



FRIENDS

OF THE MATHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

January 2009

Volume 27, Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Turn of the year

2008 was quite a year, especially the second half of it! Venerable financial institutions crashing almost daily, captains of capitalism begging Congress for government assistance, an historic presidential election, a change in power of the political parties, one war apparently winding down and another heating up, home foreclosures raging, no credit to be had where yesterday we were awash in it ...

Maybe the Bard had the right caution for us as individuals, though in this modern day judicious lending and borrowing are pillars of our economy:

Neither a borrower nor a lender be,
For loan oft loses both itself and friend,
And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.

[Hamlet Act 1, scene 3, 75-77](#)

Here in Mathews, we struggle with the fallout from it all, both privately and publically. It is likely that the main business of the Friends during the remainder of the downturn and the eventual recovery will be to help cushion its effects on our library. In doing so, though, we must be vigilant

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

QUARTERLY MEETING

JANUARY 20

10 A.M.

MATHEWS MEMORIAL

LIBRARY

so that longer-term opportunities not be obscured by the current turmoil and slip by us. Your Executive Committee continues to meet monthly and pays close attention to these issues.

In 2008, we provided substantial support for the library, making it possible for it to continue its excellent program offerings and services. Especially noteworthy were our funding of the library's summer programs, and our recent actions in funding additions and upgrades of the library's computer equipment and software. With the library facing a probable 5% reduction in funding,

www.friendsofmathewslibrary.org

and possibly more, we are closely monitoring the situation to see where we can be of assistance.

Our used books sales, mainly in the Orrell Building, continue at an excellent clip. Drop by on a first Saturday of the month and look over the unbeatable deals.

Roger Gamble, who oversees our memorial bricks program, added to his portfolio by commissioning the production of some handsome, high-quality Friends of the Mathews Library book bags – flaming red so as to draw one’s attention to them. They will be excellent advertisements for the Friends, and will bring a modest income through their sales. They are available during book sale days in the Orrell Building, and in the Library.

Here’s hoping for a happier, more prosperous, and calmer 2009 for us all, and for an adequate budget for our wonderful Library.

Neil Webre

MATHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

A LOOK AHEAD

The Library Angle: In 2008, visits to the Mathews Memorial Library increased 15% and more than 7500 citizens currently have library cards. The recession means that more people will be turning to libraries not just for recreation but also for reading up on careers and new skills. In 2009, Mathews Memorial Library will focus on helping citizens achieve their aspirations through access to community resources, programs and training. The library hopes to create a “Community Resource Center,” a one-stop place for Internet access, job applications and much more. It is envisioned that the Center will be a place where

those in search of jobs or career skills development can go to fill out and submit the necessary paperwork, file for unemployment benefits and also provide the resources needed to help them look for a job. In addition, the library will continue and expand its computer training workshops to include not only basic computer skills, but also training in Microsoft programs such as Excel, Publisher and PowerPoint.

A long-term goal of the library is to be a partner with other organizations to promote a sense of community through nurturing inclusiveness and highlighting the heritage of Mathews residents, promoting and assisting in the articulation and realization of the community’s value. Researching the history of Mathews families and history will be enhanced by the inclusion of new resources, including remote access to genealogical tools such as HeritageQuest.

Programs to enrich the lives of children and adults are a major part of planning for 2009. Youth programs will build on past successes by again sponsoring a spring “Fantasy Trip” and the annual month-long July program. This year’s theme for July will be “How Things Work,” an exploration of things both natural and man-made. For adults, there will be a return of Tom Steel, who will present a new “Lessons in Pleasure,” highlighting music from the four points of the compass. Confirmed writers for the Author Series include Dr. Woody Holton on February 15 discussing his work, *Unruly Americans and the Origin of the Constitution*, and, in April, Tony Horwitz to talk about his book, *A Voyage Long and Strange*.

The goal of the library is to provide community-oriented resources and services that enhance the lives of the patrons we are privileged to serve. We welcome input from everyone in achieving this goal.

Bette Dillehay, Library Director

ORRELL BUILDING BOOK SALES

2008 was a good year for book collection and sales. The transfer of management from Mildred Stillman to David and Jane went smoothly but we need both of our efforts and a bunch of good volunteers to keep up.

However, it looks as if 2009 may be a bit more difficult. Mathews may avoid some of the economic difficulties, as many of us are retired and not dependent on maintaining employment. On the other hand, many of our sources of retirement income are a bit wobbly or shrunken. In a way, that is a very good thing for our book sales. Would you rather drive out of town and pay full price for reading entertainment or would you find it better to come into Mathews and browse our shelves for gently used bargains?

