2014 Blount County Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting was not just about the excellent BookMark Café sweets and the vote to verify the incoming board, including new president, Diane Martin. President Jerry Wagner pointed out some of the Friends benefits to the library, such as the electronic sign and Hot Summer Nights, as well as ExLibris which is program in which volunteers go into the assisted living and nursing home communities and generally entertain the residents. He also thanked the volunteers attending and pointed out that over 12,000 hours had been logged by the volunteers, which adds up to six full time employees.

President Jerry Wagner recognized Phyllis Williams who was honored by the Tennessee Friends of the Library as an exemplary volunteer and he said it shows how volunteering is applauded state wide.

The evening’s highlight was an informational presentation of Blount County Drug Court by the Honorable Tammy Harrington, Judge of Circuit Court, Division 1, who is in charge of the program, City of Maryville policeman, Agent Ryan Rogers, and two successful Drug Court participants.

Judge Harrington explained that the program was started with federal funds in 1997, when she was a prosecutor. It has since gone through financial changes so that now there are no federal funds but the state provides assistance, some funds are provided by criminal fines, and a Drug Court Foundation is supplementing their program.

That Blount County has a drug problem, actually, that the United States of America has a problem, is not the issue. The issue is figuring out ways to deal with the monumental numbers of drug related problems. Blount County has the Drug Court.

Judge Harrington introduced Ryan continued on page 2

Phyllis Williams
Friends Who Volunteer
Phyllis Williams: Exemplary Friend of the Library

At the 2014 Annual Meeting in Chattanooga, the Tennessee Friends of the Library awarded three outstanding individuals from Tennessee Friends groups, and one group, the Sevier County Book Sort Team, monetary gifts and certificates for exemplary service to their library communities.

The awardees include: Paul Bailey, Greenback, who serves his library as computer liaison, on committees and as a fundraiser, and as trustee on the library board and the local historical society.

Elinor Ross, Putnam County, who is past president and presently writes for her Friends newsletter and helps with fundraising and program set ups.

The third individual awarded this recognition is Blount County’s Friends Phyllis Williams.

Phyllis was nominated by a committee of her BCFOL peers for maintaining the children’s section of the library with several other Friends, acting as a liaison between the Friends’ board and

continued on page 4
A word from our Outgoing President, Jerry Wagner

First I want to say sincerely that I have considered it an honor to serve the past two years as President of the “Friends.” I also want to thank all the board members that have supported me as President.

As I prepared this final letter as President of the Blount County Friends of the Library, I felt fulfilled because I have experienced so many improvements during my term. So many of the board members and volunteers have come forth to advance not only the processes but also what we as volunteers have brought to the Library and the members of the Friends. I am proud of the accomplishments I as part of a wonderful team have accomplished. My fellow volunteers and board members have donated their time to community support, met challenges, and contributed to the efficiency of managing the volumes for each of quarterly book sales.

At our Annual Meeting on June 24th I passed this leadership to Diane Martin. Diane has an incredible ability as a leader that you’re going to love and I feel so confident in what she will bring to the “Friends” and our Library.

I will continue as an At Large board member for the next two years so I will continue to experience the growth with the friends. I will also continue to write articles for the newsletters during my term.

Jerry Wagner,  
President,  
BCFOL

Friends of Library Annual Meeting, continued from page 1

Rogers, Maryville policeman and agent on the Drug Task Force. Agent Rogers discussed his problems enforcing the very stringent drug laws. He said Blount County is basically a small community and he sees the same people over and over. Both the participants there said that if it were not for Agent Rogers they would not have been successful in the Drug Court.

Today 69 people are in the Drug Court, up from 29 three years ago. They find there could be 200 viable candidates in it if funds permitted.

The Drug Court participants are chosen carefully. They committed nonviolent crimes related to their drug usage. They are carefully vetted by the Drug Court team consisting of the district attorney, public defender, the Circuit Court Division 1 Judge, presently Judge Harrington, and treatment counselors and probation officers, as being potential successes in kicking their habit and becoming viable law-abiding citizens.

They much undergo a rigorous 60 days in jail first during which they must attend court every week in the first phase. The Drug Court team meets weekly and discusses the progress of each participant then each participant meets with Judge Harrington and is apprised of the team’s appraisal.

After the jail phase they go to a halfway house. The Blount County Drug Court Foundation has facilitated a Blount County halfway house for men, which is full. Women have to go elsewhere like Chattanooga and there is ongoing discussion about how to get a halfway house for them locally.

During their release program, they attend life skills classes and other courses to enable them to continue to be sober and become successful residents in the community.

