

Spring 2022



Leroy Collins Leon County Public Library System

Newsletter



New Lifetime Members: Darby Tish, Lisa Harvey, Debra Sears, Dale Grigas Not Pictured: The Bielby Family,Gwendolyn and Brock Waldorf

President's Page

Friends,

Spring is here, the azaleas are blooming, and the Friends of the Library are once again engaged with some exciting programs and events. Let me bring you up to date on what's been happening with the Friends in recent months...and what we can look forward to in the future.

In December 2021, we were pleased to present a check to the Leon County Commission for \$55,000 to be utilized for the County's Essential Libraries Initiative. Earlier in the year, we had provided \$15,000 for the Library's literacy program and an additional \$15,000 to implement the innovative Library of Things. Also in December, we added six brass leaves to the Library's Children's Tree in recognition of our newest Lifetime Members.

"In December 2021, we were pleased to present a check to the Leon County Commission for \$55,000 for the County's Essential Libraries Initiative." Looking forward, our Spring Title Wave Book Sale is Saturday, April 2 from 9:30 am-3:00 pm. As a valued Friend, you are invited to join us at 8:30 am for coffee, donuts, and a first peek at the amazing books we will be selling. As you may know, our sale will coincide with Springtime Tallahassee festivities, so please come visit us before or after the Springtime Parade. Also of note, on April 9-10 we will have a membership table and raffle at Word of South, Tallahassee's festival of literature and music.

"...our Spring Title Wave Book Sale is Saturday, April 2, from 9:30am-3pm... join us at 8:30am for coffee and donuts..."

Finally, if your book club is looking for some special books to read this spring and summer, please keep our Best Selling Book Club kits in mind. The Library offers a variety of these kits, with each consisting of ten copies of a recently published best seller.

Thank you for being a Friend! So much of what we do is only possible because of you. Your generosity and commitment to our shared goals is truly appreciated.

Dale Ann Grigas, FOL President



From Our New Library Director

Libraries have been a part of my life for more than 45 years. The day I got my first library card at the Alachua County Public Library changed my life. It allowed me to fight dragons, save princesses, do woodworking projects, and chemistry and fall in love. Libraries do that to people. They have a way of giving an awkward six-year old the power to change the world. As I walk through life, as a teacher, school media specialist, academic librarian and public librarian, I have had the opportunity to continue to dream.

"I am very proud to be a part of a library system that can take the dreams of a little girl and help her reimagine them in a way that fits today's society." Instead of fighting dragons, I am now helping to create terms in which they can be tamed. Instead of saving princesses, I am looking into creating opportunities for them to save themselves. Woodworking and chemistry projects have turned into locating materials or services for future carpenters and STEM. And love... my love for gathering information and giving it to the world has grown immensely. I am very proud to be a part of a library system that can take the dreams of a little girl and help her reimagine them in a way that fits today's society. I look forward to this journey and whatever twists and turns it may take. Libraries transform.

Pamela Monroe Library Director LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System 200 West Park Avenue



Treasurer's Thoughts

You may already know that the Friends of the Leon County Public Library, Inc., is a not-for-profit corporation whose purpose is to promote library programs and activities as well as raise funds for the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System. You may also know that the Friends' organization has purchased many traditional and non-traditional items for the Main Library and the branches - books of all types, subscriptions, telescopes, VR and audio equipment, even a bookmobile - and that we have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to our library system since our inception.

But, did you know that our first leaders were so passionate about what a library could do for its community, that an endowment was created to help generate funds far into the future to help the Friends pay for special items not covered by the library's budget? The endowment continues to grow today because we continue to have fabulous new and renewing dues-paying members and because we receive many generous donations each year from people just like you. Thank you for being a member, for supporting our annual fund-raising events, and for donating your dollars to this very worthwhile organization. Every dollar helps us help the library.

Marcia Labat, Treasurer

Too

Many Books? Donate gently used books to the Friends of the Library FriendShop

All proceeds benefit library programs

Drop off at any library branch location (850)224-3290 FriendshopTally@gmail.com

"The endowment continues to grow today because we continue to have fabulous new and renewing duespaying members and because we receive many generous donations each year from people just like you."

Membership Moments

Hi Friends! What an exciting time to be a member of the Friends of the Leon County Library! Members like you help us bring innovative programs to our community. From virtual reality goggles to the newest endeavor "The Library of Things" – your annual support makes it all possible.

"Together we can raise up to \$10,000 by obtaining 20 new Business Friends. Help us cross the finish line..."

Now, with the matching offer from a generous donor, our membership has the unique opportunity to align the resources of our Business Community with the Friends mission. Together we can raise up to \$10,000 by obtaining 20 new Business Friends – and we are more than halfway there! Help us to cross that finish line by sharing this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to everyone you know. The easiest way to share is to direct our potential Friends to our webpage at: <u>https://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/</u> friendsofthelibrary/Membership/Business-Membership

Lastly, our team has worked hard to establish an online platform to apply and renew your membership, as well as make a donation to the Friends of the Library. It is easy and quick to renew or even to send your friends to apply! I would encourage you to take a look at our redesigned website for all your membership needs at: <u>https://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/</u> <u>friendsofthelibrary/Membership</u>. Not sure if your membership has expired? Send us an email at FriendsoftheLibraryTally@gmail.com.

Ana Ortega Membership Chair





Friendshop Books

Welcome to Friendshop Books, our local Friends of the Library Bookstore. If you have not visited us, please come by to see our wonderful collection of gently used books, dvds, cds and puzzles. All of our items are donated by the community, then put out for sale to benefit the Leon County Public Library System.

The main branch bookstore is a warm, welcoming place and we enjoy meeting new people. We strive for a new selection of books everyday so our shelves are fresh and exciting. You will be amazed at the titles that come through our store! We see everything from new releases to your old favorites. My favorite(s) are the old vintage books that make an appearance. I think our oldest book is from 1761! The stories it could tell! If you visit, I'm sure we will become a "must" stop in your weekly routine. Come see what you have been missing!

Deitra Kemmer Friendshop Manager, Main Branch

Volunteers Needed!

FOL needs your help with Upcoming Events:

April 1 Spring Title Wave Set Up
April 2 Spring Title Wave Sale
April 9 Word of South - FOL Membership Table
April 10 Word of South - FOL Membership Table

Send us an email to volunteer for a 2 hour shift

FriendsoftheLibraryTally@gmail.com

"...please come by to see our wonderful collection of gently used books, dvds, cds and puzzles."



Contact FOL

Website <u>https://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/friendsofthelibrary</u>

Email <u>FriendsoftheLibraryTally@gmail.com</u>

Social https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfThePublicLibrary https://www.instagram.com/friendsofthelibrarylc/