



Between Friends

Building From The Foundation Up

An Amazing Community Story and History of the Library Foundation

by Marty Black

By 1995, the Blount County library on McGhee Street was out of space. The location had served the community well but the facility was no longer adequate to manage increasing usage and new technology.

After carefully studying the possible expansion of the existing site, the Library Board of Trustees determined that a new location was necessary. The Trustees held public hearings and worked closely with architects to design a facility that would meet the needs of the community. The result was a plan to construct a new building on the former Sky City property overlooking the Greenbelt and strategically located to both Alcoa and Maryville.

The Trustees realized that the quality project they envisioned for the community would cost more than the available funding, even though the Blount County Commission and the Maryville and



Photo property of Blount County Library

Alcoa City Councils were very supportive. Of the total costs of \$14,000,000, \$4,000,000 would need to be raised from private donations. The Trustees recognized that a fund raising project of this magnitude would require more time than the Trustees or Friends could provide. The Trustees were occupied with planning issues and the daily issues of the existing library, and the Friends were engaged in support projects at the existing library. Thus, a new entity whose purpose would be capital fund raising was essential.

In 1997, the Trustees incorporated
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Joy Bishop: Volunteer Extraordinaire – shares her Library Foundation Odyssey

By Dolores Philpot

Joy Bishop, a Lampasas, Texas native, has had a long and varied career, in government, in her own consulting business, and in her service to community organizations. This includes the “labor of love” that went into shaping our current Blount County Library. Starting around 2000, after she retired, Joy got involved in the Executive Planning Committee for funding the new library. Elected Chair, she and the other members (Marty Black, Tut Bradford, and Jim Proffitt,) along with Library Trustee liaison, Tom Taylor, had the task of fundraising.



Joy Bishop

The Executive Committee recruited 16 other members and established the Library Foundation with the charge

of raising \$4 million in private money from the community. This would be a large part of the needed \$14 million budget for the library. No money came in from the federal or state governments, however, the county and cities of Alcoa and Maryville contributed public funds. Foundation

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BCFOL Officers:

President: Jerry Wagner

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Newsletter Designer: David Clabough • **Website:** www.bcfol.org

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Regina Greene, Karl Gombert

Sandy Goodson, Sally Gross

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Marie Stefanovic, Cindy Stuart

Don't Miss the Fall Book Sale! October 18th - 20th!

A Letter from the President

Have you ever wondered why we are right or left dominated? Have you noticed that the opposite of our control side is the side that steadies the dominate side? My wife had her right hip replaced recently. She is learning to rely on her left side for balance while her right side recovers the trauma from her right hip wearing out and the surgery. Sometimes our creative side wears out and our not so creative side has to pick up the slack.



Jerry Wagner, President

Determining if we are right or left dominate--- there are probably aspects of our personality that we are taking into consideration. Determining if we are right or left thinkers is not a lways clear cut and most people are a mix of both.

If we continue to rely on our dominate side, how can we know where our true strengths are? Right or left brain dominance determines how we take in information. For example, if we are right handed and throwing a football, our brain tells us to support the ball

with our left hand and throw with our right so one cooperates with the other.

When we visit the library, our brain reminds us to go to the section that we are familiar with even though we are aware that there is a wide spectrum of information just waiting to cooperate with what we already know. Often it is our dominate side that draws us to the same topics we are familiar with and avoids what we are not. Have you ever considered picking something from a shelf that is different than your favorite author, subject matter or work related?

Why not try something else to stimulate your non-dominate side. The next time you visit our "Friends" book-sale Oct 18th, try widening your horizon by visiting the self-help sections such as "cooking, hobbies, computer programming or social issues etc" something that could strengthen your non-dominate side. It might help you understand how you process information.

For example, if you are left brained you tend to be more orderly. If you are right brained you are not quite as structured, but you are more spontaneous and you fly by the seat of your pants.

