



Bookworm

BULLETIN

Friends of the Jackson
County Main Library

Winter, 2009

Great Smoky Mountains Book Fair called "The Best Ever"



By June Smith

By any measure of success, the 5th Great Smoky Mountains Book Fair comes out a winner. A constant stream of book lovers filled the Family Life Center of the Sylva First United Methodist Church on Saturday, November 14. They chatted with authors and had their books signed. They attended author workshops to learn more about everything from hunting and fishing in the Smokies to how a sense of place shapes the fiction of many writers. Participants had their rare and unusual books appraised by Chan Gordon of the Captain's Bookshelf in Asheville. Many folks had a poem written just for them by former NC Poet Laureate Kathryn Stripling Byer. There were also opportunities to become a member of the Friends of Jackson County Main Library and to learn more about the new Jackson County Library Complex currently taking shape atop Court-house Hill in downtown Sylva.



L-R: Wayne Erbsen, fiddle, Doug Elliott, harmonica, and Barbara Duncan, guitar, entertain book fair attendees with Appalachian music. Robert Conley, black hat, looks on.

For children there was a different story teller every half hour and an opportunity to make a book with local book makers Mernie Wortham and Emily Wilson and with Terry Taylor of Lark Books. They could even pet Waylon, the famous Plott hound. Wayne Erbsen, Doug Elli-

ott and others made music throughout the day. Poetry filled the air when local students, winners of the Book Fair's poetry contest, teamed up with Allan Wolf, Asheville performance poet, to read and perform their poems. Parents, grandparents, and teachers beamed as developing writers and readers took the stage to read their work. You can see the kids and read their poems at www.ncpoetlaureate.blogspot.com. On Friday night before the Fair, Steve Brady of Franklin gave an outstanding performance as Major Lewis Redmond in Gary Carden's play, "The Prince of Dark Corners."



Chan Gordon, right, owner of The Captains Book Shelf in Asheville, reviews some rare and unusual books with Mary Otto Selzer, Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign.

Joyce Moore of City Lights Bookstore said more books by far were sold this year than at any other Fair, and City Lights will donate \$3,200, 20% of the sales, to the New Library Fund. Proceeds from the play and other sales and donations hosted by the Friends netted \$1,600 for a total of \$4,800 raised. This amount will be matched by the SECU Foundation grant, resulting in \$9,600 for the New Library Fund! The Friends thank all who came and all who helped produce the Fair for your part in helping to build the new Jackson County Library Complex.

Musings from your librarian... by Dottie Brunette

At last, a breath of snow on Thanksgiving, the holiday season gallops in full force and winter is just around the corner. Winter in southern Appalachia can be so wonderful. One day the mountains are topped with rime and one's breath seems to stand frozen in space. The next, the Christmas honeysuckle is blooming and the observer is surprised by all the birds visiting the feeders. Days glisten with ice, the sky is so blue is hurts to look at it. The next is dank, wet, and dreary and joy is found indoors with tea, a good book, and a cozy spot. Winter is never boring and is a welcome respite after the holiday madness dwindles into crunchy ground, gloves and scarves, and the waiting time for the awakening of the new year.

I will be out of the office for the month of December to recover from knee surgery. In that time, besides physical therapy and learning to walk on my new joint, I intend to partake of some of the reading that even librarians put off because there is never "enough time." My personal tastes run the gamut from cozy mystery stories to time travel, and most of all nonfiction, history, biography, cooking, and spirituality.

What do you, Dear Reader, enjoy? More to the point, what kinds of materials, not just books, would you like to see in the new library? We are developing an online survey as well as the same one on paper to gather feedback from our community about what their materials needs may be in the new building. Please watch for the publicity when we get the survey finished and available to you. In the meantime, ponder your options, they are only limited by the length of your imagination. That goes for the kids and teens also. We cannot promise everything on your wish lists, even Santa can't do that, but if we know what you desire in additional library materials in our new library we can move to implement some of them.

Until the next Bookworm Bulletin, stay warm, read plenty, and enjoy the gifts of winter as you prepare to greet the greening of spring. Oh, and use your public library frequently and try something new, a book you

never considered reading, a movie, or come to a program. You won't be disappointed.

I leave you with a favorite poem about winter...

The Snow Man

By Wallace Stevens

(Born in Pennsylvania in 1879, becoming a lawyer and businessman, more than any other modern poet, Stevens was concerned with the transformative power of the imagination. Composing poems on his way to and from the office and in the evenings, Stevens continued to spend his days behind a desk at the office, and led a quiet, uneventful life. Though now considered one of the major American poets of the century, he did not receive widespread recognition until the publication of his *Collected Poems*, just a year before his death. He passed away in 1955.)

