

# **Winter 2005**

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# From The President

Dear Friends -

The FOSCL Annual Meeting for 2004 was a tremendous success. We had a room full of enthusiastic friends ready to learn all they could about ways to publicize their groups' efforts in the most effective manner possible for the least amount of money. Ann Addy, President, Solutions! Ink, and PR Coordinator, SC State Library; Ellen Jenkinson, Extension Librarian and Web Committee, Richland County Public Library; and Winnie Walsh, Coordinator of Development, Spartanburg County Public Libraries, gave wonderful presentations and answered questions about both print and web publicity. All of the attendees learned something useful to take back to their libraries and friends groups. The "swap and shop" table also had great examples of successful publicity efforts.

The annual awards were also presented at the Annual Meeting. Winner of the Public Service Award was Kit Smith, member of the Richland County Council. A Special Public Service Award was given to the House Education Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, the Honorable Robert W. Harrell, Jr. The John H. Landrum Library Advocacy Award was given to Todd Stephens, Director of the Spartanburg County Public Libraries, and Dwight McInvaill, Director of the Georgetown County Public Library. Mary Jo Dawson, Director of the ABBE Regional Library System, was awarded the Library Staff Award.

David Sudduth of the Greenville County Library System's Board of Trustees won the Trustee Award. There were two library friends groups that were declared co-winners of the Outstanding Program Award, Friends of the Greenville County Library System and the Friends of Greenwood County Library. Congratulations to all of these most deserving recipients. I am in awe of how many wonderful people in the state of South Carolina stand up and speak out for their libraries in so many different ways. We have great advocates out there and we need to continue to encourage them to be a part of our libraries.

FOSCL sponsored an appearance by Howard Burnham at the South Carolina Library Association Conference in Greenville. Howard is a literary and historic re-enactor. His program was titled "Two Postcards from Paris: Gautier and Churchill from and about the City of Lights." The membership of SCLA was very excited about the participation of FOSCL on the program. FOSCL is grateful to the anonymous donor for the funds to sponsor Howard's appearance.

Membership continues to grow. We now have 82 individual members, 5 corporate members and 28 group members. Please remember to renew your memberships for 2005. Our membership year is the calendar year. With your support we can continue to provide strong programming resources and organizational support to your groups.

Some really exciting news for library friends and trustees is the LAMA (Library Administration and Management Association) institute on fundraising, "Successful Fundraising for Libraries: What works now?" which will be sponsored by FOSCL on Saturday, March 19, 2005, at the Richland County Public Library. FOSCL has received a grant to present the workshop, so there will be no cost to attendees. It is aimed at both friends and trustees. Joan Flanagan, author of two best selling how-to books on fundraising will be the presenter. She has raised money professionally as the Executive Director of a national organization for young adults with disabilities, and as a consultant for community organizations in low-income communities in five US cities. She has worked for two grant-making foundations, the Youth Project and the W. Clement and Jessie V. Stone Foundation, that have made more than \$300 million in grants. Currently she serves as fundraising counsel for Historic New Carlisle, IN, the Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care, and Citizens Action-Slovakia. Each year she trains more than 2,500 professional fundraisers in the US, Canada and Europe.

In addition to being included in this newsletter, information about the institute and registration forms will be sent out to the general library community closer to the time of the workshop. Please see that the Friends and Trustees of your library community learn about the opportunity to attend the institute.

Thank you all for your support of FOSCL. We could not do what we do without our Friends! I hope you all have a very happy, safe and prosperous (so you can donate to your local Friend's group) new year.

--Nonie Price--

# Library Supporters and Advocates Honored by FOSCL

At the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) annual meeting held on Oct. 2, 2004, FOSCL President Nonie Price presented annual awards to recognize individuals and groups that have made outstanding contributions to public libraries in South Carolina.

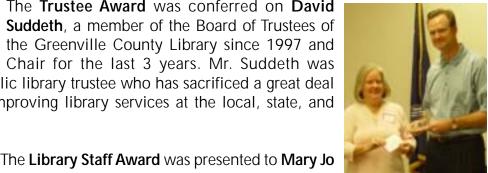


Marsha Strong representing the Friends of the Greenville County Library, left, Nonie Price, right

The **Outstanding Program Award** was made to two recipients in 2004: the Friends of the Greenwood County Library for their "One Book, One Community" book reading campaign and to the Friends of the Greenville County Library for their "Teacher Outreach Program (TOP)" to foster closer collaboration with school teachers and emphasize the role of the library as a valuable educational resource.

