News Flash

October Book Sale offers Special Treasures for Children/Collectors


Children will have their usual pick of board books, juvenile and young adult hard and soft cover books and many religious books. Now also you will find gift quality books including hardback copies of The Chronicles of Narnia, The Thief Lord, Crispin at the Edge of the World, the Bobbsey Twins, Harry Potter trio etc. These range in price from 1 to 10 dollars.

Also, there are several complete years of National Geographic in very nice cases for $2.00.

Don’t Miss the Fall Book Sale! October 21st - 23rd!
President’s Message

Dear Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying some cooler weather after a long, hot summer. Please mark your calendars for two important events this month.

October 16th is the Library Foundation’s Fall Gala. The foundation exists to raise money for necessary library improvements such as completion of the lower level and parking lot expansion. As use of our library has increased, so has the need for additional space. The Gala offers an enjoyable evening of food and entertainment while keeping the library’s needs in people's minds. This is important at a time when government support for community needs is decreasing and our library’s future will depend increasingly on private donations. Watch your e-mail for details.

The next book sale is Oct 21-23. The library has given us a great many adult and children’s books to make room for new purchases. Come see our great selection and unbeatable prices!

Sincerely,

Larry Moore, President


| Ground Hogs Day Men’s Book Club |
| submitted by Bob Ramger |
| Hot Flat and Crowded |
| by Thomas Friedman |
| Dungarven Oak by Ned Mock |
| The Seven Daughters of Eve |
| by Bryan Sykes |
| Robinson Crusoe |
| by Daniel Defoe |
| The Rainbow Trail |
| by Zane Grey |
| The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers |
| by Paul Kennedy |
| Stones into Schools |
| by Greg Mortenson |
| Narrative of a Blockade Runner |
| by John Wilkinson |
| Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell |
| The Bible a Biography |
| by Karen Armstrong |
| Last Child in the Woods |
| by Richard Louv |

friends of the library women’s book discussion group

| Sara’s Key |
| by Tatiana DeRosnay |
| Botany of Desire |
| by Michael Pollen |
| Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet |
| by Jamie Ford |
| The Help |
| by Kathryn Sackett |
| The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo |
| by Stieg Larsson |
| My Name is Mary Sutter |
| by Robin Oliveira |
| Have a Little Faith |
| by Mitch Albom |
| Annie’s Ghost |
| by Steve Luxenberg |
| Hemmingses of Monticello |
| by Annette G. Reed |
| The Long Walk to Freedom |
| by Nelson Mandella |
| House of Seven Gables |
| by Nathaniel Hawthorne |

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!
What format is your book?

by Bonnie Holmes

At 66 years I have witnessed several major book format changes. In my youth, the paperback revolution was occurring (1935-1966), making books more available, cheaper and easier to carry. Next, I experienced the introduction of electronic indexes and abstracts. Then came electronic articles and legal cases, followed by newspapers and magazines. In the 1990s I started listening to books on tape and then, CD. Now, my daughter wants to know which electronic book reader I want for a gift. I am considering this because it is getting more and more difficult to find portable tape and CD players to use listening to recorded books checked out from the library.

Throughout history, as technology progressed, book formats changed. Humans read and stored information starting with clay, stone, plant material and metal, to hand copied manuscripts to the printing press. With the printing press, information became significantly cheaper and provided access to more people of varying social levels. Now, as communication becomes easier, faster, and universal via electronic media such as email, social networks, and blogs, we might consider how long it will take most of our reading material to be electronic.

Currently, I receive the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* in my email inbox. I can also view other newspapers as I like. The *Nashville Tennessean* and the *Atlantic Journal Constitution* are no longer delivered to the Knoxville area, so the best way for me to access them without waiting for the postal mail is electronically.

The *USA Today* won national success experimenting with format and color. Now, with sales beginning to lag, the paper recently announced that it is concentrating on digital. There are many reasons: the younger generations don’t buy printed news and electronic format is cheaper, easier to update and correct, and easier to access, especially for mobile users.

In the academic world, the book publishing industry can’t keep up with new information. Many professors prefer pulling information from a variety of sources than teaching from a single book and trying to update it in lectures or required reading.

Academic journals are also changing to electronic formats going from 7 peer-reviewed in 1991 to around 4,000 in 1999. According to *Inside Higher Education*, September 17, 2010, the University of Texas at San Antonio’s Applied Engineering and Technology Library is completely electronic. Other academic libraries are converting more and more periodicals and other materials to electronic format.

