



**December 2012
Newsletter**

Oakton, VA

Oakton Community Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA 22124, 703-242-4020
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events FriendsofOaktonLibrary@gmail.com

Message from Your President

2012 has been a remarkable 5th Anniversary year for the Oakton Library and for the Friends of Oakton Library!

The Library has been able to restore some of the hours lost early in the recession, thanks to our outstanding, loyal staff and volunteers. We have had two very profitable Used Book Sales and an Anniversary celebration filled with fun and community spirit. The Library was honored to be selected as the host site for the most successful Fairfax Library Foundation Jubilee ever (raising over \$130,000)! And the Friends were able to make record donations to both the Foundation and the Fairfax Library's general collection. (See below for details.)

All of this is only possible through the work of many individuals –staff, volunteers, and Friends' members. However, there are still more needs to be met.

So please find a way to do your part: Remember the Friends in your end-of-year charitable contributions, or perhaps just pay your annual dues (\$10)! Sign up to help with one of the "Volunteer Needs" in 2013. Say "yes" when called upon to help with a book sale, even if you never have before. It's fun!

Meanwhile, your Friends wish you a lovely holiday season. See you at the Library!

-- Ann Balch

Book Sale News

First, something new! As part of the Winter Holiday Open House on Saturday, Dec. 15, we will hold a small book sale of **holiday books and books suitable for giving as gifts**. Please stop by and find a book for someone on your list!!

Our fall book sale brought in \$8,800! In the process, we recycled thousands of donated books and pleased a lot of happy patrons. Thank you to everyone who donated books, sorted books, and volunteered at the sale. It takes everyone to make it happen!

Also the "ongoing book sale" (those books on the shelves in the foyer every day) has produced \$2,500 for the Friends in 2012! Considering that half of the money raised stays with the County library system, this is a huge bonus for all concerned.

Save the date! The 2013 spring book sale will be held on March 14, 15, and 16.

Keep those book donations coming. We love to see the Friends' cart near the entrance full of your books! Remember: books must be clean and gently used. Encyclopedias and old technical manuals are not needed.



Oakton Community Library
10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA 22124-1785
703-242-4020 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events



Winter Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 15, 11 am-3pm



Live Musical Performances

11 am Chalet Brass

12 pm Oakton H.S. Strings

Holiday Gift Books for Sale

Craft Activity Carryout



Seasonal Refreshments

This event is made possible thanks to **The FRIENDS of
Oakton Library** 



Special accommodation may be available by advance request. Call 703-324-8380 or TTY 703-324-8365.

Thank you to Special Friends

With all of the events that occurred during the fall, we have many friends and neighbors to thank.

Fall Book Sale

- **Ralph Tener** and **Carole Dowd** who again served as co-chairmen!
- **Fred Pitman** who faithfully manages the financial end of the sales.
- **Jane Boyers** and **Tooley Milstead** who sorted and organized most of those thousands of books before the sale.

Anniversary Celebration

- **Sheila Dunheimer** who created a lovely scrapbook of the past five years. Ask at the Information Desk to take a look.
- **Willow Prall** who helped plant mums to brighten our grounds.
- **Maya Mann** who brought breakfast for the staff and volunteers.
- **Corinne Savage** who arranged for the very popular birthday cake and cider.
- All the Friends and Board Members who volunteered on the Anniversary day.

Fairfax County Foundation Jubilee

- **Patty Reed** who served as co-chair of the Jubilee committee.
- **Janet Kerr-Tener** and **Linda Byrne** who cheerfully agreed to be Oakton's representatives on the committee.
- **David and Michelle Baldacci** who contributed so much to the evening as Honorees.
- **Luciano's** and **Pie Gourmet** who generously donated much of the food. Please thank them when you visit!
- Again, all the Friends and volunteers who made the Jubilee day go so smoothly!

Please pass this newsletter along to a friend or neighbor who is interested in the Library, and encourage them to join the Friends!

FOL Annual Meeting Tuesday, January 15th 7:30 pm – At the Library

All Friends of Oakton Library (FOL) members are encouraged to attend the annual meeting.

- Officers for 2013 will be elected.
- The budget will be voted upon.
- Plans for 2013 will be discussed.



Mark Twain joined us for the Anniversary celebration!

