

Friends

OF SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES

Winter 2007

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From The President

Dear Friends of South Carolina Libraries,

As we begin a new year of library advocacy, I am energized by the possibilities before us! Though libraries in South Carolina have been experiencing a period of financial leanness, there is much to be encouraged about.

The FOSCL website, www.foscl.org, now includes a calendar compiled by former State Library Director and FOSCL Board member Jim Johnson that describes the Legislative Agenda for our libraries for 2007. Jim, and others who actively lobby for funding for our libraries, knows that investing in libraries makes good sense. A study of the *Economic Impact of Public Libraries on S. C.* conducted by the School of Library and Information Science at USC reveals that "the total direct economic impact of SC public libraries is estimated at \$222 million, while the actual cost of these services to the state and local governments is only \$77.5 million. This means that for every \$1 spent by state and local governments on SC public libraries the return on investment is \$2.86." And, as library advocates know, when it comes to our libraries, economic benefit is only the tip of the iceberg!

If you are passionate in support of your local library, won't you renew or join FOSCL today and join the effort to promote support statewide? We have a full year of activities planned that may help your Friends group to realize some of your dreams. Membership provides you with personal benefits (find our membership information in this issue) and strengthens your voice of library advocacy as you encourage your local Friends group, and network at statewide library events. Don't miss out!

I hope to see you at the FOSCL table at the South Carolina Book Festival, February 24th and 25th at the Columbia Convention Center.

Sincerely,

Gloria V. Avent, President

FOSCL Annual Meeting Recognizes Library Supporters



Library friends from across the state convened at the Richland County Library on Oct. 14, 2006 to attend the annual meeting of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL).

Following welcoming remarks by Padgett Lewis, Richland County Public Library, and Patti Butcher, SC State Library Director, FOSCL President Glo Avent opened the meeting and introduced FOSCL Board members who each made brief presentations.

Jim Johnson, FOSCL Member-at-Large, reported on the highly successful statewide fundraising effort to aid the New Orleans Public Library (NOPL). Over \$22,000 was given by SC donors to help the library rebuild its Children's Resource Center which was re-opened and rededicated during the annual conference of the American Library Association in June, 2006. Mr. Johnson presented a check to NOPL officials during the conference held in New Orleans.

One of the highlights of the annual meeting, presentation of FOSCL's annual awards followed.

Business Award: Glo Avent presented the Business Award to Piggly Wiggly grocery store chain in Florence, SC. Francie Dunlap, Development Coordinator for the Friends of the Florence County Library, accepted the award on behalf of Piggly Wiggly. Ms. Dunlap described the various activities and funding efforts that the store has made to support the local library, becoming its first "Sustaining Donor." The Friends of the Florence County Library submitted the award nomination.



Debbie Turner, center

Library Staff Award: Mary Ann O'Neal, Vice-President of the Friends of the York County Library, presented the award to Debbie Turner, Manager of the York County Library Community Relations Dept. Ms. Turner was recognized for her tireless efforts in working with the Friends organization and her outstanding community outreach which has been a vital component in the library's successful fundraising efforts. The Friends of the York County Library submitted the award nomination.

John H. Landrum Advocacy Award: The award, presented to Damon Jeter, a member of the Richland County Council, was accepted by Stephanie Snowden, Director of Public Relations for Richland County. Mr. Jeter was cited for his sustained and vocal support for the library, particularly throughout the budget process. Mr. Jeter is the library's liaison to the Richland County Council and is one of its strongest advocates on the Council. The Friends of the Richland County Library submitted the award nomination.



Damon Jeter



John LaFond

John LaFond, with the Midlands Chapter of SCORE – “Counselors to America’s Small Business” - served as the main program speaker. Mr. LaFond presented a concise and well organized program on “Volunteer Operations – Better Planning Yields Better Services.” Mr. LaFond informed the audience about the free consulting services offered to nonprofits by SCORE, which has 6 chapters throughout SC. He then reviewed the elements of a good planning process.

Glo Avent adjourned the meeting and invited attendees to enjoy their lunch and take advantage of the always popular networking opportunity to meet with fellow Friends and have a follow-up discussion with Mr. LaFond.



