

# NEWSLETTER - FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY

JANUARY 2008

VOLUME 4

ISSUE 1

## FOSL Officers and Board Elected

*By the Editor*

The Friends held their first meeting of 2008 on Sunday, January 13. The members elected the following officers and board members by acclamation:

### **Officers:**

President	Dr. Robert McClanahan, Jr.
Vice President	Chris Gladden
Secretary	Margaret Heurtematte
Treasurer	Joyce Foster

### **Board of Directors:**

Sara Ahalt  
Charles Draper  
Gwen Nickerson  
Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.  
Helen Robertson  
Betty Waldron



L/R: Bob Paine, Margaret Heurtematte, Joyce Foster, Bob McClanahan and Chris Gladden

This Newsletter is published biannually in January and August of each year by the Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St., Salem, VA 24153

Editor, Charlie Draper 387-9824

**Membership dues (other than Life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Consult your mailing label. If the date shown is prior to 2008, please see page 4.**

Inscription over library door in Alexandria:

**“Medicine for the soul.”**

*Diodorus (Greek historian, 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC)*

## Teens find a home at Salem Public Library

*By David Butler, Teen Services Librarian*

On September 16, 2007, the Salem Public Library began an after school-program for teens grades 6 through 10. The program began as a result of young people coming in after school and creating a challenge for the staff and library users. This challenge was met with a vision of optimism. The staff wanted the young people to come and use the resources we could provide, but we also wanted the other library users to enjoy our services as well. Janis Augustine determined that the meeting room would be an ideal setting for the teens to meet after school. “Our Space” was born and the teens are now fully engaged in this new structure.

*Cont. page 2*

## 2007 Book Sale News

By Sara Abalt, Book Sale Chairman

During the Book Sale this year, we heard, as usual, “You all have a great sale.” Naturally, we love to hear that, but what draws folks to buy beyond a good bargain? Typically, we don’t have a chance to talk one on one with many buyers, but sometimes we hear from a few individuals.

This year John Long, Director of the Salem Museum, found a book on the Jamestown Exposition. He wanted it for the museum collection and was happy to get it at a greatly reduced price.

One shopper found two titles that had been recommended in a class she had just finished. She left chuckling about what a good savings she had gotten.

Another buyer took 21 paper backs which he planned to pack in his suitcase on his way home – to England!

A library volunteer, who wanted audio books, left with a bag full of them.

A newly-arrived teacher from Alabama was buying children’s books to fill the empty shelves in her classroom. Lots of teachers do the same thing.

Other typical buyers are “football widows.” They stock up on books by Nora Roberts and others which provide entertainment on Sunday afternoons during NFL season.

The rush of shoppers that were waiting for us to open the doors Saturday morning tapered off to a steady stream throughout the day. By Saturday afternoon one big draw was the air conditioning. Many of those who came in for the cool air did spend money.

The three days of the sale went off pretty much without a hitch. Thanks to the efforts on the Book Sale volunteers, the tables and shelves were organized, stocked and re-stocked. The end result, as you know, was the most successful Book Sale ever. ◇

*Cont. from page 1*

“Our Space” hours are between 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 3-5 pm on Fridays. The new program averages about 28 teens per day. The teens have responded well to this program and enjoy an atmosphere where they can be themselves and still have access to library resources. The Friends of the Salem Library provided a \$300 gift which enabled the library to purchase the Dance, Dance Revolution game and dance pads. This gift has made the teens feel more at home at the library.

The future holds promise as the teens plan to hold a fund raiser in April to help purchase a new gaming system and a flat screen television to hang on the wall. We will be having three big teen programs (the amazing race, teen mystery night, and a game night) during the Summer Reading Program. Going forward, we will provide programs to help the teens with job searching skills and resources to help them develop skills in finding the right college.

