
Next Book Sale: Friday, September 20, 10–5, and Saturday, September 21, 10–4

Raising Awareness

The Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) participated in Do More 24 for the first time this past March. Do More 24 is a 24-hour day of giving designed to help Delaware nonprofits raise more money and engage new donors.

FOHL joined the movement with the aim of raising awareness for our organization and trying a new fundraising strategy in addition to the book sales which generate the majority of FOHL's income. Our efforts resulted in 14 gifts totaling \$575, exceeding our goal of \$500. Thank you to all donors who gave to FOHL through Do More 24.



Eve Voultsis, Diana Strazzella, and Lynn Wilson bring both expertise and enthusiasm to the FOHL Board.

Eve is in charge of the FOHL display case, and Lynn will take on the role of secretary as part of the Executive Committee.

Welcome

Diana's background is in software and technology, which will be put to good use as we transition our archive from paper to electronic form. Eve is a clinical lab specialist who is excited to use her creative energies in our display case (in the Library lobby) and the FOHL-sponsored art rail in the Community Room. Lynn is a contemporary romance author and former president of the Valley Forge Romance Writers who will use her writing skills as our new secretary.



Among Friends

This past April, we welcomed three individuals to the Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) Board: Diana Strazzella, Eve Voultsis, and Lynn Wilson. Diana is taking on the role of archivist,

Farewell

While we are welcoming three new members, we are bidding farewell to Board Member Maria Iversen. Maria has been on the Board since 2015 and secretary since September 2021. She has been a terrific asset to the Board with her financial and

organizational knowledge, and she will be greatly missed. We wish you well, Maria!

One last farewell—This is my last column as President of the FOHL. After three years, it is time to pass the leadership torch on. Cindy Gamble, who has been a part of the FOHL Board since 2022, is now the president. I know she will do a wonderful job in leading the organization.

Enjoy the summer. I encourage you to visit the library — check out a book, take a class (we have a ukulele class!), take advantage of the library's air conditioning on a hot and humid summer day. We have a great resource in the Hockessin Library!

Geri Krolin-Taylor
President

From the Manager's Desk

As we prepare for another summer with the Library, we're excited to celebrate winter and the spring happenings! Our book groups participated in Longwood Gardens Community Read books

and events, with a successful plant swap and other garden-themed programs. Our adult book groups all read *The Violin Conspiracy* and enjoyed meeting author Brendan Slocumb as part of our annual New Castle County Reads program. Thanks to a generous donation of six ukuleles, along with a volunteer instructor, we held our first six-week course of ukulele lessons, which will be reprised this summer.

Our building received some attention and maintenance, including an interior paint refresh and a carpet shampoo throughout the Library. We are deeply appreciative of New Castle County's Building Maintenance and Public Works Departments for all the care they put into keeping this facility running efficiently and smoothly.

Looking forward, Hockessin Library has been awarded two grants from community organizations to help us expand our programs and services. The Delaware Division of the Arts awarded us the Creative Aging Grant to fund an eight-week course with a professional artist to teach Introduction to Collage this summer. The Delaware Library Association's Community



The 2023-2024 FOHL Board (from left): Cameron Green, Becky Green, Juli Powers, Sirena Manista, Maria Iversen, Linda Lauria, Reza Moqtaderi, Geri Krolin-Taylor, and Cindy Gamble. Missing: Susan Foster and Sandy Massa.

Engagement Grant will enable us to purchase supplies for Citizen Science kits, including materials and equipment to be checked out for everyday science observations and experiments at home.

Make sure you visit our wonderful collections of books, DVDs, puzzles, litter clean-up kits, and more to keep you entertained and learning throughout the year. Anything you check out from our library can be returned to any Delaware Library, so don't let a beach vacation stop you from visiting us!

Stay connected by following us on Facebook, subscribing to our twice-monthly newsletter, and visiting frequently.