FOSCL Officers for 2007



FOSCL officers, pictured left to right are Glo Avent, President; Frances Case, Treasurer; Mike Burkhart, Secretary; and Nonie Price, Past President.



Welcome to New FOSCL Board Members

Several new Friends have recently joined the FOSCL Board. Jennifer Arns, Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, will lead the Nominations Committee to identify potential new FOSCL members and annual awards nominees. Cynthia Rogers, Dept. of English, Midlands TEC, will chair the Volunteers Committee. Jim Johnson, former State Library Director, is a new member-at-large.

From Around the State – Friends Support and Conduct Library Programs

Aiken County: Aiken resident and author W. Cothran “Cot” Campbell was the speaker at the Friends annual meeting in Oct., 2006. Founder of Dogwood Stables, Mr. Campbell is the author of Lightning in a Jar: Catching Racing Fever and Rascals and Racehorses: A Sporting Man’s Life.

Beaufort County: The Friends have planned an exciting series of 8 weekly programs for their “Books Sandwiched In” program series for January and February. The hour-long book review programs will feature local speakers discussing such titles as Atlas Shrugged, American Sphinx: the Character of Thomas Jefferson, The World is Flat: a Brief History of the Twenty-first Century, and A Man Called Intrepid.

Fairfield County: The Friends and the library teamed up to celebrate Columbus Day on Oct. 9, 2006 with a special program, “The Old World Sings the New World,” on how European composers turned to the Americas for inspiration. Clyde McCants, author and active Friends supporter, talked about Columbus as a character in at least 5 operas... Author, storyteller, and artist Tommy Scott Young was the guest speaker for the Friends fall program held on Oct 22, 2006.

Florence County: The Friends have been very busy sponsoring a variety of programs and book discussions this past fall. In a joint benefit campaign, the Friends and the McLeod Foundation sponsored an appearance of “The Low Country Ladies of Fiction” at a luncheon at the library on Oct. 26. SC authors and poets Marjory Wentworth, Mary Alice Monroe, and Josephine Humphreys shared their thoughts on writing as well as their passion for cancer care. Funds raised at this event helped to benefit the Friends’ Children’s Fall Festival as well as the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit Campaign...The Joe Stukes History series kicked off on Sept. 14 with award-winning historian Dr. Dan Carter speaking on the

topic of Presidential leadership. Dr. Stukes presented other programs in the series in Sept. and Nov. reviewing and portraying such topics and figures as the roaring twenties, Paul Robeson, and Douglas MacArthur...The Friends, in conjunction with the Florence County Library, Florence County School District One, and the National Bank of SC held the Third Annual Children’s Fall Festival on Sept. 16. Storyteller and author Carmen Deedy, magic acts, music, puppets, and craft-making were on hand to entertain children and celebrate reading...An elegant affair– “Corks & Canvas – An Evening of Wine and Art” - raised funds to benefit the Friends support of the library’s summer reading program on Oct. 12. Over 75 wines and appetizers were sampled by participants who enjoyed live music and the chance to bid on original art by local artists as well as trips and other auction items. The event was open to anyone making a \$25 individual donation or \$40 for a couple... On Nov. 9, Dr. Walter Edgar, editor of the new South Carolina Encyclopedia, attracted a standing-room-only crowd to the library...At their annual holiday drop-in held at the library on Dec. 3, the Friends had 8 local authors on hand to discuss and autograph their writings.... Dr. Rodger Stroup, Director of the SC Dept. of Archives and History, spoke on “Preserving the State’s History: Documents to Buildings” on Jan. 14, 2007...To mark Black History Month, the Friends plan to sponsor an appearance by former Chief Justice of the SC State Supreme Court and SC legislator Ernest Finney on Feb. 25.

Greenville County: The Friends honored Nancy Groff with their President’s Award for her long association with Friends’ activities, serving among other duties as the chair of the Friends semiannual book sale for the past 6 years.