*One must have a mind of winter
To regard the frost and the boughs
Of the pine-trees crusted with snow;*

*And have been cold a long time
To behold the junipers shagged with ice,
The spruces rough in the distant glitter*

*Of the January sun; and not to think
Of any misery in the sound of the wind,
In the sound of a few leaves,*

*Which is the sound of the land
Full of the same wind
That is blowing in the same bare place*

*For the listener, who listens in the snow,
And, nothing himself, beholds
Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.*

New books at your library...**FICTION**

The Lost Symbol, by Dan Brown
Nine Dragons, Michael Connelly
Pursuit of Honor, by Vince Flynn
An Echo in the Bone, by Diana Gabaldon
Evidence, by Jonathan Kellerman
Her Fearful Symmetry, by Audrey Niffenegger
The Professional, by Robert B. Parker
Rough Country, by John Sanford
The Last Song, by Nicholas Sparks
The Help, by Kathryn Stockett

NON-FICTION

Outliers, by Malcolm Gladwell
True Compass, by Edward M. Kennedy

Upcoming programs at the library...

December 16, 7 p.m.—Christmas/Holiday music program
 December 17, 7 p.m.—"Die Hard", movie
 December 29, 3-5 p.m.—Paleontology discussion
 January 14, 7 p.m.—Book Ends: *Olive Kitteridge*
 January 21, 7 p.m.—"Tootsie", movie
 February 18, 7 p.m.—"The Apartment", movie
 March 18, 7 p.m.—"The Odd Couple", movie

Library announces online language learning system

The Fontana Regional Library system is pleased to announce a three-month introduction of Byki® **Online Library Edition**, a powerful new online language-learning system designed specifically for use by the patrons of public libraries.

Byki, short for "Before You Know It," is a rapid learning system that takes users through a series of simple steps to memorize words and phrases in a new language, including their meanings and proper pronunciation, in the shortest possible time.

Available for learning over 70 languages, library patrons are able to access the Byki Online system from inside or outside of the library, via the web browser on Windows and Mac computers. Users will have a variety of high quality learning options that build listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. In addition, Byki includes Advanced Pronunciation Analysis to help users perfect their pronunciation skills. Individual progress tracking and assessment tests help identify areas for improvement and move users in the right direction.

In addition to Byki Online's advanced learning tools, users will have access to an array of online language and cultural resources including one click access to Facebook and Twitter language communities as well as Byki language Blogs featuring a collection of articles covering the language and the culture that surrounds it.

Details on Byki Online may be found at www.fontanalib.org or by contacting the Jackson County Public Library at 828/586-2016.

WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR OPINION!

The library will be buying new, expanded collections for the new library complex.

This is the time to let us know your preferences for these purchases.

The New Collections Survey will be available online and in hard copy at the library.

Fontana Regional Library (fontanalib.org)/Sylva

Friends of the Library (fojcmf.org)

Beginning January, 2010

Book Fair poems show talent among area students

What do sparkly brown eyes, sunshine, braces, music, and quiet have in common? They are all subjects of poems written by area public school students for the 5th Great Smoky Mountains Book Fair poetry contest. The contest was open to students in grades 1-12 in Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Haywood counties and to home schooled students as well. Almost 200 poems were submitted.

"Choosing the winning poems was not an easy job," said Dr. Newton Smith, one of the judges. "Dr. Mary Adams and I were surprised by the number of entries. We were even more surprised by the quality of the writing. The language arts and English teachers in our region are doing something right. We applaud all the students who so thoughtfully took the time to write and to submit their work and their teachers and parents who encouraged them to do so."

The winning poets read their poems and received their certificate and cash award during the "Poetry Alive" session at the Book Fair. The session was hosted by Kathryn Stripling Byer, former NC Poet Laureate and Allan Wolf, award-winning poet, educator, and performer. First place winners received \$50, second place \$25, and honorable mention, \$15.

"It (the poetry session) was a blast, a rip, a jazzed-up experience with Allan's high energy presentation," said Byer. "The student poets were not intimidated, though.



L-R: Allen Wolf, poet, educator, performer, Brooke Watson, grade 6, Macon Middle School, Macon County, and Kay Byer, former NC Poet Laureate.

They all stepped right up and read their poems, not a quaver to be detected in their voices."

