

COVER TO COVER

Friends of the St. Mary's County Library Winter 2016

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Michael Blackwell

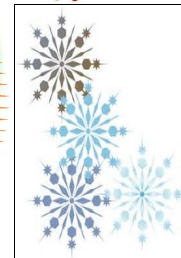
Laura Boonchaisri

Membership

Yes, FOL members, it's that time of year again.

Time to renew your annual membership. It has been a great year of service to our libraries and we look forward to another year of growing.

As you fill out your membership form, please think about ways you may want to volunteer—many hands make light work. Also, don't forget to register for our annual brunch. Both interesting and yummy!



Welcome to Michael Blackwell, St. Mary's County Library's New Director!

The Friends of the Library extends a warm welcome to Michael Blackwell, who began his new post as director of the St. Mary's County library in late November. Blackwell comes to Maryland from Ohio and most recently served as manager of the largest library branch in the Columbus area since 2008. He has also held leadership positions in library technical services, adult services, and reference.

Blackwell leads the library at a time of excitement and change. He takes over the county libraries just in time to oversee the building of the new Leonardtown branch at the Hayden farm site. The library is just beginning the design phase, with construction money for the project budgeted for fiscal year 2018.

Blackwell is familiar with our area. He has fond memories of sailing the Chesapeake in his younger days, when his father once lived on a sailboat in Deale, in southern Anne Arundel County.

The Friends of the Library look forward to meeting and getting to know Michael Blackwell while we work with him in our role as friends of the library.



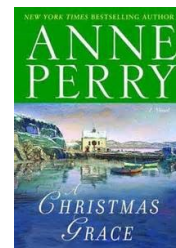
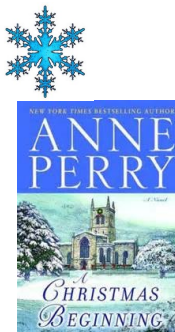
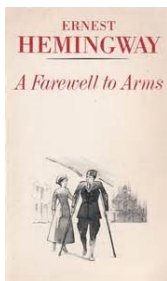
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The holidays are here and the rush has begun. I'm behind already; as usual. So how are you doing? Our November book sale was very successful despite the weather playing around with us. Sorry if you missed it due to the rain trying to decide whether to go or stay. The book sale chairmen finally decided it was going to go away and had the book sale as planned, but held it inside the Leonardtown Library which worked out very well. Thanks to all who worked to make it successful and also to all who came and purchased books. Next on our agenda is the annual January Brunch which we hope you can attend. We have a great speaker and it will be at St. George's Episcopal Church again in Valley Lee on January 16th at 11 a.m. We always have a delicious meal and a wonderful time so please plan to come. Also, our new Library Director, Michael Blackwell, will be there so it would be a good time to meet him and welcome him to our area. As far as books I have read recently and can recommend, I just finished "Farewell to Arms" by Ernest Hemingway and thoroughly enjoyed reading this WWI classic again. I am reading and sometimes rereading many of the classics and find them as new and enthralling as when I first read them. I have also recently discovered Anne Perry and have read several of her mysteries set in Victorian England that I liked. I just read one of her Christmas mysteries, "A Christmas Beginning" which was very good with a surprising ending and I do recommend it. Now I am starting another of her books, "A Christmas Grace" set in Ireland in the early 1800's. Enjoy your holidays and try to find some time to relax and read a bit in between doing the greeting cards and wrapping presents!!

Irish Parkinson, FOL Co-President



Co-
Presidents'

Points
to
Ponder

Farewell to Joan Marsh

The Friends of the Library fondly bids farewell to Joan B. Marsh, a long time friend and supporter of the St. Mary's County Libraries, who died at the age of 84 at Hospice House in Callaway this past August 24th.

Joan devoted her life to the education and development of young children, working first for the St. Mary's County school system at Banneker Elementary. She then worked for the St. Mary's County Health Department, where she was in charge of the new licensing program for all home daycare settings. After retiring from the Health Department in 1991, Joan became a long-term substitute at Father Andrew White School. Joan and her husband shared a love of gardening, and both earned a Master Gardener certification.

Joan became a member of the board of trustees of the St. Mary's County Library in 1997 and served for several years. Joan was also a member of the Friends of the Library, serving in various elected positions over many years. Contributions in Joan's memory may still be made to the Friends of St. Mary's County Library, Friends of the Library, Box 165, Leonardtown, MD, 20650.

Sue Gibbs
Co-President



Director's Message

Hi, Friends!

I'm celebrating the completion of my first week as Director and I couldn't be more delighted with your warm welcome. Thanks for your many kindnesses and well wishes as I take on a challenging, but thrilling new role.

