



Library News

From Friends of the Montgomery - Floyd Regional Library

Winter 2016 Edition

The 2016 Membership Drive is Just Around the Corner!

The Week of January 24-30

Who Can Be a Friend?

Individuals of all ages, families, and businesses throughout Montgomery and Floyd Counties.

How Can I Become a Friend?

Visit your local library or mail the form found in this newsletter.

You can now even renew online at <http://www.mfrlfriends.org/membership.html>.

Volunteers are needed for the Membership Drive, January 24 – 30.

If you are able to fill a two hour time slot, contact one of the following.

Blacksburg Library:

Evelyn Melia 540-998-0786

Christiansburg Library:

Marjorie Modlin 540-382-9621

Meadowbrook Library:

Cindy Minnick 540-268-1964

Thank you so very much to all our members! Your dues are used to conduct special programs including the Summer Reading Program for children, teens, and adults, as well as extensive programming at each of the public libraries in the Montgomery-Floyd regional system.

Ellen Hall, Membership Chair

Over a hundred of our members have already renewed for 2016. Are you one of them?

Please check your mailing label.

It will include the line "Renewed through 2016" if you have already renewed.



Many Thanks to the following businesses who have already committed to sponsoring major events in 2016.

Summer Garden Tour -

Collison Plus, Crow's Nest Greenhouses, The Oaks Victorian Inn

Summer Reading Program - Rainbow Riders

From the desk of ...

Paula Alston, Director, Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library

Happy holidays everyone. I hope you are looking forward to 2016! Did Santa bring you a Kindle or tablet and now you are wondering what to do with it. Well, great news. You can download your eBooks or stream your favorite movie or music from the library. For eBooks, we have four services for you to search. Just click on **OverDrive**, **3M**, **OneClickDigital** or **Hoopla** from our website and you are in business. To stream movies or music, head straight to Hoopla. If you need assistance, call one of the libraries or check our new learning academy for a video presentation on how to use your new device. We are here to help.

Do you need a passport? We do that, too. We have been designated as a passport acceptance agency by the State Department at three locations: Christiansburg, Blacksburg and the Jessie Peterman Library in Floyd. Take a look at our passport page to see what you need to bring with you, then call 382-6969 extension 210 for an appointment and we can start you on the way to your international travel.

Did you hear that Amazon opened a bricks-and-mortar store in Seattle? It was launched on November 3 in the University Village Shopping Mall. Called Amazon Books, it holds between 5,000-6,000 items. According to Jennifer Cast, V-P for Amazon Books, all books will be displayed face-out to aid in the discoverability and that the store has been laid out to create a "discovery mecca."

"Our history has been greatly shaped by people who read their way to opportunity and achievement in public libraries," said historian Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr in 1982. Your public library needs your help, now more than ever. Join the Friends, make a donation to the MFRL Foundation or The Floyd Endowment or just visit and check out a book but do your part to keep our public library system strong in Montgomery and Floyd counties and in the United States.

Whatever you do, keep on reading.

Mary North, President, Friends of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library

At our last board meeting of 2015, we voted to fully fund Paula's request from the Library, \$24,213. The money will again support the summer reading programs, special symposiums and author talks, Meadowbrook's Tomato Festival, Christiansburg's music on the lawn, PAWS to read prizes at Blacksburg, and other activities at all three branches. This year we will make a donation to the Hairston oral history project. Thank you Montgomery County Friends and county citizens who attend our events like the Garden Tour or purchase books from our book sales shelves - you made this possible.

Susan Keith brought a friend to the board meeting, Mohamed Mwinyi, who talked about a library in Tanzania that he has started. Mohamed is student at VT and Susan has collected books for his project. The library has opened in Tanzania, and Mohamed is now seeking to raise money for books in the Swahili (somasasa.org).