Two participants gave testimony to the fact that this Drug Court Works. One shared that even though he is very young, early twenties, he had tried many different programs and was pretty well on his way out of life when the Drug Court opportunity beckoned. Since then, 6 months ago, he is living in the halfway house and is praised by his evaluators for being a leader there. He said it is amazing and wonderful that he can visit his home and not have to worry that his family (who attended the meeting) did not trust him now.

Another participant shared that she has been in the program for 25 months and was previously living in the woods. She said, “You are taught to have financial responsibility and you are held accountable.” She said she has needed the team a few times. She said she would not be here today if it were not for the Drug Court Judge.

When asked how successful these people are when they go into the work community after the program, Judge Harrington said that people actually have tremendous results with these people because they have been supervised so carefully through the drug court.

Visit www.Blount County Drug Court Foundation.org to read the list of Foundation officers and the ways to help this program.

For information, you may phone the Blount County Drug Court Offices: 865-273-5581
Introducing New Board Member Ginnae Harley

by D. Leigh Caldwell

Ginnae Harley is a new board member of the Friends of the Blount County Library. Upon moving to Blount County, Ginnae jumped at the chance to belong to the board. With ever-evolving technology and innumerable methods of access people now have to public libraries, Ginnae knew this library was onto “something big” and wanted to be part of it. She knows first-hand the importance of an excellent library system to education. When speaking of education, her smile lights up a room, and she knows of what she speaks.

Ginnae received her BA from Cornell and her MBA from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Later, she also earned an MBA in Education Leadership.

In 2010, Ginnae accepted the position of Director of Federal Programs for Knoxville School System.

She is involved with such programs as Title One and Race To The Top, along with the requisite Grants and Funding processes.

Ginnae followed her parents’ footsteps as educators. She has fond memories of a childhood filled with books: she and her older sister “absolutely positively” had to read at least an hour a day, every day, except Christmas and Thanksgiving. When other children were choosing Charlotte’s Web, you could find Ginnae with her nose buried in a history textbook. She remains a voracious reader to this day.

Her passions are not limited to just education and history. Travel is, also, a part of her life she couldn’t do without. Ginnae is an avid Lady Vols’ fan; and during NFL season she roots for both the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Seattle Seahawks. Not only does she enjoy watching sports, she loves the outdoors. You can find her running the Greenbelt, hiking the mountains, biking the county, and participating in Yoga classes on a regular basis.

After living in over a half a dozen states from coast to coast, Ginnae has found Maryville to be a very nurturing community and plans to call it home for a lifetime. Please welcome Ginnae Harley to the Friends Board of Directors.
“When you come to a fork in the road, take it.” That great line came from Yogi Berra, and while it may seem like a conundrum to some, to others it makes perfect sense.

Patrick J. Hudson, the newest addition to the great minds that make up the Friends of the Library Board of Directors is one of those to whom it makes sense. We are all, for various reasons outside our controls, presented with choices throughout life, Patrick looked at each fork and “took it” without hesitation.

Patrick grew up in Chicago, the youngest of six children. Immediately out of high school Patrick’s first fork in the road took him to serve our country by way of the United States Navy. He served as an E4 Petty Officer Postal Clerk and a “Jack-Of-The-Dust,” which is the traditional name for the cook in charge of the storeroom and refrigerators on a naval vessel. He served proudly and was inspired by the officers on board to continue his education.

After the military, Patrick earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration with an Associate’s Degree in Accounting. His education served him well for over thirty-nine years in the grocery and hospitality industry. He spent several years as an internal fraud auditor during which time he amassed critical knowledge pertaining to the internal operations of both synergistic industries.

Patrick worked as a wholesale food broker and the regional manager/buyer specializing in gourmet and exotic condiments/accoutrements for Sam Walton’s mega marts. Patrick parlayed his initial culinary experience in the Navy, plus his love of excellent service and tasty food, to work as a Corporate Trainer, Zone Manager and Chef for several well-known fast food restaurants and some five-star fine dining establishments. His career provided him the opportunity to live in practically every corner of the US, from Lumberjack, Montana to Mobile, Alabama. Patrick retired from the corporate world while in Canton, Alabama in 2012.

His love of color, light and motion, whether it be the flowing mane and tail of a thoroughbred in stride or a beautiful piece of art, keeps him busy and well occupied. Patrick owns a mobile picture framing studio, Framealot. He carefully matches colors of mats and frames to make any piece of art even more desirable.

The last fork in the road he took was just two years ago. Patrick moved here to be closer to his sister, the mountains, rivers and lakes of East Tennessee. He has three sons, Christopher, in the ministry, Brandon, an accountant, and Anthony, his youngest, who is attending Old Miss. Patrick is the proud grandfather of Corban and Asher, three years and three months old, respectively. Patrick actively participates at the Baker’s Creek Presbyterian Church in Greenback and follows the scriptures as his path throughout life.

