

## Summer/Fall 2009

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SC State Library Liaison

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Layout: Debbie Anderson



## From The President

Friends of South Carolina Libraries celebrated our 20th year of service this past spring. Our new board took office at the April Annual Meeting and continues the commitment of FOSCL to encourage and aid local friends groups across the state, and support libraries in general.

We applaud the efforts of those who have just formed a friends group in Hardeeville. We hope to offer a regional program in eastern South Carolina in the fall of 2009. Also, our board will be considering guidelines for a FOSCL grant that would be available to assist local friends groups.

All this happens because the public appreciates, supports, likes and even loves the institution of the public library. The library is there for us, and we the people are part and parcel of its success. As friends, we are part of the solution for our local libraries. A superb example is the effort by a committed friends group in Newberry that served as a catalyst to obtain a new library in that community.

Across the state local friends groups continue to make a difference. There is much in which we can take pride, and much that we can continue to do to make South Carolina libraries the very best they can be.

Thank you for all you are doing!

Mike Burkhart

## FOSCL Annual Meeting: Focus on Public Libraries and the Economy

Presenters at the annual meeting of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) addressed the impact of a faltering economy and decreasing public revenues on libraries About 40 registrants attended the annual meeting held at the Richland County Public Library in Columbia on April 18.

Following welcoming remarks by FOSCL President Mike Burkhart, David Goble, Director of the South Carolina State Library, briefed the audience on the serious budgetary situation confronting the state and its impact on public library funding. He emphasized that during these tough economic times that strong, consistent advocacy for libraries is vital. He described and demonstrated a web-based communications tool, CapWiz, which allows citizens to stay abreast of library issues and rapidly communicate with their state and federal elected officials. He encouraged the audience to become familiar with CapWiz and inform library supporters in their own communities about its potential use to marshal library support. Individuals can access CapWiz at the web site for the SC Library Association (www.SCLA.org) and then click on the Legislation link.

Staff members of the SC State Library – Curtis Rogers and Denise Lyons – spoke about National Library Legislative Day held in Washington DC in May and showed news clips from a recent MSNBC program on "Economy and Public Libraries."

Four librarians – Dennis Adams and Jan O'Rourke from the Beaufort County Library; Ruth Riley, Director of the USC School of Medicine Library and Chair of PASCAL; and Nonie Price, , USC School of Library and Information Science – comprised a panel to address economic challenges confronting libraries in South Carolina. Curtis Rogers moderated the discussion which centered on the effects of current budget reductions on the panelists' respective libraries and programs and the ways that their institutions are proactively meeting these challenges. All the panelists stressed the importance for library advocates to establish and maintain strategic connections and communications with elected officials as well as influential persons and organizations in their communities.

During the afternoon, representatives of the Friends of the Lexington County Library – Hayley Bowers, Marlena White, and Rosemary Wilson – described several successful fund-raising projects that their organization sponsors. These include an ongoing book sale held in the library, the library's gift shop (the Friends Corner), and a very popular (900 most recent attendance figure) annual father-daughter dance held during the week of Valentine's Day.

Election of FOSCL officers and the Treasurer's report comprised the business portion of the meeting, followed by presentation of FOSCL awards (see related articles in this issue).

#### Oconee Friends Receive National Award

The Oconee Friends of the Library recently received the Presidents Volunteer Service Award signed by President Obama. The national award, intended to recognize dedication to volunteer service, was conferred by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation for the Friends' cumulative 3,100 hours of volunteer service to the Oconee County Library system in 2008. The award has been framed and is traveling to each library location for a month at a time.

### **FOSCL Membership Has Benefits**

When you join FOSCL or renew your membership each year, you help ensure improved library advocacy throughout South Carolina. Improved library advocacy leads to improved literacy among our Palmetto citizenry. Especially during these times of economic shortfalls, strong library and literacy advocacy are critical to a better educated workforce and higher quality of living in our state and nation.

You can continue to be instrumental in this effort for as little as \$10 a year. That's the basic FOSCL membership fee. Membership is based on a calendar year, January through December. All dues received after October 1 each year are considered dues for the coming calendar year.