Friends' Choice Awards

On October 10th, at a meeting of the Fairfax County Library Board, Ralph Tener and Carole Dowd were among representatives from Fairfax libraries who received Friends' Choice Awards. Each year, the recipients are selected by the Friends' group at their home library.

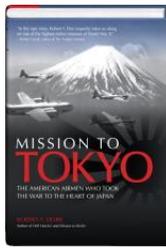
Carole and Ralph have been long-time co-chairs of our semi-annual book sales, going back even before the Library opened! In addition, Ralph was the first President of the Friends, and Carole was the first Treasurer.

In recognition of their long-term, loyal, and active service, we were pleased to select them.



Book Review -- Jim Milstead

Mission to Tokyo by Robert F. Dorr



Just as the air war shifted from the ETO to the Pacific, Robert Dorr shifts from his account of the air attacks on Berlin in B-17s to the air war in the Pacific. Gone are the freezing B-17s, replaced with the pressurized, but engine plagued, B-29 Superfortress Bomber – on which the hopes of a Pacific air victory rode.

In this book Mr. Dorr describes the men and machines needed to bring Japan to its knees. From Jimmy Doolittle's 1942 raid on Tokyo, which was more of a morale boost than a mission with significant battle damage to the enemy, to the bold tactics envisioned and carried out by the XXI Bomber Command, under Maj General Curtis LeMay, to the Enola Gay mission to Hiroshima, this book chronicles pivotal periods of the air war against Japan. LeMay's innovative tactics of low level firebombing of Tokyo and other targets in Japan form the nucleus of this account. During the first such mission in Feb 1945 some 100,000 people are estimated to have died in the resulting firestorm, more immediate deaths than either of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

This book explains the need to capture the B-29 launching sites of Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, plus others such as Iwo Jima, where over 2000 Marines lost their lives, but which ultimately provided a place for over 2400 emergency landings after missions to Japan. One appreciates the importance of the air war when considering the human cost of invading the Japanese homeland. The multiple fire-bombings and nuclear devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki saved hundreds of thousands of American

lives for an invasion exponentially more devastating than our bloody victories on such island hell spots as Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Kwajalein, Tarawa, Saipan, and others.

Using the same technique as his previous book, *Mission to Berlin*, Mr. Dorr focuses on one mission in Feb 1945 with preludes and postludes to envelop the reader in the nightmare of fighter attacks, enemy search beams, flak, ditchings, rescues, and capture to defeat an enemy determined to fight for every inch of Nippon homeland. Catch a flight with these airmen on a *Mission to Tokyo* through the lens of Robert F. Dorr.

Volunteer Needs at the Library

One-on-One English Tutoring is in very high demand. If we are able to recruit additional volunteers we can schedule sessions around each volunteer's availability. The primary need is for simple English conversation; no professional training is required. Please encourage anyone you know who may be interested to submit a volunteer application at the Library and indicate "English Tutoring" as their job interest.

The Library continues to have a need for volunteers to assist with newspaper and magazine maintenance. If you know of anyone age 16+ who may be interested, please ask them to fill out a volunteer application, and to indicate "Newspapers" as the job they are interested in doing.



Bad Kitty and friends reading at the Anniversary celebration.

Friends' Funding & Projects -- 2012

– Fred Pitman, Treasurer

This year the Friends of Oakton Library raised over \$20,000 from our contributors and book sales. The Friends use these funds to support a variety of programs, activities and events to supplement those provided from the Fairfax County budget. We are pleased that more than 80% of our funds go to the Oakton Library, the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) system and related activities.

This is a recap of our major funding for 2012:

- We contributed \$8,000 to fund the purchase of books and other materials for the library system and also funded six magazine and newspaper subscriptions for Oakton in addition to the subscriptions funded by Fairfax County.
- 2012 was a significant year for the Oakton branch, celebrating its 5th anniversary in September. The Friends sponsored an open house for the occasion, including a presentation by “Mark Twain” and a visit from Bad Kitty.
- The Fairfax Library Foundation chose Oakton as the site of their fund-raising event this year, in conjunction with the anniversary. The Friends contributed \$3,000 to the Foundation fund-raiser in honor of the host site and also donated \$500 to support the “Fall for the Book” (an annual regional book festival).
- Every year, the Friends provide funding for many of the programs presented at the Library. These are primarily for children and families and are keyed to school breaks and teacher workdays. We provided over \$1,700 to fund those programs. The Friends also arrange and sponsor a number of speakers and author presentations during the year that are of interest to adult audiences.
- The Summer Reading Program (SRP) is a county-wide program to encourage children to continue to read over the summer

months. SRP is entirely funded by Fairfax Library Foundation and various Friends groups. Oakton Friends provided some of the decorations and other materials specifically for use at Oakton, and also funded the Wizard of Oz performance at Oakton. Students who completed the requirements for a certificate were awarded a coupon book which included a discount coupon good at many of the Friends book sales. 20 of those coupons were honored at Oakton book sales.