Wouldn't it be exciting to try something different just for a change, to add a little spice to your life? If you are so

inclined, try writing notes to yourself about how you are processing information, do you like it or dislike it? Do you find it boring or exciting, why? Tell someone about it. Get their opinion. It may be fun.

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!

Building from the Foundation Up, continued from page 1

the Foundation for the Blount County Public Library and tax exempt status was obtained. Tutt Bradford, who had been a co-chair of the fundraising for the private funding of the McGhee Street library, was asked to chair the Foundation. While fully supportive, he requested "emeritus" status. One member of the newly formed Foundation Board had impressed everyone with her organizational skills, energy, efficiency, and thoughtfulness and all were delighted when Joy Bishop agreed to chair the Foundation.

The private fundraising campaign was at the time the largest in Blount County's history.

The Foundation Board was expanded and the Campaign was under way. Tom Taylor, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Kathy Pagles, Director of the Library, with energy and enthusiasm, began making what would become hundreds of presentations to countless groups. The Foundation hosted many events to attract donors and approached many individuals and foundations.

The community affirmatively and generously responded. Over \$4,300,000 in private funds were raised.

Library usage has increased to the extent that expansion into the lower level is needed. When the Blount County, Maryville, Alcoa, and the Library Board of Trustees determine that the time is right for completion, the Foundation Board will lead the campaign for private funds. Presently, the Foundation Board seeks potential endowments for capital improvements.

Collecting Friends

by Barbara Zurl

Four times a year your Ex Libris Library Extension Program team meets to set up calendars for the upcoming quarter. After the members select dates, we spend time discussing news about each venue, changes in clientele, and exchanging resources and ideas for new programs. With Ex Libris it is all about creating that special program which will interest, entertain, amuse and touch the folks with whom we interact.

Recently, we have been focusing on collections – things that each of us, as presenters, collect and treasure in our own lives. For me it was aprons – hand made by my husband’s grandmother and given to me over many decades.

The oldest apron, now tissue paper thin, dates back to the 1930’s. It is a bib apron with rick rack and a sweet old timey floral pattern.

There are Christmas aprons with small gray poodles peeking out of holiday stockings, Halloween aprons with black cats and one very special one featuring a beautiful spray of white dogwood flowers on a sky blue background. I tell everyone that Nana just knew that one day we



would move to East Tennessee – home of the glorious dogwood.

True, old aprons do not rank up there with Hummels or antique cameos or valuable postage stamps, but aprons



are something that the folks we visit can relate to. They all have made them, worn them, laundered and ironed them. Thousands of meals have been prepared while in an apron. Stories emerge about that first Thanksgiving dinner they cooked – the glorious success of the perfect bird – and often the “now” funny tale of how the packet of giblets was left inside by mistake.

All of us have similar stories which are shared with friends and family ... over and over again ... at annual gatherings. We never tire of them and actually look forward to hearing them again. They reassure us

of a sense of continuity and belonging. For the folks in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes this is no longer the case. Often their families are entirely gone and it is their fellow resident who becomes their family. By creating a program which touches on a shared memory Ex Libris offers the chance for people to get to know one another better. Sometimes the most mundane topic opens the door to a new friendship. When this happens, we know that we have succeeded.

And Ex Libris has succeeded. Over the last eight years more than 6,000 people have availed themselves of our services. Our Team has grown and become quite diverse. And that door to new friendships – well it has certainly opened within our group. Each time we meet and plan, we get to know each other better and add to our collection of friends.

Ex Libris’s next planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2012 in the Dorothy Herron Room, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Anyone interested in attending and learning more about being part of the Program may contact

Barbara Zurl at 865-977-5034 or e-mail at badger630@aol.com.



Joy Bishop, continued from page 1

members busily approached businesses and individuals, planned fundraising events, for example, teas, picnics, lunches, dinner parties and solicited the public. It was successful as donations came in both large and small. In 2002, the new library was built.

