



Bookworm

BULLETIN

Friends of the Jackson County Main Library

Fall, 2008

Capital Campaign moves forward as leadership provides expertise and guidance



By Mary Otto Selzer

When I think back one year, I remember that the plans for the Capital Campaign were hazy, at best. Now the forward momentum of this campaign is amazing. Since the last issue of this newsletter, several important steps have been made in the Capital Campaign for the Jackson County Public Library Complex. The campaign leadership has been working diligently to keep the project moving forward.



Capital Campaign Logo

The Campaign Steering Committee has developed and adopted our Campaign Plan. This document lays out the strategy and the approach we will use through the next year or so to successfully achieve our goal of \$1.5 million.

Various areas within the new library complex have been identified as Naming Opportunities for donors to the fundraising campaign. The monetary amounts range from \$5,000 for shelving end panels and display fixtures to \$250,000 for the Community Room. Several of these areas have been requested and approved by the Campaign Steering Committee and the JCPL Board. They include the Children's Area – Town of Sylva, \$105,000; the Main Entrance, Atrium – Friends of the Jackson County Main Library, \$100,000+; the Teen Area – Betsey and Ed Hamlet, in honor of their parents, \$45,000; and the Conference Room – Dr. Joe and Peggy Hurt, \$25,000. Several additional areas have been requested and will be presented for approval in late September.

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Passing the Torch...

At the Friends annual meeting on Saturday, July 12th, Mary Otto Selzer passed over the leadership of the organization to June T. Smith. Mary has served as President of the Friends for over two years and has done an outstanding job, bringing her business skills and her personal drive to the position. Mary is now Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign for the new library complex.

June is retired from her position as Executive Director of the Region A Partnership for Children where she oversaw many progressive changes. June says that after decompressing for a year, she was ready to take on a new challenge. We are fortunate she chose the Friends for her volunteer efforts. Welcome, June! We look forward to working with you.

Musings from your librarian... by Dottie Brunette

School has started! Where did the summer go? What are your memories for the beginning of school? I always looked forward to the shopping trip for new clothes and new school shoes which always blistered my feet the first week of school. Growing up in town I walked to elementary school, but took the bus to high school. Waiting at the bus stop had its own charms, checking out everyone else's new clothes, hashing over summer, who broke up with who, and later when we all had summer jobs, stories from work. One thing that did not change with the advent of fall was my favorite spot, the library, an air conditioned refuge in the summer, and bad weather shelter during the other seasons. I loved going to the library anytime.

In 1987, then Secretary of Education William J. Bennett initiated the celebration of Library Card Sign-up Month during September. He said: "Let's have a national campaign...every child should obtain a library card – and use it." During the ensuing 21 years, thousands of public and school libraries have joined together each fall in a national effort to ensure that every child does just that. But remember, library cards should not just be the provenance of children – adults need to share the joy.

Your library card is one of the best deals in town; it is free. All it takes to become a vested adult card carrier is to fill out the library card application and present a picture ID with your local mailing address or a picture ID and an additional proof of local mailing address such as checks, a bill, or other official document with your local mailing address. All young folk, under the age of 18, need a parental signature of permission on the youth's library card application. There is no age limit for juvenile applications; any resident child of any age from newborn on can have a library card in their own name.

Libraries play a gigantic role in the education and development of children. Numerous studies show that children who are read to at home and who use the library on a regular basis do better in school. In addition those children are more likely to continue lifelong learning habits which include continued library use.

The American Library Association has constructed a list of 52 ways to use your library card, one for each

week of the year. Here are a few of my favorites:

- Get to know your librarian, the ultimate search engine @ your library
- Get wireless access (JCPL will have full time free wireless access by the end of Sept.)
- Look up all kinds of health information
- Borrow an audio book for your next road trip
- Connect with other people in the community

There are 47 other very good reasons on the list and about a million more that I can think of. Remember the library is the only place where you can travel to the ends of your imagination for free. Get a card! Check out the library! Share the fun, bring a friend and help them get a card.

