

NEWSLETTER – FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY

JANUARY 2012

VOLUME 8

ISSUE 1

President's Letter

Chris Gladden, President 2011

Esteemed FOSLs: Welcome to a new year. First let me welcome new officers, all of whom have previously served in one capacity or another. Ken Sosnowski moves up to president. Charlie Draper steps in as vice president. Susan Ahalt and Joyce Foster return respectively as secretary and treasurer. These folks make the organization possible.

So do all of the rest of you. Our signature event is the annual library Book Sale and this year was a good one. Kudos to the chair; Sara Ahalt. I can testify that the crowds were steady all day. It looks like this annual tradition during Olde Salem Days has even become a destination. We brought in almost \$6,500 this year.

Speaking of money; we wound up more than \$23,000 in the black. Such funds have gone to the spring Art Show reception, Members Sale luncheon, Valley Reads, Adult Reading and other needs for the Salem Library. This year, we've agreed to again fund a library representative in Richmond. Special thanks go to Charlie Draper for his excellent newsletter. Here's expecting another successful year.◇

Our Mission:

The Friends of the Salem Library organized in 1988 to pursue the following mission: *To maintain an association of persons interested in libraries; to focus public attention on the library, its resources and services; to rally public support to ensure adequate library funding at municipal and state levels; to receive and encourage gifts and bequests to the library; to support and cooperate with the library in developing library services and facilities for the community.* FOSL is chartered as a non-stock corporation under Virginia law and holds tax-exempt status for Federal taxation purposes under Section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Tis the good reader that makes a good book.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

2012 Officers and Board Elected

By the Editor



L/R: Susan Ahalt, Joyce Foster, Charlie Draper, and Ken Sosnowski

On Sunday, January 8, the members elected the officers who will lead the Friends of the Salem Library during 2012. Ken Sosnowski is our new President. Charlie Draper, your Editor, was elected Vice President. Susan Ahalt returns as Secretary and Joyce Foster returns as Treasurer. The following members were elected to the Board:

Board of Directors:

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

Join the Friends of the Salem Library

See page 4 for the details. Help support your library. ◇

2011 FOSL Book Sale

By Sara Abalt, Book Sale Chairman

If the producers of the TV show Hoarders could see the community room about a week into preparation for the Book Sale, they would send for their cameramen. Boxes filled with books are piled on the stage, stacks of books on various tables threaten to topple, and boxes (some empty, some not) litter the floor. And someone donating another eight to ten boxes is standing at the door asking “Where should I put these?” What a mess!



Margaret Heurtematte asks, “Where can I set my coffee so I can get to work?”

It’s time to call in the experts. On the TV show, some hoarders need a psychologist to help them realize that it’s time to let go of their clutter. Those hoarders who are willing to let go don’t know where to begin and just throw up their hands. They need a professional organizer. (*Like Margaret, above. Ed.*)

For the Friends of the Library, these experts are the Book Sale Volunteers. What’s a book sale psychologist? One who knows which books are more likely to sell and need to be on top of a table and knows which books are not likely to sell at all and need to be culled. Book sale organizers put books into their proper categories – politics rather than history, fitness rather than diet, etc. They arrange books, DVDs etc. to the best advantage for buyers on sale days. The Volunteers are both psychologists and organizers. The list of all the things they do would fill a page, but I hope you get the idea.

So thanks to the folks who reduced their clutter by donating books and other things and to the Volunteers for getting the donations ready for the Book Sale buyers. Thanks to the Library staff who provided space and aid (and sometimes) comfort too. And to the buyers of books who made all the organization and time and energy worthwhile – a hearty **Thank You.** ◇



Maureen Harrill, Youth Services Librarian, (center) helps Betty Waldron and other members at the Member’s Luncheon

Campbell's Electronic Labels

This article first appeared in the August 2011 FOSL newsletter. We are repeating it in response to questions that have been raised at subsequent meetings, particularly telephone registration. Some clarifications and additions have been made.

Charlie Draper, Editor

Many of us have supported the Salem Library by saving Campbell's and other product labels for many years. We have redeemed over 113,000 labels since 2000. See the FOSL website for a detailed list.

If you are a "label saver", there is now a way you can double your contribution. If you are not a "label saver", there is a new and simple way to contribute. Labels for Education has an electronic version of Campbell's Labels for Education, which awards points for qualifying product purchases. Points can be redeemed for items ranging from scissors to flat panel TVs. Accumulating points off-line requires participants to remove UPC labels from participating products and depositing them in the Library where volunteers sort and mail them in for redemption.