If you have not yet renewed for 2009, it is not too late. FOSCL's operating budget is based almost entirely on membership dues, so **you are important** to FOSCL's continued role for library advocacy. This year FOSCL has an operating budget of over \$5,000 – every member's participation ensures the organization's ongoing success. 2009 marked FOSCL's 20<sup>th</sup> year – let's keep it going.

FOSCL can help your library's supporters form a Friends group, provide assistance in formulating a strategic plan for achieving your group's desired goals, and lend fund-raising advice. FOSCL provides networking opportunities via this newsletter, FOSCL's annual and regional meetings, the listserv, and the soon-to-be revised web site. In addition, FOSCL recognizes outstanding library supporters through its annual awards program. FOSCL board members participate in such statewide library advocacy events as South Carolina's Public Library Appreciation

Day (PLAD) and literary and reading venues as the South Carolina Book Festival . In 2008,

Contributed by Paul Dove, Membership Committee

as the South Carolina Book Festival. In 2008, FOSCL secured the Governor's official proclamation recognizing Friends of Libraries Week in our state.

Remember that dues are tax-deductible as we are a 501(3)© organization. For \$25 and above, you are considered a "Special Friend," and for \$100 or more, you are a "Friend Indeed." Individual Friends Groups can join for \$20 per year, and Corporate Friends are welcome for a contribution of \$100 or more annually.

Dues checks should be made payable to Friends of South Carolina Libraries and mailed to FOSCL, P.O. Box 11121, Columbia, SC 29211. A membership form is included in this newsletter issue.

Your membership committee is comprised of FOSCL Board members Paul Dove and David Lyon. David is the retired director of the York County Library and Paul is retired as dean of the Library at Francis Marion University. We welcome volunteers to the FOSCL Membership Committee. Contact David at davidalyon@hotmail.com or Paul at peedeejr@hughes.net.

### **FOSCL Officers Elected at Annual Meeting**

Officers of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries were elected at the FOSCL annual meeting held on April 18 in Columbia. The nominating committee composed of Gwen Littlejohn (Barnwell County), JoEtta Chewing (Florence County), and Marsha Strong (Greenville County) presented the slate of officers which was unanimously approved. Mike Burkhart (Aiken County) continues as President (term ends 2010), John Bradley (Richland County) was elected Vice-President, Libby Law (Richland County) as Treasurer (term expires 2011), and Vivian Alston (Barnwell County) as Secretary (term expires 2011).

Other individuals serving on the FOSCL Board include: JoEtta Chewning (Florence County), Advisory Committee; Gwen Littlejohn (Barnwell County), Hospitality Committee; Paul Dove (Fairfield County), Membership Committee; David Lyon (York County), Membership Committee; Sally Sobolewski (Greenville County), Awards Committee; Sharon Harvey (Charleston County); Ginny Marshall (Beaufort County); Bill Cooper (Spartanburg County); and Anne Schneider (Richland County), Newsletter Editor.

Kathy Sheppard and Denise Lyons of the South Carolina State Library serve as the State Library's Liaisons, providing advice, assistance, and information to the Board.

The FOSCL Board welcomes anyone who would like to be involved in FOSCL programs and activities. Contact Mike Burkhart at burelly@aol.com if you are interested in becoming actively involved with FOSCL.

## New Literary Arts Partnership Coordinator Appointed

In August, Frances Kablick was appointed as Coordinator of the Literary Arts Partnership, a position sponsored by the Humanities CouncilSC, the SC State Library, and the SC Arts Commission. Kablick replaces Susanna Brailsford who served as the Partnership's coordinator for two years. Kablick will work with a number of statewide literary programs, including the Let's Talk About It Reading and Discussion program offered by many public libraries and library Friends organizations throughout the state. Other literary programs with which she will be involved are the SC Book Festival, Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest, and Letters About Literature.

Kablick, a graduate in Arts Management from the College of Charleston, recently served as Assistant Coordinator of the SC Design Arts Partnership.

### **FOSCL Board Members Provide Information to Community Groups**

In recent months, FOSCL Board members and their colleagues made presentations to community groups to advocate local Friends groups' projects and to provide advice to a local Friends organization.

