

NEWSLETTER – FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY

JANUARY 2009	VOLUMN 5	ISSUE 1
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2009 Officers and Board Elected

By the Editor

The Friends held their first meeting of 2009 on Sunday, January 11. The members reelected the following officers and board members by acclamation:

Officers:

President	Dr. Robert McClanahan, Jr.
Vice President	Chris Gladden
Secretary	Margaret Heurtematte
Treasurer	Joyce Foster

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt
Charles Draper
Gwen Nickerson
Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.
Helen Robertson
Betty Waldron

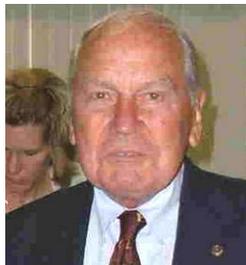


L/R: Betty Waldron, Chris Gladden, Bob McClanahan, Margaret Heurtematte, Helen Robertson, Sara Ahalt, and Charlie Draper

President's Report, 2008

By Dr. Robert McClanahan, Jr. President

Members of the FOSL should take pride in what we have accomplished this past year. Personally, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president. The greatest part of the job was the opportunity to work with some of the nicest people, library staff and members, that you could experience under any circumstances and I'm thankful for the opportunity.



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20th Anniversary of the FOSL's Book Sale

By Sara Ahalt, Book Sale Chairman

2008 marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of Salem Library and the first Book Sale. Joyce Foster and Ernestine (Woodliff) Lewis provided the impetus for organizing the Friends in the summer of 1988. (See Joyce Foster's article, Page 5. Ed.) By December the Friends were ready to stage their first event. That event was two-pronged. There was a "Meet the Authors" reception which brought together a number of writers from a fifty mile radius. The sidebar to the reception was a used book sale. That first sale brought in \$255.20. Part of the money was used to buy a Christmas tree for the reading section in the library.

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Library Support: FOSL provided \$2,840.65 in purchases for the library. This included:

- Library picture hangers
- Summer reading incentives
- Library Wii
- Library TV
- Children's playhouse

Attendance: Meeting attendance continues to improve. Our schedule for the 2nd Sunday of the month seems to be a satisfactory arrangement.

FOSL Book Sale: Under the guidance of Sara Ahalt, we exceeded last year's record amount. Our net sales amounted to \$6,739.71, which was remarkable considering the economy. Sara and all of the volunteers did an outstanding job.

The Nominating Committee, including Helen Robertson and Betty Waldron, reported a full slate of officers to serve in 2009. ♦

In 1989 the decision was made to continue having a Book Sale, and the date of Olde Salem Saturday was chosen. That date has remained in place ever since. For the next few years, the Book Sale was held outdoors – rain or shine. When it rained the tent covering the tables became a bowl of water that had to be bailed out to protect the books and the buyers.

When the addition to the library was completed in 1991, the Book Sale moved to the community room. Not only did the sale gain much more space, but the library staff gave the Friends much more time to get the sale organized. A pat on the back to those early Book Sale volunteers who established the organizational plan we still use today. If buyers come in looking for cookbooks or mysteries or science fiction, etc., we can quickly steer them in the right direction. Every year we get compliments on how the sale is organized.

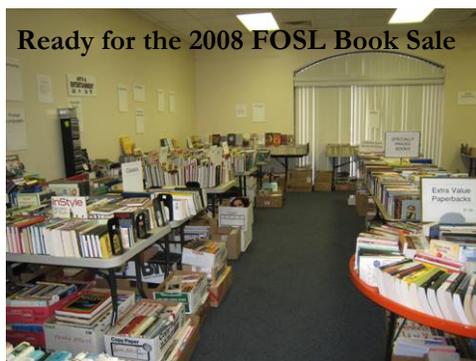
The Members' Sale was added in 1995. The Clearance Sale, which brings in several hundred dollars and reduces the number of books to be packed up, followed a few years later. Over the years, we have been able to gladly donate books (post sale) to a number of groups. We have helped out such groups as the VA, the Craig County Library, the shelter for battered women, and the library at the Roanoke City jail. The revenue in 1996 was \$2572.00 (compare the 1988), and **this year the Book Sale took in \$6739.00.** (*A new record. Ed.*)

Donations to the Book Sale these days reflect the trends in publishing. Paperbacks – the regular kinds, trade size and book size – have exploded. We get more and more audio-visual donations also. CDs, DVDs, and the hugely-popular audio books greatly outnumber the LP albums, which used to be the mainstay of A-V materials.

