



FRIENDS

OF THE MATHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, INC.

From the President...

Dear Friends,

At the beginning of 2011, the FOL Board was faced with many decisions regarding the future H. Bland Hudgins Wing of the Library, the most pressing decision being what design would best meet the needs of the Library. Architects John Hopke and Beth Crowder of Hopke and Associates helped to guide the FOL Board and the Ad Hoc Building Committee - comprised of FOL Board members, the Library Director, a Library Trustee representative, and the County Administrator - in making decisions which reflected the needs of the Library while ensuring minimal changes to the existing Library as well as controlling costs. Many meetings later, a plan was in place and the architects were given the go ahead to begin the development of construction documents.

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Meanwhile, the Hudgins Wing building was cleared of all shelving and internal walls, and all the debris was removed thanks to the help provided by the County. In September, the Board held several open house gatherings for members and the public. The comments by those in attendance were overwhelmingly supportive of the project while expressing the hope that the project could be completed as soon as possible.

In late summer the Board retained Mary Ellen Stumpf, a consultant to the non-profit sector, especially libraries, to assess the potential and the readiness of FOL and the community to raise the necessary funds in today's economy. Her report was finalized in November and presented to the FOL annual membership meeting in November. The report was positive in its findings of how the community views the Library, of the strengths of the Library in serving the community, and of the acceptance of the community for this project. The Board retained Ms Stumpf for Phase II of the project, which includes campaign planning, the development of gifts and grants, and the launch of a public campaign. As Phase II unrolls, we will keep you informed and involved.

In early December, a letter was sent to all FOL members asking that FOL be remembered in their year-end giving. The Board is deeply grateful and appreciative of the outpouring of your support.

Newly elected officers for 2012 are Maree Morgan-President, Bronwyn Hughes-Vice President, Jim Hutchins-Treasurer, and Pam Viens-Secretary. Jack Ward, Pam Viens, and Hank Furniss were reelected to the Board for a three-year term ending in 2015.

Happy 2012 to all of you.

Maree Morgan
President

No More Business As Usual or..... e-book Escapades at the Library

Recent weeks have been busy ones for the Mathews Library staff. E-book inquiries arrived in full force in December as happy holiday recipients discovered e-book readers of various types among their gifts under the tree. A recent Pew Research Center report indicates that “29% of Americans owned at least one tablet or e-reader as of January 1, an increase of 18% over the number reported on December 1.” For many, it was an opportunity to immediately go online and fill their Kindles, Nooks and iPads with best sellers, mysteries and tales of romance. For many Mathews residents, their immediate thoughts turned to the recent news from the Library announcing the imminent launching of a program that would allow downloading of books at no cost, requiring only one’s library card for access to this service.

Despite the immediate hype following Amazon’s announcement of its Kindle in 1997, libraries have faced enormous hurdles in getting into the e-book game. While not the first digital book reader, variations of which were initiated in the early 70’s, the Kindle sparked the enthusiasm for this innovative format which is now experiencing dramatic growth. Libraries and digital books, however, were presumed by publishers to be an unacceptable union. HarperCollins reacted by imposing an arbitrary 26 loans per e-book license and Penguin refused to let libraries lend its new titles altogether. E-book licenses offered to libraries were prohibitively restrictive, going so far as to require identification of library users prior to allowing access.

No matter the barriers, the strong surge in e-books in libraries is the most dramatic story in public libraries today. An impressive 82% of US public libraries now offer e-books service. Libraries responding to a recent survey indicated they expect e-books to account for at least 8% of their materials budget, driving an increase of 185% in current holdings. Like the Mathews Memorial Library, many public libraries (62%) purchase e-books through a consortium, thereby reducing the cost and increasing holdings. There are challenges to the consortia route, including coordinating purchasing and, more significantly, limiting readers’ immediate access to popular titles.

Above and beyond the excitement that accompanies such a transforming event, members of the library profession recognize the inherent inequity presented by a library’s e-book initiative. Libraries are about democracy. At present anyone, any age, any demographic, poor or wealthy can pick up a book at the library and check it out. That is not true with e-books. Only if you have an e-reader, can you read e-books. To ensure that this scenario does not become reality for our community, the Mathews Library, with the support of the Friends, is investing in purchasing e-book readers which will be available for checkout in the same manner as a book.

