

FRIENDS FOCUS

FEBRUARY 2015

NEWS OF THE HOCKESSIN LIBRARY

2015 Book Sale Another Terrific Result!

The book sale is over for another year and I think everyone agrees it was a great success. The final result is gross proceeds of over \$42K, a great improvement over last year, when the weather became a key factor during the sale.

This sale cannot happen without the planning and execution by a dedicated and devoted group of volunteers who assume many roles. The key word is "logistics." We have to receive the donations, sort them into categories, store the books, arrange for the books to be delivered from storage at the appropriate time and finally put the books on display. The Department of Corrections has been a great help to us for many years, providing manpower to help us setting up our tables, offloading the boxes of books, and delivering them to the appropriate Areas. It takes a lot of hard work, and we are very grateful for their assistance.

One other special feature of our sale is the high school students who help in various capacities: restocking from the floor; assisting customers with their purchases; storing purchases. Whatever was needed, they did it with energy and enthusiasm. I think the students this year were exceptionally helpful, and the appearance of the sale and how the books were displayed throughout the sale reflected that.

If you came to the sale on Sunday you will have noticed a difference this year. In the Lobby we had a young lady selling our book bags for her special charity Treasures for Teachers. She met with great success and we are including a letter in this newsletter which reflects the results of her efforts and how that will be benefitting a large number of teachers and schools in this area.

Barbara Zuroick and Sandy Massa.



Unloading the truck is heavy work.



Right: Volunteer Mike Hopkins.



Right: David Godsworthy takes a breather.



Volunteers manned the checkout.



Musings from the President

Our last book drop off was on January 10th, and that morning I had to keep reminding myself that volunteering is well known to be good for one's health. I, along with the other volunteers, worked in temperatures that can only be described as very bracing. I was surprised at just how many people were willing, and wanted, to drop off their books under these conditions. The work load helped to keep us warm, as we assisted our donors with getting those books into the shed, and get them sorted for the upcoming sale.

The sale is now over for another year, and it has been a great success. It seems Mother Nature decided to be very cooperative, and having good weather certainly helped to encourage more people to come to our sale. Everyone who attended appeared to enjoy the experience, and we received a number of compliments about the way our sale is organized and run. That of course is due to the enthusiasm and dedication of our volunteers, and the years of experience they have in organizing this event.

If you are wondering how to obtain a magnetic sticker which reads FOLLOW ME TO THE HOCKESSIN LIBRARY. The answer is very simple. Just submit a useful suggestion as to how the FRIENDS can help to make our library even better than it is today. A sticker is certain to be available to those of you who can come up with a great idea.

I want to reiterate what I have said in previous Newsletters. If you want to see this sale continue to be the great event it currently is, then some of you need to step forward and volunteer some time to help us. Our greatest need is for help in moving boxes of sorted books from the shed to our storage trailers. Any assistance in this area would be welcomed. Please contact us through our web site, or at the Library, if you want to help. I look forward to hearing from you.

David Goldsworthy, President



Director's Desk

Did you know?

Many times people are astounded at the wonderful services that libraries provide. Hockessin Library is starting a Did You Know? campaign to educate the public about the wonderful services provided by the library.

January's focus is on the free tax service that partner AARP is providing. February's theme will be Job search skills and resources for small businesses. We are featuring the Book Buddy service in March where people who are homebound can sign up to have a buddy retrieve their library materials for them.

Programs for Adults

All the library program schedules are available for viewing on the library website calendar
<https://de.evanced.info/delaware/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

February 6- Friday- 11am – Solar Power: How to Harness the secret energy

February 7- Saturday – 11am – Syl Woolford Presents: African American Newspapers

February 14 – Saturday- 10:30am – Superfood: Cacao is your hearts desire

February 20 – Friday – 10:30 am – Making your home safe for seniors

February 20 – Friday – 2pm – Delaware Money School: How today's annuities really work

February 25 – Wednesday – 6:30pm – Intersection of Writing and Art

February 28 – Saturday – 11am- American Anti-Slavery Society and Hockessin

New Computer Aide

Computer Aide Paul has some help; come in and meet our new computer aide Umema. She will help you with your e-reader needs.

Local Authors

New Castle County has many local authors. Hockessin Library now features these author's works on the display near the circulation desk.

READ
New Castle County Reads!

**2015: The Last Days Of
Ptolemy Grey**

New Castle County Libraries are proud to announce this year's NCC Reads title: Walter Mosley's *The Last Days Of Ptolemy Grey*.

Ptolemy Grey is a 91-year-old man, suffering from dementia and living as a recluse in his Los Angeles apartment. Then Robyn Small, a 17-year-old family friend, appears and helps clean up his apartment and straighten out his life. A reinvigorated Ptolemy volunteers for an experimental medical program that restores his mind, and he uses his last days--shortened now by the medical experiment--to delve into the mystery of the recent drive-by shooting death of his great-nephew, Reggie.