Oconee County: The Friends have adopted a long-term project to assist a local nursing care facility to

establish a small library by providing duplicate books from their book sale inventory as well as visiting patients' rooms on a weekly basis to provide reading materials...The Friends held joint meetings with the library's board of trustees on Sept. 9 and Nov. 14 to find ways to effectively support each other and the library system. Those attending brainstormed ideas to raise funds for a new library in Seneca, promote use of library, and communicate library needs to officials....The Friends upcoming annual meeting on March 25 will feature speaker Dr. Edwin Leap, author of Working Knights and Cats Don't Hike .



Randy Akers

Richland County: At their annual meeting in September, 2006, the Friends honored Randy Akers, Director of the SC Humanities Council, by presenting him with their 2006 Lucy Hampton Bostick Award. Mr. Akers was recognized for his involvement and

support of the SC Book Festival, a popular annual literary event, as well as his guidance in the recent publication of the South Carolina Encyclopedia....Several authors' appearances were sponsored by the Friends during the fall, including: Verlyn Klinkenborg, author of Timothy; or Notes of an Abject Reptile, on Oct.8; Neal Thompson, author of Driving with the Devil, Southern Moonshine, and Detroit Wheels, on Oct. 24; and Civil War scholar Emory Thomas, author of books on Robert E. Lee and Jeb Stuart on Nov.

1...The Friends, along with the University of South Carolina's Institute for Southern Studies, are sponsoring a Southern Writers Series from Feb. through April. Appearing at the main library for book discussions and signings will be authors Josephine Humphreys, Dori Sanders, Ron Rash, Pam Durban, Randall Kenan, and George Singleton...Friends can be authors too – Friends board member Lee Rambo recently autographed copies of her new children's book, Books for Oliver, at the Happy Bookseller, a local bookstore.

Surfside Beach (Horry County): Bryan Wester of Coast to Coast Antiques Gallery was on hand during a Friends Fall program to identify and appraise antiques...On Nov. 16, Friends program participants gathered new holiday decorating ideas from a representative from A.C. Moore craft store.

Woodruff (Spartanburg County): Library Friends President JoAnn Brasington and other Friends members were on hand in Oct. for the groundbreaking of a Reading Park for the Woodruff Library, a long-time project for the Friends. The park will feature a meandering sidewalk, complete with numerous benches and an amphitheatre.

York County: Over 70 friends were recognized for volunteering a total of 1,000+ hours for York County libraries at a volunteer appreciation reception on Oct. 15. Marianne O'Neill, who has served on the Friends Board since 2002, was presented with the Joann Woods McMaster Volunteer Award for 2006. Author Mary Kay Andrews served as the featured speaker at this event held at the City Club of Rock Hill.

FOSCL Contributes Additional Funds to New Orleans Library

FOSCL Treasurer Frances Case reported at the FOSCL Board meeting held on Jan. 11, 2007 that an additional \$850 contributed by individuals and organizations in SC was mailed at the end of the year to the New Orleans Public Library (NOPL) to aid in its rebuilding efforts. This amount brings South Carolina's total contributions for NOPL in 2006 to \$22,500, one of the largest single donor contributions in the US.

From Around the State – Friends Raise & Donate Funds

Aiken County: The Friends recently donated \$1,000 for equipment to support the library's new wireless network. Other library projects which have been financially supported by the Friends include the summer reading program and DVD rental program.

Beaufort County: Friends raised almost \$20,000 from their 2006 Fall book sale, including \$1,000 in proceeds from a silent auction. In addition to raising dollars for the library, the Friends also recruited over 50 new Friends members as a result of the book sale.

Charleston County: The Friends held their 24th annual Library BookFest in Oct. More than 60 thousand books, CDs, DVDs, and other materials were for sale to the public at the Gaillard Municipal Auditorium in downtown Charleston. This year, Friends decided to extend sale hours on Friday (9 a.m.-8p.m.) and Saturday (9 a.m.-5p.m.), as well as offering some new specials for Sunday (noon-3p.m.). "Pack a Bag" for \$5 and "Pack a Box" for \$10 specials were offered on Sunday. Spy/mystery books were offered at a special price of \$10 for 2 boxes.

Dillon County: The Friends received a \$5,600 grant from Dillon County First Steps which will be used to add 250 more children to the library's "Imagination Library Program." The program distributes books to preschool children to encourage interest in reading and to improve school readiness.

Fairfield County: Friends underwrote costs for appearances by magician/storyteller Mark Daniel and the Patchwork Players at the library.

