

# NEWSLETTER – FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY

AUGUST 2012

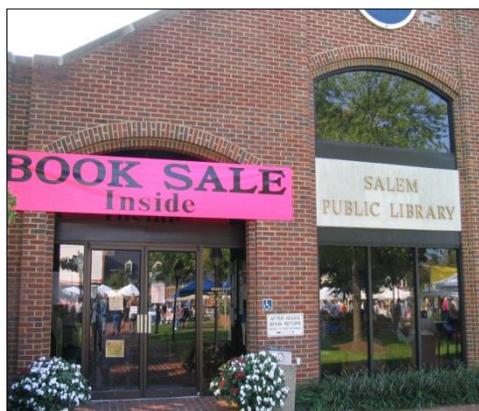
VOLUME 8

ISSUE 2



This banner was purchased by FOSL. It didn't survive the June 29 derecho winds. It was found destroyed the next morning. We hope you saw it before the storm. *Editor*

## It's Book Sale Time Again



*By Charles Draper, Editor*

The annual Friends of the Salem Library Book Sale starts Friday, September 7 and runs through Sunday, the 9<sup>th</sup>. Members of FOSL, whose dues are current, can get first selection of books by attending the Members' Only Sale on Friday Morning, 9:30 'till 11:30 AM. **Note that this is a change from last year. The Member's Sale starts 30 minutes earlier this year.** The members are also invited to the **Members' Luncheon** following the sale at 12:00 noon hosted by the staff of the Salem Library. See the invitation on Page 4. **Remember to RSVP and note that your FOSL dues must be current to attend the Members' Sale and Luncheon.**

### Schedule:

- Members-Only Sale - Friday, September 7, 9:30 to 11:30 AM
- Members' Luncheon - " , September 7, 12 noon to 1 PM (RSVP required. See page 4)
- Public Sale - " , September 7, 1:00 PM to 4 PM.
- Public Sale - Saturday, September 8, 9 AM to 5 PM.
- Public Clearance Sale - Sunday, September 9, 1:30 to 4:00 PM.

Questions? Please call FOSL's Book Sale Chairman, Sara Ahalt at 389-3802. ◇

*Member's Sale*  
*9:30AM*

## Presidents Letter

*Ken Sosnowski, President, Friends of the Salem Library*

75 years! As you may have noticed (perhaps you saw the banner or read the newspaper articles), the Salem Library is celebrating 75 years of service. (See page 1, ed.) Just think of the changes that have happened during your lifetime. Imagine that first library with only 2000 books. Could those first librarians even dreamed of shelves full of records and tapes, much less of CDs and DVDs? I'm sure that you would have gotten only blank stares if you had tried to explain E-books.

Yet one thing has remained constant, service to the citizens of Salem. Whether the needed information or entertainment came in the form of paper or plastic or even electrons, the library has provided it. Janis Augustine, Charlie Draper and I recently appeared before the Salem City Council to make sure they knew of this anniversary. They assured us that they consider the library a vital service which the city government provides. In the current fiscal doldrums, it is important that the city council realizes and appreciates all that the library provides. It is also important that the public realize that the library is not a fading institution, but a lively and vital part of our community.

Since you are reading this newsletter, I'm sure that you appreciate the library, but spread the word to your neighbors, friends and especially to your children or grandchildren, what wonders are available in "that old library" downtown.◇



Want to see these pictures in color? Visit [www.salemlibrary.info](http://www.salemlibrary.info). Click on "Community", then on "Friends of the Library". All newsletters are there as are minutes of recent meetings. *Editor*

## Summer Reading Program 2012 - Dream Big – READ

*By Maureen Harrill, Children's Services Librarian*



The 2012 Summer Reading Program provided the children of Salem and their families with a summer packed full of excitement. We registered 634 children which was a gain of 8.6 % from last year! In late May, I visited the 4 elementary school librarians and left them our SRP calendars so each school age child would know about the free programs and rewards for reading at the Salem Public Library.

Every 5 hours of reading up to 15, earned each child a small prize. This year the children have read for **2815** hours so far! The bat, owl & beaver shapes with their names are all over the children's department and we are so proud that they were excited to read or be read to in order to fill out their reading logs and earn their prizes.

The Friends of the Salem Library generously supported three of our most well attended programs: Haredini's Dreamtime Puppet Show on June 19<sup>th</sup>; Birdman Dave's Amazing Bird Show on July 12<sup>th</sup> & Little Critter's Petting Zoo on July 24<sup>th</sup>. We had a full house, so to speak at each of these events; however the petting zoo took place on the green outside! We offered 25 programs this summer for children ages 2-10 and many adults and younger siblings participated in these family programs as well.

Statistics don't tell the whole story of the benefits of a particular program but they indicate the response of the community. Our library became a really important place for families all summer and our circulation statistics bear this out with 28,337 items checked out in July, half of which were children's materials. This was a 17% increase over the previous year.