We hope you will enjoy reading or re-reading this novel and hear more about it from the author himself.

Thank You to Everyone

In November, I made my first ever presentation to the Friends of Hockessin Library Board. Everyone made me feel wonderful. The presentation was to ask for help for my service project for the year. I have become an Ambassador for Treasures for Teachers, an organization that collects new and gently used school supplies for underprivileged schools. With the upcoming Book Sale, I thought that we might be able to collect some books for these schools.

The Board was very open to the idea of letting me sit in the lobby asking for bag donations on Sunday. The bags could be filled with books and brought to the schools through the volunteers at Treasures for Teachers.

I had a wonderful time on Sunday talking to people about my project and the students that need our help. The volunteers at the sale were awesome. They not only purchased bags but also helped us look for books that were suitable for K-12 students. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped me out.

I also want to thank all the people who took the time to stop by my table and listen to my story. A big thanks to everyone that donated a bag. With your donation, you have given many children access to books that are desperately needed.

This has been a great experience for me. I want to thank every member of the board for letting me do this. All the board members were super-duper nice and made me feel happy.



At the end of the day, we had about 60 bags donated and a few boxes. There were about 2000 books collected for needy schools. This is absolutely amazing and I hope to be able to set up a table again next year.

Thank you again,

Grace Long
Charter Oaks Academy
Age 7, Grade 2

The Book Sale had hidden treasures everywhere!

Tots to Teens

We have decided that 2015 will be the Year of Reading. Betty, the Children's Room Coordinator, and myself have each challenged ourselves to read 50 children and teen books this year and we've extended the challenge out to the children and teens of Hockessin. We are challenging them to read at least 10 books this year. There is a log to help you keep track that you can pick up in the Children's Room. As the year progresses we will be acknowledging achievements with pieces of popcorn around the library. We hope everyone will take the opportunity to Pop Open a Good Book this year!

On February 1st the Youth Services Division of the Delaware Library Association announced the 2015 winners of the Blue Hen Book Awards. They are Open Very Carefully by Nick Bromley for the beginning readers, Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein for middle readers, and Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell for teen readers. Hockessin always turns in the largest numbers of votes for the awards so give yourself a nice pat on the back. Thank you to all of the children and teens who cast a vote and helped choose these winners.

*Terri Jones
Youth Services Librarian*



Be a Friend! Renew Today

Is your Friends membership current? Check the mailing label above your name to see when your membership renewal is due. To continue receiving *Friends Focus*, just clip this coupon and mail it to:

Friends of the Hockessin Library
PO Box 55
Hockessin, DE 19707

(or drop it at the library) with your payment.

Yes, I'd like to join the Friends or renew my membership! Enclosed is a check for:

- \$10.00 Individual Member (1 yr.) \$20.00 Family (1 yr.) \$100.00 Lifetime
 \$40.00 Member/Family (5 yr.) \$25.00 Sponsor/Organization \$ _____ Other (Gift)

Name:Phone:

Address:E-mail:

City/State/Zip

Please check your areas of interest if you would like to volunteer:

- Membership Book Sale Fund Raising Programs Hospitality
 Telephone Publicity Board Other

From The Archives

The first used book sale to benefit the library was the result of an Eagle Scout project. The Lamborn Library opened on November 13, 1977, and the sale was held in April of the following year. In addition to raising funds for the library, it was designed to acquire books for the library collection. Over 245 people attended the sale which was held on the second floor of the library. 2,035 books were sold and 600 volumes were added to the library shelves. Gross income was \$602.05 with expenses totaling \$29.21.

In April 1979 the second sale was held at the Hockessin Methodist Fellowship Hall. The profits of \$473.18 were divided between the library and the Hockessin Methodist Youth Fellowship.

By the April 1980 sale, the number of hardbacks and paperback books available was 4000. However, such a large number caused concern among the sale volunteers who complained: "The effort of moving so many books several times for a sale was not worth the end result."

Thirty-five years later the number of books processed and moved multiple times exceeds 65,000. And while the volunteers may still complain, they have no doubt that it is worth the effort!

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Follow us on Twitter at
www.twitter.com/fohlibrary.
Visit Our Web Site:
www.friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org

Library Hours of Operation

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday

10am-9pm

Thursday-Closed

Friday-Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 1pm-5pm

Friends Focus is published quarterly by the Friends of the Hockessin Library.

Please send comments or questions to:

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Cathe Lawrence	Secretary
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Yes

We collect books for our annual sale on the second Saturday of every month. Look for our sign on the shed in the Hockessin Fire House back parking lot.

Need help? Just ask. We can even arrange to pick-up your books. Your donations will help us continue this wonderful tradition of support for our Hockessin Library.