In contrast to the impressive number

of organizations served on as Board member in the past, now Ms. Bishop is only on two. These are Pellissippi State Technical Community College Foundation, and the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center. These and church work are chief interests. Of course, she is a reader and enjoys being a mem-

ber of the “Southern Belle Book Club”. Some of her favorite authors are Ken Follett, D. Archer, and Patricia Cornwell. Recent awards for Joy are Philanthropist of the year from the Blount County Chamber of Commerce and Champion of the Blount County Library.

The BCFOL Odyssey of Moving the Old Library to the New

By Bob Ramger

I remember the list I made out about a year before I retired. This was in May of 1998. This list consisted of the things I wanted to do in a typical day of my retirement years in which I did not have to be interrupted by preparing a lecture for the next day, or how quickly I could grade a whole stack of lab reports turned in that day. A list of things I always wanted to do, but didn't have the time at that moment. Things like: read my Civil War books for two uninterrupted hours every day, or, do some wood-working for two uninterrupted hours every day, or work out at the Springbrook Wellness Center for two hours every other day, or, ride my bicycle on the Maryville/Alcoa greenway every day for two hours, or, work in my flower and vegetable gardens for two hours every day—now, how many hours per day is that already?"

That was in contrast to the thing some of my retired friends were telling me---"don't say yes to any requests to volunteer for this club or that organization---for at least a whole year after you retire!"

I said to myself, "Who me! I will have plenty of time to do my own thing beginning on June 1, 1999."

On the morning of June 8, 1999, Dr. Marvin Peterson called and said, Bob, I want you to be on the Board of Directors of the Blount County Friends of the Library (BCFOL) "Marvin," I said, "What in the world do the Friends of the Library do—besides take our yearly dues?" He said, "We help raise money to support any project the library comes up with for which they cannot pay out of their regular budget. Also, they are looking for volunteers to help in the library itself."

I thought that I would have time to put in a couple of hours a month on the library board, even with all the two hour fun activities I wanted to schedule.

"Not the library board," Marvin shouted, "the Friends of the Library Board." I told Marvin I would try it for one year.

We on the board met once a month in a little alcove in one corner of the



library on McGhee Street—across the street from the Hannum Springs and the Maryville Towers. The Board at that time consisted of President Buzz Trexler, V.P. Marvin Peterson, VP Janet Howerter, Secretary Martha Pittenger, Treasurer Carolyn Bilbrey, Board members Eileen Watt, Martha Bird, Tom Randolph and me. The following year I was elected president and we added Vivian Selecman, Ruth West, and Lew Rudisill to the board.

The first summer I was on the board (1999), BCFOL had a book sale in the old abandoned Sky City building (site of present library). If I remember correctly, that book sale lasted a whole week, and the temperature inside this non-airconditioned building was hovering in the low 90's.

My first year as president consisted mainly in defining what role BCFOL would play in preparation to moving to the new library building in 2002. One new project we did start, however, was sponsoring a speaker's series, inviting book authors and others associated with important events at the time.

Our first speaker was Dr. Art Bushing, Maryville College English Professor, who spoke on the postwar years in the life of Sgt. Alvin York. Art's father was Sgt. York's personal secretary for several years after the war.

'One ongoing project that kept several of us busy was finding room to store used books donated to the library and BCFOL. At first, we stored many boxes of donated books in the back broom closet behind an upper level meeting room at the back of the library. This meeting room sat 30-40 people at most. When this over-sized broom closet eventually filled with books, we were able to move these books to a rental space located between the Olympia Towers and the present library. This rental storage room was donated to BCFOL by Steve and Ruth West as a gift to the library. Dick Cox, Jim Byrd, and I often spent hours loading boxes of books onto push carts, loading on pickup trucks, and unloading the trucks at the rental building.

When our new library finally opened, we spent many more hours transferring those boxes of books from the rental storage building over to the lower level of our present place. But---before we could move those books, we needed shelves to put them on!!!