In July, FOSCL Board member and Branch Manager of the St. Helena Branch Library (Beaufort County) Ginny Marshall, and Deena Culp, President of the Friends of the Beaufort County Libraries North of the Broad River, made a presentation to an enthusiastic group of members of the Friends of the Jasper County Library in Hardeeville. Marshall and Culp provided concrete, practical advice on the formation and operation of a library friends organization, covering such topics as by-laws and financial guidelines.

Paul Dove, FOSCL Board member and member of the Marion County Library Board, along with Kathy Sheppard, State Library FOSCL liaison, and Beth Stedman made a presentation about the needs of the Marion County Library to RALI, the Rural Alliance Leadership Institute. The institute has adopted the Marion Library's capital campaign as one of its major projects for the next few years.

### Friends of the Florence County Library Receives Two National Awards

The Friends of Florence County Library (FOFCL) was selected as one of five 2008 **Baker & Taylor Award** winners for "Guess What Friend is Coming to Dinner." The entry was based on successful planning, implementation, evaluation, innovation and community involvement. Friends of Florence County Library were recognized at the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference on Monday, July 13, 2009 at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago. FOFCL received a check for \$1,000 along with a plaque from Baker & Taylor, the world's largest information and entertainment service provider.

FOFCL was one of the nation's 11 Best Friends Award winners chosen by **Friends of Libraries USA**. These public libraries received the "Best Friends Award" based on materials that promote programs and special projects coordinated by Friends groups. FOFCL was recognized for best Special Project Publicity for "South Carolina Celebrities Read," a poster campaign that features photos of state senators, representatives, speakers and authors reading their favorite books. FOFCL also received recognition for the popular fundraiser, "Guess What Friend is Coming to Dinner," as well as the Friends website found at http://www.florencelibrary.org/fofcl/index.html Entries for these awards were based on creativity, visual appeal, effectiveness of communication and visibility of Friends Group.

Friends of Florence County Library will be featured in an upcoming issue of The VOICE, national American Library Association newsletter, once the new website launches at www.ala.org/altaff

#### From Around the State – Friends Support and Conduct Library Programs

Beaufort County: The Friends and the library celebrated during National Library Week around the theme of "Worlds Connect." A tasting festival, entitled "A World of Beauforts" offered signature dishes from towns sharing the name Beaufort located in countries such as France, Australia, Ireland, Wales, and Malaysia. Local restaurants, caterers, and library culinary enthusiasts prepared dishes enjoyed by 300 people who attended the event held at Beaufort's Waterfront Park.

Berkeley County: The Friends collaborated with the library and the county school district in an annual program, "Berkeley Reads" to promote literacy and reading interest among students. "Mysteries in March" provided students with the opportunity to share their experiences while reading selected age-appropriate mysteries.

Calhoun County: The Friends sponsored a number of "Let's Talk About It" programs at the library in conjunction with the SC Committee for the Humanities. Recent books discussions have focused on the theme "Key Ingredients, Food in Fiction." Titles covered include include Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café with Dr. Mary Cassidy as discussion leader, Like Water for Chocolate led by Dr. Rebecca Hamill, and Ceremony led by Penny Summers.

Cherokee County: The Friends helped to sponsor a dinner for public library directors from around the state when the directors held their annual retreat of the SC Assn. of Public Library Administrators in Gaffney in May.

Conway (Horry County): The Friends presented "An Afternoon of Poetry and Song" in May. Poet Debra Daniel and musician Jack McGregor read and sung from their original compositions and discussed the creative process.

Fairfield County: Cynthia Porcher, author of The Gullah and Geechee People: A Historical Overview from Africa to the 21st Century, was the guest speaker at the Friends annual spring meeting. Ms. Porcher was instrumental in having the Gullah/Geechee coastal area placed on the National Trust's "Most Endangered List" in 2005.

Florence County: In April, the Friends and Piggly Wiggly grocery co-sponsored a free luncheon and book signing by two well-known and prolific mystery writers, Carolyn Hart ("Death on Demand" series) and Margaret Maron (Bootlegger's Daughter and many other novels)...The Friends and First Federal Bank sponsored a number of programs under the library's Joe Stukes History Series held at the library. On February 12, Carlanna Hendricks and Will Malambri presented a program on Abraham Lincoln in conjunction with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth date. This talk was followed later in the month by a program by Orville Burton, author of The Age of Lincoln, on the five decades related to the Lincoln's presidency. In March and April, Mr. Stukes acted the roles of historical figures Camillo Cavour and Nikolai Lenin...Upcoming programs in the series include "Remembering Irving: the Life and Times of Irving Berlin" featuring musicians and entertainers Beverly Hazelwood and Sharyn and Steve Mapes..In September the Friends will assist in sponsoring the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Children's Fall Festival to be held at the library. Previous festivals have attracted about 3,000 children and families each year. 2006 Caldecott winner Chris Raschka will be the featured guest at this year's festival on Sept. 19.