Patrick's love of country and service extends to his memberships in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion, Maryville College Student’s Veterans Clu, and with the East Tennessee Veteran Honor Guard.

A relative newcomer to Maryville, Patrick has immersed himself in to the Blount County Library Friends with such gusto that one would think he had been a charter member. Since joining the Friends in October, Patrick assists with the update and research of Tennessee Authors for the library data banks, helps with the research and pricing of donated rare books now sold on E-bay, empties the bins weekly for the quarterly book sales, and assists sorting, pricing and shelving the huge fiction section for the sales.

Peter McWilliams wrote, “In reality, serendipity accounts for one percent of the blessings we receive in life, work and love. The other 99 percent is due to our efforts.” So random forks in the road notwithstanding, we are fortunate to welcome Patrick Hudson to Maryville and the Board.
St. Patrick’s Day at the Library: A First for ExLibris

by Dolores Philpot

On March 19, ExLibris presented a belated salute to the Irish at the Library’s Oversize Book area as a special program. Participants on a field trip from the New Providence Presbyterian’s Bartlett Adult Day Out Program made up the bulk of the audience.

Presenters Gay Schilhab and Dolores Philpot shared tidbits about Ireland, including pictures, stories and song to 17 people, including one library patron who heard the noise and decided to join the group.

This program was a first for the ExLibris program presenters, who usually travel to area senior living communities. Bartlett Day Out, led by Trish Badgett, R.N., is a service provided by New Providence’s Deacon Caregiving/Health Ministry Team (partially funded by the Bartlett Family Estate.)

Since this Library event, Bartlett has become the eighth of Blount County facilities that have regular programs presented by the group of 11 Library Volunteers, known as Ex Libris.

In addition to Gay and Dolores, these are Janetta Baker, Suzanne Ensslin, Susan Hanye, Brenda Johnson, Nancy Kaems, Marian Nicholas, Jennifer Woolever, Joan Worley, and Barbara Zurl, Director.

The Collectible Corner

by Penny Myers

Spring Sale Collectible titles listed in this Newsletter can be found on the racks marked Collectibles which is located near the sales table.

Art and Music

Metropolitan Museum of Art History of Art (Janson)
Rolling Stones
Norman Rockwell Magazine Covers
Michelangelo and Raphael in the Vatican
Explorers and Artists in the Valley of the Kings

Biography

Ferdinand and Isabella
Charles Dickens 1812 – 1870
Britain’s Royal Family
Travels in Arabia Deserta
Elvis Collectors Magazine
Six Crises with hand written note by Nixon

Children

Fireside and Camp Stories (Alcott)
The Chesty Oak
Alice in Wonderland/ Peter Pan
Nancy Drew Mystery Set (52 volumes)
The Hardy Boys Mystery Set (43 volumes)
Mother Goose
Burgess Bird Book for Children
Burgess Animal Book for Children
Little House in the Ozarks

Fiction

Song of Hiawatha
Golden Harlequin Library (47 vols)
O Henry Collection
Gone with the Wind
The Annotated Shakespeare
Jane Austen Novels (6 novels in 1 volume)
Louisa May Alcott Set (6 volumes)
Les Miserables
Children of Pride

History

Eye of the Storm
(Civil War – Sneden)
Generals in Bronze
(Interviews with generals)

Religion

Holy Bible - Moser
The Apocryphal New Testament 1820
Outlines of Theology (Hodge 1897)
The Kingdom of God Within You (Tolstoi 1894)

Sports

In the Footsteps of Champions (UT Lady Vols)
Total Baseball
Reach for the Summit

BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS

By Vivian Selecman

During the fiscal year, June 2013 to June 2014, the Books for Soldiers program has remained active. We have found fewer requests for books, but 4 or 5 faithful people have continued to look for them and fill requests. During this period, they have sent 864 books in 72 boxes to our men and women overseas.

They spent $421.33 in postage. This postage has been generously donated by the patrons at our book sales and the troops really do appreciate it. There are a few thank you notes on display in the basement.

Because of the fewer number of requests, we are not in need of volunteers at this time. However, if you would like to know more about this project and possibly participate in it, please contact Vivian Selecman at: Selecman@msn.com.
Tech Corner

This Summer, Get Out of Your Book Box and Stretch Your Mind

by Bonnie Holmes

Do you constantly select the same genre of books? Is it always historical fiction, science fiction, mystery, biography, fantasy, crime or romance? The Blount County Library has a cure for you. Stretch your reading habits by participating in one of its great programs for adults this year. Go to the Circulation Desk, sign up for the Literary Elements Bingo and pick up the Bingo game cards.

