



FRIENDS TO FRIENDS

A Publication of The Oconee County Friends of the Library

Sandy Yuda, Editor

YOUR LIBRARY'S
BRANCHES
Salem, Seneca,
Walhalla, Westminster.
Bookmobile
Winter 2011

President's Message – from Barbara Askew

Hi Everyone,

As usual, I cannot believe that another year has gone by (where to?) and it is time again to re-cap our accomplishments for the past year.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention first and foremost the upcoming change in the Directorship of OCPL and the leave-taking of our Youth Services Librarian. Sue Baldwin's few short years as Director have been banner years for the Friends. "Sue B" has given us support and encouragement--and appreciation-- every step of the way. We wish her the best of what life in retirement can be! And speaking of wishing the best: Christin Hirleman is getting married next April and will be sorely missed at OCPL. As the Youth Services Librarian, she hit the floor running the minute she arrived and has never stopped. Good luck to you and Justin, Christin, from all your Friends.

The biggest undertaking of Friends this year has undoubtedly been the start of the **Read to Me** program in conjunction with Oconee Medical Center. We started in October to present all new mothers and their newborns with a bag, a book and a bib (plus literature on reading to babies and a special growth chart). Now

in its third month, the reports from nurses and mothers alike, have been of excitement and pleasure. Started early, reading can become such a special part of a baby's and child's life and can extend into a lifetime of pleasure and learning.

Due to drastic state and federal spending cuts to libraries, Friends have been helping the librarians replace and add some needed basics and items from each branch's Wish List. We continue to support the Children's Summer Reading Program and the now permanent Adult Reading Program, free movies for the community and SLED background checks for new volunteers. Friends have provided funds for Stacie Powell, Walhalla's Manager, to attend the year long Leadership Oconee County program and, in conjunction with the SC Humanities Council, Friends provides funding for the facilitators (all Clemson professors this year) of the Let's Talk About It (LTAI) book discussion series. All of our resources come from donations, memberships (we are now over the 300 mark!) and from the Book Sales (held every month on the second Thursday and on four special Saturdays a year) and from the Lobby Sales. Each year, we come within a thousand dollars or so of spending what we earn. Not a bad record!

Do I sound like I'm bragging? You bet I am! I think that we have one of the finest, most productive Friends groups around! We have a wonderful

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President's Message (Cont'd)

bunch of volunteers who love books and love what we do to promote reading in Oconee County! I wish that I could list every single one of you, but I do thank you all for your "job well done!"

And last, but definitely not least, we have a new Director for OCPL! We congratulate Philip Cheney and really look forward to working with him as we all continue to bring books and reading to Oconee County's residents in 2012 and beyond.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



Barb

Seneca Branch News Blair Hinson, Branch Manager

The fall has been a busy time for the Seneca Branch. We had some exciting programs for kids, like a Monster Bash before Halloween. We're planning a "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" program for kids in December, with a story reading, craft and refreshments. In January, we intend to resume our computer classes for adults, have another Legal Issue seminar, and a defensive driving course for adults. We're also pleased that we have a new volunteer to continue "Let's Talk About It" here in Seneca as well.

We lost a good staff member when Leah Price moved over to be the new Branch Manager in Westminster, but have replaced her by promoting Emily Whitmire, who will do an excellent job, and will have hired a new full time staff member by the time of this article. As always, we thank the Friends of the Library for their support of our libraries and programs.



Welcome to these new members:

Sandra Parker	Seneca
Becky & Jay Hetherington	Seneca
Elizabeth W. Burkett	Seneca
Berit Stolberg	Salem
Jane Clarke	Mt. Rest
Philip Cheney	Anderson
Ruth Cushman	Seneca

OCCONEE COUNTY
Friends
of the
LIBRARY

CELEBRATE

READING

Present your current FOL membership card and receive a 15% discount on any books purchased at the **Booksmith.**

One discount option per purchase

Library Board Appoints New Director

The Board of Trustees of the Oconee County Public Library (OCPL) system has announced the appointment of Philip Cheney as its new director, replacing retiring director Sue Baldwin.

“Philip’s skills and experience are a perfect fit for Oconee,” said W.R. “Biff” Kennedy, chairman of the OCPL board. “And, it’s always a plus when you can promote from within.”

As director, Cheney will be responsible for the Oconee County library system, including personnel and financial matters. He will work with the OCPL board to improve information technology systems, increase material acquisition and communicate library vision and services to Oconee citizens. He will begin his duties in January.



Cheney, an OCPL employee since 2007, most recently supervised the three branch libraries as well as the bookmobile. Prior to his Oconee experience, he was on the City Council of Anderson and served as head of Public Services of the Anderson County Library. He holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Saint Andrews Presbyterian College and a Masters of Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Let's Talk About It

Watch for news about the next LTAI session. We thank Monica Leaning for the work she has done with this and welcome Libby Dunlap and Karen Graves who will be taking her place.

Dates to Remember in 2012

Saturday Book Sale January 21 9 AM to 12:30 PM

FOL Annual Meeting Sunday, March 18



**May you all have a very Merry Christmas
And a Happy and Healthy New Year!**



Your Library's Branches

(Hours subject to change)

Walhalla Branch (Main Library)

501 West South Broad St., Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-638-4133

Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9 AM to 9 PM
Wednesday – Friday 9 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 1 PM
Sunday* 2 PM to 5:30 PM*

*during school year only

Seneca Branch

300 East South Second St., Seneca, SC 29678

Phone: 864-882-4855

Hours: Monday and Thursday 9 AM to 9 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday CLOSED

Westminster Branch

112 West North Ave., Westminster, SC 29693

Phone: 864-647-3215

Hours: Monday 11:30 PM to 8 PM
Tuesday – Friday 9:30 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 9 AM to 1 PM
Sunday CLOSED

Salem Branch

5 Park Ave., Salem, SC 29676

Phone: 864-944-0912

Hours: Monday 10 AM to 6 PM
Tuesday – Friday 8:30 AM to 5 PM
Saturday & Sunday CLOSED

Connect to the library catalogue system via the Internet:

www.oconee.lib.sc.us

Oconee County Friends of the Library

501 West South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Join 'Friends' Today!

- Individual Membership \$ 10/year
- Family Membership \$ 20/year
- Patron \$ 50/year
- Business or Organization \$100/year
- Donor \$100/year
- Benefactor \$100+/year
- Lifetime \$500

- New Member? Volunteer?
- Renewal? Donation? (Tax Deductible)

Name _____

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City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Clip and mail to: Friends of the Library
501 West South Broad Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible!

Do your friends belong? If not, pass this newsletter along and ask them to become a member!

Connect to the FOL web site: www.goldencornersc.net/FOL

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