Hilton Head (Beaufort County): The Friends recently donated almost \$100,000 to purchase new computers, research materials, books, CDs, DVDs, and children's materials.

Indian Land (Lancaster County): The Friends cooperated with other local organizations and businesses to put on the "Fall Into Fun Festival" held at Sun City in Oct. The festival, which offered plenty of activities for young and old alike—climbing wall, petting zoo, skating obstacle course, skateboard demonstrations, teen music band, crafts, storytelling, puppets, motorcycle show, and roving costumed storybook characters - raised money for the Del Webb Library which will be built at Sun City. Other festival proceeds were raised from sales by food and craft vendors, an auction, and T-shirt sales.

Kershaw County: A sculpture depicting a young girl reading was unveiled this past summer thanks to the financial support of the Friends. Friends also donated \$40,000 to underwrite renovation costs to the children's section of the library.

Loris (Horry County): The Friends recently received a \$30,000 contribution from the Kelly Anne Cox Charitable Fund. The donation has been earmarked for renovation of the library. The Fund is administered by the Waccamaw Community Foundation.

Nancy Carson (Aiken County): In addition to the more traditional materials sold at book sales, the Friends teamed up with the local newspaper, the North Augusta Star, in Oct., to offer newspaper

photographs dating from 1954 for a dollar each. Public demand to peruse the photos was so great that a special area in the library was designated for this purpose.

Newberry County: Funds raised from the Friends' Oct. book sale held at the Newberry Shopping Plaza were used to purchase books on tape, videos, large-type books, book trucks, and computer equipment for the library.

Oconee County: Money raised by the Friends has recently been used to assist the summer reading program, purchase books on CD, support the "Let's Talk About it" series, and buy a die cut machine and cut sets for creation of displays and bulletin boards...The Friends reported that their books sales held in June through August netted almost \$3,550.

Orangeburg County: The Friends contributed to speaker fees for a joint staff training day which involved both staffs at the County Library and Orangeburg-Calhoun TEC Library. Warren Graham discussed dealing with disruptive library patrons.

Pelion (Lexington County): The Friends will fund and coordinate sponsorship recruitment for the "Imagination Library" benefiting children living in the Pelion School District.

Richland County: The Friends have scheduled one of their major fundraiser events, "A Tisket, A Tasket," a silent and live auction for March 3. Event tickets are \$35 or \$30 for Friends members...The Friends report that they raised over \$60,000 from proceeds from their quarterly books sales held in 2006.

Swansea (Lexington County): Friends realized a long-held dream come true with groundbreaking for a library building on Oct. 12. In addition to their many fundraisers held over the years to support this goal, the Friends provided refreshments at this event.

Waccamaw (Georgetown County): The Friends are displaying and selling \$5 chances to win a Library Quilt which will be awarded at their Summer 2007 book sale. The 54x70 quilt depicts a bookcase filled with books. The cooperatively constructed quilt was the brainchild of Eileen Snell who also enlisted the help of the Island Threads Quilt Shop in Pawley's Island to piece the quilt together....At their last book sale which offered over 15,000 volumes for sale, Friends received some help from the Bi-Lo grocery store. The store, located in Litchfield, donated 250 canvas bags to be used by book buyers...The Friends held their annual art auction in Oct. featuring 120 works donated by local artists. Tickets to the auction/luncheon event held at the Litchfield Country Club sold for \$30. Awards were also made to contributing artists in 3 categories – photography, two-dimensional, and three dimensional work. Funds raised from the auction support children's programs.

Williamsburg County: The Friends are using the services of Better World Books to dispose of unsold inventory from their book sales. The organization (www.betterworld-books.com) accepts used books and resells them, with a portion of the proceeds donated to Books for Africa, a charity that assists in literacy efforts, according to Norris Wooton, Williamsburg County Library Director.

FOLUSA Notes SC Friends Efforts

In recent issues of News Update, published by FOLUSA (Friends of Libraries U.S.A.), local Friends organizations across SC have been nationally recognized for their programs and fund-raising activities. Some of these include:

October 2006 issue: Florence County Library Friends for their "Sustaining Donor" campaign, and the Friends of the Richland County Library for their "A Tisket...A Tasket" fundraiser auction.