Rachel West
Library Manager



Volunteers Becky Green and Carol Johnson take a moment to relax on one of Hockessin Library's new benches during the recent book sale. The Friends of the Hockessin Library donated two benches made of recycled plastic; the benches are located outside the Library's staff entrance.

It's Time for Summer!

Adventure awaits at your Library this summer. Plan to spend time with us between June 1 and August 17 as we will be running our annual summer reading challenge for all ages from newborns to senior citizens. All are encouraged to participate. Children will count the time spent reading, while teens and adults will log the books read. Children and teens will also complete library engagement activities.

In addition to our story times and book groups for children, this summer we will also host the Marshall Steam Museum, artist Jeff Hopkins, the Science Guys of Baltimore, Music Play Patrol, Housel Fun and Fitness, and the Delaware AeroSpace Science Foundation. We will have some Minecraft sessions and some tinkering times this summer, too. And don't worry—we'll have opportunities set up at night and on the weekends for those unable to make our daytime activities.

There will be some teen craft nights in July and some Teen Tabletop Game sessions on select



We love volunteers. Above, wildflowers volunteer their beauty in the raised bed located in the Larry Thurrell Reading Garden. Join the wildflowers and volunteer to help us during our book drops held on the second Saturday of most months.

Sundays this summer. We will also have some grab and go kits in the Teen Section. Finally, Orpheus Collar, a graphic artist who has worked on the graphic novel adaptations of some of Rick Riordan’s works as well as *Amazing Spider-Man*, *Ultimate X-Men*, *Conan*, and *Batman: Confidential*, will be here on Tuesday, August 20 at 11:30 a.m. Learn what it takes to create a graphic novel and participate in a live drawing demo. Orpheus will also do a Q&A about his craft and a book signing.

For adults, there will be many opportunities to visit the library for fun programs. There will be Introduction to Collage, ukulele lessons, Dungeons & Dragons, Must Love Yarn Fiber Group, rock painting, Senior Medicare Patrol, book groups, and other programs that we are still finalizing.

Our program calendar can be found at: <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/calendar/hockessin>. We can’t wait to see you!

Terri Jones, Youth Services Librarian
 Shelley Stein, Adult Services Librarian



Underfoot? Never. This young boy found a quiet spot to read his book about dinosaurs in the midst of the hectic first hours of the recent June book sale.

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 or email
membership@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org

Officers

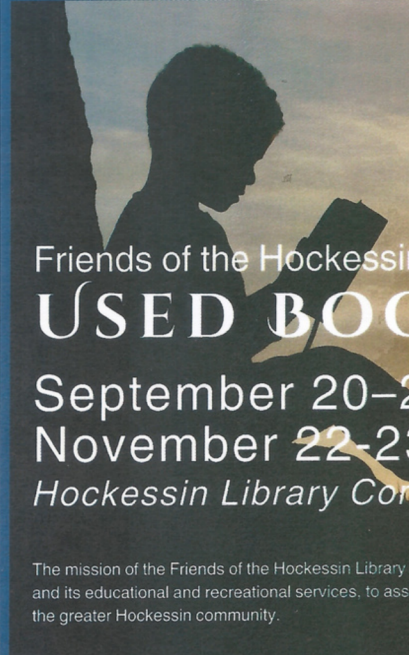
Cynthia Gamble	President
Rebecca Green	Vice President
Julianne Powers	Treasurer
Lynn Wilson	Secretary

Hockessin Library Hours of Operation

Monday - Wednesday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday	Closed
Friday & Saturday	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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FRIENDS OF THE HOCKESSIN LIBRARY

Friends of the Hockessin Library

USED BOOK SALES

September 20–21, 2024

November 22–23, 2024

Hockessin Library Community Room

The mission of the Friends of the Hockessin Library is to promote public awareness of the Hockessin Library and its educational and recreational services, to assist the library in determining and responding to the needs of the greater Hockessin community.