A final note on those volunteers who organized and staffed and cleaned up after those first Book Sales: Sadly, a number of the “leading lights” in the early years have died. Others, whose energy levels have greatly declined, still come by to say hello and support our efforts. Other “pioneers” are still going strong and integral to the success of the Book Sale. So thanks to those volunteers “old” and new whose enthusiasm and effort lead to successful sales after all these 20 years. ♦



Helen Robertson at the 2008 Member's Luncheon

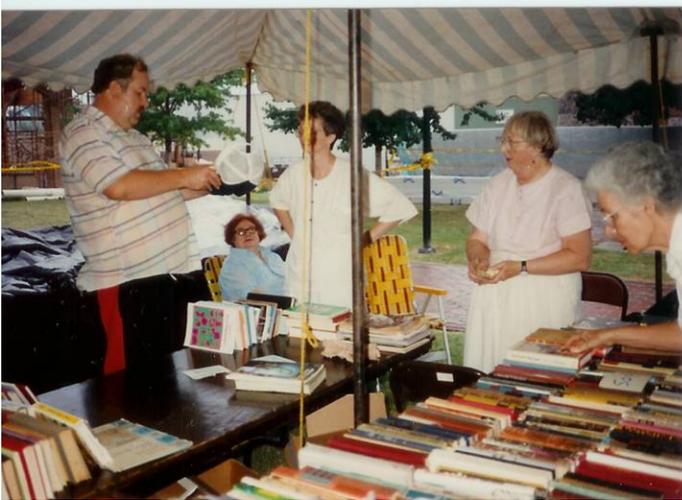
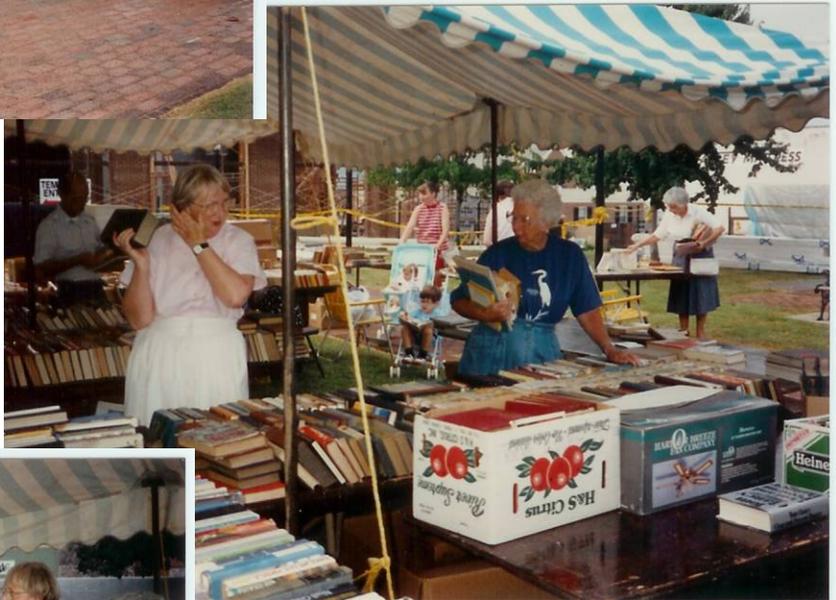


See more photos pages 3 & 4

How we used to do it! 1989 FOSL Book Sale



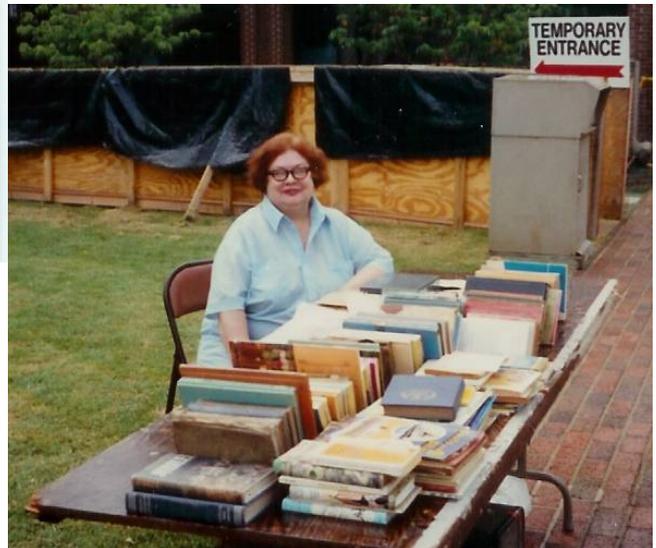
Hope it doesn't rain!