The Trustee Award was conferred on David **Suddeth**, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Greenville County Library since 1997 and Chair for the last 3 years. Mr. Suddeth was

described as a "model public library trustee who has sacrificed a great deal of his personal time to improving library services at the local, state, and national level."



Nonie Price, left, David Suddeth, right



Nonie Price, left, Mary Jo Dawson, right

**Dawson**, Director of the ABBE Regional Library. Ms. Dawson, who is responsible for 14 libraries in a four county area, was cited particularly for

her efforts in the "Building a Love of Learning" capital campaign to improve three libraries located in Barnwell County. The submitted nomination noted "her commitment of time and effort, and her willingness to dream with the people of Barnwell County have been inspirational."



Winnie Walsh, representing Todd Stephens, left, Nonie Price, right

The John H. Landrum Advocacy Award was given to two individuals: **Dwight** McInvaill, Director of the Georgetown County Library, and Todd Stephens, Director of the Spartanburg County Library. Both library directors were recognized for their successful advocacy efforts and leadership in a campaign to secure a substantial increase (from \$1.5 million to \$3 million) in lottery funds to help fund public libraries' needs for Dwight McInvaill, left, Nonie Price, materials and technology.



right



Kit Smith, left, Nonie Price, right

The **Public Service Award** was made to **Kit Smith**, member of the Richland County Council. In her long history of actively supporting the county library system, Ms. Smith was particularly recognized for her leadership as Chair of the "Citizens for Better Libraries Committee" which led a campaign for passage of a \$27 million dollar bond referendum to construct library facilities in Richland County.

A Special Group Public Service Award was conferred on members of the South Carolina House Education Subcommittee (Reps. Thomas Keegan, Lanny Littlejohn, and Denny Neilson) of the House Ways and Means Committee and its Chairman, the Honorable Robert W. Harrell, Jr. The Subcommittee made the crucial recommendation that lottery funding for public libraries be doubled, and also recommended that libraries have greater flexibility in use of these funds. Rep. Harrell was commended for his endorsement and support of the subcommittee's recommendation before the House during its budget discussions.



Nonie Price, right, Rep. Denny Neilson, left



2004 FOSCL award winners

The annual FOSCL awards are an important way of saying "thanks" and supplying well-deserved recognition to individuals who have championed libraries in South Carolina. FOSCL solicits and welcomes nominations for these awards. Nomination forms and criteria are normally mailed to public library directors in the summer, to be shared with appropriate interested parties.

"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert." Andrew Carnegie

# **FOSCL Annual Meeting Focuses on Promotion & Marketing**

Nonie Price, President of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL), welcomed library friends and supporters to the FOSCL annual meeting held on October 2, 2004, at the South Carolina State Library. Following remarks by Jim Johnson, State Library Director, and a brief business meeting, Helen Fellers, FOSCL Program Chair, introduced the conference program which carried the theme, "Promoting Library Services: More Bang for Your Buck."

Gloria Avent, Vice-President of FOSCL and Chair of the capital campaign for the Barnwell County Library, spoke about the highly successful program to raise funds for a new library in Barnwell County. She discussed the use of and role of a professional fundraiser during the campaign as well as the importance of a well-planned and organized fundraising strategy.

Dr. Curtis Rogers, SC State Library liaison to FOSCL and Director of Statewide Library Services at the SC State Library, served as moderator for a panel discussion on ways to successfully promote library services.



Panel participants (l to r): Winnie Walsh, Ann Addy and Ellen Jenkinson

Panel presenter Winnie Walsh, Coordinator of Development, Spartanburg County Library, spoke about the library's close relationship with the local newspaper and the regular news columns and coverage of library activities in the newspaper. She advised the audience on techniques to foster strong part-

nerships with local media outlets. She also shared information on the library's special events, such as the "Lolapalooza" biking marathon and "Take Your Library on Vacation" contest - events designed to heighten awareness of the library and promote its use.

Ann Addy, President of the public relations firm Solutions!Ink and Public Relations Coordinator of the SC State Library, spoke about the nuts and bolts of marketing. She defined marketing as a "relationship business" which never ends. She stressed the importance of determining a message, identifying the intended audience, and pinpointing the most effective media outlets. Continuous and sustained flow of communication with the media is necessary as well as close oversight of activities to ensure that things "get done."

