

Friends

OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

Spring 2003

FOSCL 2003

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SC State Library Liaison

Margie Herron, Columbia



From The President

Changes are not always welcome, but some are quite pleasant. The weather is finally giving us a welcome change, and FOSCL is giving us a change to welcome. Margie Herron has become the FOSCL's new liaison and brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, and energy; and all of us are looking forward to working and learning together. At our general meeting last September, the Board presented the idea of FOSCL's compiling a cookbook as a fundraiser for our Friends' groups. After much discussion with members throughout the state, it seems advisable to table this project for now. I do want to thank all of you who sent in recipes -- it seems good readers also make good cooks! At our recent Board meetings, we have and will be focusing on the needs and vision of FOSCL. We want to continue to build on the strong foundation John Landrum and staff established. Membership and participation are our links, and communication is our key. With an updated web site and the recognition shown with our annual awards, we hope to join technology with renewed friendship. We welcome your suggestions and encourage your participation.

Marsha Strong

Check out FOSCL's newly-established Web Site
www.foscl.org

South Carolina Library Legislative Day - February 26, 2003

Did you realize that 75, or about a third, of the 250 nonlegislators who attended this year's Legislative Day Luncheon were representatives from Friends groups all across South Carolina? These Friends joined the 85 library trustees and the 90 library directors and staff who gathered in Columbia to hear dire predictions about a state budget situation which seems to go from bad to worse. This gloom and doom talk did not, however, prevent Friends and other library supporters from urging their local legislators to support the restoration of State Lottery money and State Aid per capita funding for public libraries in the FY 2004 State Budget. Eighty-three legislators (20 Senators & 63 House members) -- or just shy of one half of the General Assembly -- showed up for this year's luncheon, for a grand total of 333 attendees. For whatever reason, it seemed that legislators spent much more time talking with their local constituents this year than in previous years. Every year Friends groups from around the state are the primary underwriters of the cost of meals for the folks from their local area who attend Legislative Day and for their resident Senators and Representatives. For this, they are to be commended.

The FOSCL Board was represented at Legislative Day 2003 by Marsha Strong, President; Clyde McCants, Past President; and Nonie Price, Vice-President.



Library supporters at Legislative Day Luncheon listened attentively to State Library Director Jim Johnson as he briefed them before legislators began to arrive

Legislative Update from State Library Director since Legislative Day in February

For the second year in a row, library supporters at APLA's Library Legislative Day had a positive impact. Going into the budget debate in the House of Representatives, public library funding from the Education Lottery was eliminated. Library supporters emphasized to legislators that day how important lottery funding was for their libraries. As a result, the final budget passed by the House of Representatives restored lottery funding to the FY 03 level of \$1.5 million. Thanks to all for your continued support. Together we can make a difference.

Contacting Your Legislator -- It's Easy, But Make it Effective

What can Friends do? First, talk with your County or Regional Library Director about the specific budget problems faced by your library. Follow up by contacting your Senators or Representatives to express your concerns. Your legislators want to hear your opinion but be specific, accurate, personal and, since they are extremely busy during the legislative session, make it brief. And keep an eye out for any legislative alerts and calls for action from State Library Director Jim Johnson as the State Budget continues to make its way through the General Assembly.

One Friends Member's Experience at Legislative Day 2003 "In Her Own Words"

This year's Legislative Day from the viewpoint of Helen Dean, Newberry County Friends of the Library and FOSCL member:

"The recent Legislative Luncheon was my fifth year for attending what has to be one of the best ways to get the message out about the importance of libraries.

Last year's luncheon proved to me that indeed 'the squeaky wheel gets the oil'. The large number of Friends who attended really proved to lawmakers that people care about their library.

Now more than ever we need Friends who will let their legislators know how important a library is to the community.

I spoke to as many legislators this year as I could and urged them not to deny libraries the minute amount we get from the lottery monies.

I came away with the feeling that we all did what we could but that we need to do better. Next year let's pack the Clarion!!

I enjoyed the luncheon this year; I feel we are finally getting our message out about our libraries. Let's keep 'squeaking'!"

Library supporters from Newberry County were joined at their table by their delegation members, Rep. Jeffrey Duncan and Rep. Walton McLeod



Seated, L to R: Gen Wicker, Verna Cavanaugh, and Genora Dewalt; standing, L to R: Donald Dean, Helen Dean, Tucky Taylor, Rep. McLeod, Tucky Taylor, Jr., Audrey Henry, Harold Smith, and Rep. Duncan

FOSCL Annual Fall Membership Meeting Enjoyed By All



Marsha ably presiding



Todd



Pat

The Friends of South Carolina Libraries held its annual meeting on September 21st at the SC State Library in Columbia. Approximately 80 persons, representing 23 local Friends of the Library groups, attended. FOSCL President Marsha Strong opened the meeting with an enthusiastic welcome and thank you to all the Friends from around the state who gave up their Saturday to show their support of libraries. Marsha promised a great day filled with Information, entertainment, and just plain fun; and, with the help of FOSCL's able Program Chair, Helen Fellers, that promise was certainly fulfilled. Not only did the attendees learn a lot, but they had fun too--despite the lack of air conditioning on what was a very hot and humid day in Columbia!