June 2006 issue: Society Hill Friends for their novel fundraiser – "Sit Down with a Good Book," the Spartanburg County Library Friends for sale of special license plates carrying the library's logo, the Friends of the Greenwood County Library for their golf tournament fundraiser, and the Inman Friends for their Harvest Day Book Sale.

Congratulations to all and a plea to keep those news items coming into FOSCL since the FOSCL newsletter is mailed to FOLUSA (whose editorial board obviously is reading it since all the items above were originally carried in the FOSCL newsletter!)



Rogers Appointed Interim Director of State Library



The South Carolina State Library Board has appointed Dr. Curtis R. Rogers, Director of the State Library's Division of Statewide Library Services, as the Interim Director of the South Carolina State Library. Dr. Rogers assumed this position on Oct. 21, 2006, replacing Patti Butcher who accepted a position with the Kansas State Library. In addition to his other duties at the State Library, Dr. Rogers served for several years as the State Library's liaison to FOSCL until March 2006.

Dr. Rogers will serve as interim director until a new director is selected.



Friends are.... The following was adapted by Patti Butcher, former SC State Library Director, from "What Are Volunteers" (anonymous). Note: you may have to be "of a certain age" to remember some of these jingles!

- Friends are like Ford – They have better ideas.
- Friends are like Dial soap – Ain't you glad you use them? Don't you wish everyone did?
- Friends are like Allstate Insurance – We're in good hands.
- Friends are like Verizon Wireless – They never stop working for you.
- Friends are like Energizer batteries – They keep going, and going, and going...
- Friends are like the FTD florist – They care enough to send the very best.
- Friends are like Frosted Flakes – They're GRRRRreat!

FOSCL Endorses Library Legislative Agenda for 2007

For the first time, five major statewide library organizations, including the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL), have joined together to endorse a "South Carolina Library Legislative Agenda" for 2007. The agenda recognizes the needs of all types of libraries and is designed to inform library supporters of statewide library funding needs. Library friends can use information and points contained in this document to discuss library funding needs with their legislative representatives and local government officials. Remember that the annual Library Legislative Day is slated for March 21 (see calendar in this issue).

The Agenda document, excerpted below, was compiled by Jim Johnson, former State Library Director, and is endorsed by the Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA), FOSCL, the SC Association of School Librarians (SCASL), the South Carolina Library Association (SCLA), the Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries (PASCAL), and the South Carolina State Library Board.

South Carolina Library Legislative Agenda – 2007

Public Libraries

1. **State Aid to County Libraries:** Increase to \$3.00 per capita with minimum grants of \$60,000 per county. Approximate cost: \$4 million (Item included in State Library's current budget request)
2. **Educational Lottery.** Provide \$50,000 per county for public library technology. Cost: \$2.3 million. (Item included in State Library budget request)
3. **Public Library Construction.** State Library has identified 12 projects (Abbeville, AHJ, Beaufort, Clarendon, Fairfield, Florence, Greenwood, Marion, Marlboro, Newberry, Union, and York) over the next few years based on data provided by public libraries. Cost: \$13.25 million. (Item included in State Library budget request)

School Libraries

1. **Library Materials.** Provide \$25 per pupil in recurring funds for library materials for each school library-media center. Cost: \$20 million. (Item contained in Dept. of Education's budget request)

Academic Libraries

1. **South Carolina Academic Virtual Library.** Continue funding begun in FY 05. Cost: \$2 million. (Item contained in SC Commission on Higher Education's budget request)

South Carolina State Library (all items contained in the Library's budget request)

1. **DISCUS.** Full funding of DISCUS databases, including anticipated cost increases and one to two new databases. Cost: \$2.75 million.
2. **Statewide Union Catalog and Interlibrary Loan System.** Begin state funding for project initially begun with LSTA (federal) funds. Cost: \$500,000.
3. **Energy Surcharge.** Funds due to the State Budget & Control Board. Cost: \$73,500.

Recent Gifts to FOSCL

In honor of Nonie Price, Past President of FOSCL, by Feili Tu, USC School of Library and Information Science.