Ellen Jenkinson, Extension Services Librarian, Richland County Public Library, discussed the utilization of electronic outlets to inform the public about library services and programs. She described the strategies and procedures the library used to revamp its web site to ensure that it served as a "way to deliver services 24 hours a day." She emphasized the importance of keeping the web site dynamic and current, which requires constant effort and hard work. She also spoke about how the library uses a quarterly electronic newsletter to keep registered borrowers informed about library events and programming. She noted that the local Friends organization has information about their group on the library's web site, as do many public library web sites in South Carolina.

# Friends Sponsor Library Programs & Projects

Friends groups throughout the state have been busy helping to sponsor and provide programming and other types of support in libraries around the state. Just a few of the more recent Friends-sponsored projects include:

Friends of the Anderson County Library: Students and parents in Anderson County can obtain qualified help with student assignments through Live Homework Help and the library's Homework

Center. Live Homework Help allows students, grades 4-12, and those in college to chat online with tutors in English, social studies, math, and science by accessing the service through the



library's website (<u>www.andersonlibrary.org</u>). A valid borrower's card and PIN are required to use this service. The library reports that the Homework Center, located in the Children's Dept. at the Main Library, is a very popular service with parents. On Dec. 16, the Friends sponsored an appearance by puppeteer and Mt. Pleasant resident Becky Becker, presenting the story of Clara and her magic Nutcracker Prince. The show's cast included almost 30 puppets, some reaching four feet in height. On Nov. 20, writer Emily Herring Wilson, author of the recently-released No One Gardens Alone, about renowned gardener Elizabeth Lawrence, spoke and signed copies of her new book. The Friends purchased the Main Library's Christmas tree which was decorated with natural motifs by the Anderson Council of Garden Clubs. Upcoming programs include the Friends' annual corporate spelling bee on Jan. 21 and a "Musical Evening with Robert Burns" scheduled for Jan. 25. For the fourth time, the Friends have arranged for spelling teams representing various local businesses to compete for honors as the best spellers. The Friends solicit corporate sponsors to help raise money and put on the bee. Judges will include Anderson Mayor Richard Shirley. Limited spectator seating is available at \$50 per person Last year's spelling bee raised \$13,000 to help fund the library's online tutoring program.

Friends of the Barnwell County Library: The Friends recognized major corporate donors that have made substantial contributions to the library's capital campaign on Aug. 24. The Friends hosted the Barnwell Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" during which time Gloria Avent, campaign chairman and Vice-President of FOSCL, announced that major donors were responsible for raising over \$1 million of the \$3.5 million needed to purchase property and upgrade/renovate the new Barnwell Library and branches in Blackville and Williston. Approximately \$3.2 million had been raised. Among those businesses recognized for their contributions were Maytag Foundation, Milliken & Co., Duratek/Chem-Nuclear Systems, Clairant Corp., Regions Bank, SRP Credit Union, Enterprise Bank, First Citizens Bank, and the Rotary Club of Barnwell County. During the event, Barwell Mayor Edward Lemon and his wife unveiled 7 Jim Harrison prints donated by William and Ellen Jenkins which have become "naming opportunities" for individuals and businesses to sponsor, ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. Other gifting opportunities for small businesses and individuals were also explained to those attending. The Friends sponsored a "Student Essay Contest," open to all students in Williston, Blackville, and Barnwell, to submit original essays on "Why Libraries Are Important to Me." Length of essays varied according to grade levels and award recognition was given to individual classroom and grade level winners at each school. The overall grade winners for each grade, K-12, were published in a booklet.

Friends of the Cherokee County Library: Masonry students at the Cherokee Technology Center lent a hand to the Friends of the Library by installing brick stepping stones as a walkway from the library's parking lot to the renovated Caldwell House located behind the library which the Friends use as a surplus bookstore to generate funds for the library. Friends President Phyllis Curtis stated, "We really appreciate the masonry classes assisting us with these projects. We have another one for them to work on in the fall."

Friends of the Fairfield County Library: Charleston author Ann Herlong-Bodman was the guest speaker at the Friends fall meeting held Nov. 14. Ms. Herlong-Bodman spoke about her career and her novel, Voices Over Water, winner of the 2004 Golden Eye Literary Prize from Harbor House Publishers. Author Dr. Clyde McCants served as the guest lecturer for a four session program series on "Operetta: the Music of Love and Laughter," held during Oct. and November. Dr. McCants, former President of FOSCL and a current FOSCL Board member, is the author of American Opera Singers and Their Recordings: Critical Commentaries and Discographies, recently published by McFarland Publishers.



