

# Friends support library with book sales

By Gloria Wright, President, Friends of the Clinton-Quisenberry Library

Nothing says summer more than the smell of suntan lotion, the sound of the ocean waves against the sand, sunshine reflected on a pool, the sounds of birds singing in a tree by the river bank or the lake shore, sunglasses, an easy chair, a cool drink and, of course, a good book.

The Clinton Quisenberry Library is ready to provide you with books to meet any of your reading needs. If you are not sure what to read, Clinton Librarian Susan Delmas has designed bookmarks that lists authors in several genres, science fiction, contemporary romance, Christian fiction, western fiction, intrigue, or urban romance. These bookmarks are available at the circulation desk.

If you are partial to having your own books, the Friends of the Library organization sponsors a book sale the first weekend of each month at the library.

According to Carole Kelly, the unofficial Friends of the Library historian, the organization and the book sales go back some forty-five years. Kelly remembers two hard-working members of the earlier Friends organization, Thelma Workman and Bill Voorhees, who worked tirelessly to encourage voters to support the building of a new library, moving from a small site in Olde Towne Clinton. Their efforts contributed to the construction of a new library on land donated by the A. E. Wood family on Clinton Boulevard.

The first book sales were held in the spring and fall and often included a white elephant sale featuring donated items of all types and varieties, as well as books. One year, the sale was highlighted with a lively auction conducted by auctioneer and friends supporter Harry Upton. Proceeds from the sales, in those years as today, were used to fund unbudgeted items for the library.

The book sale tradition continued after the transfer of the library to the present location on Northside Drive. Freda Hartness coordinated the sales for a number of years, also serving as Friends treasurer. Presently, the book sale is under the direction of Sandra Fant. As book sale chairman, Sandra calls the book sale room her "happy place," and her motto is: "Books don't sell if you don't put them out." Toward this aim, she works to obtain as many books as she can. She makes the rounds at libraries, yard sales or any place where books may be available. Sandra says, "I see a free book, I get it." If someone calls saying they have books to donate for the sale but are not able to take them to the library, Sandra will pick them up.

Co-chair of the book sale is Faye Dickerson, who is in charge of the non-fiction section. This includes self-help, political literature, cookbooks, inspirational, history, and the arts. She



*Sandra Fant and Faye Dickerson work many hours and coordinate volunteers for each book sale sponsored by the Friends of the Library.*

also has a section labeled "Miscellaneous," where one can find classical fiction and autographed books. One of Faye's greatest pleasures is reading stories for our little patrons during our children's activities and dressing in costume for seasonal presentations.

A lot of preparation goes into setting up for a book sale, with all donated books and books retired or 'weeded' from the library shelves separated by categories and boxed for storage by volunteers under the direction of Sandra and Faye. The Wednesday before

the sale, boxes of books are brought from the storeroom and arranged on tables. Volunteers work two-hour shifts during the sale; and, the following Monday, all remaining books are boxed and returned to the storage room.

Wayne Richey, treasurer of the Friends of the Library, keeps record of sales and deposits of proceeds, which are used to fund children's programs and other unbudgeted items.

Book sales are held on the first weekend of the month, Friday and

Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A new highlight for the sales will begin in August, as a preview sale will be held on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for Friends of the Library members.

If you are not a member, you may obtain a membership card at the door. Dues are \$5 per year, and the membership year is from June 1 to May 31.

Have a great summer, and we hope to see you at our next book sale August 2 and 3 with a preview for Friends of the Library on Thursday, August 1.

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