The winners were:

Grades 1-5

1st, Celeste McCall, Grade 2, Cartoogechaye Elementary School, Macon Co.

2nd, Monica Palestino, Grade 3, Blue Ridge School, Jackson Co.

Honorable Mention, Ashley Foster, Grade 3, Blue Ridge School, Jackson Co.

Grades 6-8

1st, Caitlin Parris, Grade 6, Macon Middle School, Macon Co.

2nd, Brooke Watson and Damon Johnson, Grade 6, Macon Middle School, Macon Co.

Grades 9-12

1st, Edward Madill, Grade 12, Smoky Mountain High School, Jackson Co.

2nd, Mandi Dean, Grade 10, Smoky Mountain High School, Jackson Co.

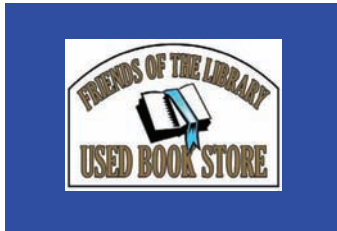
Honorable Mention, Nicole Bowers, Grade 10, Smoky Mountain High School, Jackson Co.

For an amazing read and to experience the excitement of the event, go to www.ncpoetlaureate.blogspot.com to see photos of the students and to read their poems. Following the student presentations and readings, Allan Wolf entertained the beaming students and their proud parents and grandparents by performing several poems, including one that required audience interaction to complete each verse of the poem. An up-beat time was had by all!

Quote from "Library"

by Richard Armour

*Here is where people,
One frequently finds,
Lower their voices
And raise their minds.*



Bookstore News:

Make it a Day On Not a Day Off!

During the 1950s and '60s, civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. recognized the power of service to strengthen communities and achieve common goals.

Initiated by Congress in 1994, King Day of Service builds on that legacy by transforming the federal holiday honoring Dr. King into a national day of community service grounded in his teachings of nonviolence and social justice. The aim is to make the holiday a day ON, where people of all ages and backgrounds come together to improve lives, bridge social barriers, and move our nation closer to the "Beloved Community" that Dr. King envisioned.

All workers who have this federal holiday are invited to join us at the Friends of the Library Used Bookstore on Monday, January 18, for our annual cleaning and to celebrate a sense of community. Friends provide cleaning supplies, snacks, drinks and lunch. Please call Friends' Volunteer Scheduler, Jeri Winkels at 293-2106.

*Please Save These 2010 Dates
We can't do it without your help.*

Thurs., Jan. 14	Members Only ½ Price Sale
Fri., Jan. 15	Public ½ Price Sale
Sat., Jan. 16	Public ½ Price Sale
Sun., Jan. 17	Store Closed for Cleaning Prep
Mon., Jan. 18 (King Day of Service)	Cleaning
Tues., Jan. 19	Cleaning
Wed., Jan. 20	Professional Carpet Cleaning
Thurs., Jan. 21	Put back furniture & fixtures
Fri., Jan. 22	Reopen for business

Holiday Shopping and Closings

The Used Bookstore will be open Thursday, December 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for last-minute shopping. Featured for gift-giving are nonfiction and fiction books, including Folio Society editions in pristine condition. Check the white shelves and Christmas displays at the front of the store for them. The store will be closed Friday, December 25 in observance of Christmas Day and will reopen at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 26. The Used Bookstore will be closed on Friday, January 1 in observance of New Year's Day and will reopen at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 26.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Levels:

- Students & Seniors** **\$10**
- Individual** **\$15**
- Household** **\$25**
- Sponsor** **\$50**
- Benefactor** **\$100**

Price:

- Nonprofit Organization** **\$25**
- Corporate Sponsor** **\$100**
- Corporate Benefactor** **\$250**
- Corporate Patron** **\$500+**
- Individual Lifetime Patron** **\$250**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Date: _____

I am interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with the Friends or at the library.

New Membership **Renewal**

Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Library.

Can you Believe it?

It is hard to believe that a year from now we will be in the process of moving into the new Jackson County Public Library Complex. Heartfelt thanks to the hardworking volunteers who are making this dream possible. How proud many of us will feel as we enter the renovated historic courthouse and the new building through the beautiful two story atrium knowing that our monetary contributions have purchased the furniture, fixtures and equipment that grace this complex. If you have not given your support to the new library yet, now is a good time to join your Friends, members of the community and many folks from distant places who have already done so.

