

From the President

As many of you know, I am stepping down from the role as President of the Friends of the Library Board. I stepped in to fill the shoes of a terrific organizer who tirelessly led the Friends for a number of years, Jackie Hunter, who was trying hard to retire and we think may succeed yet. I am glad to have been part of keeping things going while each of us faced personal and family emergencies and work schedules that weren't Friends-friendly. During my time here, we held Author Fests, book sales, and other events and we made the transition to new leadership in the library staff. Now with better help on the way, we can look to expanding our supportive role.

One thing that became painfully clear during my tenure is that in order for this organization to be truly productive, we cannot continue to depend upon the work of a mere handful of volunteers. We must seek, and accept, help from many of our current and future members; there is so much truth in the old adage, "many hands makes light work!" Another issue that we must pursue is the expansion of our membership to include the youth in our community -- volunteerism is an important element of good citizenship, and bringing young people into the library community through volunteer activities is an excellent means of insuring a vital, energetic and imaginative workforce for the future of the Friends.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your involvement with the Friends. Even if it's only your name on the mailing list, you've placed yourself in the number of folks who value the library and want to see the services continue to every member of our community. I'll see you around because I'm still in that group too. Thanks for being a Friend. - John

From the Secretary

It's good to be back behind the keyboard thinking

about the library. It's been one rollercoaster ride this last year, and I'm not sure the ride is over yet! In my absence (and many times my presence in name only), the work has gone on, and I'm particularly thankful that Rachael DeHaven has found extra time and energy to be one of the driving forces for the Friends, just as she had been for the children's library for years before her retirement. That, along with energy from our new library director Sally Warburton, the terrific staff of both of our libraries, and our own unsinkable Alice Buford, kept things going! God bless these terrific ladies! And while I'm expressing thanks, let me mention Mary Strong, who kept the monthly book sale going for several months, an impressive accomplishment for a 16 year old. And I want to include Lance and his wife from Hillsville, who took over when Mary had other commitments. With them, the faithful group of book sale volunteers, which includes Frances Marshall, Nancy Burchett, Ellen Moore, Jeanne Whitman, Nancy Hudson, Elizabeth Nye, Lois Coulson, and Dot Cash, continued to facilitate the sale of donated and discarded books. I am very thankful to each of our Friends!

Funding for the libraries continues to be a concern. As you think about what the library means to you, think about your involvement with the Friends. As other funding sources are challenged, we may find ourselves a resource for the community to keep the doors open and the shelves stocked. We invite your input and involvement to help us in our goal

of supporting the purpose and functions of the libraries in our community and promoting its use. In particular, help is still needed for the used and discarded book sale and for maximizing any opportunities we can for fundraising. Come forward and let's see what can happen this year!

At this year's Annual Meeting, we will dedicate the Pulaski Library Community Room, which is being named for Virginia Kelly MacNeal who contributed much effort in making that room and the Dublin Library a reality. She was among those whom the Friends chose to honor at our First Honoring Ceremony in 2006. While I didn't have the privilege of really knowing this mountain moving woman, I did have the privilege of meeting her there at that ceremony, one of the people for whom the Honoring Song was written and sung. I am always glad to hear about or know people who make a positive difference in the communities in which they live! She passed nearly 2 years ago, but the impact of her efforts remains with us and continues to bless the community.

I sure am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Meeting. We have a good menu planned and we always have a good time. As we have in the past, we'll plan to call each of our Friends with a personal invitation a few days in advance of the meeting. It's a tradition that I really enjoy. We aren't telemarketers, we're Friends calling Friends.

I've enjoyed the opportunity to serve as your Secretary for the past few years, and although I'm passing on the baton to a proven capable new Officer, I'll continue to see you at intervals as my schedule allows! Talk to you soon, and hope to see you at the Annual Meeting April 13th! -Susan

FriendsNews
the lately irregular quarterly publication of the
Friends of the Pulaski Library

Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 13

The Friends of the Pulaski Library
invite you to the
Annual Business and Dinner Meeting
and dedication of the
Virginia Kelly MacNeal Community Room
Pulaski Library
60 West Third Street
Pulaski, Virginia
Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 6 p.m.

Please RSVP to 674-0123 or 980-4626

Current Officers are: John Jordan, President; Rachael DeHaven, VP; Alice Buford, Treasurer; and Susan Strong, Secretary.

Proposed Officers are: Mary Strout, President; Rachael DeHaven, VP, Alice Buford, Treasurer; and Carol Smith, Secretary,

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