Dream Big – Read provided educational fun & learning for so many this year. Thanks to the staff & all who volunteered. A big thanks to the Friends of the Salem Library, the City of Salem and the Library of Virginia. ◇

## President Speaks to Council

*Ken Sosnowski made the following presentation to Salem Council on July 9. See Presidents letter, page 2.*

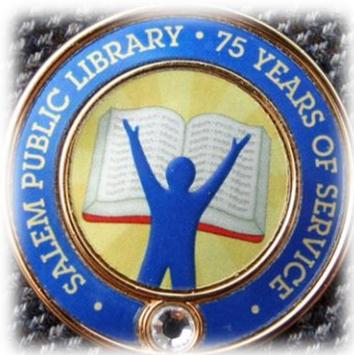
“Thank you for this opportunity!

I am Kenneth Sosnowski, President of the Friends of the Salem Library.

We are here tonight to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Salem Public Library. In 1936, the City of Salem agreed to convert the Tourist Station in Younger Park into the city’s first public library and provided \$150 in support. On February 15, 1937 the library officially opened with approximately 2000 books.

Later the city created a satellite location on Water Street. In 1970, the original building was razed and a new building was erected. Two decades later, that building was enlarged to its current size.

Today, the library contains over 124,000 volumes, 9000 audio books and 11,000 DVDs. Almost 19,000 people are carrying Salem Library cards (in a city of only 25,000 citizens!) and last year, they logged 233,000 visits.



**We would like to present to the members of the council these 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary pins.**

The City Council has provided 75 years of support to the library and to the citizens of Salem. The Friends of the Salem Library, representing all the citizens who use the library, would like to thank the council for its history of support and to say that we look forward to returning in another 75 years to again thank the council for its support.”

Ken Sosnowski ◇

## Teen Summer Reading

*By David Butler, Teen Services Librarian*

The Teen Summer Reading Program had its biggest year ever in 2012. We had 120 participants this year. WOW!!! We had some really neat programs also. Our three biggest programs were the duct tape program, the Amazing Race and the Teen Mystery Night. The teens really had a great time making some crazy duct tape contraptions as well as purses, bookmarks and flowers. The Teen Mystery Night was very hard this year. It was entitled “In the Shadow of the Vampire”. This was the first year that the mystery went unsolved. The Amazing Race was just that, AMAZING!! The teens really had fun doing crazy games and solving clues. Kim Weitkamp was back and inspired the young people to write creatively. She had them do some really cool exercises that helped them learn to think outside the box. We decided that we would try something new and crazy this year so the teens made a music video using the song, “We are Young”. You can see this video on the Salem Public Library’s Facebook page. They really did a remarkable job. We also did a Rock Band program where we brought in a live band. They played some songs and then allowed the teens to play their instruments. It was loud but it was great!!

I’m amazed how fast the Summer Reading Program goes by. I remember all the hours planning, the anticipation of beginning the program and now reflecting on a successful summer. The teen volunteers worked tirelessly as they helped with the Children’s Summer Reading Program. I am amazed at how willing these young people were to give of themselves to help the kids with their crafts, shelve books and help Maureen in many other ways. This year the teens who participated and read their twenty hours received “Own the Night” T-shirts, a really nice book bag and a glow stick. Janis (Our Library Director) donated a Sony Reader for our grand prize this year. We had our drawing on July 31. The winner was Alesia Devlin. Alesia was so pleased when we called her to let her know she had won. I see her in the library all the time with the Sony Reader in hand. I truly believe that it has found a good home. The Friends of the Salem Library helped make our program a success. Our partnership allows us to maintain a high quality program our teens really enjoy. Let it be known that our teens really did “Own the Night” this summer at the Salem Public Library. ◇

**Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:**

President: Kenneth Sosnowski  
Vice President: Charles Draper  
Secretary: Susan Ahalt  
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

**Board of Directors:**

Sara Ahalt  
Chris Gladden  
Betty Waldron  
Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.  
Helen Robertson

**Committees:**

Book Sale: Sara Ahalt  
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper 387-9824

This Newsletter is published biannually in January and August of each year by the Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St, Salem, VA 24153-3897

**Internet:**

[www.salemlibrary.info/Community/FriendsoftheLibrary.aspx](http://www.salemlibrary.info/Community/FriendsoftheLibrary.aspx)

**Membership dues** (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year**. Consult your mailing label. If the date shown is *prior to 2011*, please renew your membership. Your dues must be current to attend the Members' Book Sale and Luncheon. You may pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk or by mail.

## **Important Dates**

FOSL holds five regular meetings each year. They are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour.

- August 1 through September 6, Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- September 7 through 9, FOSL Book Sale (Sept 8 is Olde Salem Days)
- September 10, Meeting Room Cleanup
- October 14, regular meeting
- January 13, 2013, regular meeting, *election of Officers and Board*

Members are encouraged to attend and contribute to regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make activities such as the Book Sale a success.◇

## **Member's Luncheon**

The Staff on the Salem Library invites the Members of the Friends of the Salem Library to the Members' Luncheon on

Friday, September 7 at 12:00PM

**Please RSVP to 375-3089 or e-mail [library@salemva.gov](mailto:library@salemva.gov)**