Books of All Types for Sale

Before each quarterly sale, the Book Sale committee chooses two or three areas to highlight. For the January book sale, we are focusing on Foreign Languages and Black History Month. Each time we begin looking at the areas of focus, we are amazed at the wonderful variety of books that are donated to the library.

A recent look through the books waiting to be shelved in Foreign Languages revealed some treasures that one would not expect to find in a small town library—even one as fantastic as ours. In that one box were a Webster’s New Spanish-English Dictionary (2001), an English-Korean dictionary, a French-English dictionary, and a book titled Beginner’s Arabic Script: An Introduction to Reading and Writing Arabic. Digging a little deeper, we found a novel in French, one in Spanish, and a large format hardback graphic novel version of Jules Verne’s Le Tour du Monde en 80 Jours. In the bottom of the box were a beautiful little Japanese book with watercolor paintings and pencil drawings of children, a Dutch juvenile fiction book, and a Russian math text.

Looking at the books that were already shelved, we saw vintage books in Spanish, German and French and textbooks, dictionaries and literature in Spanish, German, French, Japanese, Dutch and Russian. In the Japanese section, choices ranged from the Complete Idiot’s Guide to Conversational Japanese to a great copy of the graphic novel Uzumaki. The German section included Ivanhoe, a Disney comic book titled Donald, der König des Wilden Westens, and travel books and cookbooks. We also have a few Spanish videos in the Video section.

For the display of books related to Black History Month, we have pulled over a hundred books from a variety of subject areas. One of our finds is a book and cassette of Virginia Hamilton’s The People Could Fly: American Black Folk Tales narrated by James Earl Jones and Virginia Hamilton. From the Black History and Black Writers Sections we have pulled some interesting books including Blacks in Appalachia, Black Americans in Defense of our Nation, and The Negro in the Civil War.

Among the black authors we found in Fiction are Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Virginia DeBerry, J. California Cooper, Alex Haley, Alan Paton, Maya Angelou, Gwynne Foster, Octavia Butler and James McBride. For the mystery lover, we have books by Grace Edwards, Walter Mosley and Ardelia Garland. In Children’s Historical Fiction and Biography, we located several good books for the younger readers in your family. We also have adult biographies including Colin Powell, Mary Wilson, Kay Cole James, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Ethel Waters, Charles Barkley, Vernon Jordan and others, and an autographed biography of Shaquille O’Neal.

We invite you to check out the Foreign Language section and the Black History Month display. We think you too will be impressed with the great selection of books that our community has donated to the library.

Some Collectibles Available Too...
Raggety Ann’s Magical Adventures (1927)
Hebrew Illuminated Manuscripts
Reprint of first Time magazine (1923)
Encyclopedia of Freemasonry (1921)
A Glossary of Terms Used in Heraldry
5000 Years of Fashion
Blount County has been home to the entire Pagles family since 1989, and I joined the Blount County Library staff in August of that year. When Evelyn McDaniel retired, I became library director in February 1990. Previously, I had worked as a reference librarian after I received my MLS from East Carolina State University and had left my position as school media specialist in a K-6 school in NC when my husband took a position at Maryville College as VP for Admissions and Financial Aid in 1988.

Carl and I moved quite a bit in the course of our early married life as his career in higher education developed, so the fact that we have now been in Blount County for nearly 20 years is testament to how much we love this place and how much passion I have for this library in particular. Our children finished growing up here and we have seen a lot of changes in 20 years, not the least of which is the new library which is still such a wonder to me and to many who step through the front door.

I have been privileged to work with a remarkable staff who are primarily responsible for the quality of library service we provide each day. Their dedication and expertise have made it possible for me to reach beyond the library walls – to help make sure the library is a partner in many educational efforts across the county. I sit on several foundation boards – the Blount County Education Foundation, the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County, the Blount County Historical Museum Board – and am involved in community and professional organizations (President-Elect of Maryville Kiwanis and Past President of the Tennessee Library Association) in order to remain connected to our local civic community efforts and the larger library network to make sure that all people (and especially those in Blount County) are able to access the educational and informational resources they need for a prosperous and productive life.