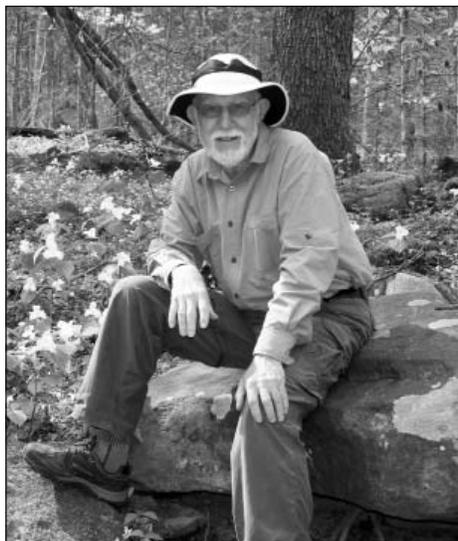
This next adventure was under the supervision of our new Board member, Jim Byrd. Let me tell you—we could not have done it without him! Jim had just retired from the Alcoa City Schools, and he thought he was going to while away his retirement days hiking and boating. Not so fast, Jim!!! Since the new library had installed new book shelves for the upstairs, the BCFOL was given first choice of the shelves from the old library building for our used book sales. Jim, along with 8-12 other male volunteers (some from our Wed. hiking group, some from Alcoa Kiwanis, some from local boy scout troops,

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Future 900 Miler Club Member: BCFOL Friend Jim Byrd

By Dolores Philpot

Retiree, hiker, traveler, nature photographer, sailor, and volunteer partly describe Jim Byrd, Friends of the Library Board (FOL) Member at Large. This Johnson City, TN native had spent 27 years with the Alcoa City School, and retired as Instruction Technology supervisor. Twice a week, Jim hikes with 10-12 people in an informal hiking group. He is most of the way, 700+ miles, towards his coveted goal of being a member of the 900 Miler Club. This club is an association of hikers who have hiked all the maintained trails of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.



US and Canada. Favorite places are Cape Hatteras, N.C. and St. Joseph State Park in Florida. This has given him a great opportunity to indulge his photography interests that are reinforced with his membership in the Southern Appalachian Nature Photographer Club. Jim also enjoys sailing with his wife, Sara Pamela on his 25-foot sailboat.

Jim has been a Kiwanis Club member for more than 40 years. He has been involved with volunteer library activities since helping move the old library to the new location, 10 years ago and is a past FOL Board member. His reading interests tend towards action and historical fiction.

Mr. Byrd rebuilt an old bookmobile

into a motor home and has traveled 30-40 thousand miles throughout the

Library Head: Kathy Pagles

By Dolores Philpot

After 23 years with the Blount County Library, Library Director, Kathy Pagles is thinking of retirement in the “foreseeable future”. Then, she and her semi-retired husband, Carl, envision traveling to Europe, perhaps a River Cruise, or a return visit to England, especially Edinburgh. Scotland’s capital city, with its signature castle built on an extinct volcano, is a favorite to explore.



Kathy has long been involved with professional and community organizations in Blount County. In her off hours, one way she stays busy is knitting for charity projects e.g. Knitters for Peace, with

her church. The group is now knitting acrylic hats for Head Start toddlers. Another interest for this Collinsville, Illinois native is reading, particularly light reading including mysteries and thrillers. She likes books by authors such as Janet Evanovich, J. D. Robb, and Robert Tannebaum.

The library has been in its present location for 10 years, and remodeling is in the works. In the near future, according to Kathy, the Children’s Library section will have its “Pond filled in”. The Pond is the area where activities like story hours take place. Shelves will be rearranged and carpeting replaced using funds from the Library Foundation. Stay tuned.

Odyssey, continued from page 4

some from our Ground Hog’s Day Men’s Book Club) went into the old library, disassembled the old main library book shelves, loaded these steel shelves and walls onto a U-Haul truck, drove to the new library, unloaded these into the patio behind the library, and carried them into the new library basement.

Once these many, many shelves were stacked in the proper areas, we commenced to reassemble the shelves—one or two at a time, with the million or so nuts and bolts that would hold them together. Bit by bit the shelves went up, and you can see them now at the next book sale, holding close to 50,000 books. All of this was under the close supervision and coordination of Mighty Jim Byrd.

