

FRIENDS of the LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Volume 13 Issue 3

Summer 2006



FRIENDS of the LIBRARY
NORTHUMBERLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT *Jay Walker*

It has been a very busy year for the Friends of the Library. Inside this newsletter you will find reports for all of our activities, as well as a statement of our finances.

We start a new year with most of the same team that made the Friends a vital part of our library. There have been two factors in our success...first, is the **people** and second, is **communications**.

As for the people, I cannot say enough. The Friends of the Library Board of Directors and committee chairs have attacked every project with enthusiasm and good humor. When planning and carrying out events including the quilt raffle, the Books Alive program, the BluesWorks concert, the Rappahannock River cruise/lunch, and the English Tea, they got the job done with a flare.

Communications with Friends members include a number of elements. The FOL Newsletter has a new appearance and improvement in content due to the increase in activities to report. People say they are now reading the newsletter. We want to thank Rita Johnson, the editor. We decided to launch our membership drive with a Special Issue of the Newsletter to encourage membership renewal and an effort to get new members ...and it worked. I'm especially pleased with the increased number of Life Members as a result of the membership appeal.

We also installed a Friends-only bulletin board inside the library. Here we post information and photos regarding Friends activities. While we were at it, Friends purchased a new bulletin board for the library's use.



But, without doubt, the Friends most notable contribution to communications has been the sign. mounted outside the library. The sign has made the community aware of special events in the library.. Maybe it is an exaggeration, but to me the sign is a new Northumberland County "landmark".

At the Annual Meeting in June, Greg Haugan, treasurer, was replaced by Phil Landry. The other board positions remain the same, (See page 8) Now we are looking ahead to take the Friends to the next level. Ideas are already coming in. To this end, the board will have an informal working meeting and lunch this month to work out our plans. You can be sure that the Friends will plan many events that you won't want to miss in the coming year.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| From the President | 1 |
| Annual Meeting Minutes | 2 |
| Book Review Corner | 3 |
| Coming Soon | 3 |
| Life Members | 3 |
| Thursday Ladies | 4 |
| Books Alive | 5 |
| Financial Report | 5 |
| Quilt Raffle | 6 |
| Farewell to Greg | 6 |
| FOL Cruise | 7 |
| Director's Message | 8 |
| FOL Board Members | 8 |
| Book Note | 8 |

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES *Bob Lindsey*



The meeting was opened at 11:30 a.m. by FOL President Jay Walker. Members in attendance were Vice President Lien Groenwold, Treasurer Greg Haugan, Secretary Bob Lindsey, Jayne McQuade representing the library administration, Rita Johnson, Phil Landry, and Ann Raikes.

The minutes of the March 31, 2006, FOL Board Meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report...See in the article from the treasurer on page 5.

Ways and Means Committee chair Lien Groenwold reported that the quilt raffle's first outing, at St. Stephen's Church Strawberry Festival, netted \$107.61 and stated her intention to set up the quilt raffle at more locations and events than last year. Some suggestions for additional events were discussed briefly among the Board members.

Ann Raikes reported FOL membership has reached 168, including 38 life members and honorary memberships for the 7 volunteers, "Thursday Ladies" and the 5 County Supervisors.

Substituting for the absent committee chair Earline Walker, Jay Walker reported that

The Books Alive program has been experiencing higher attendance, a phenomenon attributable to either change from daytime to evening presentations or a higher number of programs devoted to historical subjects, which have attracted large audiences in both daytime and evening presentations. Although history has been popular, Earline is determined to maintain a variety of topics in future Books Alive programs. Walker also remarked that the signup sheets at the Books Alive programs indicate that a core of regular attendees is developing.

The musical program, featuring a return engagement by the duo Bluesworks, demonstrated that such programs could be well-attended, but its financial success depended largely on anonymous sponsorship that defrayed the cost of the event.

42 people participated in the boat ride on the Rappahannock and luncheon at the Ingleside Winery in June, which was not intended to be a fundraiser, but solely for the pleasure of FOL members at reasonable cost.

During the luncheon Jay Walker announced the cruise company had rebated \$2 per person because more than 20 tickets had been purchased, and that any cruise participant was entitled to claim the \$2 rebate, but no one did so. As a result, the event netted \$31.87 for the FOL treasury.