Calendar of Library Events - 2007



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|-------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| Jan. 30 | Regional Library Trustee Institute, sponsored by SC State Library. Moncks Corner. (register at http://tinyurl.com/kbxpn) | April 12 | FOSCL Board meeting. Columbia: SC State Library. |
| Feb. 1 | Regional Library Trustee Institute. Walterboro. (see above) | April 30-May 4 | FOLUSA's 6 th annual Virtual March on Washington. (www.folusa.org ; click on Advocacy) |
| Feb. 24-25 | South Carolina Book Festival. Columbia, SC: Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. (www.schumanities.org/bookfestival.htm) or Phone: 803-771-2477. | May 1 | National Library Legislative Day. Washington, D.C. |
| March 6 | Regional Library Trustee Institute. Anderson. (refer to above) | June 14 | FOSCL Board meeting. Columbia: SC State Library. |
| March 8 | Regional Library Trustee Institute. Rock Hill. (refer to above) | June 21-27 | American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference Washington, DC (www.ala.org) |
| March 13 | Regional Library Trustee Institute. Florence. (refer to above) | August 9 | FOSCL Board meeting. Columbia: SC State Library. |
| March 15 | Regional Library Trustee Institute. Barnwell. (refer to above) | Oct. 13 | FOSCL annual meeting. (www.foscl.org) |
| March 21 | Library Legislative Day. Sponsored by Association of Public Library Administrators (APLA). Columbia, SC: Seawell's Restaurant. (www.apla.org) | | |

"Public libraries have been a mainstay of my life. They represent an individual's right to acquire knowledge; they are the sinews that bind civilized societies the world over. Without libraries, I would be a pauper, intellectually and spiritually."

-- James Michener

2007 Membership

Friend Indeed

Gloria Avent, Charleston
Mike Burkhart, Aiken
John Landrum, Etowah NC
Nonie Price, Columbia
Cynthia H. Rogers, Columbia
Bill Schmidt, West Columbia

Special Friends

C. Maurice Cherry, Greenville
Libby Law, Columbia
Clyde McCants, Winnsboro
Anne Schneider, Columbia

Friend

Nancy Altman, Pawleys Island
Jennifer Arns, Camden
Carolina Hipp, Columbia
Davis Kirkpatrick, Camden
J. L. Steele, Winnsboro
Prudence Taylor, Greenwood
Ruth Thompson, Camden

Friends Group

Friends of the Batesburg-Leesville Library
Friends of the Greenwood County Library
Friends of the Lexington Library

Join FOSCL in 2007

All library friends and supporters are encouraged to join the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) in 2007. It's best to join early in the year since the membership year runs from January to December. FOSCL offers several membership categories. Individuals may choose to join at varying levels to be a Friend, Special Friend, or a Friend Indeed. Organizations may join according to their type – friends group or corporate.

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 2007 dues today!

Through your membership, you support FOSCL's programs to advance citizen support for ALL public libraries in South Carolina.

Benefits of FOSCL membership include:

Members receive the FOSCL newsletter.

Members participate in the FOSCL-L listserv to share information and post questions about Friends' concerns.

Members attend the FOSCL annual meeting in October at discounted rates.

Members are eligible to submit nominations for FOSCL's annual awards.

Membership dues and gifts to FOSCL are tax deductible.

Members are encouraged to use FOSCL's web site (www.foscl.org) which contains handy links to local library friends groups throughout the state, FOLUSA, and other web sites of interest to Friends.

FOSCL needs your help to spread the word about our organization 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 2007 – a big thank you!



SC Authors Bookmark Available

The South Carolina Center for the Book has created a new bookmark – South Carolina [Authors@Your](#) Library. The bookmark lists a sampling of names of South Carolina authors in several categories – fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and children – along with representative titles. Supplies of the bookmark are available to libraries and Friends organizations by placing a request to: Debbie Anderson, South Carolina State Library, P.O. Box 11469, Columbia, SC 29211. Phone: 803-734-8666.

Since so many Friends organizations sponsor programs featuring SC writers, this bookmark would make a wonderful handout or program packet stuffer. For further information on the Center for the Book's activities, visit their web site at www.sccenterforthebook.org.