

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

WORD FOR WORD

FALL 2016

GREETINGS FROM FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD PRESIDENT MARY HELEN WATSON



Dear Friends in Books and Libraries - what an exciting few weeks we have had. The Friends of the Library have had an opportunity to share their hopes and dreams for the new, redesigned space in the building on Julia Drive. While there are many challenges, it is my belief that our needs have been heard and have not fallen on deaf ears. Let us all hope for the very best possible outcome.

Also, what fun to celebrate a bit on Saturday, July 16. We sold many, many books and gave away lots and lots of lemonade and cookies. The cookies were provided by our friend Joyce Aigan through the kindness of her daughter and Fresh Beginnings. Everything was coordinated once again by Board Members Dot Young and Riley Howard. My hat is off to all of you. Thank you.



PRESIDENTS of FRIENDS OF SGRL, INC.

1996-1997	MARGARET ANN GRIFFIN
1998-JULY 1999	CATHY BRADLEY
JULY 1999-2002	ALEX McFADDEN
2003-2004	LYNNETTE KENWORTHY
2005-2006	JAN FEESE
2007-2008	SARAH SMART
2009-2011	MERRILEE CASADY
2012-2013	KAY SCOTT
2014-2016	MARY HELEN WATSON

IT'S AN ANNIVERSARY SALE!



On Saturday, July 16, the Friends of the Library held a day-long half-price sale at the BackDoor BookStore. Held at the same time as the public meeting sponsored by Gladwin Assoc., architects for the new Valdosta-Lowndes Public Library, the sale attracted a wide variety of book lovers, who also enjoyed lemonade and cookies.



TWENTY YEARS OF FOL, CON'T

At the first annual meeting of FOL held on September 23, 1997, FOL was justifiably proud of its list of accomplishments during its first year:

- over 1500 books were purchased;
- the Lakes, Hahira and Southside libraries were connected to the Internet;
- the group hosted a reception for author Dori Sanders;
- a computer and printer for use by the public at the main library was purchased;
- the group hosted end-of-Summer Reading Club parties at all the libraries and provided free books as incentives for the children;
- a quarterly newsletter was published;
- the Friends book sale room was set up;
- FOL volunteers worked and worked in the book sale room;
- and, FOL was deservedly named "Club of the Year" by the Valdosta Civic Round Table.

Through the years, FOL has followed the excellent example set in the first year. Each year FOL's major contribution to the libraries has been designated for books, books, books, including incentive books for the Summer Reading Program. Generally, the next largest annual contribution has been for program support, often for such items as bounce houses, refreshments and Legos to entice the kids to the libraries. More and more through the years, FOL has funded new technology for the library system as it has struggled to keep up with the information revolution, and in 2006 FOL proudly funded its first scholarship for a library employee to enroll in a Masters of Library and Information Science Program. Harikleia Sirmans was the first scholarship candidate to receive her MLIS from VSU in 2013. FOL's second scholarship student Jeanna Allums began the MLIS program in the fall term of 2014.

One achievement of the first year did not have to be repeated. Local attorney **Walter F. Newsom** incorporated FOL *pro bono*, and the group received its 501 (c) 3 IRS status in 1996, completing its provisional year of tax exempt status the following year.

In May 1997, as the volunteers worked in the book store sorting books, they discovered \$1800 in savings bonds stashed between the pages of a donated book. Using the skills they had gleaned from years of reading mysteries, the volunteers were able to trace the donor and return her father's bonds; the grateful donor joined FOL. The fall book sale was held that year on October 16-18. The three day event included a Saturday bag sale and a silent auction for rare books. On the Saturday morning, FOL volunteers watched in delight as a bidding war for a rare art book kicked the sales event totals over \$3200. Staff member **John Belflower** was also delighted with the sales. He found them a welcome break from his regular job of cataloging and considered handling the cash box at FOL sales events a great addition to his job description. A former pharmacy owner, John relished brushing off his old sales patter with the customers, and he was blazingly fast in totaling the amounts owed for purchases. *(To be continued.)*

Note: This is the second installment of *The History of the Friends of the Library* by Liza Newsom, retired Library Director and FOL Historian.

