

Friend to Friend

A Newsletter published from time to time
by the Friends of the Brown Library
122 Van Norden Street, Washington, NC 27889

Volume 59 • May, 2010

Guest Entertainers for the Children's Reading Program

Steve Somers *Amazing Teacher* invites young readers to set sail on a high-seas adventure. Using books, tricks, puppets, drama and music, he will help young readers discover the importance of making wise choices.

Thomas J. Shimeld, performing as Wendall Wandell, will take the children back in time to share the history of the Southeast. Using children's literature, period games, magic, music and costumes, he will introduce historic figures who have had an impact on history. The stories are designed to encourage the children to consider how they, too, can make a *splash* in history.

Kivin Bischof and friends from Goose Creek State Park will return this year. The children will be divided in two groups (ages 3-7 and 8-12) for outdoor activities.

Jeff Jones will take the children on a "Voyage to the bottom of the ocean where we are on the search for The Hidden City of Atlantis."

Ronald McDonald will present "It's Book Time with Ronald McDonald."

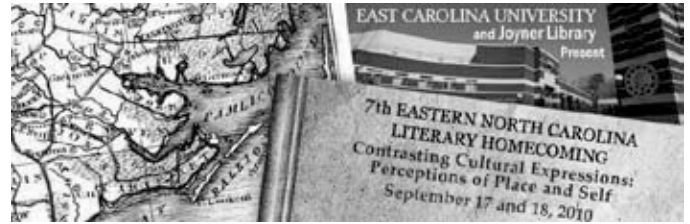
Through the use of magic, music, puppets, and lots of laughter, Ronald McDonald brings a message to children about the value of books and the enjoyment that comes from reading.

Movies will be part of the entertainment this year. Come early—the meeting room upstairs has a limited amount of seating. Movies on the schedule are:

***Finding Nemo Flipper Shark Tale
Surf's Up Water Horse***

Be a Friend, Invite a Child

SEE BACK PAGE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE OF
BROWN LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Special Literary Event in September – Washington Kick-off in June

East Carolina University and Joyner Library are proud to present the Seventh **Annual Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming**, September 17-18, 2010. Joyner Library has again collaborated with staff of the *North Carolina Literary Review* to provide communities the opportunity to meet and interact with writers and artists connected to the unique culture of Eastern North Carolina. This year's theme, "*Contrasting Cultural Expressions: Perceptions of Place and Self*," will explore the ways communities are heavily influenced by place, historical moments, and the cultural values of an area and its people. Guest artists from Eastern NC and other regions of the US will discuss the ways they capture their culture and its traditions in art. All events are free with the exception of an author luncheon. Visit www.ecu.edu/lithomecoming to get more information on the program and registration.

The **Washington kick-off** for the event will be on June 12 at 2:00 p.m. at the new bookstore, *I Can't Believe It's a Bookstore*, in Washington. Bookstore owners, Gary Ceres and Rich Snow, and the Friends will co-host the event. The program, "*Nowhere Else on Earth*" features a discussion of Native American heritage in Eastern North Carolina. Featured speaker is Rebecca Godwin, of Barton College in Wilson. She will be joined by a panel of Native Americans from this area who will be available to hold a discussion with the audience. Gary and Rick will highlight books about Native American culture available in their store.



Remembering Maynard Hamblin FOBL Board Member

Maynard Hamblin was a great friend of Brown Library, an intelligent and dedicated volunteer not only with us but with other organizations whose successes can be traced to his knowing guidance, his openness to ideas, his understanding of the priorities of a good community, and his hard work.

We have lost a good friend, not only for Washington, but also for ourselves personally. We will miss him very much.

—Rachel Mills, President of FOBL

Memorials and Honorary Gifts: Remembering Special People

“Grandmother, let’s see if ‘my book’ has been checked out!” A friend purchased a children’s book for the library in honor of her grandchild’s birthday. Now, every time they go to the library, he checks to see if “his” book is checked out. She was so pleased at his reaction that she now uses gifts to the library to honor others in her life.

Would you or your organization like to honor or remember a friend or loved one? Consider making a donation to the Friends of the Brown Library in their name. Contact Nancy Nash, Friends Board Member, at 946-7963, if you are interested. If you would like to select the item to be purchased, Kim Davenport (kdavenport@washingtonnc.gov) in technical services at the library will be glad to assist you with your selection. If you prefer, Nancy or Kim will make a selection for you based on the interests of your friend.

