously donated by book sale patrons and others so send these things via media mail. Recently several units have requested children’s books, as they have acquired equipment to allow parents to be recorded reading as if to their child. The DVD or tape or internet clip is then sent to the child. This helps maintain family ties at a difficult time.

You can donate money for postage by writing a check to Blount County Friends of the Library, 508 N. Cusick St., Maryville, 37804, and noting “books for soldiers” on the subject line. If you would like to participate as a volunteer you may call Vivian Selecman at 379-2568 for more information.

Our Collectibles List Grows

Penny Meyers has identified the following collectibles for our Spring Sale.

Wagon train: 30 Years Across the Far Blue Mountains
Memoirs of a Mountaineer
Our Southern Highlanders
Cabins in the Laurel
Whistle Over the Mountains
Norman Rockwell's World of Scouting
MCEscher Caleidocycli
Historical Atlas of the United States
Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry (1921)
Knoxville Cook Book (1907)
Neyland



35 titles date from 1793 to 1905 on varying subjects

Children's collectibles in good condition including a first edition of The Grinch Who Stole Christmas; two beautiful Ideals publications, The Night Before Christmas and Jolly Old Santa Claus; and a number of classic oversize Golden Books from the 50's and 60's.

Welcome to your Spring "Between Friends" Trivia Quiz

Our Winter Trivia Quiz, devised by Friends Board Member Phyllis Williams, had two winners-Sarah MacKenzie of Louisville and Pam Pyron, a kindergarten teacher at John Sevier Elementary School. The two gathered on February 24 to select their prizes-eight books each, and have their pictures taken. The answers are as follows;



1. A big red dog and Emily Elizabeth...Norman Bridwell, Clifford the Big Red Dog
2. A mischievous monkey and a man in a yellow hat...Margaret and H.A. Rey, Curious George
3. A turtle who is king of all he can see...Dr. Seuss, Yertle the Turtle
4. A boy, a bear, a pig, a donkey and kangaroo...A.A. Milne, Winnie the Pooh
5. A bear with a missing button on his overalls...Don Freeman Small, Corduroy the Bear
6. Jack and his younger sister Annie...Mary Pope Osborne, The Magic Tree House
7. A little girl whose middle name is Beatrice... Barbara Park, Junie B. Jones
8. An elephant who is faithful one hundred percent... Dr. Seuss, Horton Hears a Who

Here is our Spring Trivia Quiz entitled "Famous Quotes". You are asked to identify the author of each quote. Please send your responses to; Editor, Blount County FOL, 508 Cusick Street, Maryville, TN 37804. Responses must arrive no later than one week after the last day of the spring quarterly book sale. Again two winners will be drawn from the correct entries and each will be able to select eight books, videotapes or DVD's from the FOL regular collection, Collectibles excluded.

Famous Quotes... Who Said?

1. I must get out of these wet clothes and into a dry martini
2. The fog comes on little cat feet
3. When you call me that, smile!
4. Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.
5. For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne.
6. He slud into third.
7. If you have to ask what jazz is, you'll never know.
8. Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.
9. This is like déjà vu all over again.

Donations Winter 2009

Fort Craig School Kindergarten Class
William & Patricia Aldridge
John & Sara Berry
Andrea & Mackenzie Breeding
Warren P. Bagley & Elizabeth J. Gilmore
Bob & Judy Halvorsen
David & Laura Harrill
Claudia Holsonback
Renate Margetin
Ronald & Patsy Matthews
Dennis & Ione McCarthy
William & Carlene Morton
Roy Nunn
Carole Prevelt
Carl & Nancy Stiefel
Marion & Norma Stokes
Warren & Marilyn Stritter
Bob & Stella Sudderth
Joe & Becky Swann
Richard & Deborah Yarbrough

Honor of Ted & Jean Flickinger
by Ted Flickinger & Julie Howard
Honor of John D.C. Roach's birthday
by Alexandra & Vanessa Roach
Memory of Alan Rock
by Donna Dixon
Memory of Jesse Garrett
by Bob & Marie Harris
Memory of Evelyn Williams McDaniel
by Betty J. Breazeale
Memory of Evelyn Williams McDaniel
by George Williams

Our Foreign Language Section Has New Look

Through the efforts of the youngest book sale volunteer, Anne Kelso, the foreign Language Section has been categorized to make selection easier during a sale.



Anne is a native of Germany; therefore, she used her expertise with foreign languages in designing new bay headings. Each section heading is written in English as well as the foreign language, and each heading contains a sketch of the country's flag.

The foreign languages that have been categorized are Spanish, Japanese, German, Dutch, Latin, and French. Some of the materials found under each category are dictionaries, textbooks, and resource materials that include history, religion, travel.

Anne has expanded her volunteering to include shelving books in the adult section of the library.

Thank You Friends....*Continued from Cover Page*

internal project that library users may not have noticed. We have a database that is free of errors, although not perfect, that we did before the "de-duping" that was performed.

The Friends have always been generous in providing equipment for the café and last year paid for a new commercial dishwasher to meet the standards of the health department. They purchase library card holders for distribution during National Library Week, provide the prize money for the annual edible book contest, purchase the "Bookletters" monthly periodical that announces and reviews new books. The Friends provide resources to keep staff morale high with an annual dinner and incentives. They honor volunteers with gift certificates and other appreciation.

Without those resources which undergird the library's programs, we'd still be here and in a lovely building. But it's the Friends who provide those extras which our annual budget never seems able to cover. And we are eternally grateful and appreciative.



508 N. Cusick St.
Maryville, TN 37804

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

Don't Miss the Spring Book Sale!

Thursday, April 16 Noon to 6 pm (for Friends of the Library Members Only)

Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18, 9 am to 5 pm

New Web Address

If you haven't already noticed, our website address has been changed. Please put the following new address in your list of favorites: www.bcfol.org. If you use our old address you should be automatically transferred to the new address. If not, just keep this new address in mind. As always, if you have comments or corrections you may contact us at webmaster@bcfol.org. While looking through our website we would appreciate knowing what you find useful and what you would like to have added. Also, when you renew your membership, we would appreciate being able to e-mail the latest version of our newsletter directly to you. By using e-mail we save over \$150 on direct mailing which is money we can put back into the library every quarter. Thank you for your continued support-let us hear from you.

Introducing Walt Smith—FOL Web Page Creator

Hi. After 30 years as an accountant in the Financial Services Industry, I fell victim to corporate merger and downsizing. I took this as an opportunity to pursue ventures of personal interest. In the process, the need for a web site arose. I was a bit taken back at the cost, so decided to give it a try myself. What evolved was an obsession with learning web design techniques. My portfolio of web sites includes artists, photographers, TV production, interior design, charity organizations, e-commerce for crafts and speciality products, and, or course, Friends of the Library!

www.bcfol.org

Editor, Bob Heintz ■ Art Director, Felita Daniels ■ Photos, Phil Baker