

Newsletter of The
Friends of the Macon
County, N.C., Public Library

Folio

Providing Citizen Support
for an Essential
Community Resource

Franklin, N.C.

March 2004

TO DO

• **Mar. 6:** Dr. Seuss Birthday Party for children, 11 am-Noon at the Public Library. Registration. [Page 3]

• **Mid-Mar.:** Two public forums for residents to express their ideas and views of future space and service needs of the Macon County Public Libraries in Franklin, Highlands, and Nantahala. Watch for details in news media. [Page 1]

• **April:** National Poetry Month. Submit your original poem for display in the Library. [Page 2]

• **Apr. 1:** Deadline for entries in 25th Annual Olive B., Eaton Creative Writing Contest for kids. [Page 2]

• **Apr. 4 & 5:** Easter egg hunt for Storytime children at 10:30 am in County Recreation Park. [Page 3]

• **June 5:** Signup day for Summer Reading Club at Library. [Page 3]

• **June 6:** Annual meeting of Friends of the Library, 2 pm in the Public Library. Election of officers and speaker. Open to the public.

• **LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED:**

• March 26 opening at 1 pm (staff training in morning). • April 9 for Good Friday. • May 31 for Memorial Day.

• **WEEKLY LIBRARY HOURS:**

Regular library hours are:

Mon. thru Thurs: 10 am-7 pm
Fri & Sat: 10 am-5 pm

• **FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE:**

121 Highlands Road, in East Franklin Shopping Center. Used books, magazines, and more. Hours are:

Mon. thru Sat: 10 am-5 pm.

• **FRIENDS' WEB SITE:** Visit us at www.maconweb.com & click on link.

• **QUESTIONS** about any of these items? Call the Public Library at 524-3600 for complete details.

Consultant Hears Opinions, Ideas On Library's Space, Service Needs

Visiting library consultant Ronald A. Dubberly got plenty of opinions from community and business leaders on what improvements the Macon County Public Library needs to meet the county's projected future population growth.

Two groups of community club and business leaders met in the library Feb. 23 with Dubberly and suggested these space and service needs in the years ahead:

- Library should be open later than the current 7 pm.
- The library building is dated. It should be upgraded with better lighting, graphics, and signs.
- More space for storage and library collections.
- More computers for those students and adults without them at home.
- A larger reference area with more technical and scientific content.
- Larger staff.
- Crowded conditions in the Highlands Hudson Library; more space needed.
- More parking space.
- Cubicles for quiet, individual study.
- Better meeting rooms with modern audiovisual facilities for community group use.
- A mobile book and



Ronald Dubberly

computer unit to reach those unable to come to the library.

Asked by Dubberly to name the most important considerations if a new library had to be built, these were some of the answers:

- A central location to most of the county's population.
- Since many people visit other locations when they make a trip to the library, it should be near shopping areas.
- Adequate parking and easy

Please Turn to Page 4

Bookstore Sale Produces \$1,717 for Public Library

The 7th Annual Friends' Bookstore Sale in January took in \$1,717 over the 2-1/2-day sale period. That's a lot of used books, magazines, records, and other items sold at low prices.

"We're extremely happy with the results," said Friends of the Library president Sue Waldroop. "We appreciate the book and magazine donations from residents and visitors and our Bookstore volunteers who worked so hard." [See column, Page 2.]

Buyers came from all over Western North Carolina and North Georgia to buy books by the bag and box, most at half price.

Proceeds from the store go to the Macon Public Library. In 2003, the store provided \$56,000 and Library Manager Karen Wallace says the aid "has been crucial to keeping library services and staff from being cut."

• Watch for Our Rare Book Auction coming this July. Many first editions signed by the authors and with an emphasis on North Carolina writers.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:**Store's January Sales Hit \$7,135—A Record!**

By Sue Waldroop, FoL President

The Friends have had a busy and very lucrative winter. During January the bookstore took in \$7,135, a record for one month. Amazing—particularly for January! The annual sale did very well; at times the cash register was almost swamped, and I quickly learned not to stick my head in the door during the sale if I didn't want to get put to work. But no complaints there, we took in \$1,717 from the 2-1/2-day book sale and moved a ton of books. The enormous success of the bookstore can only be explained in terms of the very dedicated and hard-working volunteers who put in so many long hours and hard work. Also, very important, we sincerely thank the many residents and visitors who donate books and magazines for resale.

Certificates of appreciation have been produced for our corporate and community organization members who have joined the Friends. Each board member who attended the February board meeting was given a certificate to deliver in person as a recognition of the civic minded businesses and civic groups that have given us great support this year. We hope other businesses will come on board. [See Page 3.]