New Book Arrivals New York Times Best Sellers

Fiction

Smoke Screen, by Sandra Brown

Nothing to Lose, by Lee Child

Foreign Body, by Robin Cook

The Assassin, by Stephen Coonts

Tailspin, by Catherine Coulter

The Broken Window, by Jeffery Deaver

Fearless Fourteen, by Janet Evanovich

Love the one you're with, by Emily Giffin

The Mercedes Coffin, by Faye Kellerman

The Bourne Sanction, by Eric Van Lustbader

The Host, by Stephenie Meyer

Sail, by James Patterson

Tribute, by Nora Roberts

Off Season, by Anne Rivers Siddons

Moscow Rules, by Daniel Silva

Rogue, by Danielle Steel

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle, by David Wroblewski

Non-Fiction

The Monster of Florence, by Douglas Preston

Audition, by Barbara Walters

In Defense of Food, Michael Pollan

The Downhill Lie, by Carl Hiaasen

When you are Engulfed in Flames, by David Sedaris

The Post-American World, by Fareed Zakaria

Getting to Know You... Erin Casey Harris



"Once a Marine, always a Marine" is a motto which is never far from Erin Harris' consciousness. This Springfield, IL native joined the Marines at age 18 and served two tours of peacetime duty. During this time Erin was an air traffic controller on the coast of North Carolina and in Arizona. Throughout her time in the service, Erin learned a lot about discipline and gained a lot of self confidence, resulting in her emerging from being a very shy individual into someone who can speak her mind with authority. Many of the encounters she had in her time with the Marines have had a positive effect on her life today. How does she sum up her time in the Marines? - "A great experience!" Most important in Erin's life are her husband, whom she met at the library, and her

Beautiful nine year old daughter, along with two calico cats. Together the family

enjoys outdoor activities, especially water sports, skiing and hiking. In addition to her professional and personal life, Erin is pursuing her Masters Degree in Professional Writing at WCU.

Erin is a Technical Services Assistant at the library where she does much of the behind the scenes work. She processes orders for new books and other materials, encases the newly arrived books in heavy duty plastic, and applies all the markings and labels. Erin documents all new materials so they can be counted in the recorded statistics. Even though Erin works mostly in the back, she loves the feeling of teamwork at the library and is glad to pitch in with whatever needs to be done.

What does a library mean to a community? "Ideally the library should be the center of a community where people come to be "educated or entertained" by doing computer research, checking out books, DVD's and Audio Books. "Families can come and share the joy of reading." According to Erin, "A library should be a place where everyone can find something to do." What is the most important part of a library? "The people who use it."

Erin is excited about the new Jackson County Public Library Complex. She says the people expressed their interests during the community meetings and knows efforts are being made to accommodate those desires in the new library. She is really pleased to see that the Children's Area will be greatly expanded and is thrilled that there will be a Young Adult Area. Erin believes these two expanded areas will draw in more patrons, particularly the younger ones, and says that when the Greenway is developed, more people will be walking to the new library.

If you were developing the Young Adult Area, how would you go about it? Erin says the staff recently experienced a "23 Things Learning Program" where they were introduced to ideas about how to develop programs and ways to relate to young people. Erin believes this training session will be helpful as the Young Adult Area is developed. She says the staff needs to be sensitive to what's important to teens and select materials that are up to date.

Currently Erin is taking a graduate course about political rhetoric. She will be writing and presenting a speech, trying to persuade the audience to vote for her candidate. Will we be seeing Erin on the Sunday morning political talk shows some day?

"Together We Read" Program at the Jackson County Public Library

Thursday, October 23, 2008—7 p.m.

Boone by Robert Morgan

Newton Smith will lead a group discussion about this book and how it compares to other books by Robert Morgan. Newt and his wife June (President of the Friends) are personal friends of the author, so he should bring a personal perspective to this discussion. We hope you can attend. The library has several copies of *Boone* for your reading pleasure.

President’s Message by June Smith

It is fitting that I write my first column for the *Bookworm Bulletin* in the month of September, since September is a month for transitioning-- from summer to fall and from being busily retired to embracing a new focus in retirement. When I left my 13 year position as Executive Director of the Region A Partnership for Children in June of 2007, I heeded the advice of several retired friends who suggested I wait a year before making serious new commitments. And just as that year was up, who should telephone me but Nancy DeSain of the Friends’ Board Nominating Committee, inviting me to run for the office of President.

My first response to Nancy was absolutely not! There are neglected nooks and crannies in my house and garden I have not yet peered into, books still unread on my shelves, many hikes yet to enjoy with the Hearty Hikers, grandchildren to spend time with, and many other postponed projects waiting my attention. But finally, my love of a challenge took over. Who wouldn’t want to be involved with all the exciting possibilities for the Friends organization with the building of the new library complex? And so I said yes.

I was swayed so easily in large part because of the fabulous, dedicated women and men I have met who make up the heart and soul of the Friends. As I get to know many of you, I am amazed daily at all the Friends do with your voluminous volunteer hours: raise resources for fixtures, furnishings, and equipment for the new library complex; operate a used bookstore that is open 48 hours each week; publicize the new library complex and raise awareness about its importance to our community; support the Jackson County Main Library through monetary donations and volunteering with special events; and design and maintain a beautiful, informative website so that everyone can know about the Friends’ work and the new library complex.