Marsha kicked off the day by introducing FOSCL Board Members with a Wheel-of-Fortune atmosphere. Helen Fellers announced that she had arranged for several door prizes, which were given out during the day.

Leading off the outstanding program were presentations on how to be successful at fundraising by Todd Stephens, Director, Spartanburg County Public Library, and Pat Present, President of the Hilton Head Island Friends. After making several special announcements and taking care of routine business, the Friends were then treated to a delightful performance by a special guest, Angie Le Clerq, who arrived in full period costume. Mrs. Le Clerq took her audience back to 1855, reflecting the history of the Sinkler family, re-enacting and telling about plantation life in that era, and touching on the customs and traditions of the time. She spoke of the homespun activities that were part of the daily life for the planters, items used in everyday life, the importance of the land and its products, home cures for various ailments, with special attention to the life of the ladies of the era. As she passed about period dining pieces as well as desserts she had made from old family recipes, she entertained questions from those present.



Angie Le Clerq arrives

--Coming Attraction--

At the upcoming Annual Meeting of FOSCL on September 13, six "regional" baskets filled with all kinds of goodies will be offered at a silent auction. Know you won't wish to miss that!

Awards Presentations at Annual Meeting

Faces of FOSCL Award Winners for 2002



*Loa Jane Miller
Aynor*



*Lynda Aston
Berkeley County*



*Faith Line
Sumter County*



*Theresa Dunn
Beaufort County*



*Johnson & Wales
Charleston*



*Gloria Underwood
Friends President
Bluffton*

*picked up the Special Partnership Award for
Rowkris Development (Stetson Rowles and
Michael Kristoff)*

John H. Landrum Library Advocacy Award--Loa Jane Miller for her contributions to the Aynor Branch Library of the Horry County Library System.

Special Partnership Award--Rowkris Development (Stetson Rowles and Michael Kristoff) for their continuing support of the Friends of the Bluffton Branch Library of the Beaufort County Library System.

Library Staff Award--Faith A. Line for her support of the Friends of the Sumter County Library.

Trustee Award--Theresa Arrington Dunn for her support of the Friends groups in Beaufort County.

Business Award--Johnson & Wales University for their support of the Friends of the Charleston County Library.

Outstanding Program Award--Friends of the Berkeley County Library for their partnership with adult education.

FOSCL ANNOUNCES NEW WEB SITE

FOSCL has now established a web site to keep in contact with, distribute information to, and better serve, its members. Keep an eye on the site for new additions including links to useful resources such as other Friends groups, libraries, FOSCL events, and the like. The FOSCL site is located at: <http://www.foscl.org>. Be sure to bookmark it!

Early Days of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries

Did you ever wonder how the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (or FOSCL, as it is affectionately known) got its start? One has to go back to 1988 when there began to be discussion in South Carolina library circles among local Friends groups, trustees, and librarians about the possibility of forming a statewide Friends group. A handful of people, led by Penny Davis of Charleston, with support from then South Carolina State Library Director Betty Callahan, began to develop a draft of bylaws and a draft constitution and to explore possible goals and objectives for such a group.

In February 1989, a small steering committee (note 1) met to examine these draft documents and felt that an invitation to a meeting should be issued statewide to those who might like to see a state Friends group. In the late 1980's, South Carolina was one of several states that did not have a statewide group; however, by the end of the next decade, all states had such groups.

The Northeast Branch of the Richland County Public Library was host site to the state meeting in April 1989. A motion to form the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) was passed, and Interim Officers were approved (note 2). Draft constitution and bylaws were distributed; and after discussion, changes were approved and a dues structure was adopted.

The Interim Officers were authorized to proceed with filing for incorporation, filing for 501(c)(3) status, establishing a treasury, nominating permanent officers and all the other sundry tasks that would enable an organization to function as a legal entity. Those attending the meeting divided into focus groups and subsequently provided the Interim Officers with general guidance on a future direction.

Thanks to much behind the scenes work by many from around the state, the first annual meeting of FOSCL was held at the Hilton Head Branch Library on November 15, 1989. There was a balance in the treasury which was reported as well as ideas for the sale of FOSCL promotional items to feed the treasury. Filing for incorporation had been completed, FOSCL had a mailing address and was working with the IRS to achieve tax-exempt status. Permanent officers for the year were elected (note 3), followed by moderator-led small group discussions on topics of interest to the local Friends groups who were in attendance (note 4).