Friends of the Kershaw County Library: The Friends have commissioned noted Camden sculptor Mariah Kirby-Smith to create a statue to be displayed in the

main library. The sculpture will depict a girl reading, seated on a stack of books alongside a Boykin Spaniel. Ms. Kirby-Smith has created sculptures of Strom Thurmond located in Edgefield, Thomas Sumter located in Sumter, and Judge Matthew Perry for the U.S. Courthouse in Columbia. New York Times best-selling author Steve Berry, author of the <u>Amber Room</u>, discussed his suspense novel and signed copies for those attending the Friends-sponsored program in June.

Friends of the Lancaster County Library: The recently formed Friends group received advice on library friends organizations from Dr. Clyde

McCants of Winnsboro in August. Dr. McCants has served as President of both the Friends of the Fairfield County Library and the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL). Dr. McCants remarked



Clyde McCants

that "Libraries have a broader touch on the community than even schools do," noting that libraries enhance the quality of life for all residents over their entire life. Dr. Curtis Rogers, State Library liaison to FOSCL, noted the increase in turnout of members since the Friends initial organizational meeting, and Friends President Denise Johnson reported that the group now has 83 members. The Friends' first project was to purchase a display case to house mementos of the library's history to help celebrate its centennial held last October. The Lancaster County Library Kershaw Friends Chapter is being formed and held its first membership meeting in August. The group hopes to start planning programs in early 2005.

Friends of the Laurens County Library: Upcoming programs sponsored and arranged by the Friends will include appearances by Spartanburg architect Martin Meek presenting a program on "An Overview of American Architecture, 1650-1940," on Jan. 30, North Carolina author Robert Inman (Home Fires Burning, Dairy Queen Days, Old Dogs and Children, and Coming Home) on Feb. 20, and a performance by classical guitarist Peter Fletcher on March 3.

Friends of the Newberry County Library: The Friends sponsored their fourth annual Literary Luncheon featuring Bay Tanner mystery series author and Hilton Head resident Kathryn Wall.

# Friends of the Richland County Public Library:

Emily Herring Wilson, author of No One Gardens Alone, was the guest speaker at the Friends author luncheon on Oct. 12. The Friends, in cooperation with the SCETV Endowment, held a dinner celebrating Dick Estell's 40th year as National Public Radio's Radio Reader. Also on hand for the festivities were authors Ron Rash (One Foot in Eden) and Dan Kurzman (Fatal Voyage: Sinking of the USS Indianapolis). Through arrangements with local businesses and organizations, the Friends offer extra bonuses for their members in the form of discounts from such organizations as the YMCA and Columbia Classical Ballet and businesses as Ed's Editions and Folline Vision Center.

Friends of the Socastee Library: In October, the Friends began a free weekly craft workshop to enable persons to learn handicrafts and also to

make crafts which will later be sold in the Friends gift shop and annual craft sale.

Friends of the Spartanburg County Library: Sally Reed, Executive Director of the Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), conducted a conference on "Becoming a Better Friend" on Oct. 30 at the library's Westside Branch. The conference, which was open to interested persons across the state, addressed several issues of interest to library friends, such as building membership, board development, fundraising, and advocacy. Wellknown North Carolina author Clyde Edgerton and his band, Rank Stangers, were the featured performers at the Dennis Bruce Author series held at the Spartanburg Marriott Hotel. At this event, State Representative Lanny Littlejohn was honored as Friend of the Year for his assistance in allocating more lottery revenues for public libraries.

# **Fundraising Ideas**



Believe it or not, there may be a way to raise funds from all those Reader's Digest Condensed Books! Books of Love, a company based in Davenport, Florida, uses the condensed books to create hand

molded, antiqued and lacquered books and scrolls containing original poetry and artwork. The company seeks mass quantities of the Reader's Digest condensed books. Books need to be over 500 pages, measuring approximately 1 ¼" thick x 5 ½" wide x 7 5/8" tall. Books of Love will pay 50 cents for each book with a good cover and spine. Depending on location, the company will mail a check for the books along with a prepaid UPS address label (they pay for the freight). Boxes can then be dropped off at the UPS mailing site identified by the company. For more information, contact Aaron Bond, Book of Love, 4 Page Rd., Davenport, FL 33837. Phone: 863-422-6001. E-Mail: <a href="mailto:aaronbond@book-soflove.com">aaronbond@book-soflove.com</a>; web site: <a href="mailto:www.book-soflove.com">www.book-soflove.com</a>.