We have exceeded 80% of our \$1.6 million goal. Currently we have matched over \$112,000 of the \$250,000 Challenge Grant provided by the SECU Foundation. Please keep in mind that every dollar given today is matched dollar for dollar by this foundation.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2010 -- the year the historic courthouse comes back to life and our library moves to its new home!

Mary Otto Selzer

Watch for updated photos on the Friends website—fojcmf.org.

Sylva Parade had Storybook Christmas Theme

Christmas wishes and a hearty Ho, Ho, Ho to the dedicated souls who braved the cold, windy weather to bring in the Christmas season by celebrating our library.

Edie Peden and Tiz Duve lead the way with the library banner. They were followed by three real rovers who stole the show. Particularly Margo Gray's little dachshund Weezil with its bright red coat running as fast as its little legs would go to keep up with the two big dogs Balthazar and Samira. Linda Hardy, Joe Rhinehart, Tim Peden, Tim Beck and his friend also accompanied the dogs waving to the crowd and wishing folks a Merry Christmas. Reading Rover was next and was all decked out as a Storybook Christmas, the theme of the parade. Carol, Joan and Peggy did a great job putting up Christmas book covers all over Rover.

Kathy Kay and Mary Selzer were next with the Friends banner. The wind really whipped it around but Kathy had tied bells on the bottom so the jingling bells just added to the festivities.

Betsey and Ed Hamlet followed and helped carry a few of the Rover book covers that blew off. All the while waving and wishing folks a happy holiday.

Howard Allman and his truck brought up the rear. The truck was transformed into a Christmas Mobile thanks to Kathy and Ted Kay and Betty Screven's hard work. It carried Hattie Hilda Allison and Rachael Phillips in the front. In the back, braving the cold and wind, were Sally, Michelle, Katie, Sydney and Renee representing our library. Sally held a large book entitled "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas". Playing in the background was a CD of Howard performing the story. It was a hit with young and old alike. Also adorning the truck were two murals painted by Kathy, one of the Grinch, currently on display at the library, and the other of a beautiful Christmas tree.



Two recent fundraisers show community support for new library complex



During the 2009 Books for Bricks Challenge readers raised \$1,491 for the New Library Fund. This brings the total amount raised during the past five years to over \$5,000. As a result, the Books for Bricks participants will have a feature in the new library complex named after themselves.

Lessie Williams, well-known gospel singer, donated her time and considerable talent for a concert to benefit the New Library Fund. Donations that evening totaled \$740 and with the State Employees Credit Union Foundation match, the event brought in over \$1400.



Reflections...

At the turning of the year, our thoughts often reflect over the past twelve months even as we look forward to a fresh start with new opportunities and new adventures.

What did we especially love about this year? What will we remember the most? What are we most grateful for? As I do a quick run-through of my year, events involving the activities of the Friends of the Jackson County Main Library grab a big hunk of my attention.

The winter and early spring months saw us give the Used Book Store a thorough cleaning. We enabled the New Library Fund to grow by leaps and bounds with our grant writing and speaking to many individuals, businesses, and civic clubs. Then it was May and we had our glorious groundbreaking ceremony to get the building of the new library underway. What a day to remember that



one was! During the summer and fall we operated the used book store seven days a week with an all volunteer staff and sponsored a variety of fundraising events. In the midst of all that activity, the Friends were recognized by the North Carolina Friends of the Library as the best Friends organization in its size category in the state, and Mary Otto Selzer was recognized as a volunteer extraordinaire in the mountain region. What a lot to be grateful for!

None of this would have happened, of course, without the many wonderful and dedicated volunteers who are the Friends of the Library. It is these Friends and these friendships that I am most grateful for. The countless hours the Friends have spent on the capital campaign and in the bookstore have brought bounty to our community and blessings to all who were involved. It's not too late this year to become a Friend or to make your donation to the New Library Fund. Stop by the bookstore or the library to find out how, or go to our website www.fojcmf.org. You'll be glad you did!

June Smith

Friends of the Jackson County Main Library
P. O. Box 825
Sylva, North Carolina 28779-0825

**Winter Friends of the Jackson
2009 County Main Library**

**Visit "Friends on Main"
Used Book Store
536 West Main Street
Sylva, North Carolina 28779
828/586-1221
fojcml@gmail.com**

Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 10:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.
Friday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.— 8:00 p.m.
Sunday 12 noon—4:00 p.m.

**We're on the web!
fojcml.org**

**Your contributions to the Capital Campaign
will be matched by the
State Employees Credit Union Foundation
and are tax deductible, as allowed by law.**