The main features of success for our funding for the Library revolve around donations and traffic. Donations keep the shelves filled and the traffic of Friends and visitors make room on the shelves. Speaking of which, I have been amazed at the number of people that do not know about our bookstore. We put out signs, the Visitors' Center notes when we will be open, notices are printed in the Gloucester Gazette and Daily Press and still there are many who do not know we are in Mathews. What we really need is word of mouth advertising by each of you Friends. Make sure that your neighbors and visitors are told about the bargains to be found in the Orrell Building.

Jane & Dave Abbott

BRICK WALKWAY & PATIO

The Walkway & Patio bids you a very successful and prosperous 2009 and hopes you will keep it in mind as you look for ways to honor or memorial-

ize family and friends. My son-in-law, who works in Africa, was visiting over the Xmas holidays and I took him to check it out. He was very impressed, but noted that I had included bricks for some of my grandchildren but not for his two children. Wow! Am I in trouble? Guess I better plan on getting bricks this year for my other four grandkids.

2008 was a rather slow year as we added only nine bricks. Three of them were ordered by out of state people, which illustrates once again the importance of taking your visitors to visit the Library, the Orrell Book Store and the Walkway & Patio. And remember, we can place your new bricks next to ones you ordered in earlier times. Let's make 2009 a banner year.

Roger Gamble

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following proposed slate of candidates for service during 2009. The election will take place at the January membership meeting.

OFFICERS

President	Neil Webre
Vice-President	Norma von Brock
Treasurer	Janice Phillips
Recording Secretary	Pam Viens
Corres. Secretary	Nancy Lindgren

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Book Store	Jane & Dave Abbott
Memorial Patio	Roger Gamble
Membership	Millie Montgomery
Volunteer Coordinator	Norma von Brock
Newsletter	Doreen Folzenlogen
Historian	Mary Pulley
Landscaping	Carol Fitzgerald
Ex Officio	Jack Ward

Winter 2009 USED BOOK SALES
Orrell Building, Friends of the Library

To Friends and Patrons
Take Home Lots of Books for Cold Winter Days

January to April 2009 Dates and Hours

Open the first Saturday of each month
Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4
Always 9 am to 1 pm

Categories of Available Books

Fiction and Non-fiction, hard cover and paperback, History, Biography, Cookbooks, Religion, Large Print, Children's Books, Health & Fitness, Westerns, Gardening, Arts & Crafts, Videos, CDs, DVDs, Audio books, Science, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Textbooks, Language, Self-Help, Mysteries, Romance, Historical Romance, Suspense, Political, Classics, Computer Science. And just about everything else printed.
(We even have books printed in Chinese)

Prices Posted in the Orrell Building

2008 Fiction and Non-fiction	\$3.00	
2009 Fiction and Non-fiction	\$4.00	
Paperback, Oversized	\$1.00	(Bookstore price is \$9.99+)
Paperback or Trade, Large	\$1.00	
Collectibles & Unusual	Special prices will be posted	
Hardcover	\$1.00	
Paperback, regular size	25 cents each or 5/\$1.00	
Children's books	10 cents to \$1.00	
Videos, CDs	\$1.00	
DVDs	\$1.00 to ??	(Based on condition & age)

THE BACK ROOM

Treasures in the back room can be purchased for \$1.00/bag. (Bags provided)

Donations

Donations of used books will be accepted at the Orrell Building when open, at the drop box next to the door of the Orrell Building, or at the Main Library Desk. Please do not donate any books with water damage or mold.

Sales Proceeds

All money received from the sale of books is used for the library. Note that we do pay sales taxes to the state of Virginia but do not burden our "customers" with the tax. Monetary donations are always welcome.

Volunteers

The used book sales are always staffed by volunteers. Please let us know if you would like to join us. 725-4264.

Suggestions

We are always looking for improvements to enhance the sale of our books. Please feel free to make suggestions.

Bags & Boxes

We welcome buyers who bring their own bags or boxes. Sometimes they are in short supply.

Gift Certificates

Gift certificates are available for sale in increments of \$5.00. These make great gifts for anyone who loves to browse the shelves.

BUY A BRICK

Buy a brick for \$100 and get a **FREE** \$10 gift certificate.

Buy a brick for \$225 and get a **FREE** \$25 gift certificate.

