



The Friendly News

May, 2023



Greetings from the President

Greetings Friends,

You may have read about results released last month from a national poll on American values conducted by The Wall Street Journal and the National Opinion Research Center. Sadly, the poll showed that, over the past 25 years, the number of Americans who consider community involvement to be very important has shrunk from 47% to 27%.

What could that statistic mean for organizations like Friends of the Library? For one, it highlights the challenge we face, and may continue to face, in finding folks who value involvement and are willing to volunteer. However, this does not mean we should view this challenge pessimistically. Instead, we need to think creatively about our mission, our programs, and our advocacy so that we continue to inspire others to become involved. Happily, we have resources, like those that **Lynda Reynolds** shared at our April meeting, to help us do that. See the story inside this newsletter for more on Lynda's visit.

More importantly, the decline in Americans' valuing of community involvement is a reminder of how lucky we Friends are to have so many energetic and creative volunteers! For example, **Joyce O'Neal**, who not only produces this monthly newsletter, has also organized our May "collectors' showcase" program, (with indispensable input from **Ellen Dewey**)! **Vice President Lisa Yakovenko** is currently hard at work on our annual member social, where we will celebrate the wide variety of ways we Friends have impacted our community this year.

Please also join me in welcoming our newest volunteers. **Beth DeMauro** is stepping into the very big job of Program Committee Chair; read more about Beth in the pages below. **Evelyn Campbell** and **Pat Elston** will be taking over coordination of the student art exhibits at the library. Thank you, Beth, Evelyn, and Pat for volunteering!

Speaking of volunteers, we are still in need of a new treasurer. Our fiscal year ends on June 30, and we need someone to step into the treasurer's role starting July 1.

Thank you all for helping to buck the trend against valuing community involvement. Through your example, perhaps we can inspire others to do the same.

Cheers, Erica

**DATE
CHANGE**

COLLECTOR'S SHOWCASE FEATURING MIKE AND JACOB MOSTELLER



Monday, May 15, 2023

6:30 pm



**Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library
Community Room**



Local collectors Mike and Jacob Mosteller keep local history alive for generations to come with their show and tell presentation.



Go back in time with these museum quality collections and knowledge. Broad-ranging exhibits include Native American artifacts to local bottling works around the turn of the 20th Century.



Sponsored by Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library, a non-profit organization dedicated to life-long learning opportunities, and in partnership with the Catawba County Library System. All programs are free and open to the public.

The Mostellers are Coming to the Community Room on Monday, May 15th

Michael and Jacob Mosteller (father and son) will fill the tables in the Community Room with selections from their IMMENSE collection of local history items. They both enjoy learning about local history and sharing this knowledge through their collections. Mike is particularly excited to keep alive the history of local Native Peoples with his artifacts. He and Jacob will talk about the historical items, and about the social history of our area. They regularly display and lecture at Murray's Mill events.



Sherrills Ford-Terrell is of course on the boundary line separating Catawba and Iredell Counties, and area residents frequented towns on both sides of the river. Advertising and items from local businesses abound in their collections.

Mike attended Sherrills Ford Elementary and Catawba Middle schools and graduated from Bandys High School in 1994. He works at Commscope in Sherrills Ford. Jacob will graduate from Bandys High School this year. The program is free and open to the public.

Beth DeMauro, New FOSFTL Program Chair



Beth DeMauro is a writer/editor/licensed massage therapist who spent 15 years as a journalist in Florida, Michigan, and New Jersey, followed by 25-plus years in higher-education marketing. She's gathered plenty of interesting stories along the way and is creating new ones every day as a retiree on Lake Norman in Sherrills Ford. Divorced, widowed, and grateful to have found another great partner in life, Beth has a blended family of seven married children and six grandchildren. She will try just about anything once (provided it's legal) and loves to be active, busy, and alive! She's a knitter, writer, stained glass artist, and more ... and she absolutely LOVES to read. A member of two in-person and one virtual book club, she is looking forward to giving back as the program director for the Friends of the Library. She couldn't pick a favorite book, although Frank McCourt's Angela's Ashes is a pretty good contender.

NC Public Libraries Association Representative Advises FOSFTL at April Business Meeting

At our April business meeting—and after a bit of calendar adjustment—we welcomed Lynda Reynolds, the state library liaison to Friends of North Carolina Public Libraries. As you may have read in the meeting minutes, Lynda led a discussion on three topics: the relationship between the Friends of the Library and the library itself; membership strategies; and advocacy.



In Lynda's assessment, and in our discussions, we concluded that Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library has a solid foundation of by-laws and structures that help us function smoothly. We have a healthy balance of programming for the community, for schools, and for supporting the library. As an organization, though, we have not historically focused on advocacy. Let's consider whether advocacy is something we'd like to be more strategic and intentional about. What is advocacy, and what does it involve? According to the resources Lynda provided, advocacy can include things like:

- Inviting government officials, organization leaders, business leaders and other community representatives to form partnerships with the FOL;
- Contacting local and state representatives about issues affecting the library;
- Attending community events as an ambassador of FOL and speaking about library services, programs, and amenities;
- Forming a committee specifically dedicated to advocacy at local, state, and even national levels.

