



FRIENDS

OF THE MATHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, INC.

From the President...

Dear Friends,

Since the Spring newsletter was published, two substantial commitments have been made to help ensure the success of the Library Addition Project. Brent Nunnelley Goo, of the District of Columbia with ties to the county, toured the space this spring and committed a \$150,000 gift. At its June 26 monthly meeting, the Mathews County Board of Supervisors voted to approve a \$200,000 capital contribution to the project. These two gifts, combined with the \$200,000 anonymously donated to purchase the building next to the Library, demonstrate the support by the community for the project, as the Campaign Steering Committee reaches out to select foundations, businesses, and individuals for the much needed additional funds.

DONA HONORARIA

We have received honoring gifts,
since the last newsletter,

To the general fund:
In Honor of JoAnna Brown

To the H. Bland Hudgins Library
Addition project:
In Honor of Jack Ward

At the July FOL board meeting, the board approved the development of the courtyard behind the H. Bland Hudgins Wing as an add-on to the Library Addition Project. The Campaign Steering Committee had suggested that this development be considered. With approval of the FOL board, a meeting was held with representatives from the Mathews Historical Society, Mathews County Visitor and Information Center, the Library and John Hopke, our architect. At that meeting, each organization discussed how it visualized the use of the space and the concerns that it felt needed to be addressed. Taking into account the space and what he had heard from each organization, John Hopke developed a plan that was subsequently adopted by the board. The courtyard space will provide a place for residents and non-residents to sit and reflect, as well as a gathering place for events and programs hosted by the Library and other organizations. The plan is on display for viewing in the Orrell Building.

The FOL manned the Community Tent at the Mathews Farmers Market on April 14 and July 7 and will be there on September 1. These Saturday mornings help us to tell our story: the Orrell Building Used Book Store, the Brick Sales, the Library Additions Project, membership in our group, and the mission we have to support the needs of the Library. It has been a fun way to share the FOL with the public.

The 30th Anniversary Celebration of the FOL was held at the membership meeting in April. It was an overwhelming success, with over 50 members attending. Eileen Ripley, a founding member of the organization, was in attendance as well as many past presidents, the Library Trustees, and leaders in the last Library expansion program. Michael Cannon, Doreen Folzenlogen, and Jack Ward created a program on the history of the FOL and its support of the Library.

FOL will hold an OPEN HOUSE at the H. Bland Hudgins Wing during Market Days in September. Visitors will have an opportunity to view the plans and the space, to ask questions, and to visualize the future of the library expansion.

I look forward to seeing you at Open House during Market Days.

Maree Morgan
President

Welcome New Members

Mark and Jennie Bishof * Linda Bryson * Joyce Clark * Nan and Bert Cross * Holmes C. Harrison III * Bronwyn Hughes

From the Library Director...

Striking the Mark

"If you would hit the mark, you must aim a little above it." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

There is little doubt that the staff of the Mathews Memorial Library gets stretched – especially during the summer when the challenge is to inspire and excite young people. The entire staff is dedicated to serving anywhere, anytime in the library, and this is never truer than when we offer a youth program such as we have done each July for the past ten years.

Empowering the Team. First and foremost, staff must be encouraged to take risks without fear of disapproval if they don't succeed. There has been no shortage of such experiences at the Library, but those events are far outweighed by the number of successes. Because each of us brings different skills and experiences to the table, there are times when we have difficulty reaching consensus on what will work or not work; however, the culture allows for honest mistakes. We learn from everything and keep the focus on customer service.

Empowering the Public. Programs for the public have long been a staple of library service. To be effective, we recognize that the first consideration in program planning has to be the needs of the public. New and emerging needs bring on the cultivation and creation of new programs. This was never more evident than in 2008 when the dimensions of the economic crisis became clear, and libraries across the Commonwealth and the Country pondered how their services might be applied. The Mathews Library responded with the establishment of Career Connect Center, operating in partnership with the VEC and the federal Job Assistance Center program. Three staff members and a part-time consultant were trained to assist individuals seeking employment. The Center is still active with assistance available each Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A second successful initiative was proposed through the youth center. It involves a partnership with Mathews County Public Schools and is known as the Mathews County Parent Resource Center or PRC. The Center is housed in the library and its mission is to provide the community with resources to increase awareness and knowledge of individuals with special needs. It has become a safe place where individuals with disabilities, families and support caregivers can make connections, find answers to their questions and gain understanding to improve their quality of life.