It is no secret that librarians like books. However, as books have begun to transform to other formats, many have voiced the concern that the growing attractiveness of information in alternate states to print would lead to the demise of the library as a viable institution. As a reader, you may be questioning the appeal of a reading tool that is not composed of printed pages sandwiched between two pieces of cardboard. Surprisingly, those arguing for both sides cite similar points. Fans of both paper and electronic books claim the advantage of portability; but they differ on points of durability and immediacy of access. The topic of the future of reading is still fuzzy; however, it is certain that libraries will continue to exist, and it is the reader who will determine in what formats material will be available to them. Whatever your preference, the Mathews Memorial Library has chosen to present both options to its patrons beginning in February, 2012.

Bette Dillehay
Library Director

Upcoming Events *at a glance*

Ms. Cora Armstrong
Gospel: Spreading the Good Word
A Stirring Presentation of the Southern Gospel Sound
Thursday, February 16
7:00 p.m.

Pre-School Story Time
Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Career Connect Center
Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

You can visit the Library’s website
for complete descriptions of these and other
upcoming events and for any registration requirements.

www.mathewslibrary.org

***We're Glad You're a Member . . .
and We Have a Job for You!***

The Friends of the Library are almost three hundred strong. We all pay our dues and read the newsletter and from time to time, as in other "friendships," we get together to get a job done or just to have fun. Perhaps our most visible activity is the Book Store in the Orrell Building. Led by Jane and David Abbott and Michael Cannon, a devoted cadre of Friends collects and organizes books to sell, spring, summer, fall and winter. The work these Friends do raises thousands of dollars for the Library and gives Mathews a first-class used bookstore that serves residents and visitors alike.

Roger Gamble runs the memorial brick program that connects many of us to the Library in a very personal way and adds to the Library coffers. Mary Margaret Hutchins keeps us up-to-date on Friends activities by producing the newsletters and making sure each of us gets our copy. Other Friends advocate for the Library. Behind the scenes, board members and others tend to the necessary chores that keep the organization strong and healthy.

Here are just a few of the ways you might want to be part of the Friends' work:

- working in the Book Store
- working in the Library
- helping with publicity
- hosting Library and FOL events
- taking Library books to seniors and children
- helping with outreach to teachers and other groups
- speaking in the community about Library programs.

In the coming year, we'll be preparing for a public campaign to raise funds for the Library's new teen and community center.

Please give me a call or send an email if you have ideas, time, or talent to contribute to any of these activities: 725-3575; christine.r.ulrich@gmail.com.

Christine Ulrich
Membership Chair

From the Treasurer...

This year, the Friends revived a past practice by sending out a mass mail solicitation to the membership for contributions to the cause. We were very gratified to receive in response 59 donations totaling \$7,437. To those of you who gave, thank you very much.

I expect that you will be hearing from us again toward the end of this year with a similar request. Because we are trying to deal with the double whammy of reduced state support for the Library and a major construction project, we hope that the members will reach into their pockets and find something there to help us help the Library.

Let me note some examples of how we are helping this year. You may have read recently in the *Gazette-Journal* of the Library's expansion of its ability to offer access to information through new technological media. If so, you will be happy to learn that the Friends paid for the five eBook readers mentioned in the article. We also have in our budget money for subscriptions to additional eBooks and for the purchase of some new computers for general use in the Library. As in the past, we will provide the funding for some of the Library's popular programs. We have already given the Library money to underwrite the series of talks to be presented by authors this year, and we have budgeted money to pay the costs of the Library's summer programs.

The year's primary focus will, of course, be the Library addition project. We intend to devote all gifts received this year to this project. Construction drawings and specifications are currently being prepared. We will put the project out to bid when we have sufficient funds in hand to allow us to proceed with confidence.

Jim Hutchins
Treasurer

DONA HONORARIA

We have received honoring gifts, since the last newsletter,

To the general fund:

In memory of L. Wayne Hudgins from Peggy
In memory of Jimmie L. Jay
In memory of Virginia Hoskins Joice
In honor of Jon & Barbara Sampson.