Reader's Digest has introduced a new online fundraising program designed for members of FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries USA) and other nonprofits. Through partnerships with leading magazine publishers, subscription renewals to over 650 magazine titles can be ordered online and the participating library or group receives 40% of the renewal price. For further information, call the FOLUSA office at 800-936-5872 or visit the "Friends Zone" (user name and password needed) of their web site: <a href="www.folusa.org">www.folusa.org</a>. A more detailed description of the program is also available in the October and December 2004 issues of FOLUSA's newsletter, <a href="News Update">News Update</a>.

# Friends Raise Funds

Friends across the state have been actively raising funds to support library programs through a variety of creative events. Recent fund-raisers have included:

**Friends of the Anderson County Library**: The Friends conduct regular ongoing book sales the first and third Sundays of each month at the Friends' bookstore located in the main library.

Friends of the McCormick County Library: The Friends are helping to raise funds for the new library by selling commemorative bricks at a cost of \$50 or \$100 each, depending on the size of the brick. The first order for 385 bricks was submitted in late September and further orders are anticipated. Order forms are available at the library, the Friends bookstore and Our Place on Main.

Friends of the Batesburg-Leesville Library: Used hardbound books and paperbacks were sold at a price of \$3 per bag at the Friends book sale on Oct. 1-3. The Friends also operate the "Book Nook" located in the library branch to sell gently used adult and children's books. Funds raised through such projects have been used to purchase supplies for the summer reading program and library signage.

Friends of the Charleston County Library: 60,00 donated books, CDs, videos, and collector's items were for sale at the Friends 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Book sale – "Book Fest 2004" held in the Gaillard Auditorium in September. Prices range from \$3 for hardbacks to \$1 for paperbacks, with the exception of some special items which are individually priced. Local schools and home schoolers in Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties are offered a great opportunity to obtain free books on the last day of the sale. Advance registration by school administrators is required for schools to participate in this offering. A presale event was offered to Friends members for a \$15 admission fee. Friends enjoyed first crack at the sale items while enjoying wine and hors d'oeuvres and meeting local authors Robert Jordan, Harlan Greene, and Stan Arnett. Previous book sales have netted over \$100,000 - funds which financed purchase of library materials, furnishings, programs, and opportunities for staff training.

**Friends of the Clarendon County Library**: The 16<sup>th</sup> annual "Taste of Clarendon" benefiting the Friends was held at the Cypress Center in Manning. This event offers heavy hors d'oeuvres inside and the popular wild game tastings outdoors. Tickets sold for \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Friends President Rhonda Ritchie, who served as Co-Chair of the event, stated that funds raised at past events have been used to help purchase the library's automation system and book drop, as well as to support the summer reading program.

Friends of the Florence County Library: The Friends now have a new home at the new main library in Florence. The Friends recently raised its ongoing fundraising goal to assist the new library with acquisition of materials from \$2 to \$3 million. Recently, local Blue Cross/Blue Shield donated over \$10,000 to the Friends. The company matched donations given by its employees for the campaign. In recognition of this contribution, one of the study rooms in the new library building will be named in honor of Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

**Friends of the McCormick County Library**: Collection boxes placed at the library, local BB & T, First Citizens, and Regions banks, and the Book Store in the Depot are accepting used ink and toner cartridges for recycling. Proceeds (25 cents to \$6 per cartridge) from the recycling effort will be used to help equip the new library.

**Friends of the Newberry County Library:** Approximately 5,000 books and other types of materials were donated to the Friends for their book sale held in October at the Newberry Plaza Shopping Center. A preview sale was open to Friends members.

Friends of the Richland County Public Library: Individuals can now support the Friends when they shop online at any of the 400 plus stores in the Mall at iGive.com. Persons can register for free at www.iGive.com/joinLink. Customers' online purchases at such vendors as Barnes and Noble and Lands End then benefit the Friends. In some cases, up to 26% of the purchase price might be made to the Friends.