Upon conclusion of the report, the Board briefly discussed suggestions for future Special Events Committee activities.

Jay Walker acclaimed 2005 a successful year for FOL, in that most of the goals set at the beginning were met, thanks to the time and energy put in by the committee chairs, board members, and members of FOL. Ann Raikes, chair of the ad hoc Nominating Committee, nominated Jay Walker, Lien Groenwold, and Bob Lindsey to be re-elected to their offices as President, Vice President, and Secretary, respectively. These nominations were seconded and unanimously approved.

FOL bylaws stipulate that officers may serve only two consecutive terms, and for this reason Ann Raikes nominated Phil Landry to succeed Greg Haugan as Treasurer. The nomination was seconded. Walker expressed his deep appreciation for the services rendered by the outgoing Treasurer, remarking that Haugan constantly rendered timely procedural guidance and served as a valuable source of institutional memory, thereby making the President's job much smoother than it might have been.

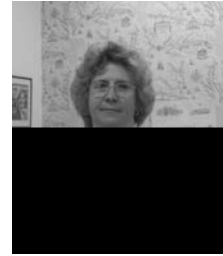
Phil Landry was unanimously elected Treasurer.

The current committee chairpersons agreed to Ann Raikes' proposal that committee assignments remain the same for the new fiscal year.

President Walker announced that he would consult with the FOL Board to set a date in July for convening an informal session to discuss ideas for the new fiscal year, suggesting the theme of "Taking FOL to the Next Level."

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

THE BOOK REVIEW CORNER *Nancy Webster*



Are you a history buff? Do you love a good nonfiction read that's written in the style of a novel? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, there's a book waiting for you at the library that's guaranteed to be a hit.

Manhunt: the twelve day chase for Lincoln's killer, written by James L. Swanson, is a thrilling minute-by-minute account of the events that surrounded Lincoln's assassination. The book is loaded with historic information, and gives its reader the illusion of being right there behind Lincoln's physicians, or riding along with Booth as he flies out of the alley behind Ford's Theatre and into the night.

The time sequencing is perfect, and the reader is never lost or confused, even as events shift from the perspective of those that surrounded the President in his final moments to Booth's dodging the roadblocks in Maryland's countryside.

It's a super book to read if you're planning a trip to Maryland, or even if you're going to be driving through King George where Booth was captured and killed! Don't miss this nationally acclaimed bestseller!

Manhunt: the twelve day chase for Lincoln's killer 364.152/SWA

Coming Soon: a Monthly Magazine of Book Reviews

With the approval of director Jayne McQuade, Northumberland Library's Friends of the Library has signed up for a two-month free trial subscription to **BookPage**, a monthly publication available by subscription to libraries nationwide. **BookPage** calls itself "America's Book Review;" indeed every issue contains 60 to 70 reviews of fiction and non-fiction books of all genres, plus interviews and short biographies of noted current authors. 50 copies of each of the next two monthly editions will be made publicly available in or near the library lobby. We hope FOL members will review **BookPage** and let us know if you think a yearly subscription would be a worthwhile use of FOL funds.

LIFE MEMBERS of FOL RISES TO 38

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Roger D. Anderson | Beg and Lien Groenwold | Robert L. and Janet Price |
| David and Corinne Anthony | Quilt Guild | Brad Primeau |
| George T and Jan Beckett | Fred and Anne Harman | Robert and Ann Raikes |
| Cecil and Betty Burton | Gregory T. and Susan C. Haugan | Charles T. Self, Jr. |
| Edith r> Carstarphen | Rita W. Johnson | Richard L. and Janet R. Steelman |
| and S. K. Hopkins | Porter M. and Mary Kier | Richard and Jeanne Stephenson |
| Robert G. and Susan Christopher | Sandra K. Kramer | Thomas M. and Jeanne Stevens |
| Robert L. and Gene W. Covington | Phillip K. and Virginia Landry | Rocco V. Tricarico |
| Robert and Judy Crown | Wayne and Beverly Lowe | George E. and Virginia K. Turner |
| Tad and Connie de BordenaveL. | Jayne McQuade | Jay and Earline Walker |
| Winifred B. Delano | Charles J. and Helen N McKerns | Nancy White |
| Bill A and Jinny C. Estell | Deirdre O'Hara | William T. and Nancy P. Williams |
| George and Adele S. Failmezger | Barbara F. Perry | Mervin and Edith Withers |

THURSDAY LADIES *Bill Estell*



The Friends of the Library
presents with our "Thanks"
Honorary Life Memberships
to each of the "Thursday Ladies."