- The Oakton Friends will host a Holiday Open House and special book sale again this year. We will be serving refreshments, sponsor two musical performances and provide funding for a craft activity for the kids.
- Each year, the Friends help to fund a Volunteer Recognition event hosted by the Library staff to acknowledge the many hours of donated time from dozens of volunteers.
- Easy Readers, a community volunteer program hosted at the Oakton Library, encourages young boys to improve their reading skills by pairing them with teen mentors in a series of fun activities. The Oakton Friends has sponsored this program since its inception.
- Oakton Friends purchased a bookcase to display new materials in the Young Adult section, purchased a number of items for ongoing and seasonal decorations for the Library, and purchased plants and other landscaping materials for use inside and outside the Library building. We also provided seed and other food for the outdoor habitat feeders. The gardens, planters and feeders are maintained by Friends volunteers.

Three original staff members at the Anniversary party: Jerilyn Polson (Library Manager), Aliya Parvez, Mary Medina



Winter Calendar

- All events take place at the Oakton Library.
- Most programs require a reservation. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events.
- Note that some events are repeated on multiple dates.

Note that the Library will be closed for these holidays: Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31, Jan. 1, Jan 21, and Feb. 18.

Thursdays – 7:30 pm – **eBook/eReader Instruction**. Learn about library eBooks. Drop-in.

Mon., Dec. 3, Feb. 4 – 7:30 pm – **Bedtime Storytime** (Age 2-5 with an adult.)

Mon., Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11 – 3:30 pm – **Brain Games** (age 6 and up with an adult.)

Tues., Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12 – 7:15 pm – **Money Matters**.

Wed., Dec. 12, Jan. 16 – 10:30 am – **Small Wonders** (Short stories for you and your child, age 13-23 months.)

Sat., Dec. 15 – 11:00 am – 3:00 pm – **Winter Holiday Celebration; Holiday Book Sale**

Tues., Dec. 18 – 7:30 pm – **Board Meeting**, Friends of Oakton Library (unless canceled; call the Library.)

Wed., Dec. 19, Jan. 9, Jan. 23 – 10:30 am – **Toddler Tales**. (Age 2-3 with an adult.)

Thurs., Dec. 27 – 2:00 pm – **Fantastic Squirrels**. Learn fun facts from a Park Naturalist. (Age 6-12)

Sat. Jan. 12 – 10:00 am – Free **blood pressure check** by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

Tues., Jan. 15 – 10:30 am – **Good Vibrations Everywhere** with musician/teacher Sue Trainor (Age 2-5 with Adult)

Tues., Jan. 15 – 7:30 pm – **Annual Meeting**, Friends of Oakton Library.

Tues., Jan. 22, Feb. 26 – 7:30 pm – **Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club** (Adults and Teens)

Mon., Jan 28 – 1:00 pm – **Meet the People in your Neighborhood** (meet a police officer) (Age 6-12)

Wed., Jan. 30 – 10:30 am – **Penquins, Penquins, Penquins** (stories and songs) (Age 4-5)

Yes, Count Me as a Friend

It's time to renew your membership for 2013!

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

New? ____ Membership Renewal? ____

Here's My Annual Membership Donation

\$10 Individual _____

\$25 Family _____

Other Amount _____

I would like to volunteer

my talents to help the Friends of Oakton Library.

Kindly check one or more:

- ___ Book Sales
- ___ Volunteer at the Library
- ___ Friends Programs / Special Events
- ___ Hospitality / Floral Displays
- ___ Horticulture / Outdoor Habitat
- ___ Expanding our Membership
- ___ Occasional Assistance

Please make your check payable to
Friends of Oakton Library

and then mail to

Friends of Oakton Library
10304 Lynnhaven Place
Oakton, VA 22124-1785

FOL is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization.
Your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you!