Publishers and book stores bundle paper and e-books, frequently selling e-books cheaper. According to Nicholas Negroponte, *Global Post*, August 30, 2010, “Kindle owners buy twice as many books as non Kindle owners.” According to the *New York Times*, July 19, 2010, E-Books Top Hardcovers at Amazon, Amazon sales for the recent three months were higher for Kindle e-books than for hardcover books. It is true that the e-book bargains offered by Amazon and Barnes and Noble may be pushing these sales.

Economy often drives these changes. But, the difference in publishing costs is not all that significant. According to Harper Studio and Baen Books, the costs of preparing for publication, whether paper or e-book is the same. Both require “the author advance, the editing, the copyediting, the proofreading, the cover and interior design, the illustrations, the sales kit, the marketing efforts, the publicity, and the staff that needs to coordinate all the details that make books possible.” (http://theharperstudio.com/2009/02/why-e-books-cost-money-to-publish/).

The final difference between paper and ebook publishing costs seems to vary with publisher. Harper says the difference between the costs of a $26.00 paper book versus an ebook format is $2.00. While Baen Books claims its costs are only $6.00 for an e-book.

If it’s not the cost, what is driving the change? Projections from the Forrester market research company are that “By the end of this year, 10.3 million people are expected to own e-readers in the United States, buying about 100 million e-books. This is up from 3.7 million e-readers and 30 million e-books sold last year.” Forrester also says that there are tremendous business opportunities for this media, predicting that the market will change from reader driven to business driven, including the health, education, and government sectors. (http://www.forrester.com/rb/Research/how_big_is_ereader_opportunity/q/id/54463/t/2)

PaidContent.org published ten predictions for the 2010 e-reader/market. One projects e-book revenues of $500 million in the U.S. alone and sales beginning to climb in other countries.

The change seems to be driven by demand and the e-book bargains offered by companies such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble. Preference isn’t entirely by generation. Even among partners, one prefers the feel of paper while the other likes the e-book. On the horizon, an electronic paper is being developed that will have more of the look and feel of a paper book.

For now, what is your preference? Mine is still paper and audio but that could change.
WW II and Laundry:
What else could be going on with Ex Libris?

by Barbara Zurl

Everyone seems to agree that they are busy-too busy. Whether it is dealing with the vicissitudes of daily life or the antics of the computer, our time is being eaten away and often we are not even sure where it went.

I can personally guarantee that the members of the Ex Libris Team are all busy women, from working on a PhD at UT, to raising a teenage son, to volunteering at the local Food Pantry, to attending photography course, to….whatever.

I can also personally guarantee that these women are absolutely sure where at least six hours a month go. They are given to the Ex Libris Program. Sounds like a lot, doesn’t it? Six hours of volunteer time. This figure represents composing two programs, delivering two programs, and the travel time involved.

Six hours!

So why do it?

Recently Dolores Philpot delivered a program at Asbury Place in Maryville. Her topic was World War II and its music. Thirteen residents attended and a few days later I received a beautiful letter from one of them:

“Monday’s program was just wonderful. It was about World War II – that was our time and we all remember it. Hearing the music was a delight – many of us even were tapping our feet. Thank you for bringing Ex Libris to us.”

The letter was signed by Miriam Williamson – a long time Friend of Blount County Public Library, one of the original members of the Blount County Book Discussion group, and the former medical librarian at Blount Memorial Hospital. For sure, Dolores knows that her time was well spent. Ex Libris effectively extended the hand of friendship to an old friend.

In a similar vein, I had the pleasure of delivering a program at Wellington Place. One of my topics dealt with how laundry was done back in the 1940’s – the fear-inspiring wringer washer which terrified me as a child. One of the ladies at the table piped up, “That was easy. I have done laundry in a huge kettle outdoors on the island we stayed at during summers in Massachusetts.” Much discussion ensued and afterwards I discovered that my new friend was recently arrived in East Tennessee. What a surprise a week later when speaking to our own Friends’ president Larry Moore about Ex Libris to learn that his mother was just telling him all about it! Sure enough the wonderful, bright, jovial lady who topped my laundry story was his mother – Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) Moore.

I am hoping that some of you Friends might be willing to join us and give up 6 hours a month – just think – you will have between 714 and 738 hours left depending upon whether the month has 30 days or 31. Please contact me at 865-977-5034 or email me at badger630@aol.com You may come and observe one of us and decide for yourselves.