Our membership continues to grow and we welcome every person who joins. We have been fortunate to have several new volunteers who have trained for work in the bookstore, but are always in the market for more workers. As we continue to receive more and larger book donations, there continues to be more and more work to be done in the store, not only running the cash register, but sorting, cleaning, and shelving books.

Even though we sold so many books in January, our shelves are far from bare and there are always bargains to be found in every category. If you haven't been in the store lately, come on down, you will be happy with the selections you will find.

If you are a volunteer in the bookstore and have not received your complimentary tee-shirt, contact me at 524-4261 and I will see that you get a shirt. Sometimes we sign up people more rapidly than I can keep up with.

Plans are being made for an auction of autographed books which we have been collecting for several months. There are some really nice selections and hopefully this will be held in July.

Anyone who has a book which he or she might like to donate to this sale—which, of course, will benefit the Library—is encouraged to contact the bookstore or the Library. We'll be happy to receive any item you would like to give us.

Again, let me thank all the workers who have made our bookstore so successful. We could not do without a single one of you. It is amazing how many dollars—\$56,000 in 2003—are earned by a group of volunteers who have a strong sense of purpose and a great willingness to devote a lot of time and effort to see that we continue to be a very valuable partner of the Library.

Library Week April 18-24

National Library Week will be celebrated Apr. 18-24 by the

@your library

American Library Association and thousands of libraries in the U.S., including ours. Designed to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians, there will be displays and other events.

Library's '03 Endowment Yields \$2,500

The library's '03 interest income from its General Endowment and the Olive B. Eaton Creative Writing Endowment produced \$2,500, said Karen Wallace, Macon County Public Library manager.

Quarterly Quotable

"I've given up reading books. I find it takes my mind off myself."

—Oscar Levant

"Books serve to show a man that those original thoughts of his aren't very new after all."

—Abraham Lincoln

LIBRARY NOTES:**Submit Your Poems for Library Display in April**

Attention all poets—of any age!

Here's your chance to have your own short poems displayed in the Public Library during National Poetry Month in April.

Just write your original poems on a 3-1/2" x 5" card (postcard-size) and submit them during March and April to Loretta Holland, the Library's resident poetry expert. They will be posted throughout the Library for all to read and enjoy.

A book of poetry will be given to the adult and to the child who submit the best poems.

- Olive B. Eaton Creative Writing Awards contest time is here for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Deadline for entries is April 1.

This year's theme is "Celebrating North Carolina Craft." Cash prizes of \$100, \$50, and \$25 come from the Olive B. Eaton Creative Writing Endowment which for 25 years has cosponsored the contest with the Public Library and the County School System.

Students can pick up application forms at the Library or their school.

Folio

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Our Mission: We are dedicated to assisting our Library with funds raised by the sale of donated used books, magazines, and records in a Bookstore run entirely by Friends' volunteers. We also seek to strengthen citizens' support of the Library by encouraging their use of the Library's resources and services.

THE FRIENDS OF THE MACON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.**President:**

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Ray Bancroft

Macon County Public Library Liaison:

Karen Wallace, Library Manager

Web Site: www.maconweb.com/ (then click on link)

Dr. Seuss Birthday Party Set March 6 at Library

Dr. Seuss, famous children's book author, will be honored at his birthday party Saturday, March 6, from 11 am to noon at the Macon County Public Library.

The program is for preschool children to those in the 3rd grade. Space is limited so be sure to call the Library to sign up: 524-3600, ext. 17.

Here are the Storytime themes for the popular Monday (for preschoolers 3 to 5 years old) and Tuesday (for toddlers 18 months-3 years old) programs that start at 10:30 am each day and run for 30 minutes. No registration is required.

March 1 & 2: Dr. Seuss stories.

March 8 & 9: Clouds.

March 15 & 16: Fish.

March 22 & 23: Snails.

March 29 & 30: Painting Day. Wear old clothes.

April 4 & 5: Easter Egg Hunt at the Recreation Park playground for Storytime preschool and toddler groups, 10:30 am at the covered pavilion by the tennis courts. Bring a picnic lunch.

April 12 & 13: Spring stories.

April 19 & 20: Birds.

April 26 & 27: Gardens.

May 3 & 4: Mother's Day program.

May 10 & 11: Rainbows.

For the rest of May, Storytime will take a break while the staff gets ready for the Summer Reading Club. Sign up will begin Saturday, June 5. Pre-school children-5th graders are welcome to join the club for a fun-filled summer at the Macon County Public Library.

