

Another Great Book Sale!

It was another great year for the FOHL Used Book Sale. With good weather, good crowds and over 60,000 books, we had a very profitable year, with almost \$44,000 in sales! After expenses, this translates into over \$32,000 that will go to support the Hockessin Library.

Every year we try to make our sale better than the previous year's sale. This year we concentrated on improving the shopping experience for those attending our Member's Opening Night Sale. For those who have not attended the Thursday night event, be advised that this is not a sedate wine and cheese evening where you leisurely browse the aisles. Most attendees are book dealers and book sellers (there is a distinction!) and competition for books can be fierce. This year we emphasized what practices were unacceptable, and we also beefed up security and the number of staff on the floor. These measures greatly improved the atmosphere of the evening and many longtime attendees commented on the improvement.

We would like to give a special thanks to the Scouts of Troop 50 and to Cameron Green, the scout who organized his troop's participation in the sale. The scouts and their leaders were of particular help Thursday night transporting boxes of books to the storage area and helping customers carry their purchases to their vehicles and on Sunday afternoon with the breakdown and cleanup after the sale. Thank you Troop 50! We could not have done it without you!

The FOHL Used Book Sale is totally a volunteer effort. With many of our longtime volunteers no longer being able to help, new volunteers are always needed for setup, staffing the sale, cleanup and year-round sorting of the books.

If you would like to become involved in next year's sale, please contact me at Indlauria@aol.com.

Linda Lauria. FOHL Book Sale Chair

Used book sale book drop-offs are cancelled until further notice. Please check our Facebook page and website for updated information



Among Friends

I have been thinking in recent days of what it is to be generous; defined as “showing a readiness to give more of something...than is strictly necessary or expected, showing kindness toward others”.

In the past few months, while managing through the spread of COVID-19, we have been called upon to not only look out for ourselves, but we have also been called upon to look out for each other. To be generous. Fortunately, it is the nature of our community to be generous; to our friends, to our neighbors, and to our cultural institutions, which includes our Library. Sometimes we do not fully appreciate a place, a service, and people, until they are not available to us. We have just experienced that when our Library closed to protect us from the spread of the virus. And we will joyfully welcome its re-opening. We have learned how we have come to depend on the services and programming that the Library provides to us and our children; as a place to congregate, contemplate, and learn. We have also come to appreciate the Library's online services as extensions of physical access in time of need.

During these same months, the Friends have experienced and appreciated the generosity of our community and individuals who have been book sale patrons, donors, and who have committed their time to furthering the Library's objectives. They are highlighted in this issue.

As the crisis passes, we will need your continuing generosity to help the Library catch up with postponed activities and respond to increased demand for services. If you would like to get ahead of the curve and extend your generosity to the Library, you can donate your time by sending email to info@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org. To donate used books for the next book sale, drop them off on the second Saturday of the month from 9am to noon at the Friends book shed (see directions at <http://www.friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org/howtodonate.shtml>). To make a donation download the form at <http://www.friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org/PDFs/MakeaDonation.pdf>

With grateful thanks for your generosity and all good wishes for the good health of you and your family, friends and neighbors,

Susan Foster, Board President

Directors Desk

We are all going through an extraordinary time. As I write this at the end of March, all library buildings are closed to the public to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus among our community. Many of our services (programs, meeting rooms, and physical materials) are currently unavailable, and our book drops are closed.

But did you know that your library is still working for you? I'd like to introduce you to (or remind you of) some of our online only services, good for times like these, as well as once we reopen! See <https://nccde.org/2017/COVID-19> for details!

We continue to offer electronic books, audiobooks and videos through OverDrive and Libby. We've just added Hoopla, where you can get access to electronic books, graphic novels, audiobooks, music and videos. It's even easier to use than OverDrive and Libby and offers simultaneous checkouts – no holds lists – on up to 4 checkouts a month per library card.

For more on these services and other resources such as magazines on Flipster and training tools on Learning Express and Transparent Language Online, visit: <https://nccde.org/387/Online-Services>

Don't have a library card yet? No problem. Just go to <https://lib.de.us/help/librarycard/> and click on the link to sign up online for a library account (with a Delaware address). You can then use that library account to access our online materials until you can come in and upgrade your card to access our physical materials when we reopen.

And if you want information about all kinds of subjects, including the Coronavirus, be sure to check out the Delaware Division of Library's libguides for links to authoritative information from across the Internet at <https://lib.de.us/subject-guides/>

There are also virtual programs you can attend from anywhere in the state, including the safety of your own home. See our home page for the link to the virtual library calendar for the duration of our building closure.

Finally, you can ask us questions about your account, our collections and other topics at Hockessin@delawarelibraries.libanswers.com and sign up for our biweekly Happenings email on our home page: <https://nccde.org/329/Hockessin-Library>

We are updating our pages regularly with new information and continuing to add to both our electronic and print collections while we are closed. We hope to be open again soon (if we aren't already by the release date of this newsletter). I look forward to seeing you both online and at the library!

Beth Borene, Library Manager



Longtime Volunteer Larry Thurrell Honored by Friends Board

In February 2020, in recognition of his exemplary service to the Hockessin Library and the Board, and with the hope of his colleagues that he will

remain an advisor to their endeavors, the Friends of the Hockessin Library Board elected Larry Thurrell Board Member, Emeritus. In addition, the Library Reading Garden will be named the Lawrence A. Thurrell Reading Garden in his honor.