Stepping down from the position of president is made salubrious, thanks to a great board and a fantastic in-coming President! Ellen Hall has as membership co-chair with Don Creamer, increased the committee, cleaned up our membership list, and expanded business membership categories. She has become an active member of the Garden committee and organized the needed approval of our bylaws and constitution.

Cheers and adieu.

2016 Board Members

Ellen Hall, Montgomery President	Ellen Hall, Co-Membership	Sue Hossack, Web Administrator
Currently Vacant, Vice President	Don Creamer, Co-Membership	Jeanette Staats, Newsletter Editor
Susan Keith, Secretary	Lynn Brammer, Co-Hospitality	Linda Spivey, Staff Liaison
Sam Hicks, Treasurer	Phyllis Eschenmann, Co-Hospitality	Kit Haggard, Floyd President
	Jo Brown, Garden Tour	

Floyd Friends

It's been quite a year here at Jessie Peterman Library and we are, as always, so grateful for the generosity of our Friends members! You have enabled us to purchase items that were definitely NOT in our budget, which is always terrific, plus help fund crafts and programs that happen on an almost daily basis. Without you, we would be in sorry shape indeed.

With that said, let me send a warm thank you to our newest super Gold member for 2016 – Anne Wilmot. Know, though, that we appreciate every member at every level.

It's time again to renew your membership if you haven't already done it. Your membership runs on a calendar year and 2016 is just around the corner (or may actually be here by the time you're reading this). A membership form is included in this newsletter and can be dropped off at Jessie Peterman Library or mailed to us at P. O. Box 69, Floyd, VA 24091. You can also pick up a form anytime you're in the library. Wishing all of you the joys of the season and the most happy of New Years!

—The staff of Jessie Peterman Library

(Cathy Whitten, Lori Kaluszka, Bev Martinkosky, Debbie Munzing, Eydie Clifton, Joann Verostko, Lisa Thompson and Lyra Rosenfeld) and Kit Haggard, President of the Floyd Friends of the Library

Save the Date for the 2016 Friendly Garden Tour

Saturday, July 9th, 2016 - 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

We are happy to announce the following gardens for this year's tour:

Lauraine and Robert Broadwater (311 Cherokee Drive, Blacksburg)

Jo and Ed Bunce (507 Skyview Drive, Blacksburg)

Rosemary and Steve Cole (1101 Golfview Drive, Blacksburg)

Catherine Fae and Richard Hammer (409 Algonquin Court, Bburg)

Glade Farm Growing - Sally Walker and Jason Pall
(2351 Glade Road, Bburg)

Mary Ellen and Harry Hunt (1907 Bishop Road, Blacksburg)

Debbie and Joey Showalter (900 Draper Road, Blacksburg)



With thanks to our current sponsors:



Details will be in the spring FOL newsletter,
at www.mfrlfriends.org/gardentour.html, and on Facebook.

Crazy8's Recreational Math Club

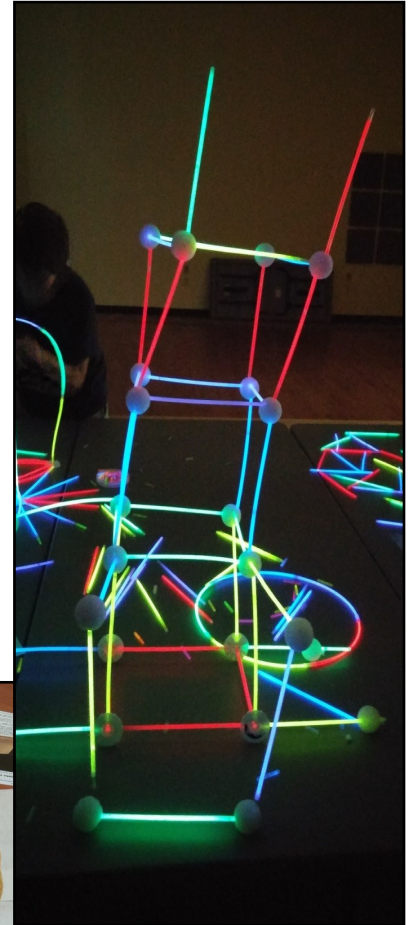
Blacksburg, Christiansburg and Meadowbrook libraries have been the lucky recipients of **the Crazy8's recreational math club**. *This program is sponsored by a nonprofit with the "mission to help kids love numbers so they can handle math in real life".*

