

# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2016 | VOLUME 12 | ISSUE 1

## President's Letter

By *Charlie Draper*

The biggest event in Friends of the Library each year is the annual Book Sale each September. Ken Sosnowski, our Book Sale Chairman, reminded us prior to the sale that it would be the biggest FOSL Book Sale ever. Ken didn't exaggerate.

We had so many books that the sale erupted from the meeting room. Several items were offered for sale on tables in the library proper. The sale grossed over \$8000, 10% more than our previous record back in 2010.

The book sale is our major funding source. It allows us to support many projects each year for the Salem Library. It takes an enormous number of people-hours to put this affair together. If you haven't helped with a book sale, plan to help this year. Remember, you get first look. If you have participated, I look forward to seeing you as we sort all those marvelous books.

Other things we've accomplished this year:

- We allocated \$850 to support the Summer Reading program and Summer Reading program for teens.
- We allocated \$300 for food and invitations for the Elementary Student Art Show. The art show was a great success and has become an annual tradition. The library received compliments and expressions of gratitude from teachers and families.
- We purchased two wireless microphones and associated equipment for the Library Meeting Room. Your President enjoyed working with David Butler to install and test the system. We used it at the January, 2016 meeting. Cost was about \$1100.
- We funded the purchase of a new Outside Book Drop for about \$1000.
- We authorized \$200 to support a teen STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) event in October. It was fun working with Ann, David, and the kids at the event. (See *Ann's article on Page 2.*)
- We authorized \$2700 for the purchase of two new pieces of display furniture for the library.
- We authorized \$300 to help with the Gingerbread Festival. (page 3)
- We authorized \$300 to support the Telebration. (page 4)

In July we welcomed Hilary Kennard, our new Children's Services Supervisor.

I didn't stand for an officer position this year. I want to thank all of you for the support you've given me, the Friends, and the Salem Library in 2015. I plan to remain active in FOSL. I ask and encourage you to be an active participant also. ◇

## Election of Officers

By *the Editor*

Your nominating committee offered the following slate of officers to lead the Friends in 2016:

Ken Sosnowski, President  
John Spruhan, Vice President  
Susan Ahalt, Secretary  
Joyce Foster, Treasurer

They were elected by acclamation. ◇



LR: John, Joyce, and Susan. Ken was ill and unable to attend the meeting

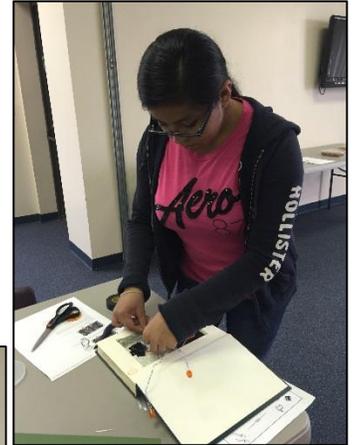


# Ann's Notes

By Ann Tripp, Director of the Salem Library

- **Report: Peek-o-Book Teen program**

The library welcomed 11 teens for a soldering program in October, and everyone had a blast! With the help of Charlie Draper, our fearless FOSLs president, David and Ann were able to teach 11 teens with zero soldering experience how to use a soldering iron and make a functioning processor-controlled robot book. David cut the center out of hardcover books to make a spot to hold a small robot arm, processing unit, battery unit, and wiring to control a robot that would turn on LED lights that looked like eyes to “peek” up out of the book. Every teen went home with a working peek-o-book, and also took home an incredible skill to use in the future. Thank you to the FOSLs and to Charlie for making this program possible!



- **Bequest:**

The Salem Public Library has received a bequest in the amount of \$10,000 from the estate of Nicholas G. Economy, a local businessman and benefactor. These funds will be used to purchase new furniture for the reading area of the library, possibly to include chairs, end tables, a new display table, and possibly more. We are very excited about sprucing up such a well-used area, so stay tuned for some nice changes!

- **Finger-Knitting programs:**

Several library staff members will be hosting a program on finger-knitting in January and February. This is a great DIY craft for all ages and abilities: both Nancy's 92-year-old aunt and Ann's 4-year-old daughter have successfully knitted scarves, and it's fun, easy, and the results are beautiful! The first program is on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-4:30, and the second program is on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-4:00. Just bring a skein of chunky yarn (#6 thickness works great – available at Walmart, AC Moore, etc.) and we'll teach you how to finger-knit – you'll leave with a ready-to-wear scarf perfect for the cold weather! Please sign up at the front desk.



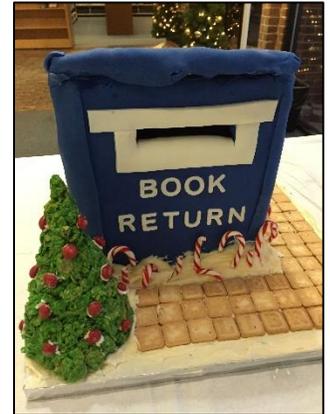
## Ann's Notes (Cont.)

- **Computer classes:**

The library will be offering a variety of computer classes this winter, with topics to include iPads and iPhones, Windows 10, introductions to the internet and email, Microsoft Excel, and more! We are also offering a new initiative called “Book a Librarian”, where you can set up an appointment with a skilled library staff member for one-on-one technology assistance on eReaders, laptops, genealogical research, smartphones, resume writing, online job applications, database research – practically anything! You can call the library at 375-3089 or just discuss it with staff at the front desk when you come in next time to set an appointment.