**Greenwood County**: The Friends sponsored a performance for children by storyteller Theresa Garrett at the library in April.

Inman (Spartanburg County): At their first meeting in 2009, the Friends hosted journalist and author Lane Filler as their program speaker. Filler is the author of **Ask Mr. Smartypants** recently published by the Hub City Writers Project.

North Myrtle Beach (Horry County): During the past winter and spring, the Friends sponsored a "Let's Talk About It" book discussion series focusing on the theme of "Carolina On My Mind." Five titles with Carolina connections were read and reviewed.

McCormick County: As part of their quarterly program series, the Friends presented a program on hospice care. Laurie Robinson and Jennifer Poole of Hospice Care of South Carolina discussed hospice care as well as volunteer opportunities for those wanting to assist patients and their families.

Oconee County: The Friends participated in Earth Day activities on May 2 by staffing a table at the local celebration. Friends displayed and sold books about ecology and also demonstrated techniques to separate hardback covers from books (those not suitable for the Friends book sales) for recycling. An industrial size shredder was available on site to allow disposal of paper materials. The Friends also used this occasion to encourage membership in their organization... Seneca newspaper editor Brett McLaughlin was the featured speaker at the Friend's annual meeting in March. McLaughlin discussed "Are Newspapers DOA?"... Recent "Let's Talk About It" programs sponsored by the Friends have featured discussions of Morgan's Passing by Anne Tyler and A Mother and Daughter by Gail Godwin...The Friends financed the licensing rights to allow library branches to show full-length DVD movies free to the public beginning in July.

Richland County: To celebrate the publication of Dorothea Benton Frank's new novel, Return to Sullivan's Island, the Friends planned a beach party celebration, "A Lowcountry Escape." Barbecue, beach music and dancing, a beachthemed auction, and book signings by Frank were enjoyed by those attending on July 10 at the library. Tickets to the event were \$25 for Friends members and \$30 for non-members...The Friends lent support to the library's 23rd annual Augusta Baker's Dozen storytelling event held in April. The two-day event featuring author Kimberly Willis Holt attracted more than 2,000 people.

Summerville (Charleston County): The Friends sponsor "It's a Mystery to Me" book club at the library. At the club's April meeting, awardwinning author Karen White discussed her 7<sup>th</sup> mystery, *The House on Tradd Street*.

Waccamaw (Georgetown County): The Friends sponsored a classic film series "Friday Night at the Movies" in recent months. Film enthusiast and author David Zinman provided commentary of the films at each showing. Zinman is author of 50 Classic Motion Pictures and Saturday Night at the Bijou.

# Union County Library Named Best Small Library for 2009

Library Journal named the Union County Carnegie Library in Union, SC the "Best Small Library in America 2009." The prestigious annual award cosponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation showcases the exemplary work of public libraries serving populations under 25,000. The award recognizes smaller libraries for their innovative services, high standards, and commitment to their community. The Library received a \$15,000 cash award to support its services and outreach efforts as well as paid attendance for two library representatives to attend the 2010 Public Library Association conference in Portland, OR and recognition at a special awards ceremony on behalf of the Gates Foundation.

Nancy Rosenwald, Union County Library Director since 2005, stated" The staff and board of the Union Carnegie Library deserve the greatest recognition for this wonderful honor...Without a mandate for change from the board, we could not have moved forward so readily; without the staff's desire to provide excellent service to their community, the vision would not have been realized. We are ecstatic to have won this award for our community!"

## From Around the State – Library Friends Raise & Donate Funds

**Aiken County:** At their April meeting, Friends President Dick Dewar presented the library with a check for \$3,000 to fund the library's summer reading program for children.

#### Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Regional:

Scotsman Ice Systems of Fairfax donated \$5,000 to the Friends of the Library to be used for renovation of a building to house a new Allendale County Library.

Berkeley County: The Friends reported that they raised a total of \$18,000 last year through their book sales and sale items on book shelves located at each of the library's six branches. The Friends provided the library with \$10,000 for a downpayment for a courier van to allow requested library materials to move more rapidly throughout the library system. Other funds raised by the Friends have been used to finance children's and teen summer reading programs, adult book discussion groups, and the purchase of television sets and DVD players.

Charleston County: In addtion to raising needed funding for the library's community programs and classes through their quarterly books sales, the Friends are also emphasizing that their book sales are "green." Over 125,000 items per year are being rescued from landfills and circulated back into the community through their sale efforts. At their book sale held in late February in North Charleston, the Friends collected and used recycled paper and plastic bags rather than relying on donations from grocery and book store sponsors as they had in past years. They also encouraged shoppers to BYOB (bring your own bag).

Florence County: Well-known cookbook author Nathalie Dupree was the featured guest chef at the Friends' "Guess What Friend is Coming to Dinner" event in March. Participants who purchased \$25 tickets attended a wine and cheese tasting with Dupree and had an opportunity to have their cookbooks signed by

the author. Those who purchased \$75 tickets attended both the wine tasting and later dinner at the homes of volunteer hosts and hostesses...During their membership drive, the Friends put all the names of new members and renewing members into a drawing for a new laptop computer donated by Bubby Floyd.

**Georgetown County**: In April, the Friends sponsored a catered ticketed event, "Diamonds in the Rough". Guests who purchased \$25 tickets enjoyed catered cuisine by Puttin' on the Ritz as well as live entertainment. With each glass of champagne purchased, guests received a "diamond". All the "diamonds" were cubic zirconia with the exception of one genuine one-half carat diamond. Champagne drinkers found out who the lucky winner was by taking their "gem" to Sonny Burgoon, a certified gemologist from the Diamond Collection. Mr. Burgoon also offered free verbal jewelry appraisals and written appraisals at a small charge during the event...Other fund-raisers sponsored by the Friends have included a Yuletide Tour of Homes in the Georgetown Historical District during the holiday season and a "Dance on the Lawn" event at the grounds of the historic Kaminski House in October. Monies raised have been used to fund the children's summer reading program and the library's World War II Veteran's Oral History Project.

Greenwood County: The Friends received \$2,000 from the Greenwood Women's Club – proceeds from the club's Holiday House Tour...The Friends were also the recipient of money raised from a Valentine's Day themed drawing for a "Key to My Heart" necklace and pendant designed by Paloma Picasso, donated by the Sharp Facets Gallery. Individual chances sold for \$1 each or six for \$5. The drawing was held on Feb. 13 at the library...The Friends provided the cash prizes for the library's annual bookmark art contest in April. The winner, determined by the library's board, has their design reproduced for the library's bookmark for the next year.

Kershaw County: The Friends hosted a special dinner in March at the historic Robert Mills Courthouse to thank the "very generous" Friends who joined their organization in 2009 at the "Best Friends Forever" (\$300+) level. Noted South Carolina scholar and author James Kibler served as the featured speaker at the dinner. Friends intend to spend up to \$9,000 during 2009 to purchase books, DVDs, and new computers for the library as well enhancing reading areas in the library...The Friends provided support for improvements to the library grounds of the Bethune Branch Library being carried out by volunteers.

**Lee County**: The Friends have donated over \$10,000 to renovate a former gift shop in Bishopville which will be used to house the Friend's book sales as well as a site for library programs and meetings.

McCormick County: Volunteers renovated a new and expanded location for the Friends' bookstore, "Our Place on Main" in McCormick. The new store, which houses approximately 10,000 books, allows more shelving and reading space than the store's previous location.

Oconee County: Friends recently contributed \$9,000 to two needed projects identified by the library staff. Funding for the staff's annual "wish list" was completely approved with the Friends' encouragement to purchase needed library equipment and furniture of the highest quality. The Friends also enthusiastically endorsed the library's proposed Oconee STARTS (Oconee Staff Training and Recognition System). The STARS program will support staff training opportunities, learning incentives, and a staff reward and recognition program.