If you have enjoyed the beauty of the library’s quiet garden this spring, you may consider donating a living remembrance. Flowering shrubs and bulbs are appreciated. Local garden clubs assist in the upkeep of the garden.

Memorial/Honorary Gift Suggestions:

- Gardening book for garden club member
- Children’s book honoring a grandchild’s birthday
- Devotional book on CD for a church friend
- Plant for the Library’s Quiet Garden

Saturday Market Book Sale Returns

When the first Saturday Market Book Sale began on April 18, the Friends were there with their tables and boxes of books! The sale, beginning its third year, has been a success thanks to the work of Friends and community volunteers. Here are ways that you can support the sale:



- Donate books to the library.
- Volunteer to help at the sale. Call Diane Giffin (946-4489).
- Shop for books while at the market.

Officers of the Friends

President: Rachel Mills
Vice-President: Luther Davis
Secretary: Diane Giffin
Treasurer: Katie Lake
Membership: Katie Lake
Newsletter: Bronna Graham



GET A NEW FRIENDS BOOKMARK AVAILABLE AT
THE LIBRARY AND SATURDAY BOOK SALE.

Special thanks to:

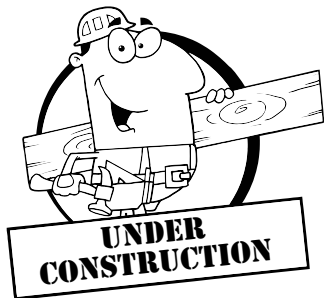
The Turnage Theater for being
supportive of our “Conversations with
North Carolina Authors Series”

Volunteers at the Saturday Market Book Sales
(To volunteer, call Diane Giffin, 946-4489)

The supporters of the Outreach
Directory (For information, contact
Lou Encinias, 946-7709 or Rick
Wingard, 946-8140)

What's on the FOBL Board's Agenda?

As reported in an earlier article, the Friends received a donation from the Wilkinson family. The funds will be used for preservation and improvements to the Wilkinson History Room. Board members met with a specialist experienced in library renovations. Members learned how the availability of digital formats is affecting library collections. Digital resources are gradually eliminating the need for extensive reference collections. Local historical materials are not as likely to be digitized. This material will need special handling and storage if we are to preserve this special collection.



Look for *The Friends of the Brown Library* website available in the next few months. After presentations from local website developers, we have chosen one to

begin designing the site. The site will allow us to communicate with our members more frequently.

Earlier this year, the library received four computers for the Children's Reading Room. The computers, two for pre-school learners and two for school age, have been in



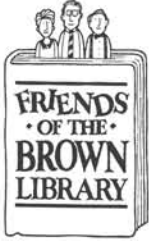
use for several months. Stop by and see the "Early Childhood Computer Learning Stations." The stations are built to meet unique sight, sound, control and durability needs of early childhood users.

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OUTREACH DIRECTORY

Friends of the Brown Library PROGRAMS 2010-11

Date	Program	Venue
Tuesday, September 28, 2010 7:30 p.m.	Wayne Caldwell, author <i>Requiem by Fire</i> (Random House)	Turnage
Sunday, October 24, 2010 2:00 p.m.	Presidents and First Ladies: <i>Lyndon and Lady Bird Johnson</i>	Turnage
Tuesday, November 9, 2010 7:30 p.m.	James Dodson, author <i>A Son of the Game</i> (Algonquin)	Turnage
Friday, February 25, 2011 7:30 or 8:00 p.m.	Kelley Rouse, on Georgia O'Keefe with reception [sponsored with the BC Arts Council]	Turnage
Thursday, April 14, 2011 7:30 p.m.	ANNUAL MEETING: Joe and Terry Graedon, The People's Pharmacy	Turnage

Friends of the Brown Library Outreach Directory



The Friends of the Brown Library is an active organization of community residents who are interested in the welfare of the Library itself and the cultural well-being of the City. The "Friends" is an independent organization, not a part of the local City government.

We need you! Your dues and support will make it possible for us to maintain our present level of contribution, and to reach new levels in the future.