As mentioned, not all initiatives are so successful. The library recently launched a program, "Digital Days." With scanning equipment on loan from the Library of Virginia, the library staff proposed working with local organizations including the Mathews County Historical Society and the Mathews Maritime Foundation to capture and preserve historical and family records for Mathews residents. Residents were invited to bring documents, photos and other records to the library during "Digital Days" where trained library staff would copy their records and provide a digital copy. In turn, the library would retain a copy and link it to the jointly held archival collection. Sadly, only two collections of documents and photographs were presented for scanning.

Lessons Learned. The library has quickly learned that traditional library space cannot accommodate the expansion of programs that has transpired over the past several years. The single community room is just not enough space, either for youth or adult programming. If for no other reason, the library must be able to accommodate multiple programs simultaneously. The vision of added space that is seen with the unfolding of the anticipated renovation of the adjacent courtyard and building brings great excitement to staff and patrons. The work of the Friends and their dedication to making this vision a reality is greatly appreciated.

Programs have transformed the Mathews Memorial Library into a true community center. They have magnified the importance of the library to the community and attracted new visitors to the library who are anxious to participate. There is no doubt that an expanded and varied array of programs will be one of the key services of the successful public library of the future.

Bette Dillehay
Director

Upcoming Events *at a glance*

Tea Dance

August 12, 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Soothin' Summer Sounds **Glenn Boswick - Sound of Swing**

August 14, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

you can visit the library's website
for complete descriptions and for
registration requirements

www.mathewslibrary.org

The Digital Book Explosion

During my tenure as president of the Friends of the Library from 2008-2010, I wrote a series of articles in the newsletters on the subject of electronic books (digital books or eBooks). In that period, specialized reading devices for such books and documents were just coming onto the market. The leader was Amazon's *Kindle* (kindle.amazon.com), but there were several others. Amazon had the decided advantage in that they were a mammoth online bookseller and, as such, could offer a huge breadth of titles in electronic form. Amazon was followed by Barnes & Noble and its *Nook* readers (www.barnesandnoble.com/u/nook/379003208). Barnes & Noble was also a giant seller of books, though more through its traditional bookstores than electronically. However, it quickly ramped up to add a large range of digital editions to its offerings.

There are other dedicated readers (in Canada, *Kobo*), but the *Kindle* and *Nook* are far and away the leaders in the United States. Prices range currently from \$79 to \$199, depending on model and such features as touch screens, backlighting, color, and wireless connection options. Take a look at the B & N and Amazon web pages, noted above, to see the range of offerings.

An electronic reader can store thousands of books, documents, magazines, and newspapers, and with absolutely no increase in the weight of the device. Additional books are more or less instantly available given an Internet connection from pretty much anywhere in the world. If you are traveling in Prague for example and you want another book, you can use your hotel's Wi-Fi service (most often free) or a Wi-Fi connection in a coffee house, cafe, bar, etc. to order and download a book in seconds.

There are wireless connections other than Wi-Fi, options such as cell service (Verizon, AT&T, Sprint) - usually labeled 3G or 4G - that allow even more flexibility such as connecting while outside of Wi-Fi range when traveling in a car or train. Word of warning though - do not use, in fact turn off, your 3G or 4G connections outside of the U.S. You may inadvertently run up thousands in charges. I accidentally turned mine on in Canada for 5 minutes and was charged \$35! Stick to Wi-Fi when outside the country.

As of June 2012, eBook sales revenues surpassed hardcover sales revenues. Paperback sales revenues remain greater, but not by much, and they are declining.

Current eBook sales are:

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| • Amazon | 58% |
| • Barnes & Noble | 27% |
| • Apple (iTunes) | 9% |
| • Other | 6% |

Some eBook collections include audio books, a wonderful thing for those whose eyesight is not so good. This technology is also a big plus for commuting and long auto trips. There are dedicated commercial audio book services such as audible.com, and free audio book services such as audiobooks.org, but that's a bit outside the scope of this article.

Sources For eBooks

There are three principal sources for eBooks:

- Commercial sellers like Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Apple (purchase)
- Collections of free online books in electronic form (download free of charge)
- Lending libraries such as our own Mathews Memorial Library (free, time-limited checkout)

We have already talked about commercial sources. Let's look at the other two.