Richland County: The Friends reported that their quarterly book sales in 2008 raised a total of about \$70,000 to support library programs...To alleviate over-stocking, the Friends have held "Inventory Reduction" sales on the Sunday following their regular book sale held on Friday and Saturday. All items are reduced 50%.

Surfside Beach (Horry County): The Friends sponsor a monthly book sale at the library every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Pre-sale time for Friends members starts at 3:30 p.m. with the sale opening to the public at 4:30 p.m.

# SC Humanities Council Offers Speakers/Programs to Libraries

One of the long-standing, successful collaborations between the SC Humanities Council and public libraries - and their Friends groups- is the "Let's Talk About It" (LTAI) series which brings book lovers, readers, and scholars together to discuss literary works built around chosen themes. Several new topical programs have been developed by the Council for scheduling by libraries and Friends organizations. These include " Stiff Upper Lips 2 – Masterpiece Theatre," "Changing Places: Reflections on the Natural World, " "Banned Books," and "Key Ingredients: Food in Fiction." For a more detailed description of these programs and an application form, visit www.schumanities.org.

The Humanities Council also offers a Speakers Bureau to nonprofit groups and public agencies at a reasonable cost. Some of South Carolina's finest scholars are available to share their interests and knowledge. Under the guidelines for this program, the Council provides \$150 towards speaker honorariums which usually covers the full speaker payment. The sponsoring organization must match this cost with in-kind contributions and any cash expenses the organization may incur, including travel expenses. A list of scholars and their programs as well as an application form are available at the Council's web site.

## Outstanding Library Advocates Honored at FOSCL Annual Meeting

Three individuals were presented with official awards from the Friends of South Carolina Libraries in recognition of their extraordinary contributions to public libraries in our state. The FOSCL awards were conferred by FOSCL President Mike Burkhart at the FOSCL annual meeting held in April at the Richland County Public Library.



Helen Dean, founder and former President of the Newberry County Friends of the Library, received the John Landrum Advocacy Award for being an "unsurpassed library advocate and supporter." Bettye Fulmer of the Friends of the Newberry County Library stated in her nomination letter that Mrs. Dean was the driving force in establishing the Friends group in Newberry and then rallying county residents to share her vision for a new library for Newberry County – a vision which became a reality with completion of a new library building in 2009. According to Fulmer," Today we have a new library and a vibrant Friends group who only last week gave \$30,000 to the

new library. Helen has been a shining star, leading us along the path until we could see the right direction for ourselves. Her clarity of vision has left us a legacy of success. Certainly she belongs in the Friends Hall of Fame." (Photo, let to right: Helen Dean, John Landrum)



Terri Smith, former Chair of the Barnwell County Library Board of Trustees, was awarded the Outstanding Individual Award for her "determination against the odds" to see a new library building for Barnwell County become a reality. In the nomination letter submitted by Wendy Burnett, Director of the Friends of the Libraries of Barnwell County, and Mary Jo Dawson, ABBE Regional Library Director, it states Ms. Smith battled many misgivings within the community why a capital building campaign would never get off the ground. "Thanks to Terri's leadership and courage, however, the skepticism began to change to enthusiasm...A fundraising campaign of this magnitude for a public building was unprecedented in Barnwell. But this didn't stop Terri from embarking on this

project and earning the financial and volunteer support of people from across the County. ..In September 2005, the new Barnwell County Public Library opened for service...in December 2008, the debt owed on the construction of the building was paid in full, more than a year ahead of schedule..."

David Warren, recently retired Executive Director of the Richland County Public Library, was presented with a special FOSCL Lifetime Achievement Award, by John Bradley, President of the Friends of the Richland County Library and newly-elected Vice-President of FOSCL. In his nomination letter, Mr. Bradley cited Warren's cumulative career achievements and contributions to libraries and Friends organizations at local, state, and national levels. "His (Warren's) reputation as an innovator has led to numerous appointments in local, state, and national



organizations and he has tirelessly worked to advance awareness of and funding for public libraries in those roles." (Photo, let to right: Mike Burkhart, Helen Dean, David Warren)

#### National Friends of Libraries Week Slated for Oct. 18-24, 2009

The fourth annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week will be held October 18-24, 2009. This year's event is being coordinated by ALTAFF (Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations). Much helpful information about this event and sample promotional materials can be found at the association's web site: www.ala.org/altaff (bookmark it!).

