



FRIENDS TO FRIENDS

A Publication of The Oconee County Friends of the Library

Sandy Yuda, Editor

YOUR LIBRARY'S BRANCHES

Salem, Seneca,
Walhalla, Westminster.
Bookmobile
Winter 2015

President's Message – from Barbara Askew

As I sit writing this, it dawns on me as it does about this time every year that we're almost into a New Year! And I'm surprised, as I always am, that 12 months have flown by. Yeah! we're almost (finally) into Election Year--and the absolute barrage of more & more political ads! Seems to me that it's a great time to read a book!!

But before all of that, Duke Energy is once again sponsoring the Festival of Trees in the lobby of The World of Energy. Friends of the Library (FOL) has a tree--front and center beneath the banner "Books are Classic". (The idea was Ellen Plumpe's-- Friend's Treasurer). Classic stories are amply displayed among the branches and the snowflakes. The display will be open during Duke's business hours (9-5) through December 30, but closed Dec. 24 thru Dec. 27 and Jan 1-3, when it officially closes. In other words, it is also open Dec. 28, 29 and 30--in time for New Year's guests!

Please come and vote for our tree! The tree with the most votes will receive a \$1000 donation for the "owner's" chosen non-profit organization. The FOL Board has voted to support the children's programs of the Foothills YMCA (after-school programs, summer day camp and youth sports) as our recipient.

The final meeting of the Fall session of Let's Talk About It is this month and the new session for Spring begins in February. (see schedule). The following brief biographies are of two of the Clemson professors, Dr. Rhondda Thomas and Associate Professor Cameron

Bushnell who are facilitating our discussions for the 2015-16 series. In the next issue, I will profile the other (two) professors who have participated this year, April Pelt and Dr. Peter Cohen.

Dr. Rhondda Thomas is an associate professor of English. She teaches early African American Literature and American literature. This fall, she began her second year as a faculty-in-residence and is beginning her first year working with a group of female freshman. She also serves as co-chair of the Race and the University: A Campus Conversation Initiative. Dr. Thomas was recently awarded a \$100,000 grant to research and document the lives of African Americans in early Clemson history. She is also conducting research for two publications by Cambridge University Press about literature produced by and about writers of African descent in 18th century America. She has published and edited several books and essays. This year she has started to blog about her research.

Cameron Bushnell is also an Associate Professor at Clemson. Her current research on Edward Said, a Palestinian literary scholar who employs music in the development of critical consciousness. She plans a study of literary connections between Britain and Egypt, focusing on writer Penelope Lively who grew up in Egypt and on Ahdaf Soueif, an Egyptian writer working in the UK. She, too, has published articles and essays and has written a book entitled *Postcolonial Readings of Music in World Literature: Turning Empire on its Ear*, published in 2013.

Welcome to these new members:

Zsuzsanna Snow	LeRoy, N.Y.
Peggy L. McCall	Walhalla
Deb & Steve Weigel	Walhalla
Marita & John Ozols	Seneca
Jeanne Rannou	West Union
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph F. Simmons	Salem
Gerri Castle	Seneca
Nancy Soper	West Union

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President's Message (Cont'd)

We are so very fortunate to have these outstanding Clemson professors to facilitate our stimulating discussions!!

One last piece of new: We have recently received a large collection of non-fiction books, including many history books about both World Wars, the Korean War and the war in Vietnam. Also included are several books about planes and war in the air and on the sea. For Civil War buffs, there

are several that I'm sure we've not previously had on our book sale shelves. Come and see!

Read the quote below and give a child a book as a present!!

Happy Holidays Everyone!

Barb

"When you read to a child, when you put a book in a child's hands, you are bringing that child news of the infinitely varied nature of life. You are an awakener." -Paula Fox, writer



Making a list.....

Once a year each branch library submits their wish lists of items that aren't in their budget and FOL gets to play Santa. Here are some of their comments regarding our fulfillment of their wishes:

Leah Price, Westminster Branch Manager:
"We are always appreciative of the items the friends buy us. These items help staff productivity and make the library a more welcoming and functional space for our customers."