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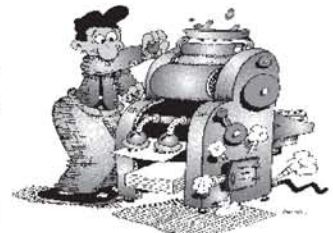
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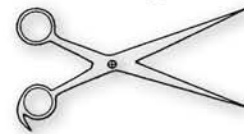


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What Friends are Reading

I have always been an avid reader, but I tend to read the same type of fiction. I have favorite authors and I try to read everything they write. That changed two years ago at the FOBL Book Sale. Friends and strangers kept recommending books to me. Following their suggestions, I bought most of those books. *I enjoyed every one of them!* Now I seek out suggestions from other readers. Here are some of the books that Friends are reading. Hopefully, you will find a title or author that appeals to you. Try something different. Like me, you may be surprised!
-- **Bronna Graham, Friends Board Member**



Penny Boozman – Friends' Board Member

I am excited about the many, really good “international” mystery writers on the market right now. Besides the exciting Stieg Larsson series beginning with *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, a fellow countryman Henning Mankell writes about unusual crimes in both Stockholm and remote Swedish villages. His books give the reader a real picture of contemporary Swedish society. Canadian Louise Penny has a series of delightful books that occur in Three Pines, a charming, small town south of Montreal – and the chief inspector is so likeable, civilized, and intelligent. A mother/son team called *Charles Todd* has written numerous books about a Scotland Yard detective named Ian Rutledge, who has just returned to England from France after WWI. He suffers with shell shock and harsh memories of lives lost at the Somme Offensive, but his job is slowly bringing him back to life. Lastly, I have loved Christopher Fowler's newest detectives, Arthur Bryant and John May, both far beyond retirement age, but they are the lead detectives of London's Peculiar Crimes Unit. If you like quirky and unusual, Fowler's titles will greatly appeal! Check Brown Library – many of these titles are in the mystery section!



Rachel Mills – President of the Friends

I don't know how I first found Canadian writer Alice Munro's books, but it was almost thirty years ago now that I picked up *The Progress of Love* and found myself deep into a world of girls and women that few writers portrayed and many of us (female and male) lived every day. By the

time I had got to *The Moons of Jupiter, Lives of Girls and Women*, then *Friend of My Youth* (I gave that one as a gift to my mother, whose childhood friends suddenly came rushing to the fore of her memory), and *Runaway*, the protagonists of Munro's fiction seemed as familiar as next-door neighbors. The other day, in Brown, I found *The View from Castle Rock*, stories written right out of the author's family history, beginning with their colorful ancestors leaving Far Hope, Scotland and coming to western Canada, and reading them I was as entranced as if someone whom I had known a long time suddenly began telling stories which [“Ah-hah!”] explained all the quirks and sunspots of her life. These are engaging stories of complex new lives we are glad to see somebody finally open to us. Maybe it's a good place to begin getting to know a new literary friend.



Mary Hadden – Friends' Member & Library Volunteer

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese is an enthralling family saga of Africa and America, doctors and patients, exile and home. It's a story of twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon at a mission hospital in Addis Ababa. Orphaned by their mother's death and their father's disappearance, bound by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins become of age, on the brink of Revolution in Ethiopia. An unforgettable journey into one man's remarkable life, and an epic story about the power, intimacy, and curious beauty of the work of healing others.

The Glass Room by Simon Mawer is the story of a Czech couple in Europe of 1920. He is a Jewish mogul and she a thoughtful modern gentile. They pour all their hopes for their budding family into their stunning new home, filling it with a generation of artists and thinkers, eager to abandon old-world European style in favor of the avant-garde. But life intervenes, and their new home also brings out their most passionate desires and darkest secrets. Brimming with barely contained passion and cruelty, the precision of science, the wild variance of lust, the catharsis of confession, and the fear of failure—the Glass Room contains it all. These are two books that I thoroughly enjoyed and hope someone else will.

BE A FRIEND, INVITE A FRIEND

What Friends are Reading



Gerry Arakelian (Cypress Landing Women's Book Club Co-Chair)

My reading lately has been all over the board as my book club examines selections for next year's reading list. One of the most compelling discoveries has been a return to Reynolds Price.

This writer and Duke professor has the rare distinction of crossing the worlds of academia and mainstream publication. He boasts two careers as an honored professor and a successful author.