The week provides friends, libraries, library trustees and library advocates with a two-fold opportunity to celebrate friends organizations. This special week lends an occasion to any friends organization to promote awareness of their presence in their community as well as to promote membership in their organization. Library staff and trustees can also take this time to pay some due recognition to some of their most ardent and important supporters.

A sample proclamation which can be adapted for use to be issued by a county council, city council, or state government official is reproduced below. Additional sample press releases and other PR materials can be found at ALTAFF's web site. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to let your community know about the work of its Friends group.

National Friends of Libraries Week – Sample Proclamation

Whereas, Friends of the (insert name) Library raise money that enables our library to move from good to great -- providing the resources for additional programming, much needed equipment, support for children's summer reading, and special events throughout the year;

Whereas, the work of the Friends highlights on an on-going basis the fact that our library is the cornerstone of the community providing opportunities for all to engage in the joy of lifelong learning and connect with the thoughts and ideas of others from ages past to the present;

Whereas, the Friends understand the critical importance of well funded libraries and advocate to ensure that our library gets the resources it needs to provide a wide variety of services to all ages including access to print and electronic materials, along with expert assistance in research, readers' advisory, and children's services;

Whereas, the Friends' gift of their time and commitment to the library sets an example for all in how volunteerism leads to positive civic engagement and the betterment of our community;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that (fill in name and title of official) proclaims October 18-24, 2009, as Friends of Libraries week in (city, country, state) and urges everyone to join the Friends of the Library and thank them for all they do to make our library and community so much better.

# Calendar of Upcoming Events 2009 - 2010

**October 9, 2009** Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) Board meeting. Columbia, SC State Library.

October 18-24, 2009 National Friends of Libraries Week. Coordinated by ALTAFF (www.ala.org/altaff)

October 28-30, 2009 South Carolina Library (SCLA) annual conference. Columbia: Marriott Hotel. "South Carolina Libraries: Diverse People and Exceptional Services" Contact Ray Turner, 843-572-4094; turner@ccpl.org

**January 8, 2010** Friends of South Carolina Libraries (FOSCL) Board meeting. Columbia, SC State Library



#### February 26-28, 2010

South Carolina Book Festival. Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln St., Columbia. www.scbookfestival.org.

#### March 23-27, 2010

Public Library Association (PLA) national conference. Portland, OR. www.placonference.org.

#### FOSCL Public Official Award Announced

Do you know of a South Carolina elected official who has generously supported our public libraries through legislation, fund-raising or in some other purposeful and meaningful way? Members of the Friends of South Carolina Libraries will have the opportunity to show their appreciation by nominating a public official for the Outstanding Public Official Award. Details about this award will be sent shortly via email to FOSCL members and library directors. The award deadline will be in January, 2010.



## Join FOSCL Today!

2010

## Membership Categories:

		Membership edicagnes.
Friend	\$10	Friends members participate in networking, receive The FOSCL newsletter, have access to FOLUSA resources online, attend meetings, and are eligible to nominate for annual awards.
Special Friend	\$25	All the benefits of being a Friendplus the added satisfaction of giving a little more than the average! Special recognition given at annual meetings.
Friend Indeed!	\$100	Along with above benefits, attend a special invitation- only luncheon with the State Librarian and tour the State Library!
Friends Group	\$20	Group members nominate for annual awards, receive FOSCL on-site counseling for fundraising, programs, and increasing membership.
Corporate Friend	\$100	Recognition at FOSCL events and on FOSCL website. Invitation-only annual luncheon with State Librarian.
Ме	embership yed	ar is January to December. Dues are tax deductible.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Friends of South Carolina Libraries. Mail to: P.O. Box 11121, Columbia, S.C. 29211	Give the gift of membership! Check level: Member Special Friend Friend Indeed!
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## 2009 Membership

#### Friend Indeed

\*Gloria Avent, Charleston \* Michael Burkhart, Aiken Davis Kirkpatrick, Camden \*John H. Landrum, Etowah NC \*Clyde McCants, Winnsboro \*Nonie Price, Columbia \*William Schmidt, Jr., West Columbia

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