Libraries do face challenges in an increasingly digital world. Some argue we are no longer needed. Those people are, simply put, wrong. We've never been busier than we are today and the services we provide have never been needed more. Granted, those services have changed in the last decade. We now actively seek out partnerships to provide resources and expertise to make St Mary's County an even better place to live. For example, as you may have recently seen in the Enterprise, we are partnering with the Three Oaks Center to bring our veterans job, health, and IT literacy skills. We are starting a new initiative through local media outlets to bring awareness of hot new fiction and nonfiction titles for children, teens, and adults, promoting the magic of reading in a time when reading itself faces challenges. Your library is reaching outside its doors while sharpening its collection inside to meet the needs of St Mary's County. We are a community hub in a 21st Century Economy.

We couldn't do it without you. Thanks for your advocacy and help. You are our oldest and most valued partners. Together we shall fulfill the library's traditional mission in innovative ways. I'm thrilled to be here. Look for me at upcoming FOL events.

Michael Blackwell, Director



News & Notes from the Library

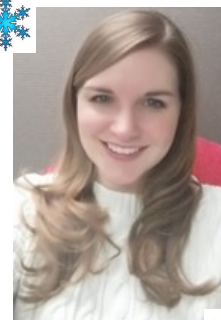


Get ready for 'JAMuary'! This series of special programs will be made possible through a Curiosity Creates Grant for over \$4,500, designed to support creative programming. The Curiosity Creates Grant was awarded from the Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) through a generous donation from Disney. Over 400 libraries from around the United States applied for the grant and 79 awards were made.

'JAMuary' will include multiple programs through January 2016 for all ages. Through the grant, the St. Mary's County Library has purchased 20 ukuleles for participants to use throughout the programming. On Saturday, January 9, two programs will be held called "Please to Meet Uke!" Both are beginner ukulele classes, one for children ages 6 to 10 years old, the other for ages 11 to 14 years old. On Saturday, January 16, two "Song Writing Workshops" will be held, one for children ages 6 to 10 years old, the other for ages 11 to 14 years old. As a culminating event, two "Family Jam and Open Mic" programs will be held for everyone! Sing and strum along to some of your favorite songs at our all ages celebration of music. Bring an instrument, or play one provided by the library. No registration required. Lexington Park Library will host the Family Jam on Friday, January 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Charlotte Hall Library will host on Saturday, January 23 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Make sure to check out the brochures for Kids, Teens and Adults or go online to www.stmalib.org to find out about all the great programming for all ages over the next few months.

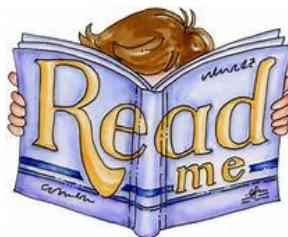
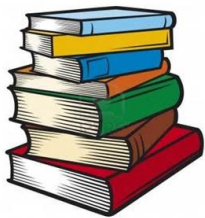
Laura Boonchaisri
Library Publicity and Outreach Coordinator



Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better.

—Sidney Sheldon





Top 10 Best Selling Books of All Time

List compiled by Pramesh Pudasaini on January 11, 2014 for FactoFun.

10. **She: A History of Adventure**

by Henry Rider Haggard; 1887;

Total sales- 83 million



9. **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**

by C.S Lewis; 1950; Total sales- 85 million

8. **The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien; 1937;

Total Sales- 100 million



7. **Dream of the Red Chamber**

by Cao Xueqin; 1791; Total Sales- 100 million

6. **And Then There Were None**

by Agatha Christie; 1939;

Total sales- 100 million



5. **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's**

Stone by J.K Rowling; 1997;

Total Sales – 107 million

4. **Le Petit Prince (The Little Prince)**

by Antoine de Saint Exupery; 1943;

Total sales- 140 million



3. **The Lord of the Rings** by: J.R.R. Tolkien;

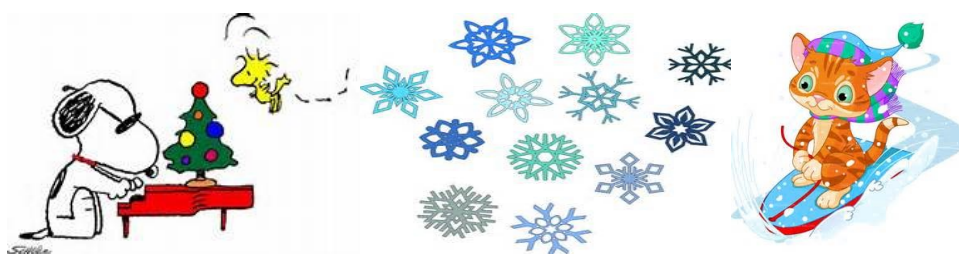
1954; Total sales- 150 million

2. **A Tale of Two Cities** by Charles Dickens;