A year or two later, we received another big batch of donated shelves (located in the free book section) from a Knoxville hospital that was moving from an old building to a new one. The moving of those shelves took about 4 or 5 days –10 hours a day—10-12 men each day. That is about 600 man hours of labor—all for the love of Books! How about that!!!

Since that summer of 2002, BCFOL has had about 40 book sales bringing in funds for a lot of wonderful creative programs only our library can afford. We are the envy of many other libraries in the state.

I conducted my last BCFOL board meeting in June, 2002, and turned the gavel over to Julie Durand who presided over the first BCFOL board meeting in the big board room of the present library. I was still on the board and WOW what a change from our little alcove in the old building.

Tech Corner by Bonnie Holmes

Keeping Your Mind Sharp with Handy Tools

For most of us, learning is a lifetime activity. The Blount County Library provides numerous resources in various formats to assist us. Many of these are available on line so members are able to learn at their own pace and convenience.

Check out GCFLearnFree.org by going to the Blount County Library Website and clicking on E-Library. GCFLearningFree.org is the first resource listed. The site offers over 750,000 free lessons in reading, math, computer, career topics, money management and everyday life instructions.

From time to time, we might need to brush up on some math skills that we haven't used in a while or to help children with assignments. Select the math program for basic math skills in addition, subtraction, division, multiplication, fractions, percentage, decimals, making change, using Excel to create spreadsheets, and using Google spreadsheets. Under the money management program you can learn budgeting, retirement planning, banking and smart shopping skills.

Computer skills are a must these days. GCFLearnFree.org offers lessons in computer basics, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Office, internet basics, iPad basics, Microsoft PowerPoint,

Microsoft Access, Google, and Facebook. Also included are explanations of common computer related terms, computer safety, email basics, and information literacy. There are also mobile apps available so you can learn on the go.

The career unit covers career planning, job search and networking, resume writing and techniques for posting on the internet, interviewing skills, and pointers for success on the job. Workplace basics covers job expectations by an employer, understanding salary and benefits, decision considerations regarding leave, completing paperwork, and how to organize your workspace.

The reading program offers two units. The first helps those who already read and speak English improve their skills and vocabulary. The second program is designed for those are learning English as a second language to read and understand it better.

You may wish to know which lessons are the most popular. Check under the pie icon. Currently, Google drive and documents, iPad Basics, Pinterest 101, Blog Basics, Chrome, and Microsoft Publisher 101 head the list.

Give your brain a workout. Pick out a lesson and learn something new today.

Who Reads? Who are Library Card Holders?

According to the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project, slightly more than 20% of U.S. adults stated that they read an e-book during the past year. In addition, the report found that e-readers averaged 24 books during than time compared to print book readers who read only 15.

The study also found that readers also varied their format. E-book readers also read print works (88%). Of the 2,986 persons surveyed, 72% used print books, 21% used e-books, and 21% listened to books in audio formats.

Although 58% individuals over 16 years were library card holders and 69% indicated that libraries were important to them and their families, 58% were not aware of e-book offerings in their libraries. According to the American Library Association, 76% of libraries offer e-book services to their patrons.

Library card holders tended to be female, white, and parents of younger children. More African Americans and Hispanics say public library services are important to them

than do whites. African American use of the library to access historical & genealogical information, to use databases, and to use or borrow newspapers, magazines, or journals is higher than whites.

Education also played a large role in library users. 72% of library card holders had a college degree while only 39% of those who had not finished high school had one. The 2011 survey also found that those who had library cards read an average (mean) of 20 books compared to the 13 without cards.

Income seemed to have much less influence. Fifty percent (50%) of those with incomes under \$30,000/year have library cards; 62% of those earning \$30,000-49,000 have cards; 60% of those earning \$50,000-74,000 hold cards; and 65% of those with incomes \$75,000 and over have cards.