I recently read his novel, *Roxanna Slade*. As a born and bred southerner, I felt that Mr. Price used a large forceps to pry inside my head and capture all the experiences of my upbringing. There were the oak trees laced with moss, the country lanes strewn with pine needles and the charming characters I met at my grandmother's home as a child. Despite this early 20th century southern charm, the story of Roxanna is a tale for all ages. Here is a woman torn by love, harassed by the specter of mental illness and endowed with a pragmatism that inspires admiration in the reader. If you wish to glimpse the inner workings of the southern mindset or if you simply want to observe the art of the highly skilled writer, I urge you to read *Roxanna Slade*. Her choices will astound you.



Sue Fish – Friends' Board Member

These is My Words, by Nancy E. Turner, captured my attention from the first page. Based on the real life exploits of the author's great grandmother, this fictionalized diary vividly details one woman's struggles with life and love

in frontier Arizona at the end of the 19th century. The first book reads like Sarah Prine's diary and follows her life from when she is a headstrong 18 year old capable of holding her own on her family's settlement near Tucson. While purposely fragmented and disjointed in the early chapters, as Sarah grows and matures so does her diary writing. The result is a compelling portrait of an enduring love, the rough old West and a memorable pioneer.

Sarah's Quilt is the second book in the trilogy. A three-year drought has made Sarah and her ranch desperate for water. Just when it seems that life couldn't get worse, she learns that her brother and his family are trapped in the Great San Francisco Earthquake!

Told in the form of a diary again, the third Sarah Agnes Prine novel, *Star Garden*, is set in 1906 in the

Arizona territory. To describe any more would spoil the story....just know that you will learn to love Sarah as much as all her family through the years has!



Sarah Chamberlain – Friends' Member

Reading to me is like oxygen, if I don't "breathe in" several chapters a day, I'd suffer from lack of words taking me to new worlds! Recently I've traveled by reading and learning:

The Help by K. Stockett. I was in high school in the early sixties so missed much of the history of the civil rights era, the Freedom Riders and such. Set in Mississippi in 1962, *The Help* taught me the experiences of both the black domestic help and their white employers. This book evokes both laughter and tears! A must read.

Matterhorn by K. Marlantes. I couldn't wait for this new release so ordered it for my electronic reader. I am so glad that the Vietnam War can still teach us so many things. Newbie Lieutenant Waino Melles and his Bravo Company reminded me of "the things they carry, the fear they bear, the friends they lose, and the men they follow." Hard to get the atlas out for this one!

The Mapping of Love and Death by J. Winspear. This is the 7th novel in the Maisie Dobbs series and worth starting at the beginning of the list NOW. This time mental travels took me to post WWI, early forensic sciences of 1932, and my beloved Dr. Maurice Blanche. Try these adventures!

Each book, each breath makes my world larger and my knowledge broader. The American Library system – are we lucky or what!?!

Reviewers needed:



Do you have a recommendation?

Would you like to write a review for "What Friends are Reading?"

Contact pennyboozman@gmail.com
or bsgraham@embarqmail.com.



Make a Splash @ Your Library

Children's Summer Reading Program

Registration Starts 6/18/10 at 10:00 a.m. – At Brown Library



“Kick-Off with Steve Somers – Amazing Teacher”

6/25/10 at 11:00 a.m.
Washington Civic Center

“Jeff Jones, Magician”

7/02/10 at 11:00 a.m.
Washington Civic Center

Make a Splash Children's Movie

7/6/10 at 1:00 a.m.
Brown Library – Upstairs Room

“Goose Creek Outdoor Activity”

7/9/10 at 11:00 a.m.
Brown Library (outdoors)

Make a Splash Children's Movie

7/13/10 at 1:00 p.m.
Brown Library – Upstairs Room

“Wendal Wandell – Storyteller”

7/16/10 at 11:00 a.m.
First United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall



Make a Splash Children's Movie

7/20/10 at 1:00 p.m.
Brown Library – Upstairs Room

“Goose Creek Outdoor Activity”

7/23/10 at 11:00 a.m.
Brown Library (Outdoors)

Make a Splash Children's Movie

7/27/10 at 1:00 p.m.
Brown Library – Upstairs Room

“Book Time with Ronald McDonald”

7/30/10 at 11:00 a.m.
First United Methodist Church – Fellowship Hall

Make a Splash Children's Movie

8/3/10 at 1:00 p.m.
Brown Library – Upstairs Room

End of Summer Event: “Amazing Al – Magician”

8/6/10 at 11:00 a.m.
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