1859; Total sales- 200 million

1. **Don Quixote** by Miguel de Cervantes;

1605; Total sales- 500 million



5 GOOD BOOKS:

For Dog Lovers

1. Sophie: The Incredible True Story of the Castaway Dog by Emma Pearse
2. Oogy; The Dog Only a Family Could Love by Larry Levin
3. A Friend Like Henry: The Remarkable True Story of an Autistic Boy and the Dog That Unlocked His World by Nuala Gardner
4. Comet's Tale: How the Dog I Rescued Saved My Life by Steven Wolf
5. Haatchi & Little B: The Inspiring True Story of One Boy and His Dog by Wendy Holden

For Cat Lovers

1. Avalon: a Heartwarming True Cat Story by Vanessa Morgan
2. Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World by Vicki Myron
3. A Street Cat Named Bob: And How He Saved My Life by James Bowen
4. Making Rounds with Oscar: The Extraordinary Gift of an Ordinary Cat by David Dosa, M.D.
5. The Cat Who Came for Christmas by Cleveland Amory

Friends of St. Mary's County Library



Membership form — Note: Membership year is January through December.

Date: _____ New Member _____ Renewal _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Alt Email: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Annual Memberships (January-December):

_____ \$ 15 Single/Family Membership (list immediate family members below)

_____ \$ 25 Good Friend Membership

_____ \$100 Special Friend Membership

_____ \$200 Corporate Membership

_____ Additional donation to help the library

Immediate Family Members: _____

FOL Participation:

_____ I want to help with the book sale.

_____ I want to help sort books.

_____ I'm interested in serving on the Board.

_____ I'm interested in joining a committee.

Annual brunch reservation form (\$23 per person)

All reservations are due by January 8, 2016

January 16, 2016 at St. George's Episcopal Church

Beginning at 11:00 AM

Number attending: _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____



Send with your check payable to:

Friends of St. Mary's County Library

P.O. Box 165

Leonardtown, MD 20650



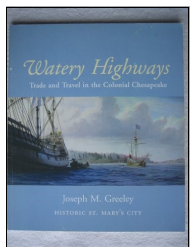
"No animal, according to the rules of animal-etiquette, is ever expected to do anything strenuous, or heroic, or even moderately active during the off-season of winter."

— Kenneth Grahame,
The Wind in the Willows



Annual Brunch

The FOL Annual Brunch is scheduled for Saturday, January 16, 2016 beginning at 11:00 AM. As in past years, it will be held at St. George's Episcopal Church. We will enjoy a delicious catered brunch, followed by a wonderful speaker. We are so happy to have Joe Greeley, author of *Watery Highways: Trade and Travel in the Colonial Chesapeake*, and Site Supervisor for the pinnacle Maryland Dove at Historic St. Mary's City share his wealth of knowledge with us. The cost of this great event is \$23 per person. Please register on the attached membership form by January 8, 2016.



"I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says 'Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again.'"

— Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland & Through the Looking-Glass*

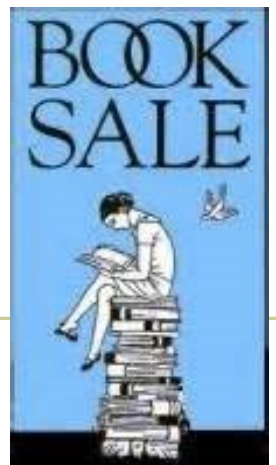
BOOK SALE

A big thank you to all who came out for our Fall Book Sale at the Leonardtown Library! Despite the questionable weather and a last minute change to hold the sale indoors, the sale was a big success. We would also like to thank Mary Ann Bowman for allowing us to use the lobby and the meeting room for the sale, and all of the volunteers who came out to help. Just a reminder to everyone that the Spring Book Sale is a bit later this year.

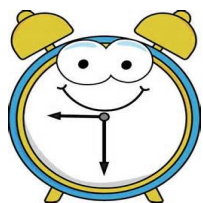
Please mark your calendars for April 22-24, 2016 for the big sale at the fairgrounds!

Thank you to all and Happy Holidays,

Carole Barlow
Alice Dougherty



FOL Newsletter Editor
St. Mary's County Library
PO Box 165
Leonardtown, Md. 20650



It's time to renew your FOL membership for 2016.



FOL ANNUAL BRUNCH

January 16, 2016

11:00 AM

St. George's Episcopal Church

RSVP by January 8, 2016

\$23 per person

Speaker: Joe Greeley



Spring Book Sale

April 22-24, 2016

St. Mary's County Fairgrounds

Volunteers always needed...