“Living” and working as I do in our library, it is sometimes easy to take for granted how lucky I am to have been in the right place at the right time – first to have joined this library staff just when it was poised for tremendous growth and second to have been so intimately involved in the fruition of a dream – a new library. Just this past week, I was visited by library board members from a nearby county and was made aware, yet again, just what a marvelous and forward thinking place we have built and continue to develop. And I guess, that’s what’s most compelling about this particular job – the challenge of getting our library story out and building relationships within our community. Just the other day, I was “friended” (internet lingo) by a local elected official because my opinions are trusted. That was a tremendous compliment.

Without a doubt, I will conclude my professional career here in Blount County. When that time comes, I know I will look back and be proud.
Dear Friends of the Library,

It’s hard to believe it’s 2009 already! If the past year is any indication, then we anticipate another great year.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming book sale on January 15th – 17th. You’ll find the usual great bargains, plus the book sale staff has put together some special areas for young adults, a large selection of books celebrating Black History month, and an expanded video section.

If you’ve visited our web site lately, you’ll notice that many improvements have been made. The information is more current and we have a new hosting service that will allow us to expand in the future. Go to www.bcfol.org to check out the new site and get all the latest information on Friends activities.

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends of the Library. Without you we wouldn’t get anything done.

Sincerely,

Phil Baker
President

Welcome to your “Between Friends” Winter Trivia Quiz

The winner of the fall quiz was Marie Harris. Answers to FOL Vice President Larry Moore’s Fall trivia quiz

Spenser ► Robert Parker
Travis McGee ► John MacDonald
Harry Bosch ► Michael Connelly
Sam Spade ► Dashiell Hammett
Lincoln Rhyme ► Jaffrey Deaver

Jack Reacher ► Lee Child
Stone Barrington ► Stuart Woods
Jason Bourne ► Robert Ludlum
Mike Hammer ► Mickey Spillane

FOL board of directors member Phyllis Williams has supplied the winter trivia quiz slated for children of all ages and the adults who read to them. She gives you the main characters - you need to identify the book or series.

1. A big red dog and Emily Elizabeth
2. A mischievous monkey and a man in a yellow hat
3. A turtle who is king of all he can see
4. A boy, a bear, a pig, a donkey, and a kangaroo
5. A bear with a missing button on his overalls
6. Jack and his younger sister Annie
7. A little girl whose middle name is Beatrice
8. An elephant who is faithful one hundred percent

Send your responses to; Editor, Blount County FOL, 508 Cusick St., Maryville, TN 37804. Responses must arrive no later than one week after the last day of the Quarterly FOL book sale, Saturday, January 17. Again two winners will be drawn from correct entries and each will be able to select eight books from the FOL regular collection. The answers will be included in your next issue.
Meet Some of Our Officers and Directors...

Carole Trammell
Growing up the daughter of a marine, I spent a lot of time in the back of a Ford sedan moving from the east coast to the west coast of the United States. Although I had never called any place “home”, I managed to find myself coming to college at the University of Tennessee. It was a great decision, as I never left after coming to this area. The good part about moving so often is that I have visited every state in the union and many foreign countries. I definitely have the travel bug still. Another good part about spending so much time in a car is that I was able to read to my hearts content. That love of books led me to volunteer with the Friends of the Blount County Library and serve on its board. I’m proud to say that East Tennessee is now my home.

Phil Baker
I was raised in the Florida Keys, and after high school graduation entered the Air Force. I served most of my time in North Africa and Europe. After military service, I worked toward a bachelor’s degree in biology from Florida Atlantic University, and followed that up with a Masters and Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I first came to East Tennessee in 1979, taking over as Director of the East Tennessee Regional Public Health Laboratory. Since my retirement in 2003, I have been active with the book sale committee and am currently President of the Friends of the Blount County Library.

Melanie Tucker
I was born in Little Rock, Ark. And also lived in Memphis, TN for a few years before moving to Maryville as a high school student. I graduated from William Blount High School in 1981 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications/Journalism in 1986 from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. My first newspaper job was as a general reporter for the News Herald in Lenoir City. I worked there from September, 1986 to December, 1988, and was then hired at the Daily Times in Maryville. When I first started at the Daily Times, I worked on the crime beat and also covered the Blount County School Board, Alcoa City Commission, Alcoa School Board, etc. I served in many different capacities until I took over as LifeTimes Editor, or features editor. My job includes writing feature articles and also editing the section. I will celebrate 20 years with the newspaper at the end of the year.