Free Online Books

In general, these are books and documents whose copyrights have expired and are now in the public domain, or which had no copyright. All you need is a web browser, not a dedicated reader, though they can also be read on the latter. There are some fantastic collections, and getting a copy is pretty much like going to any web page. The granddaddy of them all is Project Gutenberg (www.gutenberg.org), founded in 1973, years before the Web. It currently has over 40,000 titles.

The 400 lb. gorilla, though, is the University of Pennsylvania's *onlinebooks* site (onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu). It has over a million titles listed in its catalog. It includes the Project Gutenberg listings, and listings of other online sources such as the HathiTrust Digital Library. It is the place to go first. If you find an item in their catalog, just click on *Full View* and a copy downloads from somewhere. I (exotically) tried for Goethe's *Faust* in German. There was an *onlinebooks* catalog entry. I clicked on *Full View* and a copy in facsimile immediately appeared on my computer - in this case, downloaded seamlessly from the *HathiTrust* collection (Fraktur typeface anyone? :-). UPenn's *onlinebooks* is a fabulous service.

Public and other lending libraries

The new kids on the block are the digital lending services of public (and other) lending libraries. According to publiclibraries.com, over 75% of U.S. libraries now lend eBooks, and nearly 40% lend eBook readers to those who do not have them. Take a look at Mathews Library's web page explaining how their eBook borrowing is done (www.mathewslibrary.org/what-we-have/downloadables/overdrive). There is also a nice web page by OverDrive, the provider of the lending engine for libraries, that details which digital formats can be read on which readers (www.overdrive.com/resources/drc/). (eBooks come in a variety of file formats depending on providers; some readers are restricted to displaying only certain formats.)

A giant newcomer, though not free, is Amazon's new Kindle Owners' Lending Library. It offers over 150,000 titles for lending (www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html/?docId=1000739811). However, there are serious restrictions: a) lending is only available for Kindle readers, b) you can borrow only one title per month, and c) you must purchase a Amazon Prime membership (\$79/yr). My feeling is that the restrictions will seriously limit its appeal for eBook lending.

continued next page



“Taking a Closer Look” - an archaeological adventure - during the youth summer program.



Darryl Ellyson strummin' some Sootbin' Summer Sounds

The Digital Book Explosion continued

The Rise of Tablets

With the spectacular introduction and sales of Apple's iPad, the dawn of touch screen mobile computers arrived. The iPad's and its Android and Windows competitor tablets' acceptance and uses in the market has been nothing short of amazing. These are powerful computing devices with dazzling color displays, touch screens, light weight and moderate size. The earlier equally spectacular rise of the Smartphone/iPhone provided many of the features of the tablets, though in a much smaller, cell phone-like format. We'll concentrate here on tablets rather than smartphones, and on the iPad in particular since it has the lion's share of the market.

Can you read eBooks on a tablet? To paraphrase a certain President, “Yes, you can.” Most directly, you can purchase books from the Apple iTunes store and use the iPad's *iBooks* app reader for reading it. An alternative is to load Amazon's *Kindle* app onto your iPad (www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html/ref=kcp_ipad_mkt_ind?docId=1000490441). You can then purchase eBooks from Amazon's Kindle store and read them on your iPad. Similarly, you can download the Barnes & Noble *Nook* app and order and read eBooks from Barnes & Noble (www.barnesandnoble.com/u/nook-for-ipad-iphone-ipod-touch/379003589/). I find these features to be very handy and use them all the time.

You can also download free books through U Penn's *onlinebooks*, Project Gutenberg, HathiTrust's Digital Library, and so on, and read them on your tablet. And you are not limited to mobile devices. Though not as comfortable, you can load the *iBooks*, *Kindle*, and *Nook* apps onto your desktop computer and order and read books using them.

The top-end model readers - *Kindle Fire* and *Nook Tablet* - have a substantial number of features that the more powerful tablets such as the iPad have. They have color displays, and you can watch movies and videos, surf the Web, do email, and download and use apps in much the same way as you do with tablets. The down side - a smaller display. The up side - they cost about \$200 versus the \$500+ cost of tablets. A battle is brewing on this crossover turf. Rumor has it that Apple is developing an iPad Mini to combat these readers.

