

Friends

OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

Winter 2006

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From The President

Dear Friends,

Have you given much thought recently as to why you are a Friend of Libraries? The reasons are many. In a basic sense, libraries support people in their quest for growth on every level, and libraries are for everyone, regardless of race, creed, gender, and socioeconomic status. In a more specific sense, our libraries can provide us with information about job opportunities, help us to keep in contact with a loved one serving overseas, aid us in completing a degree, give us the opportunity to learn to read, or point us to a vacation destination ... the possibilities are endless.

As a statewide organization, FOSCL was created to help foster, create, and support local Friends of the Library groups, and to provide a means for these groups to work together for the betterment of library service in the State of South Carolina. Together, we can create a strong network of library service.

Please become a new or renewing member of FOSCL after making your commitment to your local Friends group. A form and additional information are enclosed for your convenience. Thank you for your continued support of Libraries in South Carolina.

*Sincerely,
Gloria V. Avent*

SC Library Groups Solicit Funds to Aid New Orleans Public Library

(use photo of NOPL damage)



The following article was contributed by Jim Johnson, retired State Librarian, who is coordinating this fundraising campaign. Johnson is a native of New Orleans.

The Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA) and the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) are conducting a campaign to raise funds for the Hurricane Katrina ravaged New Orleans Public Library (NOPL).

All 13 locations of the NOPL were damaged. It is estimated that it will require \$16.5 million for building repair and another \$6.5 million for contents, not including computer equipment. The library itself needs to raise between \$6 - \$10 million of this total. With a local economy hardly able to sustain day-to-day city functions, this puts a tremendous burden on the library.



I made a trip to New Orleans during Thanksgiving week. It was one of the most horrible times of my life. To see your home town look like a scene from a disaster movie was chilling. The once vibrant city had portions of it almost devoid of life. There were no children playing in the streets, no dogs barking, and no birds singing.

FOSCL members are being asked to assist the NOPL by contributing to this campaign. Contributions are tax-deductible. Checks should be made to FOSCL and sent to:

FOSCL
PO Box 11121
Columbia, SC 29211

When considering this request, please ask yourself if your community could sustain a disaster such as this. The answer should be a definite “no”. We would want others to come to our assistance. It is now our opportunity to show the people of New Orleans that the library community in South Carolina recognizes their plight and have come to their aid.

Thank you.

From Around the State – Friends Support and Conduct Library Programs

Barnwell County: The Friends and the library's Board of Trustees joined together to celebrate the grand opening of the new Barnwell County Public Library building on Oct. 9, 2005. Guest speakers at the event included noted SC historian Dr. Walter B. Edgar and children's author Sally Harman Plowden. The new 17,000 square foot library building was redesigned from a former furniture store by architectural firms Craig, Gaulden, and Davis of Greenville and Moseley Architects of Florence. The new library includes office and storage space that is designated for use by the Friends of the Barnwell County Library whose efforts were vital in raising funds for construction of the new library.



Beaufort County: In January, the Friends kicked off their 20th year of sponsorship of "Books Sandwiched In." Each Monday at noon from January through February, presenters led discussions on a specific book. A variety of titles and themes were included in this year's series, from Allan Bloom's The Closing of the American Mind to Maya Angelou's Hallelujah! The Welcome Table: A Lifetime of Memories with Recipes. Light refreshments were served at each of the book talks.

Clarendon County: Sumter veteran journalist and author Kendall Bell spoke to those attending the Friends quarterly meeting held on Oct. 25, 2005. The public event featured Mr. Bell's From the Heart book series containing inspirational true stories of love and friendship.

Chester County: South Carolina author Dori Sanders spoke to the Friends about her experiences growing up in rural South Carolina at a program on Oct. 13, 2005. The event featured a buffet dinner which was capped off with a peach cobbler dessert made from Sander's own recipe.

Florence County: The Friends sponsored a series of programs and book discussions during the last quarter of 2005. These included appearances by New York Times best-selling author Mary Kay Andrews (Hissy Fit) and Pee Dee native Stan Barnett talking about his political thriller novel A Single Star. On three consecutive Thursday nights in October, the Friends presented a series, "American History by the Decade," led by John Stukes, sponsored by First Federal Bank.

Kershaw County: Work has been completed on a statue commissioned by the Friends to grace the children's section of the library. Local sculptor Marian Kirby Smith created a sculpture depicting a small girl sitting on a stack of books reading a book accompanied by her Boykin Spaniel pet.

North Augusta (Aiken County): Friends of the Nancy Carson Library provided funding to purchase necessary materials to train volunteer literacy tutors. The first training sessions conducted in the summer 2005 graduated 10 tutors.