Clockwise from upper left corner...

Sybil Stolzenberg

Rosemary Freedman

Betty Plaughter

Ruth Franck

Jean Ince

Kitty Hawkins

(center)

and

(not available for picture)

Peggy Mac Hale

In any efficient and smoothly run organization there is always a central group that make things happen. *The Thursday Ladies* are such a group. They represent the epitome of the volunteer spirit in our county. For 15 years these ladies have provided the "inner workings and hidden mechanisms" of the Northumberland Public library. They began their journey when the library was located in the school board office building. They provided the lioness's share of help in the move to our beautiful new building and have continued in their dedicated service to this day.

From hand processing and covering library books, to the clank of the punch date cards, and finally to the computer processing and checkout, these library legends have mastered each new technology and kept our library on the cutting edge of innovation. Although out of sight and working in less than ideal space confinement, they are each an expert in their areas and work together with the efficiency and reliability of a fine Swiss watch. Confident in their decisions they literally shape the tenor and tone of our library. Carefully reviewing, sorting, cataloging, and entering books into the system and on to the shelves is a large part of their effort but by no means all. Management of the numerous newspapers, magazines, videos, DVD's and CD's presents a monumental task easily accomplished by these special ladies.

"Ye Olde Book Store" within our library is a labor of love that provides our patrons with like new and not so new books for hours of reading pleasure at a most modest cost. So to Betty, Jean, Kitty, Peggy, Rosemary, Ruth and Sybil, thank you Ladies, for the difference your Thursdays make for all of us every day in the library.

BOOKS ALIVE *Earline Walker, Chairperson*

After a successful winter series, Books Alive continued its winning ways in the spring. Following reviews by Barbara Shine, *Meatballs and Metaphors*, and Bob Lindsey, Faulkner's Snopes family trilogy, Jayne McQuade wound up the season with a program on her suggestions for summer reading.

Books Alive will resume monthly sessions, meeting the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 PM in the library's meeting room.

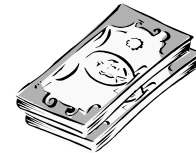
September's program will feature K.K. Bruno reviewing her recently published book *Mischief and Miseries: a novel of Jamestown 1607*. This timely novel tells the real story of Jamestown and Captain John Smith. Ms Bruno's novel has received enthusiastic reviews and has been called "a gripping, page-turning novel" and "an imaginative and expanded rendering...a lively fictional account of the Jamestown venture".

Plan to join Friends on September 26th to kick off the fall season with an exciting review, Jinny Estell's sweet treats, and good conversation and discussion.



Jayne McQuade gives Friends suggestions for summer reading at the June "Books Alive."

FINANCIAL REPORT *Greg Haugan, Treasurer*



Our fiscal year ends June 30, so we have started our new fiscal year. Our cash balance at the end of the year was a very large compared to previous years (\$9,928.58). This amount was remaining even after our donation of \$3,192.23 to the Library which included funds for a new laptop computer and most of the cost of the new sign and a small amount we provided as matching funds for a special acquisition of children's books. We still have an obligation to pay for lighting for the sign which, hopefully, will be completed this month. We have a larger carryover than prior years because of the 38 Lifetime members since a large amount of the receipts from Life members is held in reserve. We limit the amount used for current expenses and gifts to the Library to 10% of the amount in the Lifetime Member account. At present we have \$4,798.58 available for purchases to support the library.

So far, we are starting the year strong with sales of over \$1,000 for tickets for the 2006 Quilt Raffle to be held in November. We ended up with a net profit of just under \$3,000.00 from the 2005 Quilt Raffle. Other financially successful fundraisers this past year were the English Tea, the bake sale, and the Blues Works concert. We have been selling our library carry-bags at a constant rate and now are totally in the black with an \$80.00 profit. These very good looking bags are very popular and make great gifts.