Emily Whitmire-Sluder, Seneca Branch Mgr.:
"We have already used the new **Cricut Explore Air machine** to make displays. It is perfect for cutting out letters and will save us lots of time! We will also be using it for various projects in our monthly Let's Get Crafty night. We are excited about the **new camera** so we can document our programs on social media. The **sign holders for the doors** will make it easier to change notices and mote current programs right when people walk in the door. We appreciate everything the Friends do for us!"

Emily Embry, Walhalla Branch Manager:

"With the items provided by the friends we are able to support both staff needs and support the mission of the library. Our new **multi-use board** looks great in the meeting room and will be a great tool to use for many programs for years to come. Our new **sweeper**, which may not seem that big of an item, has already been used it for many small cleanup projects. Thank you for everything you do!!!"

Dan at Salem: The library has benefited from a new **shelf and desk**. The new desk will give me more storage space and it will make room for the new shelf. We hope to put holds on the new shelf which will make it easier and faster to service the patrons plus it will give us much needed additional storage space.

Kayla, Family Story Time has truly benefited from the **Bubble Machine and Mother Goose stuffed toy**. The children love the talking Mother Goose and her rhymes. Beginning on September 15th, we will incorporate the bubble machine into the program. These items allow us to add new songs and rhymes to keep Family Story Time fresh.

Let's Talk About It

Let's Talk About It is a book discussion group in which a University professor leads each of the discussions. Participants choose the books, which are available FREE OF CHARGE to the public at the Seneca library. The series occurs in the fall and in the spring. The South Carolina Humanities Council and the Oconee County Friends of the Library fund this series.

The dates for the Spring series are: February 29, March 14, April 4, April 19, May 9 and May 23.

There will both books and movies in this series. It has not yet been finalized as to which books/movies will be used for each date. They will be ordered around the first of the year. In case the series starts before the next newsletter, contact the Seneca library at 882-s4855 for more information or contact Libby at robertwd@bellsouth.net to be put on her mailing list.

All book discussions will take place at the Seneca Library from 6:30 to 8 PM.

There is no need to “join”. Just pick up the books at the Seneca Library when they become available.

Recent FOL Activities



Book Recommendation from Barb Askew

Picking Cotton by Jennifer Thompson-Cannino and Ronald Cotton

For readers who don't think they like non-fiction, or that memoirs are always about movie stars, here is a true story that reads like a "stay-up-all-night" mystery novel. *Picking Cotton* is their story of rape, violence, good faith, a wrongful conviction, unbelievable resilience and finally, forgiveness. This story will forever more have you questioning your own power of sight, awareness and memory.

Your Library's Branches

(Hours subject to change)

Walhalla Branch (Main Library)

501 West South Broad St., Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-638-4133

Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9 AM to 9 PM
Wednesday – Friday 9 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 1 PM
Sunday* 2 PM to 5:30 PM*

*during school year only

Seneca Branch

300 East South Second St., Seneca, SC 29678

Phone: 864-882-4855

Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 AM to 8 PM
Friday 9 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 4 PM
Sunday CLOSED

Westminster Branch

112 West North Ave., Westminster, SC 29693

Phone: 864-364-5760

Hours: Monday 11:30 PM to 8 PM
Tuesday – Friday 10 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 1 PM
Sunday CLOSED

Salem Branch

5 Park Ave., Salem, SC 29676

Phone: 864-944-0912

Hours: Monday 10 AM to 6 PM
Tuesday – Friday 8:30 AM to 5 PM
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED

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Join 'Friends' Today!

- Individual Membership \$ 10/year
- Family Membership \$ 20/year
- Patron \$ 50/year
- Business or Organization \$100/year
- Donor \$100/year
- Benefactor \$100+/year
- Golden \$500+

- New Member? Volunteer?
- Renewal? Donation? (Tax Deductible)

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Clip and mail to: Friends of the Library
501 West South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible!

Do your friends belong? If not, pass this newsletter along and ask them to become a member!

Oconee County Friends of the Library
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Walhalla, SC 29691

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