Friends of the Waccamaw Library: The Friends 13<sup>th</sup> annual book sale held at the Fellowship Hall at St. Paul's Waccamaw United Church featured a special "gold seal" collection of 200 volumes chosen for their pristine condition, original price, and "collectability" quotient which were priced at \$5 per title. The other titles in the 13,000 items for sale were priced at \$2 for hardbacks and \$1 for paperbacks. The Friends proceeds increased over 60% from last year's sale, netting almost \$11,000. Proceeds from past book sales have been used to fund new library computers, pave the library's parking lot and purchase educational CDs. This year, the Friends have committed to donate \$12,000 to the new Carvers Bay branch of the Georgetown County Library scheduled to open in Spring, 2005. The Friends held their 14<sup>th</sup> annual art auction and luncheon on Oct. 21 at the Litchfield Country Club.



Here's a few good ideas/tips for conducting book sales gleaned from The Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA) and the Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries:

- · Don't price too low. Ridiculously low prices simply invite a feeding frenzy.
- · Allow adequate space for the sale and provide an organized arrangement (one advisor said to allow at least 36 inches between rows of tables)
- Decide on your policies, post your required rules of conduct, and be brave enough to confront those who flout them.
- Try to provide space to large quantity dealers to store their boxes while they look for more books.
- · Sell by the bag/box at the end of the sale for a cheaper price.
- Donate all leftover books to save storage space (Goodwill, nursing homes, etc.).
- · Bundle books by topic and sell for a single packaged price.
- Establish a good relationship with book dealers and try to work with them, not against them.
- A good question to pose to would-be donors, if possible is: "If you can say yes to this question, we can use your donations Would I buy this book or put it in my library?"

Library.

Publication of this newsletter was funded in part by the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the South Carolina State



# FRIENDS OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES (FOSCL)

2005 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	
Address State Zip+4	
City State Zip+4	Check if new address
Contact Name (organizations only)	
E-Mail Address	
Phone Number Day ( ) Evening ( )	
Please check one:	
Friend (\$10.00+)	Friends Group (\$20.00+)
Special Friend (\$25.00+)	Corporate Membership (\$100.00+)
Friend Indeed (\$100.00+)	
New Member	Renewal
Dues are tax-deductible!	
Please make check payable to Friends of South Carolina Libraries & mail it with completed form to:  Friends of South Carolina Libraries • PO Box 11121 • Columbia SC 29211	

# 2005 FOSCL Membership

#### Friend (\$10 - \$24)

Mary Jo Dawson, Barnwell Kacky Elliott, Greenville Mildred B. Ford, Blackville Caroline L. Hipp, Columbia Vic McGraner, Aiken Sarah McMaster, Winnsboro Tucker N. Taylor, Newberry Sara Thigpen, Aiken Winnie Walsh, Spartanburg

#### Special Friends (\$25 +)

Frances Case, Cayce Georgia Hobeika, Florence Holden Humphrey, Aiken Sally H. Price, Seneca Helen Ann Rawlinson, West Columbia Anne Schneider, Columbia Bill Schmidt, Columbia Julie Zachowski, Beaufort

#### Friend Indeed (\$100)

Gloria Avent, Barnwell John Landrum, Etowah NC Nonie Price, Columbia

#### Corporate Friend (\$100 +)

McMillan, Smith & Partners Architects, Spartanburg

## Friends Group (\$20 +)

Friends of Barnwell County Library

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -- Margaret Mead

# Join FOSCL Early in 2005

It's a brand new year – time to make sure you **renew** your membership in FOSCL for 2005 or **join us as a new and very welcome member**. Membership dues run from January to December of each year, so get an early start! Take your pick of membership categories – whichever suits your profile – friend, special friend or a friend indeed; corporate; or friends group member. Complete the membership form located on the back page of this newsletter and mail it in <u>today</u> along with your dues.

Through your membership, you support FOSCL's programs to advance citizen support for all public libraries in South Carolina. Members receive the FOSCL newsletter, participate in the FOSCL-L listserv to share information and post questions about friends' concerns, participate in the FOSCL annual meeting and awards program, and avail themselves of the FOSCL web site (<a href="www.foscl.org">www.foscl.org</a>) which contains handy links to the web sites of friends groups throughout the state.

The Friends of South Carolina Libraries needs your help to spread the word about FOSCL and to encourage your colleagues and fellow library supporters to join FOSCL. Your support and involvement send a clear message to elected officials, decision makers, and potential donors that libraries are a valued, important resource that benefit all citizens of our state.