This summer's Reading Club theme is "Discover New Trails @ Your Library."

For more information about the Library's children's programs, call Amy Patton at 524-3600, ext. 17.



Tales for Tots Serves 283

This program for babies now has 283 county kids receiving a free new book every month from birth to age five. The project is funded by George and Bonnie Pettway of Highlands.

AARP Tax Help Now at Public Library

Need help with your 2003 taxes? AARP volunteers are on hand each Wednesday at the library from 2 to 6 pm to help you at no cost. Call the library for more information at 524-3600.

Fontana Applies for Grants To Improve Awareness, Modernize Internet Access

As part of its 60th anniversary observance this year, the Fontana Regional Library (FRL) has applied for three federal grants worth \$103,000.

Public libraries in Macon, Swain, and Jackson Counties comprise the Fontana system which was established in 1944.

The grants, which will be administered by the State Library, cover these areas:

- A \$15,000 planning grant to conduct community analysis and needs assessment studies. Macon County would be able to tie in its current space and service needs study [See Page 1] with it.
- A \$38,000 marketing grant to improve public awareness of the Fontana system and what the libraries in the system have to offer the public.
- A \$50,000 grant for internet infrastructure improvement through use of high speed fibre optic connections to the World Wide Web.

Macon County Public Library Manager Karen Wallace said decisions on the grant applications should be announced in June.

Part of the FRL's marketing plan for 2004 and 2005 includes efforts to improve awareness of the system's planning and library service coordinating activities through better news media and public relations activities.

Community leaders in each county would be tapped to (1) help educate those who aren't necessarily supporters of the library and (2) for those who are supporters, turn them into visible public advocates for the library and in turn raise the profile of the local library.

FRL 60th anniversary activities are planned for August and September in all three counties.

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Thanks for Joining Us!!

Becky Beasley	Elizabeth J. Marshall
Susan Burchins	Teresa Murray
Mary Lou Chandler	Mattie F. Ogden
Connie Coker	Peggy Packer
Sue Conlin	Sondra Redfern
Robert Crowers	Karen Rice
Joan Crowers	Doris Rogers
Jane Elliott	Pam Setser
Sandie Houston	Mona Silverstein
Jill Jenkins	Glenda Thompson
Carmen Jessup	Byron L. Thompson
Kim Klein	Carol Vincent
Barbara Kreider	Mike Vincent
Mame Lehman	

Our Corporate Friends

These businesses have joined the Friends of the Library as corporate or community organization members. We thank them sincerely for their support.

- Britthaven of Franklin
- Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Hotel
- Jim Brown Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge
- Huddle House, Inc.
- Franklin Kiwanis Club
- Macon County Democratic Women's Club
- The Franklin Press
- Macon County News
- Gem Capital Auto Club
- RE/MAX in the Mountains
- Gem Country Republican Women's Club
- Gooder Grafix
- Town Hill Bake Shoppe

Read! Learn! Connect!
@ the Library

Consultant Gathers Data, Opinions for Library Needs Study

Continued from Page 1

access into and out of the library parking lot.

- The library's location near the high school is a plus.
- Better electronic access to the library via home computers.

Groups represented at the Monday sessions included the Cowee, Upper Cartoogechaye, Otto, Carson, and Holly Springs community development organizations and the Kiwanis and Lions clubs plus two Rotary clubs from Highlands and one from Franklin.

Also attending were Randolph Bulgin, chairman of the Macon County Board of Library Trustees; Karen Wallace, Macon library manager; and Gail Findlay, director of the Fontana Regional Library.

In a previous visit to Macon County, Dubberly met with library staff members in Franklin, Highlands, and Nantahala to gather technical details on their future space needs and service ideas.

Dubberly's final report is due to be presented to the County Board of Commissioners April 5. Two public forums—one in Franklin and one in Highlands—will be held in mid-March to seek comments from residents. In the meantime, staff in the Franklin, Highlands, and

Nantahala libraries welcome any ideas people have.

Dubberly is managing partner of Dubberly Garcia Associates., Inc., of Atlanta and Denver. The firm has prepared similar space need studies for many libraries throughout the nation.



Community leaders chat with library consultant Ronald A. Dubberly (right) after giving him their ideas for future library space and service needs. From left: Randolph Bulgin, chairman of the Macon County Board of Library Trustees; Richard Zeek, Otto Community Development; Al Grant, president of the Franklin Lions Club; and Dubberly.