E-labels are much less laborious. They can be collected by Kroger shoppers who enter their loyalty card number and designate Friends of Salem Library at eLABELS FOR EDUCATION web site. Every time you purchase a participating item, FOSL automatically receives at least 1 point. Select products earn up to 5 points.

But you must register. It's easy to do:

- Log on to www.elabelsforeducation.com. Click on "Sign up now".
- Complete the Required Fields
- Click "NEXT"
- Enter your Shopper Card number
- Click "add"
- Select school, in this case "Friends of Salem Library"

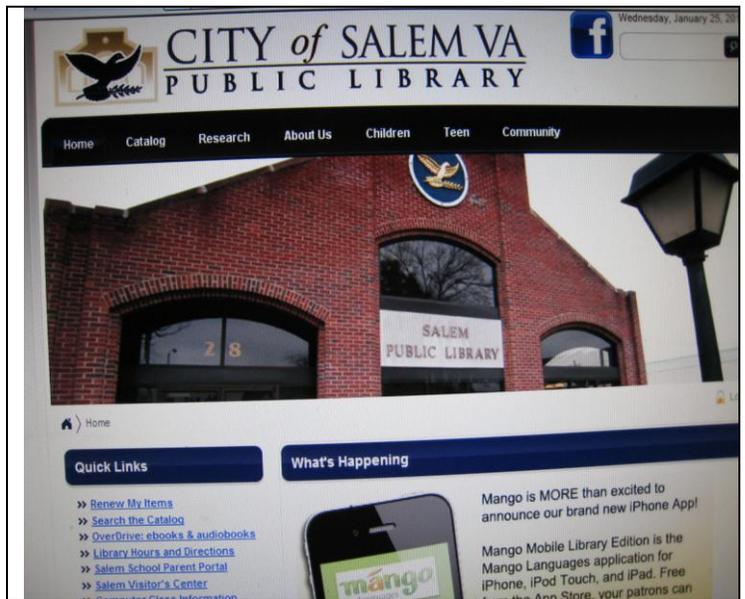
Now, every time you use your Kroger Card on a qualified product, FOSL will get one or more points. You can keep track of your contribution by logging on the web site with your email address and password.

Pat and I have been doing it for several months and it works seamlessly.

I have been asked if you can register by telephone. I thought that possible but I appear to be wrong. I have been all over the web site *and have found no reference to telephone registration.* If anyone finds a way to do it, please let me or Sara Ahalt know and we'll get a notice mailed to the members.◊

FOSL's Web Site

By Charlie Draper, Editor



Do you know that FOSL has a web page? It's been there a long time under the Salem Library web site. I suggest that members take a look at it because new things are added regularly.

The page answers the questions:

- Who we are
- Where we've been
- Where we're going
- What we're doing
- How you can help

When you are preparing to pay your dues, you can print a membership form from the site or print one for your neighbor so he or she may join.

What has Labels for Education acquired for the library?

Want to read a back issue of this newsletter. All are on the web page just a click away; *and the pictures are in color.*

Secretary's minutes are now on the web page to help you prepare for the next meeting and for the historical record.

How do you get there?

- Google "saalem va library" or type in the following URL: www.salemlibrary.info
- Click on "Community"
- Click on "Friends of the Library" and you are there.

Kudos to David Butler for his hard work overhauling the web site and for his quick response when we ask him to input new data.

After looking at our page, go back to the main library page and look at all the new features it has. Very impressive. ◊

Post This Page on the 'Frig.

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

Committees:

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

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Internet:

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 2012*, please renew your membership. 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 2nd Sunday* of the scheduled month Meetings start at 2PM and last for approximately one hour.

- **March 11:** Regular meeting
(*Note: Daylight Savings begins this date.*)
- **May 20:** Children's Art Show and reception
* (*2nd Sunday, May 13, is Mother's Day*)
- **July 8:** Regular meeting
- **August 1 through September 6:** Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- **September 7, 8, and 9:** FOSL Book Sale
(*Sept 8 is Olde Salem Days*)
- **October 14:** Regular meeting

All members are encouraged to attend regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make special functions such as the Art Show and the Book Sale a success.◇

Membership dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Type: Please indicate type of membership with an X.

_____ **Individual (\$10)** _____ **Family (\$15)** _____ **Sustaining (\$25)** _____ **Life (\$75)**

Please mail to: Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Make checks payable to: *Friends of the Salem Library* or *FOSL*. You may also drop this form and your check at the Library Desk.