Americans with library cards read for a wide variety of reasons, including pleasure, keeping up with current affairs; to research specific topics, and for their work or school. They also like to use reading to expand their imaginations and as an escape.

The Collectible Corner

by Penny Myers

COLLECTIBLES FOR OCTOBER 2012 SALE

Animals and Plants

United States National Herbarium
Handbook of Nature Study
Treasury of Gardening

Arts and Music

English Folk Songs
Wildlife Art
O'Keeffe
Leonardo's Notebook

Biography

Touch of Two Kings: Growing Up at Graceland
Traipsin' Woman
Seven Pillars of Wisdom

Children

Bedtime Stories (Garis - 1910)
Peter Pan in Kensington Garden
Bobbsey Twins - Set of 8 volumes - 1929
Childcraft - Set of 12 volumes - 1939
Stories of the Little Red Guards
Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories - 4 volumes
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Fiction

Angle of Repose (Stegner)
Sherlock Holmes
A number of classic novels in beautiful bindings

History

Pushing to the Front
The Image of War 1861 - 1865
Messages of the Governors of Tennessee

Non Fiction

Notes on Nursing (Nightingale)
The House of Forbes
Men and Mysteries of Wall Street
History of Freemasonry

Regional

1830 United States Census of Blount County
A Citizen's View of Knoxville
Market Square
A History of Tellico Plains
By Faith Endowed (Maryville College)
The Manhattan Project

Religion

Catholic Commentary on the Holy Scriptures
Character Sketches from Scripture, 2 volumes
Holy Bible (ca 1864)

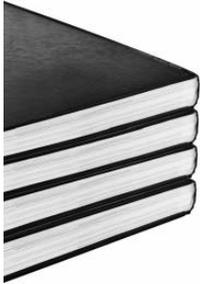
Sets

The Library of Oratory - 13 volumes (ca 1902)
History of Civilization - 4 volumes (ca 1887)
National Audubon Nature Program
The New Complete History of the United States of America - 11 volumes (ca 1905)
The World of Mathematics - 4 volumes
Britannica Great Books - 54 volumes

Friends Book Discussion Group

By Vivian Selecman (Book Club Facilitator)

The Book Discussion Group is sponsored by the Friends. From twelve to twenty women meet in the board room at the library on the second Wednesday



of each month to discuss books of general interest.

They choose the books by consensus in June of each year, trying to choose books that are current, interesting, and conducive to lively discussion. Sometimes they are controversial, sometimes they are difficult. But even the ones that aren't favorites ignite amazing discussions in this group of intelligent outspoken women.

Anyone who loves to read and enjoys spirited dialogue is welcome to join this group at any time; however, there are limits to the best size of a discussion group.

The book list for the 2012-2013 year is as follows:

- August** - The Paris Wife, by Paula McClain
- September** - Killing Lincoln, by Bill O'Reilly
- October** - The Given Day, by Dennis LeHave
- November** - The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot
- December** - My Year With Eleanor, by Noble Hancock
- January** - Captive Queen, by Alison Weir
- February** - Shock of Gray, by Ted C. Fishman
- March** - Handle With Care, by Jodi Piccolt
- April** - Becoming Madam Mao, by Anchee Min
- May** - The Rhythm Boys of Omaha Central, by Steve Marantz
- June** - The Flight of Gemma Harding - by Margot Livesey

Welcome to the Board



Regina Greene joined the BCFOL Board this year and her picture was not included in the spring issue with her bio.

Garden Help Needed for Shakespeare Garden

Please make plans to join us on Saturday, October 27 at 9am to do some light weeding and seasonal plantings in the Shakespeare Garden. The garden is located at the rear of the library near the bridge leading across to downtown Maryville. (It can also be accessed through the door to the right of the children's section of the library).

Bring gloves and your favorite weeding tool

and spade. Blount County Master Gardeners will be on hand to help, so it should not take long!



With your help, we can have this lovely area looking great for the fall and winter months.