Larry's commitment to the Hockessin Library began in early 1990s at the time when the current library was planned and built. He was a book sale volunteer, hauling used books from donors' homes, and with other volunteers, sorting them and selling them for the benefit of the library at an annual sale. He agreed to chair the Book Sale Committee in 1997 and for 20 years oversaw raising more than \$500,000 for the Library. Though now retired from the chairmanship, Larry remains an essential member of the Committee.

Larry joined the Friends of the Hockessin Library Board in 1997 where he has been an advocate for community engagement on behalf of the Library and instrumental in raising funds for the Library addition and Reading Garden that were completed in 2008. He served as Board president in 2004-2005.

Larry's advocacy for community engagement is illustrated in part by the Reading Garden and support for high school seniors to pursue higher education. Larry chaired the Reading Garden Project from 2008 until 2017. Larry also chaired the FOHL Scholarship Committee in 2010 that funded scholarships to help Delaware high school seniors pursue higher education. Beyond his commitment to the Hockessin Library, his community service has extended to his volunteer work at the Center for the Creative Arts, the Red Clay Valley Association and the Friends of the Auburn Heights Preserve.

Larry's accomplishments are enhanced by his remarkable ability to recruit others to a cause and to keep them interested. The FOHL Book Sale is as large and successful as it is today because of his ability to recruit volunteers to do the myriad of tasks involved. Larry has also recruited dedicated FOHL Board members who have brought diverse perspectives and skills to the organization.

Get Ready for this Year's Summer Reading Challenge at Hockessin Library

For Adults:

This year's Summer Reading Program for Adults runs from June 1 - August 15, 2020. The theme for all age groups is ***"Imagine Your Story."*** For the fourth year in a row all New Castle Libraries will be offering a coordinated program, using the Beanstack online platform. The last few years Hockessin Library's adult participants successfully made the technological transition using computer devices to track their summer reading. Only a few relied on staff for registration and online participation. All are encouraged to participate and share the love of reading! Although this year's program is still being developed at this time, I look forward to challenging the Hockessin community to increase our number of registrants, participants, books read, and reviews.

I thank the Friends of the Hockessin Library for their generous, unwavering support of this year's program, making the purchase of promotional materials and Grand Prize drawings possible,

Shelley Stein, Adult Services Librarian

For Youth:

As I sit here writing this article the building is closed and we are all staying at home as much as possible but I am dreaming of summer. I'm looking forward to throwing the doors wide and welcoming you back to the shelves and to some really great programs. Most Tuesday mornings we will have a performer including a Dragon and a Chef, Emperor Norton's World of Bales, Storyteller Antonio Rocho, and Modern Pop Artist Michael Albert. We will be exploring some technology gadgets on Monday afternoons. We will again be showing movies on Wednesday afternoons. Don't forget your lunch! Teen craft programs will return to Monday nights. And of course we will have story times and Lego Club. Most of all I can't wait to see your faces and hear all about your adventures this spring. Imagine the stories we will have to tell!

Terri Jones, Youth Services Librarian

Donors Giving Back

In the past few months the Board has been pleased to receive gifts from the community.

One of these was in the form of a generous check from the Southwood Civic Association, a close neighbor of the library and one of the many community beneficiaries of the Hockessin Library programming and services. We are so grateful and touched by this gift. Initially, the grant was to fund the children's programming at the library associated with Longwood's community read, "Wild World of Plants". Due to the program's cancellation, the funds will be used for future events which we hope the residents of Southwood and all of our community will enjoy. THANK YOU SOUTHWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION!

Another unexpected gift came to us from our ACME's "Give Back Where It Counts" reusable bag sales program. We did not know it, but the Friends of the Hockessin Library was selected by our ACME to receive \$1 donated from the proceeds of the sale of each reusable bag during a month. What a surprise it was to receive that nice check. We are thinking of ways we might use these funds that are appropriate to the donor. Refreshments for special programmed events come to mind! We have written to Chrissy Pratt, Director of the Lantana Square ACME, and have asked her to keep us on her list. THANK YOU, ACME!

Board Recruitment Success!

You will be happy to learn that our call for interest in joining the Friends Board has resulted in attracting three wonderful candidates, one of whom officially joined the Board on March 9, 2020. Geri Krolin-Taylor is an FOHL member who came to the notice of the Board when she joined a small band of heroic waterers who struggled mightily to keep the Reading Garden from crisping up this past summer.

Geri moved from New Jersey to Hockessin with her family a couple of years ago. While living in New Jersey, Geri was an active volunteer with management responsibilities in several not-for-profit organizations. She wanted to continue volunteer activities in her new community, and we are delighted that she has chosen us.

Geri is a University of Delaware alumna and is the Senior Managing Editor overseeing the editing and production of 24 magazines for the electrical engineering community of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. We are looking forward to her contributions to the work of the Board.

WELCOME GERI!

Friends Focus is published by the Friends of the Hockessin Library, Inc.

**Please send comments or questions to:
P.O. Box 55 Hockessin, DE 19707**

Main Library Phone: 302.239.5160

Officers
Susan Foster.....President
Sirena Manista.....Treasurer
Linda Lauria.....Secretary

Library Hours of Operation

Monday-Wednesday: 10am-9pm
Thursday: Closed
Friday/ Saturday: 10am-5pm
Sunday: 1pm-5pm



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