



President's Message



This New Year has brought unprecedented changes to our weather, our economy, and even our library. More than ever, the library has become an integral part of the Bonita community. More patrons use the library services each year, even as budget cuts undermine efforts to service needs. Library hours, staff, and the budget have been cut. Yet, our wonderful staff works tirelessly to provide the services we need. Please be patient when you stand in line to check out your books. Please remember to smile and thank them for their dedication even when they ask you for the dime you owe for overdue charges!

Our library meeting room is full of people training to take the new census, learning about genealogy, or listening to stories read by our new Youth Director. Sometimes children read to dogs! Our computers are used non-stop for all purposes; checking email, checking stocks, or playing a game. There are programs available to while away time or inform an inquisitive mind. The Friends of the Bonita Springs Library invite you to support the library programs.

We Friends also put on programs. Our Author Luncheon Series is underway. In January, Karen Harper regaled the audience with her talk about her historical mysteries. Our February author is Jamie Rush (also known as Tina Wainscott). In March, Diane Gessler will be talking about her travels. All three authors reside in Florida and would love to see you! Look for the flyer in our foyer near the Book Nook. It is not too late to sign up to see the last two authors. The luncheon meetings will be held on the last Thursday of February and March.

On April 8, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. the Friends are hosting a Death and Dessert Program in the meeting room of our library. We will have three authors in a panel format to discuss their books. You will have an opportunity to purchase their books and have them signed! Look for the article for more information. It is free to the public.

On March 5 and March 6 the Friends will hold a Spring Book Sale to be held in the meeting room of the library. The monies raised support or enhance library services. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year! We encourage you to come, browse, and buy. We happily accept donations of all gently read books, movies, puzzles, DVDs, and books on CD or tape. In the meanwhile, browse at our continuous book sale on the shelves in the front entry. We have something for everyone!

If you have not become a Friend of the Library I encourage you to do so. We currently have 264 paid members. We are setting our goal to reach 400 members this year. Help us by contributing to such a worthy organization. We greatly depend on your support to help fund the projects that enhance library services. Look for the new electronic calendar that will soon be installed above the front desk. The Friends have also provided the library with ten new tables for the meeting room. We have also contributed funds to help support the Southwest Reading Festival to be held in Fort Myers on March 20, 2010.

The library is a happening place. We hope to happen upon you!

Helena Nesbit
President

Don't Forget Our Book Sale!



**Friday,
March 5th (9-3)**

**Saturday,
March 6th (9-3)**



Support Your Library - Join the Friends

Dues: Individual \$10.00 Family \$15.00
 Lover \$25.00 Lifetime \$250.00

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Apt./Unit# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Referred by _____

Email _____

----- Make check payable to: Friends of the Bonita Springs Library -----

Death and Dessert

Please join us on Thursday, April 8th, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the library for this year’s Death and Dessert. Joining us will be three local authors.

Gerald E. Kelly is a former detective in the NYPD narcotics squad, whose true crime book, “Honor for Sale,” chronicles the biggest narcotics theft in history. Mr. Kelly now lives in Bonita Springs.

Mary Tatarian, a long-time Fort Myers Beach resident, has written a cozy island mystery loaded with unique characters. She will discuss her book, “Seabliss.”

C.S. Challinor will talk about her Rex Graves mystery series. She now resides in SW Florida but travels extensively seeking different locales for her novels.

Please call the library reference desk to make a reservation. Space is limited. If you have attended before, you know we will have lively conversation, books for sale, and delicious desserts. If you have not attended in the past, what are you waiting for!?



Check It Out

By Maureen L. Pollock

This has certainly been one of the coldest winters that I can remember around the area and I have been in Lee County since 1990. When the temperatures drop, folks tend to want to stay inside and (hopefully) read a good book. Maybe it isn’t the weather, but something has sure made our popularity increase these past few months.

Our door count (bodies through the doors), and our circulation (items checked out) have been phenomenal compared to past years’ statistics. The economic times also have impacted people using the library. Borrowing a book or movie is far superior to buying it and the increase in our numbers certainly proves that theory. Whatever the reason, we have a had a busy winter in library world.

We have a new staff member working with us in the Youth Services area. Jennifer Adams joined our staff in January. Jennifer’s enthusiasm for all things youth-related is evident by just talking with her. She has already increased our attendance at story time on Wednesday mornings. Jennifer lives in Lehigh Acres but considers the opportunity to work with the youth of Bonita worth the drive each day. Please stop and say hello to her when you visit the library.

The 11th Southwest Florida Reading Festival will be held on March 20th at Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. There will be many popular authors in attendance as well as fun activities for kids and adults alike. The event has grown over the past eleven years and has become well-respected in the book publishing world. The Friends of the Library are ever-generous and contribute to the Shows for Kids portion of the Reading Festival. It is worth the drive for this spectacular event.

See you at the library!

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