My husband Joe works for Denso, and our daughter, Amanda, is a Head Start teacher at Eagleton Middle School. My parents, Bob and Doris Menken also reside in Maryville. I have one brother and one sister. I enjoy biking, running, working out at the Wellness Center, hiking and reading non-fiction.
Bob Heintz
I was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and am a graduate of Michigan State University. I, my wife Nancy and our three children moved to Wilton, Connecticut and I worked in Manhattan for 13 years and in Connecticut for the rest of my working career in the areas of marketing and corporate communications, plus meetings and events planning and management. For many years in Connecticut I produced concerts and cabaret evenings featuring top area jazz musicians. I have, from youth, been a student and lover of the American jazz art form, and am founder and president of the East Tennessee Jazz Society, Inc. We have about 180 members at present, and meet regularly to learn about and listen to live jazz presentations. We also offer a yearly major jazz presentation, featuring internationally-known musicians. I play the trumpet and have been a member of the Maryville College-Community Concert Band for several years.

Jane Bennett
My lifelong love of words, be they written, spoken, or even sung, has served me well as an English teacher in St. Louis, MO where I taught high school English and college freshman writing and reading classes, and similarly in Smithville/McMinnville, TN. There, in addition, I administrated a JTPA program for indigent H.S. students, working to help them with the verbal skills necessary to get jobs. Still utilizing my verbal interests, after teaching, I became a realtor in Decatur, AL. Now that we are professionally retired (my husband of 43 years, Dick, was a manufacturer and is presently into hot rods) and living in Maryville, close to our two sons and their 5 1/3 children, I have the great pleasure of serving as a volunteer, and it seems, am still involved in the ever present world of words: I served as lay publicity/communications chair for Fairview United Methodist Church for several years. Since then I have discovered a joyful new interest, the Blount County Friends of the Library-Books for Soldiers, Books between Friends, Library Book Club. Also, since 1996 I have been a member of Blount County Newcomers Club and at present serve as 1st VP Programs. If this were not enough, I started my own Scrabble Club.

Gary Fowler
I grew up in Michigan, receiving a BS in Forestry from Michigan State University. I worked for the J.M. Huber Corp. for 31 years, 29 of which were very enjoyable. I was in Costa Rica on a short-term mission trip on my first day of retirement in 1997. Since that time my wife, Sue, and I have traveled to several parts of the world, both as missioners, and for the joy of meeting new people and seeing new places. Some of that travel has been to visit our 4 children and 7 grandchildren who bring much joy to our lives (most of the time!!). I do quite a bit of volunteer work, which brought me in contact with the Friends of the Library. The community is so fortunate to have such a wonderful library, and it a great pleasure to be able to contribute some of my time there.

... More in Spring
The Books for Soldiers program is a unique activity of the Blount County Friends of the Library. Several years ago, someone in South Carolina saw some National Guard friends deployed overseas just as he was preparing to move. He had several boxes of books he didn’t want to move so he sent them to those friends. He began to receive requests for specific books from others. This grew into a project undertaken by his church, which outgrew that church and has now grown into a website (www.booksforsoldiers.com) run entirely by volunteers. Any US service member can post a request for books and other materials through those who work with the website. Any person or group who wants to help fill these requests must fill out an application and be certified by a Notary Public to gain access to troop requests.

Through the generosity of donors in our community the Friends of the Library receive many duplicate copies and paperbacks of popular books. So when it was brought to the Friends of the Library’s attention in 2005, we became certified to participate in this program. Volunteers 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 for textbooks on Spanish language; another a request for 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. We have even sent children’s books to a couple of units that requested them so parents could be recorded and webcast reading to their children, and to a hospital for the waiting room for visiting children.

Some volunteers send materials such as DVDs and CDs from their personal collections. One person sent a collection of her late husband’s law enforcement magazines to a soldier requesting such materials. When that soldier returned to the United States he phoned her with a personal thank you – he had been encouraged to enroll in a career program in law enforcement.