For the love of words

by Leigh Caldwell

The Wikipedia defines Lexophilia as the love of words and a Lexophile as a lover of words who generally appreciates the nuances surrounding different words.

Following are some examples of Lexophilia guaranteed to put a little smile on your face. The original author is unknown.

1. A bicycle can’t stand alone; it is two tired.
2. A will is a dead giveaway.
3. Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.
4. A backward poet writes inverse.
5. In a democracy it’s your vote that counts; in feudalism, it’s your Count that votes.
6. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
7. If you don’t pay your exorcist you can get repossessed.
8. With her marriage she got a new name and a dress.
9. Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I’ll show you A-flat miner.
10. When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

Summer 2010 Donations

Robert & Patty DeRycke
Gail Crawford
Wayne & Bernice Forshay
Colin & Jane Kamperman
Leola J. Winfree
John Baugues

Memorials
Pat & Linda Martin
in memory of
Frank B. Bird
Local Author Reveals Revelation

by Leigh Caldwell

Authors are inspired to write for many reasons. Dorothy Martin Agee, author of *Revelation for God’s Children*, found her inspiration from her constant study of the Bible and, interestingly, after several strong earthquakes had occurred in various parts of the world.

Agee was stirred by the culmination of these events and her life to delve into Revelations; to attempt to make sense of the most difficult passages to understand in the Bible. *Revelation for God’s Children* took Agee almost twelve years to compile, write, and edit. Her book explains in simple terms the sometimes puzzling portions of the Bible. Each of the 22 chapters of Revelation is treated separately, broken down by passages. In her book, Agee includes the verses on the page facing her interpretation.

Agee isn’t a Maryville native, but she’s lived in the community longer than many of its residents. Known affectionately as “Dottie” by all, she is eighty-eight years young, with twinkling eyes and a radiant smile.

Dottie was born in Columbus, Georgia and moved from Atlanta to Knoxville where she attended high school. Dottie is still proud that she was the co-editor of the school’s newspaper; a publication that could rival a local newspaper, as its columns featured current events, sports, society, and even classified advertising!

In the 1940s, Agee wrote *A Recipe for Sleep*, an evangelical devotional which was published in a national journal. It was around this same time, while still in her teens that Dottie fell in love with and ultimately was married to Oliver, who later was well known throughout Blount County as Dr. Agee.

Dottie and her husband lived in Memphis during his internship and she worked for TVA at a Power Substation outside of Memphis. Later she was able to join him when he served in Okinawa during the War. After crossing the country and the Pacific with three small children, she took up missionary work in Okinawa and was the President of the Woman’s Group at her church there.

When Dottie and Oliver returned to Tennessee she became very active in the Maryville First Baptist Church. She taught Sunday school and adult Bible study for over forty-five years. Dottie taught teenage girls about the Bible at a mission Sunday school, and pondered why no adult women were attending. To address that, she instituted a Wednesday morning Bible study for underprivileged women who, for various reasons, could not attend the Sunday services.

She owned and operated a Christian Book store in Maryville for sixteen years. Dottie was the accountant for her husband’s medical practice and later worked as a Research Clerk for First Tennessee Bank well into her seventies. Dottie was in her mid-seventies when she finally gave up tennis, a sport she loved and in which she excelled for over sixty years.

Dottie continues to volunteer at the library and is still active in her church, sharing her love of the Bible and discussing parts of *Revelation for God’s Children* with the congregation.

Her book is available through Tate Publishing & Enterprises (www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore), at Hastings’s Bookstore, Border’s, Reader’s Delight Bookstore and the Blount County Public Library.

This past summer, this delightful octogenarian happily signed books at three local bookstores following the book’s release this July.
Books for Soldiers Project Report

by Vivian Selecman

Even though some troops have left Iraq, we still have 50,000 of our men and women there. We, also, have thousands in all branches of service stationed in Afghanistan, and others in remote isolated places all over the globe where they don’t have access to amenities we take for granted.

The Books for Soldiers program is still very important to them. From July 1 to October 10, seven volunteers have sent 64 boxes with 46 CDs, 926 books, and uncounted magazines to them.

If you would like to participate in this effort, please contact Committee Chair Vivian Selecman at Selecman@msn.com or 379-2568. As little as two hours of your time a month can make a big difference to our troops.

Postage spent was $360.68. We only collected $300 in the donation jars at the July sale, so the contributions of the following people have been especially helpful.

We really appreciate all donations of both time and money for this project! Donations may be mailed to Friends of the Library, Books for Soldiers, 208 N. Cusick St., Maryville, TN 37804.