L/R: Paul Simpkins, Norma Giles, Joyce Foster, Grace Thomas and Margaret Rhodes

Photos from FOSL Scrap Book

Norma Giles



The 1995 FOSL Book Sale

L/R: Bill Johnson, Helen Robertson, Louise Nance, and Wes Earnest



Waiting to open

L/R: Dee Rose, Sara Ahalt, and Bill Johnson



Photos from FOSL Scrap Book

The reading of all good books is like a conversation with the finest men of past centuries.

Descartes (1637)





FOSL's 20th Anniversary

By Joyce Foster, Treasurer and first FOSL President

It was twenty years ago that Earnestine Woodliff mentioned to me she'd like the Salem Public Library to have a library Friends group, and I decided to form one. Earnestine was Children's Librarian at the time, and we'd gotten to be friends during the regular visits my young son and I made to the library.

Earnestine, Librarian Janis Augustine, and I brainstormed and came up with a list of people to ask to serve on the first Board of Directors. Mary Cross, Thelma (Tootie) Hildebrand, Lenore Holt, Tom Preas, and Arthur Sachs; comprised the board. The first officers were Joyce Foster, President; Elizabeth (Ibby) Call, Vice-President; Carol Cox, Secretary; and David Foster, Treasurer.

FOSL had a busy first five months, starting with our organizational meeting on Sept. 4, 1988. Betty Waldron, Viola Cash, Janis Augustine, Ibby Call and I were among the founding members and are members still. On December 10, 1988, FOSL held a 'Meet Local Authors' reception. This was Ibby Greer's particular project. The authors who agreed to attend were Amanda Cockrell, Marian Cockrell, Laddie Fisher, Richard Dillard, Linda Miller, Robert Benne, Kathryn Hankla, William L. Whitwell, Jeanne Larsen, Paul J. Woods, Dede Kegy, Barbara Kime Roop, and Paxton Davis. (Unfortunately, Mr. Davis marked the date wrong on his calendar and came the following Sunday, December 17.)

On the same afternoon as the authors' reception, we held a book sale. I don't think we have ever since been quite as ambitious as to programming! Lenore Holt had a friend who worked at the IRS whom Lenore thought might fill out our 501(c)(3) application, but as it turned out, that help didn't materialize, so I filled out the paperwork, using Lenore's University of Pennsylvania alumni group application as a guide. The IRS confirmed FOSL's exempt status under section 501(c)(3) on May 20, 1993. It's been a busy 20 years of FOSL supporting Salem Public Library financially and as volunteers. Carol Coughlan's label cutting program for Campbell's Labels for Education continues to this day. Our book sale has been more successful every year. Congratulations to FOSL on our 20th anniversary! ♦

Sara Ahalt received this note from Sheila Whitcomb of the Agape Gospel Mission, another beneficiary of the FOSL 2008 Book Sale.

September 23, 2008

Dear Friends of the Salem Library,
On behalf of Agape Gospel Mission, I sincerely thank you for the books you contributed via Earlene Kinlaw, one of the Mission's supporters.
Agape Gospel Mission's international office is located in Accra, Ghana. The Lord has blessed the ministry with an orphanage, churches in four West African nations, radio and television programs, seminars for Pastors and leaders wherever invited in Africa, and a Bible College. It is to the library of the Bible College that these books will go. There they will greatly assist to further the education of the African brothers and sisters in the Lord.
Thank you again for your valuable contribution.
Sincerely,
Sheila C. Whitcomb

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Vice President: Chris Gladden
Secretary: Margaret Heurtematte
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt
Charles Draper
Gwen Nickerson
Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.
Helen Robertson
Betty Waldron

Committees:

Book Sale: Sara Ahalt
Historian: Marcia Kelly
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

Membership dues (other than Life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Consult your mailing label. If the date shown is prior to 2009, please renew your membership.

Important Dates for 2009

By the Editor

The FOSL meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the scheduled Month. Meetings start at **2 PM** and last for approximately one hour.

- **March 8**, regular meeting
- **May 17**, Children’s Art Show and reception
- **July 12**, regular meeting
- **August 1 through September 10**, Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- **September 11 through 13, FOSL Book Sale** (Sept 12, Olde Salem Days)
- **October 11**, regular meeting

Remember, the more we participate, the better support we can render the Salem Library. ◇

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: ___ **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.