- **Gingerbread Festival recap:**

The Salem Public Library hosted the Gingerbread Festival for the first time this past year, and it was a huge hit! This year, Ye Olde Salem Christmas and the Gingerbread Festival united as one big downtown event, with dozens of vendors in the Farmers Market and in Library Square. We had nearly 500 children take part in our activities this year, which included holiday crafts and cookie decorating, with many more also enjoying pictures with Santa! The Library also played host to a variety of outside activities, including live music in Library Square and a fire pit with s'mores on the front lawn.



- **Roanoke Valley Gives:**

The Friends of Salem Library will be participating in the community-wide giving day, **Roanoke Valley Gives!** On March 16<sup>th</sup>, there will be an online give-a-thon at <https://rvgives.givebig.org/c/rvgives>, hosted by the Foundation for Roanoke Valley. Simply visit the website, select your favorite charities (hopefully FOSLs will be one!), and note the amount you want to donate to each one – it's as easy as point-click-give! Help us raise money to support the Salem Public Library's programming and more!

- **Social Media:**

Friends of Salem Library is launching a social media presence on Facebook! Keep up with FOSL-sponsored library programming, volunteer opportunities, meeting dates, and more! The Friends of Salem Library's Facebook page can be reached at <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsalemlibrary/>, so like our page today! Also, don't forget the Library is on Facebook (Salem Public Library), Instagram (Salem Library), and Twitter (@thesalemlibrary) – learn more about our programs and see pictures of our events. ◇

## FOSL WEB Page

*By the Editor*

FOSL has a web page on the Library web site. I was asked to put an instruction in this newsletter on how to access the site:



Type in the URL [www.salemlibrary.info](http://www.salemlibrary.info) or Google “salem va library”. You will see a screen that looks like this:

Put the cursor on “Community”. Scroll down, then click on “Friends of the Library”.

On the site you will find meeting minutes, newsletters, membership application forms and information about the Friends. ◇

# TELLABRATION

By Leisa Thompson

Our TELLABRATION was held in the library meeting room on Saturday afternoon, November 21, 2015. TELLABRATION 2015 carried the theme of a front-porch atmosphere. It was a wondrous day with 22 guests. Out of those 22 guests came 11 storytellers. There were fish tales and as-craw-dad tales, tales of a run-away car, of someone who got their shoes all messed up though they didn't cry, and a story of a dog with an amazing tail. There were camping stories and a story of making a life-long friend.

Thanks, FOSL, for your support. ♡



## What is a TELLABRATION?

TELLABRATION is a worldwide evening of storytelling. It creates a network of storytelling enthusiasts bonded together in spirit at the same time and on the same weekend. The originator, J. G. Pinkerton, envisioned this event as a means of building community support for storytelling. In 1988 the event was launched in Connecticut in six locations across the state. TELLABRATION extended to several other states the following year, and then, in 1990, expanded nationwide under the umbrella of the National Storytelling Network (then called NAPPs, and later the National Storytelling Association).

In 1995 there was a TELLABRATION in Japan. In two more years there were TELLABRATION events on every continent but Antarctica.

TELLABRATION is traditionally held on the Saturday night before Thanksgiving. (Ed.)

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*Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest. – Lady Bird Johnson*

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# The World of OZ

By Bob Spruhan, VP, Friends of the Salem Library

The World of Oz, from my collection, is in two display cases in the library during January. The display includes the following items:

- A Brief Guide to Oz by Sampson, 2014, an up to date survey of the World of Oz.
- One book by L. Frank Baum on fairy tales. It was published in 1897, written 3 years before The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, the first book in the series.
- Baum biographies.
- Baum wrote 14 Oz books, and Ruth Plumly Thompson, who succeeded him, wrote 19 Oz books.
- There are examples of these books, and of children's editions as well. Many of these are available at the Salem Library.
- The Book Collector's Guide to L. Frank Baum and Oz, Bienverone and Schmidt, 2009, is the authoritative source on all Oz related books. There is a small sample of Oz books by other authors.
- Oz in the movies and musicals, with books, vinyl records, CDs, DVDs, and other items, mostly from the classic 1939 film.
- Comic strips and comic books.
- A small selection of toys and other collectibles. ♦

John has been fascinated by the OZ stories since seeing the 1939 movie many years ago. He began collecting OZ books and other media seriously after he retired. We appreciate his sharing of the collection. (Ed.)



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

President: Ken Sosnowski  
Vice President: John Spruhan  
Secretary: Susan Ahalt  
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

**Board of Directors:**

Sara Ahalt, Chairman  
Gale Evans  
Helen Robertson  
Charles Draper  
Betty Waldron

**Standing Committees:**

Book Sale: Ken Soznowski  
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper 387-9824  
Labels for Education: Leslie Huges  
Historian: Pat Draper

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**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 2016***, please renew your membership. You may pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk, by mail, or at the Member's Sale.

## Important Dates in 2016

FOSL holds four 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. 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.

- **March 13:** Regular meeting  
*(Note: Daylight Savings begins today.)*
- **March 13:** Board meeting after regular meeting
- **May 15:** Children's Art Show and reception
- **July 10:** Regular meeting
- **Book Sale Preparation starts in August. Date TBD.**
- **Weekend of September 10: FOSL Book Sale.** Exact schedule TBD. *(Sept 10 is Olde Salem Days)*
- **October 9:** Regular meeting

**Membership Form: 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 below with an X.**

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