A BIG THANK YOU to the donors of more than $20 since January 1, 2010 listed below:

Charlie Butera
Mary Ruth Hoyt
Sylvia
Mary Gregory
Catherine Beals
Grayce Goertz

Mr. & Mrs. Marion Stokes
Mr. & Mrs. James Twyford
Mr. Darell Terrell
Mr. & Mrs. Lynn Shasteen
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Best
Kay H. Waters

Editor’s note: This winter the number of pages listing requests from soldiers stationed in Afghanistan went from 1 to 3 or 4. Not hard to figure out that there is a surge of manpower in that region of the Middle East.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

“Books For Soldiers” is a ongoing project in which volunteers organize and send books to our troops stationed overseas. We continually need more contributions. If you would like to donate, please mail to Friends of the Library, 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville TN 37804. Please designate that it is for the Books for Soldiers program. If you are interested in being a “Books for Soldiers” volunteer, please call Vivian Selecman at 379-2568 or e-mail at Selecman@msn.com.
by Leigh Caldwell

No matter how long you’ve been here, chances are slim you ever heard of the small town of Prospect, Tennessee. I myself just discovered it and was surprised to learn it isn’t far from Maryville.

Prospect is a lovely little city where I’m guessing maybe twenty thousand people call home. It is also a town teeming with mystery, intrigue, and even murder! Sam Jenkins, the police chief, tries to control the colorful characters of cheaters, power mongers, boozers and losers, while solving crime in the burg, which sits, like Maryville, at the foot of the Great Smoky Mountains.

Both Chief Jenkins and the town of Prospect are products of the imagination and writing skill of former Suffolk County New York Police Section Commander, now published author, Wayne Zurl, a local resident. Although he began writing stories of Prospect in 2006, in January, 2011 we all can visit the characters and experience the action in Prospect when A New Prospect – his first full length novel about the town – will be on the shelves of bookstores, libraries and more than likely, the New York Times Best Seller list.

In real life, Wayne Zurl is a private person who prefers to let his stories do his talking. And great stories he has! A Vietnam veteran, he worked for twenty years in law enforcement, mingling with the lives of some of the three million residents of New York. Drawing on his life experience he has plenty of eccentric personalities and experiences which all come to life in his stories. Although the majority of his works are fiction, the events and subjects about which he writes are based on compilations he experienced as a cop.

Upon retirement from law enforcement, Zurl, along with his beautiful and talented wife Barbara, took up residence in Wal- land. Working as a volunteer at Ft. Loudon State Historic Area he dealt with its promotion. It was there he was inspired to write more than just publicity stories for the area’s Living History.

Zurl has written non-fiction Early American History articles for Muzzleloader magazine, Smoke & Fire News, and The Leathercrafter’s Journal. He was a staff writer with Buckskinner magazine and wrote a feature called Cooperstown which contained fictional accounts in the life of James Fenimore Cooper.

Zurl also has many short stories which may be obtained as MS Word® document e-books by contacting him through his website (www.waynezurlbooks.com.) His A Christmas Story, a fast moving tale about two cops working the holiday can be found in the January, 2010 issue of Mezzo magazine (www.mezzomagazine.com). Wayne also has several novellas on audio books, which can be downloaded from Mind Wings Audio (www.mindwingsaudio.com.) The latter will give you a tease of Prospect Police Chief Sam Jenkin’s dangerous undertakings and Zurl’s engaging dialog.

Not one to remain stagnant in retirement from law enforcement, Zurl is classified as a Lifetime Master in combat pistol competition by the NRA, has 20 years experience in leather-craft, makes his own knives, looms woven goods, and has done extensive research in 18th century firearms. James Fenimore Cooper once said, “The affairs of life embrace a multitude of interests, and he who reasons in any one of them, without consulting the rest, is a visionary unsuited to control the business of the world.” Cooper and Zurl would have gotten along fine.

With his story telling and attention to detail, he says he “wants to be known as more realistic than the last guy in fiction writing.” His book A New Prospect may just bring that closer to reality.

Wayne Zurl
Friends of the Library 2010 Fall Book Sale

Thursday, October 21, Noon to 6 pm (for Friends of the Library Members Only)
Friday, October 22 and Saturday, October 23, 9 am to 5 pm.

Christmas Items
Surprise Book Boxes
Bookstore Condition
Children’s Books

Collectibles

Blount County Friends of the Library

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

Lower Level of Library