Third Quarter Donations

**Presbyterian Women of
New Providence Presbyterian Church**

Donation letter from Presbyterian Women:

It is our great pleasure and privilege to contribute to the good work of the Friends of the Library. This year we are happy to increase our gift. Thank you for all your organization does to improve the lives of residents of Blount County.

- Wayne and Bernice Forshay**
- Jim and Rosemary Gartner**
- Michael Harrison Family**
- Colin and Jane Kamperman**
- Norman and Wanda McKinnon Jr.**
- Louis and Marlene Milliken**
- Susan Thompson**
- Leola J. Winfree**

Bob and Marie Harris in honor of Carl Cormia
Bob and Marie Harris in honor of Stuart McNiell



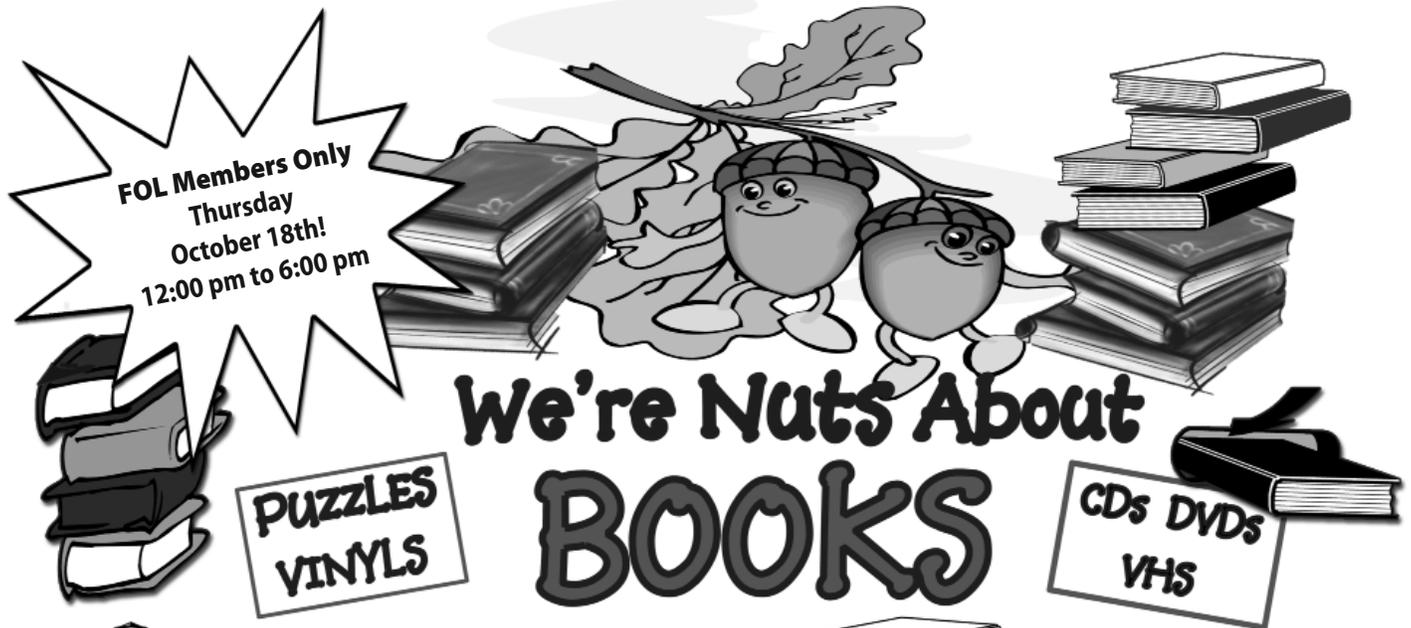
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Maryville, TN 37804

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Friends of the Library 2012 Fall Book Sale

Thursday, October 18, Noon to 6 pm (for Friends of the Library Members Only)
Friday, October 19, and Saturday, October 20, 9 am to 5 pm.



Blount County Friends of the Library

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



Lower Level of Library

Send questions or comments to the Editor, Jane Bennett (classeacar@charter.net) | Creative Director, David Clabough (david@sealost.com)