Oconee County: Dr. Edwin Leap, emergency room physician and author of Working Knights, was the guest speaker at a Friends program and book signing held on Oct. 25, 2005.

Richland County: The Friends, in cooperation with the University of South Carolina's Institute for Southern Studies, hosted a book signing and book

discussion on Nov. 9, 2005 with commentator and author John Shelton Reed. Reed's books include Minding the South and 1001 Things You Should Know About the South.

Spartanburg County: The Friends, along with other local organizations, sponsored the library's fifth annual Jamboread! family reading festival on March 4, to celebrate the magic of reading and libraries. All members of the family enjoyed events (authors, magic and puppet shows, storytelling, dance and concert performances, and craft projects) throughout the entire library building .



St. George (Dorchester County): Corey Prentiss, a scrap booking specialist and local resident, conducted a program on scrap booking sponsored by the Friends on Feb. 22. A modest registration fee was charged to cover cost of supplies.

Sumter County: Sumter architect Danny Shelley discussed the library's plans to renovate the headquarters library and expand the Wesmark branch at the Friends' annual meeting on Nov. 15, 2005... Mary Alice Monroe, author of eight novels including Sweetgrass, spoke at the Friends Spring Author Luncheon on Feb. 24.

York County: On Sept. 23, 2005, the Friends honored some of their members as "Volunteers of the Year" during their volunteer appreciation luncheon. Virginia and Jinilyn Anderson were recognized for volunteering over 200 hours with the Friends book sales. This event also marked the 30th anniversary of the Friends' founding. Joann McMaster was recognized for her efforts in organizing the Friends and for her service as its first President...Former White House executive pastry chef and author Roland Messner entertained the audience with anecdotes about his 25 years working with Presidential families at a Friends-sponsored program on Nov. 11, 2005. The "Dessert Extravaganza" reception offered 10 dishes made from Messner's recipes.

From Around the State – Friends Raise and Donate Funds



Beaufort County: The Friends report that despite a changed location for their long-time (26 years) annual Fall book sale, the event was a great success. The location was moved from Beaufort's Waterfront Park to the parking lot for Beaufort City Hall.

Chapin Memorial Library: The Friends raised a total of \$8,000 last year through their ongoing, year-round "Used Book Corner" containing inexpensive magazines and books, as well as their annual book sale held in January. Friends contributed proceeds to the library to assist in offsetting recent budget cuts, allowing the library to purchase new library materials.

Florence County: The Friends report that they raised \$7,000 in 2005 through their book sales and granted over \$35,000 to the Florence County Library in the past year. These funds were used to provide additional library materials and programming resources.

From Around the State – Friends Raise Funds (cont'd)

Greenville County: Friends have scheduled their Spring book sale for April 28-30. The first day of the sale is members only, and on the final day all sale items are half price.

Greenwood County: The Friends report that they raised a record dollar amount from their annual book and rummage sale - almost \$6,000...The Emerald Rotary Club recently donated \$5,600 raised during their annual golf tournament to the Friends. During the tournament, Friends volunteered to assist with registering golf teams and monitoring prize golf holes.

Inman (Spartanburg County): The Friends held their major fundraiser, the Harvest Day Book Sale, on October 24, 2005, marking the tenth year for this event. On the day preceding the sale, the Friends extended a special courtesy to teachers, providing them with an opportunity to purchase books in advance of the Friends members-only preview book sale and evening reception held on Oct. 23.

Laurens County: Friends financed a "billboard-type" road sign to help identify and direct library users to the Clinton Library's new location.

North Augusta (Aiken County): The Friends held their annual book sale on Oct. 21-23, 2005 at the former First Citizens Bank building. Book lovers got a chance to attend a preview sale on Oct. 21 with a \$10 admission fee.

Pickens County: The four Friends of the Library groups located in Pickens County joined forces on Oct. 16, 2005 to host their "Fall Gala." The members-only event was highlighted by a silent auction of collectible books, containing autographed volumes, first editions, and books published in the nineteenth century.

Oconee County : The Friends voted to allocate \$5,000 to the library's planned publicity program which includes development of a identifiable logo for the library system and its dissemination using banners, signs, stationery, etc... Proceeds from the Friends book sale on Dec. 8, 2005 were contributed to assist in relief efforts for libraries affected by hurricane damage.

Richland County: The Friends sponsored a special sports event, "Friends of RCPL Night with the Gamecocks" on Dec 23, 2005. Friends posted ticket order forms for the USC vs. University of Pittsburgh basketball game at their web site. A portion of the ticket sales went to the Friends.... One of the Friends major fundraising events, "A Tisket, A Tasket," was held on Feb. 4.



Ticket holders to the gala event bid on donated gift baskets containing a variety of goodies. The live auction portion of the event offered a wide range of items for bid, ranging from a trip to San Francisco to a pig picking.