**NOT YOUR ORDINARY
USED BOOK STORE**

WINTER 2012

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month

Watch for our sign on Main Street

2011 was a great year for the FOL Used Book Store, which made \$12,720 to help support the Library. FOL owes many people thanks for this success. Additionally, several changes were made during the year to improve the Book Store.

If you have not visited the Book Store, THIS IS NOT YOUR ORDINARY USED BOOK STORE! The store is neat and clean, the books are dated, the fiction alphabetized according to author, (a point praised by many of our visitors), and all non-fiction books are classified according to topic. Those topics include biographies, history and wars, cooking, ships and boats, sports, inspiration, humor, health and natural science to name a few. The Book Store even has a wonderful children's corner where most books are only 25 cents.

In 2011, the Book Store ran out of room to display the continuous generous donations of books. Therefore in order to use the space more efficiently, new bookcases were purchased and the back room was cleared. Books that had sat on the shelves unsold for years were donated to nine different nonprofit groups, freeing space for up-to-date overflows and sale specials. The "Back Room" has been organized with tables and chairs for meetings as well as providing a place for customers to chat while they wait for a friend or spouse who is looking to find "**one more book**".

The Back Room has a much more pleasant atmosphere thanks to **Stewart's Tile and Carpet Center**. **Richard Lee Stewart** came to the Book Store and made recommendations on the best and most economical ways to cover the cold, ugly cement floor. Many, many thanks to **Stewart's Tile and Carpet Center** for the great prices, the professional customer service and the flawless installation.

A enormous thank you to **Jane and Dave Abbott**, who are the backbone of the Book Store.

Special thanks to **Barbara Sampson, Barbara Churray and Martha Arnold** who spent countless hours helping to organize the new Back Room. Thanks to **Nan Hathaway** for her many hours reviewing the unique books.

Thanks to **Bette Dillehay**, the **Library staff** and the **Library volunteers** for all their help throughout the year. And of course, thanks to all of our other volunteers: **Ed Cannon, Joan Metzger, Steven Raptis, Marcie Ray, Diana More, George and Dee Goode, Pat Kinsley, Doreen Folzenlogen, Millie Montgomery, Pat Neiger, Maree Morgan** and **Karen Palmer** who donated almost 900 hours of work. We are also very grateful to the **Garden Club of Mathews County** who maintains the Book Store Garden in memory of Pam Machen.

Finally, thanks to the Mathews County community for the hundreds of books donated each and every month.

If you haven't already, please visit the Book Store in the Orrell Building behind the Library. You will be pleasantly surprised. Several of our regular customers have stated that when they have company from out of town, they always include the Book Store as a Mathews' Pearl to visit.

Michael Cannon.

BRICK WALKWAY & PATIO

This past year was truly a banner year for brick installations in the Walkway & Patio. Twenty-one bricks, nine 8"x8" and twelve 4"x8", were added to the 426 already in place. The inscriptions of the 2011 bricks ran the gamut from philosophical sayings to honoring or memorializing family and friends, from an ode to those defending our country to highlighting birthdays and family gatherings. The inscriptions included remembrances of a Friends "Founding Member", a Friends "Special Friend", a bibliophile as well as other Mathews County residents.

We were able to accommodate all requests by donors as to where they would like their bricks to be installed. To assure that all inscribed bricks could be readily seen, nineteen previously installed bricks were moved from under the wooden table and relocated to a space nearby.

A folder containing the names of donors and a listing of all inscriptions is available for inspection in the Friends Book Store. You can also contact me should you need assistance locating a specific brick. Donations remain at \$100 for a 4"x8" and \$150 for an 8"x8" brick. All donations are tax deductible to the maximum extent permitted by law.