WHAT FOL BOARD MEMBERS ARE READING



One of my favorite fiction writers is Carla Neggers. She has written a Christmas book *A Knights Bridge Christmas* in the Swift River Valley series. She combines a romance, a mystery, and a lesson in history that celebrates Christmas in New England. Clare, a widow with a 6 year old son, is ready for a fresh start when she moves from Boston to Knights Bridge to become the town's new librarian. She meets Logan, a Boston ER doctor who is visiting his elderly grandmother and helping her settle into an assisted living facility. His grandmother insists he decorate her

home on main street one more time and asks Clare to go through her book collection she is giving to the library. She finds a first edition of *A Christmas Carol*. Negger's people, places, and things are colorfully rendered in the book. Added bonus: several great recipes printed among the chapters. ENJOY! **-Dot Young**

Recently I enjoyed reading Historian David McCullough's latest book (2015), *The Wright Brothers*. As his historical studies go, this is a slim book at 262 pages but indicative of his thorough research there are 46 pages of Source Notes and Bibliography. The numerous illustrations are absolutely fascinating as well, including a shot of Wilbur Wright and the Wright Flyer over the Statue of Liberty during his memorable flight up the Hudson River in 1909. The slim book also underscores the very short period of time when the Wright Brothers developed the first successful flying machine. Only 11 years elapsed from their first tests with gliders to Wilbur Wright's death in 1912. During that time they developed concepts of aerodynamics and fabricated flying machines from scratch without benefit of a prior body of knowledge or engineering education. Their work was almost entirely self-financed from the profits of their successful Wright Cycle Company in Dayton, Ohio. Their achievements have been recognized and celebrated over the years including when Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon carrying a small swatch of the muslin from a wing of the 1903 Wright Flyer **-John Swiderski**



Sometimes it's not the newest books that are the "finds" in the Back Door Bookstore. I found and read the paperback *Mildred Pierce* by James M. Cain, a 1969 printing (upon the author's death) of the 1941 novel. Cain also wrote *The Postman Always Rings Twice* and *Double Indemnity*. This is a story about a divorcee (when that was catastrophic for a woman), her shiftless ex-husband, rich lover, and monstrous daughter. It was a fun read. It's happy, sad, and comes with plot surprises. You may have seen the classic 1945 movie with Joan Crawford (William Faulkner helped with the

screenplay), or the 2011 HBO mini-series with Kate Winslet, but this is a typical case. Regardless of how good a movie may be, the book may be better; in this case great characters, an interesting premise, lots of rich 30's and 40's American history and descriptions (depression, prohibition, women in the workforce), and good writing. My advice: when you're browsing, don't automatically pass up the 'old' books, unfamiliar authors, or say, "I saw the movie." For fifty cents or a dollar, you can afford to take a chance, and you may be very, pleasantly surprised. **-Sarah Smart**

BOOKFELLOWS READING LIST

The Bookfellows reading group returns in September with informal book reviews by members and guests scheduled through June. Enjoy lively discussions beginning at 4 p.m. in the Valdosta-Lowndes County Library on Woodrow Wilson Drive. The group, which began in 1996, celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year.

Book Name	Author	Book Reviewer	Date
<i>Don Quixote</i>	Miguel de Cervantes	Tiffany Cohran	September 19, 2016
<i>The Wright Brothers</i>	David McCullough	Monty Miller	October 17, 2016
<i>Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend</i>	Katrina Bivald	Marilyn Miller	November 14, 2016
<i>The Rainbow Comes and Goes</i>	Anderson Cooper and Gloria Vanderbilt	Celia Strickland	December 19, 2016
<i>Rosemary</i>	Kate Clifford Larson	Hal Carter	January 23, 2017

A few of the titles nominated do not yet have reviewers. Those titles are *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah, *Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins, and *The Last Midwife* by Sandra Dallas. Anyone who is interested in reviewing these titles may email Celia Strickland (cstrickland@sgrl.org) or call her at 229-333-0086. More dates to follow.