Conclusion

You may not find lounging in your window seat with your reader or iPad as warm and fuzzy as doing the same with a classic paper book. However, my experience is that, while that was my first impression, I gradually adapted and pretty much forget about the medium I am using as I become absorbed with the content. I think that most people just adjust to it given a little time. It is great for traveling, allowing me to bring all the books I might conceivably read at no extra space or weight, and to have the ability to get new ones in English instantly when in, say, Russia or Hungary or Thailand. eBooks are typically cheaper, and I can also borrow them for free without physically going to the library. I can even borrow them while traveling.

This article is about a rapidly changing area, although the libraries, readers, and processes for obtaining eBooks and documents are beginning to settle down. They will no doubt become commonplace as we progress through this early part of the twenty-first century.

Neil Webre
President, 2008 - 2010

USED BOOK SALES ORRELL BUILDING

Behind the Library

SUMMER & FALL USED BOOK SALES

August - September 8
open every Friday and Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Market Days

September 7 and 8
Friday and Saturday
open 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Enjoy your shopping, leave the books you
purchase with us,
just pick them up before 3:00 p.m.**

After September 8th, the book store will be open on the first and third Saturdays of each month.
September 15, October 6 & 20, November 3 & 7,
December 1 & 15

FOL members will be notified by e-mail, if we have additional openings. (Are you a current member? Do we have your e-mail address?)

Thank you to everyone in the community and surrounding area for donating all the wonderful books for our sales.

Thank you to the volunteers who make the book store successful: **David Abbott, Martha Arnold, Ed and Michael Cannon, Barbara Churray, George Goode, Nan Hathaway, Pat Kinsley, Joan Metzger, Barbara Sampson, Louise Witherspoon, Bette Dillehay and the Library Staff and all the members of the Friends Board of Directors.**

Jane Abbott.
Chair, Used Book Sales

Volunteer Opportunity

During Mathews Market Days, the Friends of the Mathews Memorial Library will hold an open house in the projected addition to the library that will soon house a teen center, an expanded reading area for adults and teens, a staff work area, and a community meeting room. If you are willing to serve as a host for an hour or two during the open house, on September 7th or 8th, please e-mail christine.r.ulrich@gmail.com or call 725 3575.

Christine Ulrich

BRICK WALKWAY & PATIO

Last year was a banner year for the Walkway and Patio as we added 21 bricks to the 426 already there. The Spring/Summer doldrums have definitely hit us as we have added only two bricks through the first six months of this year. That is the bad news; the good news is that there is still lots of space for you to add additional bricks honoring or memorializing family members, friends, institutions, pets etc. or for you to add some philosophical wisdom for all to appreciate. The brick costs are still \$100 for a 4"x8" brick and \$150 for an 8"x8" brick. A list of all donors and brick inscriptions is maintained in our Book Store. Be sure to browse through it on your next visit, so you can fully appreciate the wide variety of inscriptions already there. And be prepared to add some additional ones of your own.

Contact me should you have any questions.

Roger Gamble



Friends of the Library
30 Years of Support
Past, Present, Future



On April 17, the Friends of the Library celebrated its 30 years of service. Nearly 50 residents attended, including county officials, past presidents and those who had supported the Friends over the years.

A slide presentation began with board member and past Friends' president Jack Ward showing how, years ago, FOL had taken on the construction challenge of transforming the old bank into the present library. Attendees saw the many library activities that FOL has supported, from the Children's Summer Programs to the Soothin' Summer Sounds concerts.

Jane Abbott showed how the book store got started, while Roger Gamble gave us the history of the Buy a Brick program. These two programs have raised thousands of dollars over the years.

Maree Morgan, FOL president, stated that it was a time for looking back at the past 30 years as well as a time to celebrate their new project: the expansion for the new H. Bland Hudgins Wing of the library. This project will add a much needed 4,000 square feet to the Mathews Library.

FOL is grateful to all of you who attended and helped us celebrate three decades of supporting Mathews County's award winning Library.

Michael Cannon.

Newsletter

If you are willing and able to receive the newsletter electronically, please email friendsofmathewslibrary@gmail.com

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

I Want to Open/Renew My Membership.

Remittance is enclosed to:

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

I Want to Help the Friends Support the Library.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____.

Mr/Mrs/Ms _____	_____	_____
	Name	Telephone
_____		_____
	Address	Email Address
_____		_____
City	State	Zip Code

*Contributions to the Friends of the Mathews Memorial Library, Inc.
are tax deductible. Make checks payable to
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and mail to P.O. Box 127, Mathews, Virginia 23109-0127.*

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