Crazy8's offers several free options for parent and child math fun. There is a wacky nightly email with a math bedtime story, an interactive math app for tablets and phones and three sessions of after-school, interactive activities for grades K-2 and 3-5. Each of the three sessions runs for eight weeks.

The University of Chicago has been evaluating the Crazy8's program over a nine month school year and the results were published recently in Science magazine. The study found that the students who participated in the Crazy8's program "demonstrated the equivalent of a three month advantage over their peers." For students with parents who identified as "math anxious", the demonstrated math improvement was equivalent to a six month advantage.

The Blacksburg library began offering Crazy8's math this fall with great success.

Local children have participated in Glow in the Dark geometry with glow sticks (pictured), Marshmallow Catapults, Toilet Paper Olympics and Spy Training. Each program is designed to make math fun and interactive. Surprisingly, attendance at the Blacksburg branch has averaged 75% girls. Crazy8's has been a huge boost in the national effort to make math more attractive to girls.



Christiansburg and Meadowbrook will begin offering Crazy8's math in January 2016.

Farewells & Welcomes

It was with heavy hearts the Christiansburg Library said goodbye to longtime supervisor Pamela Hale at the end of September. We wish her well and know that she will have many adventures during her retirement! Happily, a new supervisor has been selected and she will take up the reins on January 19.

Monena Hall was recently hired to fill the vacancy left by Pamela's retirement. Her first day will be January 19 and we are very excited to welcome her.

Monena is currently employed at Virginia Tech as a Community Engagement Librarian, where she has worked since 2012. Before that, she was with Dallas Public Library working in three different branches as a children's librarian, teen librarian and assistant manager. She received her MLS in 2006 from the University of North Texas and has a BA in Performance Arts from UT Dallas. She is very excited to return to public libraries and is looking forward to meeting the Christiansburg Library community; make sure to stop by and say hello!



Blacksburg Library News

The Blacksburg Library wishes to thank the Friends of the Library for their generous funding for library programs. Most recently we were able to host a program with Jennifer Pharr Davis, author and hiker who set the hiking record for covering the Appalachian Trail. Her program in November was delivered to more than sixty community members, and many stayed to purchase books and get copies of their books autographed. Without FOL funding, this program could not have been made available. **Thanks for all that you do!**

(Jennifer Pharr Davis, presenting and later signing books at the Blacksburg Library)



Please save the date:

The **Blacksburg Restaurants Chili Crawl** is returning to the Blacksburg Library on **Thursday, February 25 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.** Take a break from the cold winter weather & warm up with a few delicious chili samples from local restaurants!

Color Yourself Happy at the Blacksburg Library

Have you noticed the number of adult coloring books springing up in stores like Barnes & Noble and Michael's? Adult coloring books are a fast growing collection. In fact, three of the 10 top-selling books on Amazon are adult coloring books!

The Blacksburg Library will host its first official **COLORING GROUP** on Thursday, January 21 at 2:00 in the **Community Room**. We'll have the coloring pages – a variety of different designs and themes – and coloring utensils, such as crayons, markers, color pencils, etc. Our hope is that we'll have an enthusiastic group of adults who will take advantage of the space, ambience and supplies.

This is an event for adults only! Bring a friend and come color, make more friends, and enjoy your time de-stressing and relaxing.

Friends of the Library

MEMBERSHIP
DRIVE
January 24th - 30th

**We look forward
to another
great year as
Friends of the Library!**

125 Shelton Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073

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