Society Hill (Darlington County): The Friends sponsored a novel fundraiser, "Sit Down with a Good Book," held in conjunction with Society Hill's Catfish Festival on November 19, 2005. Friends auctioned more than 40 chairs decorated by artists from across South Carolina as well as a few artists residing outside the state. Friends are raising funds to obtain expanded quarters for their library. Chairs were donated by local furniture stores, Badcock Home Furnishings Center, Boseman Furniture, and Palmetto Furniture. Stanley P. Neal of Clanton's Auto Auction served as auctioneer to sell the chairs whose estimated prices ranged from \$25 to \$500.

From Around the State – Friends Raise Funds (cont'd)

Spartanburg County: License plates displaying the logo of the Spartanburg County Public Library are on sale at the Friends Library Store. Plates sell for \$5.

York County: Friends sponsored their second annual holiday reception and “mini” book sale on Dec. 4, 2005. The Sunday afternoon event featured a selection of several hundred “nearly new” donated books priced to sell at \$3-5. While browsing for possible Christmas gifts, buyers enjoyed refreshments provided by the Friends Board. The event, which required very few volunteers and little time according to the library’s Community Relations Manager Debbie Turner, raised \$700... The Friends donated \$2,500 from the proceeds from their October book sale to the American Library Association’s fund to help rebuild Gulf Coast area libraries damaged by recent hurricanes.



Additional Outlets to Sell Books

Friends of the Friends (FOTF) offers Friends groups that may lack sufficient volunteers and resources to be able to conduct their own regular book sales with an alternative method to sell used books on a continuous basis. Groups participating in this program input or scan ISBNs (International Standard Book Number) online at the FOTF website (www.friendsofthefriends.com). FOTF provides rapid notification if they want to purchase the book (average “buy” is 1 out of 15 lookups). Books that are selected for purchase are shipped to FOTF using a prepaid shipping label printed online, and payment is made as soon as the books are received. Registration to participate in this program is free. FOTF offers a scanner to speed input of ISBNs. For further information, visit the website.

Friends planning upcoming book sales may wish to spread the word through Book Sale Finder – the Online Guide to Used Book Sales. (www.booksalefinder.com). Charitable organizations may list their book sales free of charge at this web site by clicking on the “Advertise with Us” button and following the instructions. Information about ongoing book sales and Friends book stores may also be posted at Book Sale Finder. For further information contact Helen Oram at publisher@BookSaleFinder.com or 978-562-3400.

“Recently I was thinking about what being a FOSL (Friends of Socastee Library) volunteer means to my family. What’s special about it is that helping out at the library is just a way of life for us. None of us considers helping out at the library to be a big deal in terms of self-sacrifice - it’s simply something worthwhile that deserves to be a part of our lives.” Becky Billingsley, President, Friends of the Socastee Library.

FOSCL-L: E-Mail Discussion Group

Sponsored by:
The South Carolina
State Library

Friends
OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

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Increased Funding for SC Public Libraries the Primary Goal for Library Legislative Day

When librarians, library trustees and friends, and other library supporters got together with their legislators on March 8 in Columbia, they advocated two major issues to advance the cause of all public library systems in South Carolina.

Two critical priorities identified by the Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA) are to 1.) increase the minimum level of state aid grants to public libraries from \$40,000 to \$50,000 and to 2.) provide \$5 million for public library construction grants.

In the present fiscal year 2006, most public library systems benefited by an increase in state aid to \$2 per capita, but eleven less-populated counties (Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Edgefield, Fairfield, Hampton, Jasper, Lee, McCormick, and Saluda) fared worse due to the removal of lottery fund distributions. The request to raise the minimum level of state aid grants would help the state's most rural and needy libraries.

The proposed request to establish a public library construction fund recognizes a significant need to expand public library physical facilities in SC (current deficit of 3 million square feet in public library space is estimated). The requested \$5 million represents less than half of one percent of the estimated requirements for public library construction needs.

Both of the above funding priorities are contained in the current South Carolina State Library's budget request being considered by the SC General Assembly as part of the state's appropriations bill for fiscal year 2007 (July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007).

Friends of libraries throughout the state are encouraged to support these budget requests by contacting their state representatives and senators to let them know that their favorable votes/actions on these budget items are very important.

"The public library is a fantastic place to visit and to explore - no high price tickets to buy, no blaring ads for new cars to suffer through, and no crowded check out lines and a variety of products and services rivaling any "big box" store around. Even a modest sized county like Oconee County has wonderful facilities (and helpful, friendly people who know how to get what you need or want)." Bruce Woods, in his newspaper column, "A Cafeteria of the Mind," appearing in the Seneca Journal.