What do we do with surplus books??

Upon request surplus books are provided to the Veterans' Hospital in Richmond, Boys & Girls Club of Mathews, prison libraries, churches and schools. Outdated books and old books that do not sell within a year may be recycled to make space for ongoing donations.

Please, no cell-phones, smoking, eating or drinking in the building
Thank you.



**OUR NEW BOOK BAG—ONLY \$10—
WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO
THE LIBRARY**

www.friendsofmathewslibrary.org

**The Friends of the Mathews Memorial Library
Treasurer's Report - December 31, 2008**

	YTD		2008 Budget
Building Fund			
Balance, January 1, 2008		\$ 53,356.39	
Interest Earned (Estimated)		2,105.65	
Bricks, Decal Sales		959.00	
Estimated Building Fund Balance, 12/31/08		\$ 56,421.04	
Reserves/Investments			
Balance, January 1, 2008		\$ 70,061.01	2,000.00
Interest Earned (Estimated)		1,752.58	1,000.00
Transfers from Checking		20,388.36	
Estimated Investments Balance, 12/31/08		\$ 92,201.95	
Checking Account			
Balance January 1, 2008		\$ 7,821.16	
Income YTD			
Book Sales	9,289.67		7,000.00
Tote Sales	210.00		
Contributions & Grants	40,762.85		22,000.00
Memberships	600.00		600.00
Bricks and Decals	-		
Total Income		\$ 50,862.52	32,600.00
Operating Expenses			
Insurance	(513.00)		(520.00)
Lease	(12.00)		(12.00)
Telephone	(476.79)		(500.00)
Sales Taxes	(441.73)		(300.00)
Postage	(465.15)		(648.00)
Newsletter	(450.00)		(200.00)
Pavers	(204.74)		(500.00)
Subscriptions	(65.00)		(100.00)
Advertising	(102.61)		(200.00)
Tote Bags	(613.15)		
Misc.	(291.67)		(685.00)
Stationery, Office Supplies	(224.70)		(150.00)
Contingency Fund			

			(785.00)
Total Operating Expenses		(3,860.54)	(4,600.00)
Library Support			
Books, Audio Tapes	(444.67)		(27,000.00)
Programs	(9,036.25)		
Aquarium	(151.71)		
Architectural Study	(2,930.00)		
Staff Development	(447.86)		(1,000.00)
Computers, Software	(3,909.00)		
Total Library Support		\$ (16,919.49)	(28,000.00)
Total Expenses		\$ (20,780.03)	(32,600.00)
Transfer from Checking to Investments		\$ (20,388.36)	
Change in Checking Acct.		\$ 9,694.13	
Unaudited Check Book Balance, 12/31/08		\$ 17,515.29	
Bookstore Change Fund		\$ 64.00	
Total		\$166,202.28	

Funds Committed but not spent:

Technology Requests (computers, software)

(\$16,217.08)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Do you have "2008" on your address label? If so, it's time to renew your membership in the Friends. Maybe this is the time for you to upgrade to "Life" status. The majority of our members are at this level. **In fact, 259 of our 310 members are "Life" members.** An application is on the back of this newsletter. We continue to send our newsletters to Life members who move out of the County. If there is anyone outside the County who is no longer interested in receiving the newsletters, please let us know through our membership chairman at davemil@visi.net, through our address at P.O. Box 127, Mathews, VA 23109, or through our answering machine at 804-725-0808.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

More and more groups are using email to communicate with their members. Newsletters will continue to be mailed but announcements could be made by email. Could we have your email address? Please send it to our membership chairman, Millie Montgomery, at davemil@visi.net.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Roslynn Tharp-Curran of Gloucester. We appreciate your support.

Friends of the
Mathews Memorial Library
P.O. Box 127
Mathews, VA 23109-0127



BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MATHEWS, VA
PERMIT NO. 20

Date: _____

I Want to Open/Renew My Membership.

Remittance is enclosed to:

- Open My Lifetime Membership @ \$50 person
- Open My Annual Membership @ \$5 person
- Renew My Annual Membership @ \$5 person

I want to Support Library Special Projects.

- Enclosed is my gift of \$_____.

Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

Name

Telephone

Address

E-mail Address

Post Office

State

Zip

Contributions to the Friends of the Mathews Memorial Library are tax deductible. Make checks payable to Friends of the Mathews Memorial Library

and mail to P.O. Box 127, Mathews, Virginia 23109-0127.