Although fledgling, FOSCL was off and running, bolstered financially by a grant from the Friends of the Greenville County (Public) Library and grant assistance obtained through the South Carolina State Library. The Executive Board of Officers agreed to plan activities in conjunction with the 1990 South Carolina Library Association annual conference to provide that group with information on the White House Conference, and to assure there was awareness of FOSCL in the state's library community. Additional plans were under development to support South Carolina's Library Legislative Day, to promote libraries and their importance in the state, and to maintain a primary function of offering support to existing local Friends groups to get started.

In the years since its formation, FOSCL has continued as an all volunteer group to encourage the best of library services as well as awareness and increased public support to libraries throughout South Carolina.

Note 1: Penny Davis, Mike Burkhart, Karen Hellend, Cappy McFadden, Beverly Farrell, Harriet Woodham, Margot Dupuy-Howerton, Susie Hudson, Larry Freeman, and Margie Herron

Note 2: Penny Davis, Catherine McFadden, Nancy Redding, Carolyn Gilstrap

Note 3: Susie Hudson, Mike Burkhart, Phil Groben, Carolyn Gilstrap

Note 4: Friends of: Charleston County Library, Greenville County Library, Beaufort County's Hilton Head Branch, Pickens County's Village Branch, Richland County Public Library, Sumter County Library, and Georgetown County's Waccamaw Branch

Thanks to Mike Burkhart, one of the charter members of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries, for providing information for this article.



A collaborative project between the SC State Library and USC's School of Library and Information Science, the **Palmetto Book Alliance** (PBA) celebrates SC's literary heritage as the local affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book. Each year, the PBA recognizes organizations that promote reading with the Palmetto Book Award, given during a reception at the SC Book Festival. The Book Festival, another event co-sponsored by the PBA, brings nationally-recognized authors to the state.

This year's Book Festival, which took place in Columbia on February 22-23, once again brought together readers and writers, as thousands of people came to listen to authors, browse, and buy books. Several libraries and Friends groups came to the festival as a group. The Bookenders/Friends of the Clarendon County Library, the Contemporary Book Club of the Charleston County Library, and the Charleston, Darlington, Lexington, Richland, and Sumter County Libraries were among those participating.

The Palmetto Book Alliance recently published *The South Carolina Literary Tour*, a new literary map for South Carolina. This attractive, well-researched map, which includes authors from every South Carolina county, is certain to be a valuable resource for libraries and individuals. Copies are available in all public libraries.

All FOSCL members should have received these 2 mailings in March:

- (1) FOSCL Awards Nomination Information Packet
- (2) Letter from the President, with Membership Appeal and Membership Application/Renewal Form

If you did not receive this information, please contact Margie Herron at the State Library 803-734-8650 or email: margie@leo.scsli.state.sc.us



FOSCL takes a look at the unique Friends Book and Gift Shop in the beautiful new Greenville County Headquarters Library building, site for its February 12 board meeting. Front, L to R: Margie Herron, Marsha Strong, Helen Dean, Nonie Price, Carol Duggan, and Bill Schmidt; back, L to R, Frances Case and Mike Burkhart. Absent from the picture: Helen Fellers and Clyde McCants.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 6 - 12
National Library Week

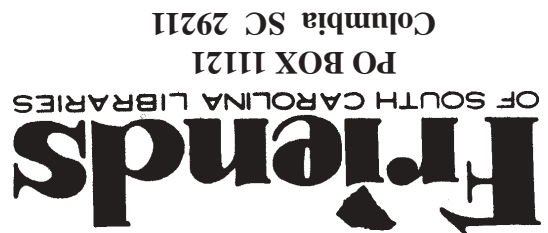
May 12 - 13
National Library Legislative Day
in Washington, DC

June 19 - 25
American Library Association
Annual Conference in Toronto

June 27
Deadline for submitting
FOSCL Award Nominations

September 13
FOSCL Annual Meeting and
Awards Presentations
Columbia location TBA

October 22 - 24
South Carolina Library Association
Annual Conference at Adams Mark
in Columbia



FRIENDS OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES (FOSCL)

2003 Annual Membership Drive

We're out to keep our old Friends... but also to make new ones!

Membership Application/Renewal Form
Become a Friend of South Carolina Libraries
(Membership year is January to December)

Name _____ Today's Date _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____ Check if new address _____
Contact Name (organizations only) _____
E-Mail Address _____
Phone Number Day () _____ Evening () _____

Please check one:

Individual Membership (\$5.00) New Member
 Group Membership (\$20.00) Renewal
 Patron Membership (Over \$20.00)

Dues are tax-deductible!

Please make checks payable to Friends of South Carolina Libraries & mail with completed form to:
Friends of South Carolina Libraries • PO Box 11121 • Columbia SC 29211