While I am relatively new to the Friends organization, I have been a library patron since the days when George Ellison drove the bookmobile into Little Canada. My two young children and I looked forward

each time to see what treasurers he had on board. Now this summer when our four grandchildren spent a week with us, the five of us enjoyed one whole delightful afternoon at the library in Sylva. We can hardly wait to explore the Children’s Room in the new library as well as an expanded adult collection! Two books I have especially enjoyed recently are Geraldine Brooks’ *People of the Book*, and *The Story of Edward Sawtelle*, by David Wroblewski.

Jackson County has been home to my husband Newton and me since we came here right out of graduate school at UNC for him to teach in the English Department at Western Carolina University. That was in 1968, quite a few books ago. During this time, I have been involved in many community activities and several professions. All have been challenging and rewarding but none more than I expect from my current opportunity with the Friends. I invite all members to become even more involved in any way that suits your special gifts and your time. I also hope we will attract many new Friends as we go forward in our love of reading, of community, and in our desire to contribute, encourage, and enrich in this special place.

Changes Galore at Friends Used Bookstore

Sales at our store continue to surprise and delight us. If you’ve dropped in lately, you have seen a few changes.

The front of the store near the cash register has been rearranged.

Magazines are priced at \$0.25 each or mix and match 12 for \$1.00, while supplies last.

A new \$1.00 section is located at the back of the store near the sale tables.

**Same friendly staff. Same hours.
Same great merchandise.**

Capital Campaign *Continued from page 1*

Co-Chairs Phyllis Foxx and Peggy Hurt have been busy identifying entities in and around Jackson County who might have a special interest in this project and developing a strategy to approach them to discuss the new library complex. A great deal of planning and organizing is going on behind the scenes to make sure that we will be successful when we launch the Public Phase of the Capital Campaign in the spring of 2009.

The Grants and Foundations Committee has been busy identifying foundations which would be appropriate to approach for the library project. Larissa Miller, an experienced grant writer and a member of this committee, has done an outstanding job in compiling all the data and organizing the information to apply to the Janirve Foundation for a \$250,000 grant. Many other individuals conducted research and provided information to help with this grant application. We should receive the response from this foundation before the end of the year. This committee has identified an additional 12-15 grant opportunities, some in which we will be partnering with the Historical Association and the Arts Council.

Vance Davidson has had to step down as Chair of the Grants and Foundations Committee due to additional responsibilities at the Region A Partnership for Children. He has agreed to continue as an active member of the fundraising team. Congratulations to Vance on his promotion.

Public relations is a key element to the success of any capital campaign. The Public Relations and Special Events

Committee has been instrumental in getting several articles about the campaign into the newspapers.

This committee has completed work on the campaign logo (see page one) which is an easily identifiable symbol that will give added meaning to the campaign slogan, *Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future*. A silhouette of a family in front of an open book with the historical courthouse cupola in the background dominates the right side of the logo. The words Jackson County are shown in chiseled style lettering representing the hard work and stability of the time in Jackson County when the courthouse was built.

A full color brochure designed by Jeff Harlow from The Sylva Herald will soon be available. This brochure captures the spirit of the project by highlighting the importance libraries, history and art play in our community.

The PR Committee has developed a list of activities that will be held during the Public Phase of the Capital Campaign. More information about these will be forthcoming.

One key player in all of this progress is Connie Terry, Campaign Coordinator. Connie interacts with the Campaign Steering Committee and all of the sub-committees. She has done a wonderful job of setting up the campaign office, coordinating the data entry and correspondence associated with the campaign to date.

It is a pleasure for Dr. Bunn and me to work with the professional people who are making this campaign strong. I look forward to sharing more information with you as it develops.

Please Consider Volunteering at Friends Bookstore

We can use your special talents to make our bookstore more successful. How can you help?

Unpacking boxes. Wiping and sorting books. Suggesting displays for the store.
 Pulling materials for displays. Working with customers. Placing price stickers on AV materials.
 Making sure our shelves are visually appealing to customers. Sorting magazines by title and date.
 Making telephone calls. Working the cash register.

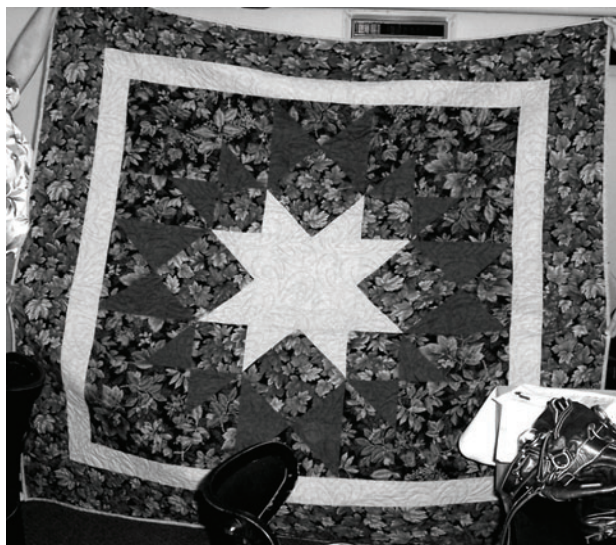
How will your volunteer time be scheduled?