Our funds are used to pay for this newsletter, provide front end cash for fund raising activities, for our programs and their expenses, but primarily to provide extra items for the Library that are outside their normal operating and capital budget in order to add a qualitative dimension to the Library services.

2006 Quilt Raffle...*Buy your tickets early and often!*



A BLOOMING GOOD READ

Lien Groenwold

Sales of raffle tickets for this year's quilt are well under way. We still have a few special events coming up.

- the week-end of July 29-30 we plan to be outside of the Food Lion
- the Irvington market again, first Saturday
- the Heathsville Farmers Market, third Saturday
- St Stephens Labor Day weekend
- the Reedville Fishermen's Museum Nautical Flea Market
- the Knights of Columbus market in Kilmarnock
- Oct. you will see us at Callao Days.

It is a busy, but fun filled summer. At this moment we are at about 1/3 of our goal of \$3000. We had a good 4th of July day at the Irvington Market.

As you can see by the picture this quilt is certainly not traditional. It is a technique called "Nip and Tuck". Our own Nancy Brennan designed it for us, after she had taken a class at the Quilt Show in the spring of this year. It has been very well received.

FOL Board Bids Farewell to Treasurer, Greg Haugan

Alas, one of our team has served out two three-year terms as treasurer and has to step aside. Greg Haugan has been a rock in the organization.

- As Treasurer he has kept accurate financial records
- As a veteran on the board, he has been a source of ideas and advice.
- His style is quiet, but the results are BIG.

We'll miss Greg, but he is still around for moral support. Thanks, Greg, for your financial skills and service to the Friends of the Library.



Friends Cruise the Rappahannock...*Pictures by Tom Ryals*





FRIENDS of the LIBRARY
NORTHUMBERLAND

FOL Board Members

President: Jay Walker

Vice President: Lien Groenwold

Treasurer: Phil Landry

Secretary: Bob Lindsey

Publicity: Bob Lindsey

Ways and Means: Lien Groenwold

Books Alive: Earline Walker

Hospitality: Jinny Estell

Membership: Ann Raikes

Newsletter: Rita Johnson

Book Note for History Lovers

If you believe *The Peloponnesian War* is one of the most significant books ever written, and names like Pericles, Alcibiades, Archidamus, Lysander, and Xenophon get you all stirred up, you are going to be happy to read Victor Davis Hanson's new book, *A War Like No Other: How the Athenians and Spartans Fought the Peloponnesian War*. Hanson draws heavily on Thucydides, of course, but also references the writings of Xenophon, Diodorus, and other ancient commentators on the war in his discussion. *A War Like No Other* will soon be available at our library.

FROM THE DIRECTOR *Jayne McQuade*

There's a picture elsewhere in the newsletter of the library sign donated by the Friends. I can't tell you what a pleasure it is to have this new means of publicizing our programs. I knew it was working when just a week or two after it was installed I was at the Strawberry Festival at St. Stephen's and several people looked at me in surprise and asked, "Aren't you supposed to be selling books at the library?" (I was just having a breakfast of strawberry shortcake before my shift at the sale began!)

Lein Groenwold and the ways and means committee made a tidy sum selling quilt tickets at St. Stephen's, too. All this reminds me of the importance of cooperation among groups in this small community we live in. The library has its book sales on the dates of Heathsville Golden Christmas and the Strawberry Festival. We buy ads in the programs of these events. We co-sponsored a program on traditional blues in Virginia with the Tavern Foundation's Food for Thought series. Along with the Northumberland Woman's Club, we help with Northumberland Elementary School's Read Aloud Virginia program, promoting reading aloud in families, and the school and library have close ties in the summer reading program, using the same requirements and forms. The library's Homework Center, heading into its third season, complements the programs of the schools, the Reading Partners and the Y's after school care. The Garden Club maintains the Blue Star Memorial Garden and the library's front garden. Many groups chipped in to help the library purchase its laptop computer. The Friends of the Library contribute time and money to add to the library's budgeted programs. The whole community benefits when each group contributes what it does best. It takes a village not only to raise a child, but to maintain and improve a community.

Northumberland Public Library
FRIENDS of the LIBRARY
7204 Northumberland Highway
Heathsville, VA 22473

Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 43
HEATHSVILLE VA
22473