Working with all age groups in a library setting is a team effort. We are fortunate to have the Friends of the Salem Library on this team. Your generosity has helped launch a successful endeavor in giving the teens the area they need. Thanks to the vision of the Salem Library staff and the support of the Friends of the Salem Library, the teens of Salem have a place to call their own. ◇



Sara, FOSL Book Sale Chairman, helps a customer.

A good book is the best of friends, the same today and for ever.

*Tupper, 1838 (English writer, lawyer, and inventor)*

## 2007 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*The outgoing President presented this report at the January 13, 2008 meeting of the Friends of the Salem Library.*

2007 was another good year for the Friends of the Salem Library. We provided financial and other support for the library, we increased attendance at the regular meetings, and we conducted a record Book Sale.

**Library Support:** We funded over \$10,000 of purchased material for the Library. This included:

- Two Early Literacy Computer systems
- Outdoor furniture for the courtyard
- Summer reading t-shirts
- Video game hardware for the Teen Program

Also we funded books for the CASA program and supported the Jamestown 2007 Speaker at Roanoke College.

In June, Bob McClanahan and Betty Waldron attended the Library Advocacy meeting. They reported that they gained a good overview of the political process involved and the preparation needed to promote goals and to lobby for libraries. In December, Janis Augustine invited representatives of the Friends to meet with Senator Ralph Smith and Representative Morgan Griffith, our Virginia legislators. Bob McClanahan and I were honored to participate.

**Attendance:** Since October, 2006 we have conducted our regular meetings on the second Sunday of the month. Attendance has averaged about 14 members since then. Unfortunately, I don't have data on past years but I feel this is an improvement over our Wednesday meeting time.

**The Friends of the Salem Library Book Sale**, held during the Olde Salem Days weekend in September, is our primary funding source. The 2007 Book Sale netted over \$6,200. *This is a record.* The result was a tribute to the hard work and capable leadership of Sara Ahalt, our Book Sale Chairman, and the efforts of the 23 volunteers who supported her. I did note that we had a few less volunteers this year than last. I hope this is not a trend because conducting this sale is an enormous job.

**Lost:** Early in the year we lost **Bill Johnson**, a leader of FOSL. Bill was a past President and a past Book Sale Chairman. He helped me and Pat when we first joined the Friends. He will be missed.

*From Column 1*

**2008:** Our Nominating Committee, including Helen Robertson and Betty Waldron, selected an excellent slate of candidates to lead us in 2008. I will be stepping down as President but plan to continue an active role in FOSL. I will support our new officers to the fullest. I call on all of you to pitch in and continue our good work. We thank Janis Augustine and her staff for the support they have rendered during 2007 and I know we all look forward to working with them in the New Year.

Charlie Draper, President  
Friends of the Salem Library  
January 13, 2008 ◇



A child enjoys one of the Early Literacy Computers



Lots of books for the Olde Salem Days book sale  
September 2007

## Important Dates in 2008

*By the Editor*

The FOSL meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the scheduled Month. (See May below for an exception). Meetings start at **2 PM** and last for approximately one hour.

- **March 9**, regular meeting
- **May 18**, regular meeting (Would be May 11 but that's Mother's Day)
- **July 13**, regular meeting
- **August** meeting at the call of the Book Sale Chairman (if required)
- **August 1 through September 11**, Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- **September 12 through 14, FOSL Book Sale** (Sept 13, Olde Salem Days)
- **September 15**, Meeting Room Cleanup
- **October 12**, regular meeting
- **January 11, 2009**, regular meeting, election of Officers and Board

The more of us who participate, the better support we can render the Salem Library. ◇



Member's Luncheon, September 7, 2007



Members Sale, September 2007

**Membership dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Type:** \_\_\_ **Individual (\$10);** \_\_\_ **Family (\$15);** \_\_\_ **Sustaining (\$25);** \_\_\_ **Life (\$75)**

Please mail to: Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Make checks payable to: *Friends of the Salem Library* or *FOSL*. You may also drop this form and your check at the Library Desk.