Roger Gamble

FRIENDS OF THE MATHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY, INC.
Treasurer's Report - 12/31/11

Current Use Funds		2011 Budget
CHECKING ACCOUNT		
Balance January 1, 2011		\$29,897.73
<u>Income (Deposits) YTD</u>		
Book Sales	\$12,750.33	\$12,000
Tote Sales	\$100.00	
Bricks	\$2,055.00	\$1,500
Dues	\$500.00	\$700
Individual Contributions	\$15,957.10	\$5,000
Public Entity Grants	\$3,868.00	\$1,500
Non-Qualifying Grants	\$40,103.00	\$25,000
Tangible Asset Sales	\$30.00	
Total Income		\$75,363.43
<u>Operating Expenses YTD</u>		
Leases & Rentals	\$112.00	\$112.00
Utilities	\$553.02	\$600.00
Office Supplies	\$404.13	\$500.00
Insurance	\$575.00	\$905.00
Membership & Subscriptions	\$80.00	\$40.00
Professional fees, etc.	\$240.00	\$600.00
Advertising	\$146.62	\$500.00
Postage	\$517.74	\$600.00
Newsletter	\$672.50	\$800.00
Bricks	\$498.86	\$300.00
Tote Bags	\$0.00	
Tangible Assets	\$3,951.27	\$5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$50.00	\$250.00
Total Operating Expenses		(\$7,801.14)
<u>Library Support YTD</u>		
Programs	\$8,359.00	
Collections	\$200.00	
Computers, Software	\$0.00	
Building & Grounds	\$76,446.41	
Equipment & Furnishings	\$0.00	
Staff Development	\$128.40	
Total Library Support		(\$85,133.81)
To Checking from Savings/Investments/Restricted		\$33,993.99
From Checking to Savings/Investments/Restricted		(\$33,250.00)
Current Checking Account Balance		\$35,690.20
Bookstore Change Fund		\$75.00
DEMAND MONEY PLUS ACCOUNT		
Balance August 15, 2011		\$17,677.74
Interest Earned YTD		\$35.78
Other Deposits YTD		\$25,000.00
Withdrawals		(\$16,832.00)
Current DMP Account Balance		\$25,881.52

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Special Funds		
RESERVE FUND		
Balance, January 1, 2011		\$20,023.41
Interest Earned YTD		\$129.68
Other Deposits YTD		\$0.00
Withdrawals		\$0.00
Current Reserve Fund Balance		\$20,153.09
SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND		
Balance, January 1, 2011		\$142,959.41
Interest Earned YTD		\$615.25
Other Deposits YTD		\$250.00
Withdrawals		(\$53,407.05)
Current Special Projects Fund Balance		\$90,417.61
TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS		\$172,217.42

RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Library Director's Fund (separate checking account)		\$10.00
Treacle Foundation Grants (in Current Use Funds)		\$0.00
Total Restricted Funds		\$10.00

TANGIBLE ASSETS		
Realty		\$312,700.00
Equipment & Furniture		\$4,038.04
Bookstore Inventory		\$0.00
Total Tangible Assets		\$316,738.04

LONG TERM LIABILITIES		
Library Addition Realty		\$154,700.00

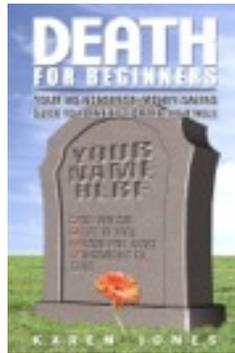
Note re asset valuations:

realty = assessed value; other tangible assets = depreciated cost

2011 YEAR IN REVIEW



Plans begin in earnest for the remodeling project of the former Radio Shack building to expand the Library.



Former Mathews' resident, Karen Jones, give a talk at the Membership meeting on current trends in the publishing.



21 new bricks!



The Orrell Building is the home of the "NOT YOUR ORDINARY" used Book Store. The lovely garden, in memory of FOL member Pam Machen, is beautifully maintained by the Garden Club of Mathews County.



New bookshelves provide much needed space in the Book Store. The Back Room gets a make-over too.



FOL sponsors the Summer Highland Games for the kids and gives the volunteers an excuse to wear kilts.



It was a Dickens of a Christmas at the Library this year.

Newsletter News...

With each quarterly newsletter this year, the number of members who have agreed to receive the newsletter electronically has increased. If receiving the newsletter electronically is an option for you and if you would be willing to do so, please send a message to that effect to our email address at friendsofmathewslibrary@gmail.com. Thank you.

Mary Margaret Hutchins
Newsletter Editor

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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