THANK YOU, FOL VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers are always welcome. For more information, contact Janet Toffolo at
sgrlfriends@gmail.com

Janet Toffolo	Gene Toffolo	Merrilee Casady	Mary Helen Watson
Riley Howard	Patricia Marks	Karl Osmus	Kay Scott
Sarah Smart	John Swiderski	Kate Swiderski	Dot Young
Audrey Clanton	Brenda Mason	Monty Miller	John Walton
Frank Rice	Liza Newsom	Walter Newsom	Tiffany Cohran
Rebecca Odom	Pepi Nelson	Marjory Vickery	Tanya Lee
Mala Valloton	Bonnie Rainey	Norma Craiger	Jean Plondke
Nancy Sartin	<i>(Please let us know if your name should be on the list!)</i>		

Friends of the Library Members for 2016

LIFETIME MEMBERS :

Family of Hansford Allen
Family of Ed & Mary Crane
Family of Edith Garlow Johnston
J.C. & Judy McMullen
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Careen Shapiro
Ann H. Smith
Wyn Miller
Valdosta Junior Service League
Anonymous (1)

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Erline Brinson
Bill & Trish Bryan
Ingrid Carroll
Bob & Merrilee Casady
Dan & Carolyn Coleman
Kathryn & Lynn Connell
V.L. & Catherine Daugherty
Rich and Jan Feese
George & Arlene Gaumond
Wynn Herndon
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Dedra Hughes
Peter & Happy Ingeman
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Betty Paulk
Frank Rice
Penelope Schmidt
David & Kay Scott
Sarah Smart
John & Kate Swiderski
Gene & Janet Toffolo
Stan & Margie Tullos
Grover & Amelia Ward
Mary Helen Watson
Lyndal Webb
Dorothy Young
Anonymous (1)

BOOKWORMS:

Joyce Aigen
Arthur & Betty Barham
Bob & Inday Bauer
Amy & Doug Carter
Jo Cawley
Theodore & Holly Decker
Robert DeVan
Mike & Martha Dover
George & Lille Kate Hart
Beulah Hennly
Eleanor M. Howard
Riley & Jenny Howard
Tina Marzano
Helen Mitchell
Karen Moore
Linda Most
Dan Odum
Col. & Mrs. Clarence Parker
Beverly Peters
Mamie Pipkins
Sally Turner Querin
Bonnie Rainey
Ken & Sue Ellen Rumstay
Nancy Sartin
Ann Sturgeon
John Thomas
Loyce and Ingrid Turner
Mala Vallotton
Marjorie Vickery
Patricia Vigerstol
Thomas Wiggins

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Mary Boatright
Hal Carter
Tiffany Cohran
Betty Cooper
Elaine Cronin
Art DeThomas
Carmen Ellis
Jane Elza
R.M. Mickie Gieske
Anne Gunter
Robert & Dora Harding
George & Mary Harrington
Owen & Nelda Harris
John & Shirley Hunt
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Tanya Lee
Dorothy Morrison
Pepi Nelson
Frances Norris
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Anonymous (1)

LIBRARY STAFF:

Deborah Antonoff
Eric Mathis
Janet Register
Harikleia Sirmans
Miguel Vicente

STUDENT:

Phillip Burns
Andrew Jackson
Michael Seago
Michael Vicente
Anonymous (1)

August 2016 Update

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA REGIONAL LIBRARIES, INC.

2016 Membership Form

Thank you for your commitment to our public libraries.

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Membership dues are for one calendar year. The Friends of South Georgia Regional Libraries is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

_____ Check here if you would like a receipt for your donation.

Friends of SGRL Mailing Address

Please send your check and this membership form to:

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P.O. Box 5511

Valdosta, GA 31603

_____ I am willing to help at the BackDoor BookStore. ____Tuesdays ____Saturday