To win prizes you must read a book in each square filling a horizontal, vertical or diagonal row on the card. The descriptions are designed to require you to read a wide variety of literature. When you have filled a row, bring it to the Circulation Desk to enter for a daily prize and for one of the grand prizes. Drawings are held daily, weekly, and on August 15th for a grand prize. The more frequently you enter, the better chance you have of winning.

You might win a gift certificate from a local restaurant, an iPad Mini, a Kindle Paperwhite, or a Cracker Barrel Rocking Chair. And, best of all, you may find interesting books that you would have never selected without some motivation.

Upcoming Library Events for Friends and Family plus Volunteering Opportunities

Saturday, July 19 (2 to 9 p.m.)
Marvel Movie Marathon:
Captain America, Avengers, Ironman 3
Three movies, one place, one day.

Saturday, July 26 (2-5:30 p.m.)
Maker Faire
Knox Makers for 3D printers, a polygraph, tech, arts, crafts, and a day of making. Dorothy Herron/Kathy Pagles rooms and hallway.

Monday, July 28 (6:30)
Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing
Family comedy performed by Tennessee Stage Company Indoors!!! Reading Rotunda.

Friday, August 1 (7 p.m.)
Movie: Pacific Rim
One review website wrote: “…Pacific Rim is a solid modern creature feature bolstered by fantastical imagery and an irresistible sense of fun.”

Friday, August 15 (7 p.m.)
Literary Elements Prize Drawings

Friends of the Library Book Club

By Vivian Seleman,
Library Book Club Moderator

Perhaps many of you are unaware that the Friends of the Library sponsors a book discussion group. This group of fantastic women meets every second Wednesday in the board room of the library to discuss interesting books. Books are suggested and chosen by the group each June and July, so the list for 2014-15 is not yet available. But in the year just past, we read a variety ranging from “Call the Midwife” by Jennifer Worth, through “A Year in the South 1865” by Stephen V. Ash to “And the Mountains Echoed” by Khaled Hosseini. Non fiction included “The Girls of Atomic City” by Denise Kiernan, “Out of Order” by Sandra Day O’Connor, and “Song Without Words” by Gerald Shea.

If you enjoy reading a wide variety and stretching your mind through intelligent discussion, please join us at 10:30 a.m. in the second Wednesday of each month in the board room.

Please note that many children/teen activities are listed on the library website and on the front tables in the library.

Please note that many children/teen activities are listed on the library website and on the front tables in the library.
Librarians actually do deal with books on some of those shelves, but they provide sooo much more in the 21st century as Becca Baker, scholarship award winner, exemplifies.

Serving BookMark Café smoothies full of fruit and whipped cream just a few years ago, and serving as café assistant and team leader during her college years after volunteering in the library as a high school student, Becca Baker has segued into a full time children’s assistant librarian, information technology go-to-person in training, and teen and tween event coordinator. Also, as she says herself, “I am heavily involved in social media, focusing on expanding our library presence on platforms for young patrons such as Tumblr, Pinterest, Flicker and Instagram.

Miami born but Maryville raised, she graduated from Heritage High School and Maryville College. She is currently studying for her Masters through the University of Tennessee after being awarded both an Institute of Museum and Library Science scholarship and recently, a TN Library Association Edwin S. Gleaves Scholarship.

Becca is especially interested in “giving people the tools they need to succeed.” She has been actively involved in and recently was chairperson of the Maryville branch of the American Association of University Women’s Sister to Sister Program.

Becca says she is “grateful to the Blount County Friends of the Library for being so supportive with the programs they sponsor. A lot of what we do in the summer is Friends funded: children, teen, and adult summer reading programs, craft times, some needed furniture, etc. She says that Blount County Library is rather unique. “When I visit other libraries they are shocked by how much our Friends do.”

In fact, after she has studied other rural libraries, she says Blount County Library is “exceptional for a non-urban library.”

With her leadership and that of the other library staff members, Blount County Library’s literacy program is expanding beyond bookshelves to the information highway that includes the internet, the child/teen friendly sites, and library community events.

Plan now to attend the BCFOL SUMMER BOOK SALE! July 17th-19th!
Friends of the Library 2014 Summer Book Sale

Thursday, July 17, Noon to 6 pm (for Friends of the Library Members Only)
Friday, July 18, and Saturday, July 19, 9 am to 5 pm.

Exercise Your Mind...

Mystery, Science-Fiction, Fantasy, Reference, Audiobooks, Textbooks, Sports, Religion, Crafts, Health, Biography, Business, Large Print, and more!

Blount County Friends of the Library
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