Arrange your work schedule at your convenience— regular or occasional shift.
 You will have an experienced volunteer in the store with you.

We need your help. Please call or email:

Antoinette MacWatt (631-1334, 704-975-5520; antoinettemacwatt@yahoo.com)
 Sandra Burbank (293-2181, 226-91506; kburbank7@gmail.com)
 Jeri Winkels (293-2106; jeriwinkels@aol.com)

Green Star Mountain Quilt



This lovely queen size quilt was lovingly crafted by and graciously donated by Virginia Casey of Callao, VA. She is a member of the Friends as is her daughter, Sandra Burbank. Virginia was inspired by the renderings of the new Jackson County Public Library Complex and decided to donate this beautiful quilt for a raffle. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets may be purchased at the bookstore or the library. The drawing is scheduled for Friday, November 29th.

Friends launch new web site

The Friends have recently completed work on their new web site. This site has a sleek, yet friendly appearance and an easily navigated format. Ellen Snodgrass of Deep Creek Arts designed the site and was instrumental in helping the Friends make the decisions about the site content.



The home page provides basic information about the Friends and features a *NEWS* section which will be changed frequently to reflect the current activities of the organization. *The About Us* tab takes viewers to a page that features general information about the Friends' activities and photos. Viewers can also read about the bookstore and find out about volunteer opportunities by viewing other pages.

The new site provides up to date information about the new Jackson County Public Library Complex. A slide show provides images of the architectural renderings and the site plan.

One of the most innovative features of the site is the ability to join the Friends online and to make contributions to the New Library Fund via PayPal.

Visit the new site—fojcml.org

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+**

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.

FRIENDS VOLUNTEER—Antoinette MacWatt

Humorous. Kind. Giving. Knowledgeable. Pleasant. These are all words people associate with our wonderful Friends volunteer, Antoinette MacWatt. This 60 year old grandmother and retired librarian has been a dedicated worker in the Friends for several years. She was Membership Chair for two years and is now Co-Chair of the Bookstore Committee.

This New York native got the best liberal arts education anyone could have by experiencing the cultural life of Manhattan before she was 17 years old. She and her friends would ride the subway into the city to attend Broadway plays, visit museums, etc. She spent her summers in Augusta, GA with an aunt who lived the small town life and definitely influenced Antoinette’s thinking.

After her college days in Georgia, Antoinette made the decision that the big city was no longer for her. She packed her bags and drove to Atlanta with all of her possessions in her car. She got a job in advertising and public relations which she enjoyed, but soon realized that literature was her passion. After having two children, Antoinette went back to college to get her teaching certificate. Following this, she spent the next 30 years as a school librarian in North Carolina.

Antoinette loves to read a variety of genres. Among her favorite authors is Reynolds Price who displays an exceptional use of language in his writing. She enjoys mystery writers such as Agatha Christy and Minette Walters. Antoinette has a talent for following the storyline in two books at once, one fiction and one non-fiction.



When she is not reading or working at the bookstore, Antoinette enjoys interacting with her grandchildren, sewing, quilting, gardening and feeding the birds. She says she has learned to be content with very little – the simpler the life is, the better.

Antoinette has experienced many situations in her life but says she is now living in the exact place where she wants to live and doing exactly what she wants to do. “It’s the best time in my life,” she says.

Books for Bricks Challenge 2008 Raises money for New Library Fund



Front row L-R: Cody Miller, Daniel Toedt; Middle row L-R June Smith, Vanessa Moss, Dottie Brunette; Back row L-R William Shelton, Brian McMahan, Mark Jones, Tom Massie, Joe Cowan

The children of Jackson County have once again shown their support for the new Jackson County Public Library Complex. The Friends’ Books for Bricks Challenge 2008 was considered a success.

Twelve children read books during the summer, gathered sponsors, and turned in money from these sponsors. This year the Challenge participants turned in \$609. An anonymous donor was so impressed with the efforts of these children that she and her husband matched this money and gave \$600, bringing the total to \$1,209 for the New Library Fund.

All of the children who have participated in the Books for Bricks Challenge over the last several years have raised just under \$5,000 for our new library complex.

These children are to be congratulated on their efforts!

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

SUMMER Friends of the Jackson
2008 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 12:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

We're on the web!
fojcml.org

TOGETHER WE READ BOOK DISCUSSION
JACKSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
OCTOBER 23, 2008, 7 P.M.