SC Friends Groups – Let FOSCL Know About Your Activities

FOSCL welcomes information and news about what individual Friends groups across the state are doing to support their libraries. Friends groups and their members are assisting their local libraries in many diverse and creative ways. Toot your own horn a bit and share your ideas, programs, events, and successes with your colleagues. Submit your press releases, news items, newsletters, or brief notes for inclusion in this newsletter.

Send information via e-mail to: fosclnews@yahoo.com or by regular mail to: Anne Schneider, Editor, FOSCL Newsletter, P. O. Box 9447, Columbia, SC 29290.

We also urge presidents of friends organizations that receive this newsletter to share its contents with other members of your friends group or encourage them to read it at the web site for FOSCL (www.foscl.org.)

Thanks!

Authors@your library

[Authors@yourlibrary](http://www.authorsatyourlibrary.org) (www.authorsatyourlibrary.org) is a searchable online database which connects libraries with authors and publicists interested in promoting their books. This resource was established by the Association of American Publishers (AAP), the Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), the American Library Association's Public Programs Office, and Library Journal.

This free "matchmaking" service links publishers and library organizations to assist both sectors in scheduling successful author events. Library event planners can search for authors and information about publishers and their imprints, including publisher contact and author tour information. Libraries and publishing houses register by supplying information about their organization at the web site.

[Authors@your library](http://www.authorsatyourlibrary.org) was developed by the AAP's Trade Libraries Committee. The Association of American Publishers, Inc. has more than 300 corporate members, including a majority of the major commercial book publishers as well as smaller, nonprofit, university, and scholarly publishing firms.

Calendar of 2006 Library Events



March 8

Library Legislative Day

March 20-25

Public Library Association National Conference. Boston, MA

April 2-6

National Library Week

April 13

FOSCL Board Meeting. Columbia: SC State Library

June 15

FOSCL Board Meeting. Columbia: SC State Library

June 22-28

American Library Association annual conference. New Orleans Morial Convention Center

August 10

FOSCL Board Meeting. Columbia: SC State Library

October. Date to be announced

FOSCL Annual Meeting. Columbia

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

South Carolina Library Association annual conference. Hilton Head: Crown Plaza Hotel. Contact: Gabrielle Barnes, SCLA Executive Secretary (scla@caoconsc.com.; 803-252-1087)

"It is no wonder that truth is stranger than fiction. Fiction has to make sense."

Mark Twain

2006 Membership

Friend Indeed

Gloria Avent, Charleston
Mike Burkhart, Aiken
John Landrum, Etowah NC
Bill Schmidt, West Columbia

Special Friends

Coretta Bedsole, Columbia
Frances Case, Cayce
Dr. Clara Gulyas, Greer
A. B. & Joada Hiatt, Greer
George Hobeika, Florence
Holden Humphrey, Aiken
Sally H. Price, Seneca
Anne Schneider, Columbia
Guynell Williams, Columbia

Friend

Carol Duggan, Columbia
Kacky Elliott, Greenville

Friend (cont'd)

Terri Lynn Herbert, Charleston
Caroline Hipp, Columbia
Gerda Kahn, Columbia
Mary Elizabeth Land, Abbeville
Maria Macaulay, West Union
A.C. Price, Seneca
Sharon Rowe, Manning
L.L. Steele????
Prudence Taylor, Greenwood
Tucker Taylor, Newberry
David Warren, Columbia

Corporate Friend

Friends Group

Friends of the Abbeville County Library
Friends of the Chester County Library
Friends of the Harvin Clarendon County Library
Friends of the Florence County Library
Friends of the Greenwood County Library
Friends of the Oconee County Library

Join FOSCL in 2006

All library friends and supporters are encouraged to join the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) in 2006. It's best to join early in the year since membership dues, which are tax deductible, run from January to December of each year. FOSCL offers a variety of membership categories to suit your needs – friend, special friend or a friend indeed; corporate; or friends group member.

Complete the membership form located in this newsletter or use the form posted at the FOSCL web site (www.foscl.org) and mail it in with your dues today!

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 FOSCL-L listserv to share information and post questions about friends' concerns, and enjoy the Friends annual meeting and awards program. The FOSCL web site contains handy links to local library friends groups throughout the state.

FOSCL 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 valued, important resources that benefit all the citizens of South Carolina.

If you have already renewed your membership for 2006 – a big thank you!



FRIENDS OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES (FOSCL)

2006 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:

_____ Friend (\$10.00+)

_____ Friends Group (\$20.00+)

_____ Special Friend (\$25.00+)

_____ Corporate Membership (\$100.00+)

_____ Friend Indeed (\$100.00+)

_____ New Member

_____ Renewal

_____ Yes, I am willing to serve on a committee and would like someone to contact me.

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**