For the calendar year 2008, ten active workers have sent 239 boxes containing 135 CD’s or DVD’s, and 4,168 books. This has taken $1,341.79 in donated postage money, even going at the slowest media mail rate. The Friends of the Library cannot spend any of their money for purposes not directly related to library needs. So this program is run entirely through donations to cover postage. At the quarterly book sales donation boxes are set on the table and people asked to donate a dollar or two when they purchase books. Some kind persons donate larger amounts.

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. A bulletin board with some of these thank you letters is on display at each book sale.

“Dear Library,
Thank you for finding my post on Books for Soldiers and sending me the books and DVD. I am deployed in Afghanistan and trying to start a United Through Reading Program here on my Camp. This program allows deployed service members to record themselves reading a book on DVD and sending it home to their child. I believe that it is a great program to keep families connected. Your donations will help me get started”
When Barbara and Wayne Zurl moved to Maryville in 1994, Barbara looked in vain for a book discussion group. When she approached Kathy Pagles at the library, Kathy said, “Why don’t you start one?. So Barbara invited several friends to join her in discussing Amy Tan’s “The Joy Luck Club”. That first meeting was in May of 1994.

Barbara continued as facilitator of discussions for the next six years. She always did an excellent job of researching the book and the author, and insured that discussions stayed focused. All ideas were accepted as valid, especially when there was disagreement.

When Barbara was unable to continue the members took over, obtaining books on their own and rotating discussion leadership duties.

There are currently about 20 participants. They suggest books in June and make final choices in July. They don’t necessarily read best-sellers but look for books that will generate discussion, may even be controversial. The book discussion group currently meets the second Wednesday of each month, at 10:15 AM in the board room of the library. Any woman who loves to read and talk about books is welcome to join in.

Book selections for the rest of this year are:
January – Any book by mystery writer Donna Leon
February – Team of Rivals by Doris K. Goodwin
March – The Tavern on Maple St by Sharon Ownes
April – The Alchemist by Paolo Coehlo
May – On Hitler’s Mountain by Irmgard Hunt
June – Three Cups of Tea by Mortenson and Relin

You can support this program in two important ways. You can send a check to the BCFOL at 504 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.

**Opening a Books For Soldiers Box**

*We’ve been truly blessed this year- thanks to all of you.*

(from Afghanistan)

“Dear Friends of the Library, I can’t express how delighted I was to receive two boxes of books from you yesterday. What made it even greater was seeing where it came from. I am a native Knoxville and I’ve worked as a Youth Pastor and many other part time jobs in Blount County over the last 20 years. My wife and I have both been in your library and have talked about how we would move to Maryville just to be near you. I’m proud to read of your support of troops. You may never know what a blessing you are to us stationed over-seas . . . your ministry is amazing. I have made my office a video/book ministry of sorts. Every box of books is a tremendous support . . “

B.C.F. of the L.

Thank you so much for all you do – your work is greatly appreciated. You’re okay in my book!

To BC Friends of the Library

My name is ------ and I wanted to say thank you for your support and help by sending these books as they are a great morale for soldiers to be able to have books to read. So thank you on behalf of the soldiers of ------.

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**Discussion Group Activities**

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**Check out our new and improved web page!**

www.discoveret.org/bcfol
These kindergarten students from Fort Craig Elementary School presented a concert in the Library Rotunda. The students had collected $55.00 for the Library and presented it to the Friends of the Library.

Donations - Fall 2008

Boyd & Wanda Anderson, Charles Bell, George & Ilene Bilbo, George & Pat Blackburn, Gerald Bowers, David & Helen Bryant, Mike & Connie Clemmer, Steve & Jane Combs, Jim & Betty Cornett, Dick & Marolyn Finney, Blaine & Ann Gooden, Ed Harmon, Alice & Robert Hirche, Mary Huffstetter, Alice & Phil LaFoy, Carol Luther, Betty P. Neal, Jane Qualls, John & Betsy Quinn, Jim & Libby Ratledge, Peter Spoto, Tom & RaRa Schlitt, Martha & Carroll Sterne, Mr. & Mrs. Marion Stokes, Dean Stone, Robert & Sara Tarbox, and Duplicate Bridge Club of Green Meadow Country Club

In honor of Mrs. Violet Whitehead by Gayle Brown

Thank You!