We've already seen interest in developing an advocacy arm within our organization, but it's important to discuss further whether we have sufficient interest, time, and resources to develop it. I invite you to join us in August for our annual strategic planning meeting (date TBD), where advocacy will be on the agenda.

In the meantime, our newsletter will feature topics, like this one, of interest beyond our local organization—topics related to literacy and libraries. If you have ideas for stories like this, please let us know.

FOSFTL Donates \$500 to Catawba Library Foundation in Memory of Flo Hollands

We were saddened to hear that loyal Friend Flo Hollands passed away on March 22, 2023. Flo was an energetic and enthusiastic volunteer for the Friends of the Library and was instrumental in obtaining the new Sherrills Ford Terrell Library. You will recognize her in these two archived photos.



Flo was a Pennsylvania native and graduated from Allegheny College with a degree in English. She worked at The Brookings Institute in Washington, D.C., and later for Gulf Oil. She was a wife, mother and grandmother, as well as an avid gardener. Her eighteen hybrid rose bushes were legendary.

At our April business meeting, FOSFTL approved a \$500 donation to the Catawba Library Foundation in her memory.



Help Wanted!

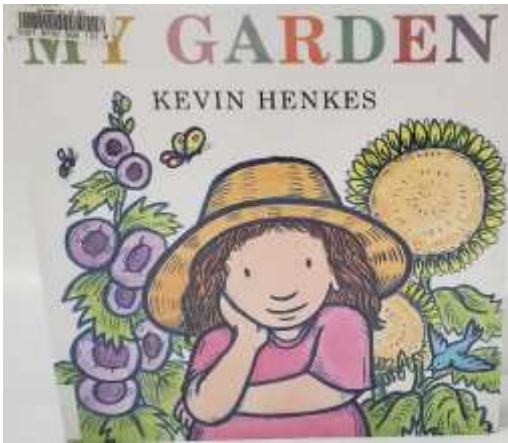
We are still in need of someone to
take over the role of

TREASURER



Our current treasurer leaves this
position in June! Please consider helping
SFTFOL with this important job.





May Flowers Arrive in the Crafts-4-Kids Kits

May's free Friendly Crafts 4 Kids activity is now available at the FOSFTL table in the lobby.

This month our take home project accompanies My Garden by Kevin Henkes, which is available in print or Ebook from the Catawba County Library with your patron's card. Join Henkes' little girl as her imagination soars when planning her spring garden. This

story brings thoughts of Mother's Day, May flowers and gardens.

Supplies are provided to make two (2) flowers with 6 cupcake liners, 2 craft sticks and small flowers and paper dots. You will need a glue stick for the liners and a crayon to color the craft "stems". Make your flowers to keep or to give to a "special" friend. Color choices vary.

Thank you craft committee volunteer Kathy Bradham.

Anyone interested in joining the committee is welcome to contact Kathy kat.bradham@gmail.com



National Endowment for the Humanities Publishes Study of Libraries

Skye Patrick, Librarian of the Year in 2020 and director of the Los Angeles County Library System, says "Libraries are not about books; they're about people." In the LA area, over 50% of the youngsters do not have the literacy skill set they need for kindergarten, including basics such as how to hold a book! In an NEH piece entitled "The Complicated Role of the Modern Public Library," the library is lauded for being one of the few truly public places left in America. Most of our shared spaces require money or a certain social status to access. The library requires none of those things, but offers instead on-site resources including books, e-books, magazines, job-hunting assistance, computer stations, free Wi-Fi, and much more.

To keep up with changing technology and user expectations, public libraries have invested in more computer terminals and Wi-Fi capability. They have upgraded and expanded facilities to provide more outlets, meeting rooms, study spaces, and comfortable seating. New, bigger, brighter coworking spaces see high usage among millennials, signaling the ongoing value of the library. Millennials grew up loving libraries and continue to use and support them. In fact, having a child under the age of six is the biggest predictor of library use.

Along with nurses and firefighters, librarians are among the few groups and institutions Americans still trust. This trust remains high because of their proven ability to curate and share reliable knowledge. That's a precious skill in a world growing skeptical of objective knowledge, and in which people increasingly access targeted and biased purveyors of that "knowledge."

questions@neh.gov

Elementary Schools Receive Last Literacy Team Visits



As the school year winds down, the First Grade Literacy Team has scheduled their last visits to Sherrills Ford and Balls Creek Elementary Schools. Our final book of the year, **What If... Then We...** written by Rebecca Kai Dotlich, tells the tale of two polar bear friends who find themselves in some surprising situations. For every "What If" they encounter, they use their imaginations to make the situation better. The two friends show that there's no limit to where imagination can take you!

After reading and discussing the book, the students were given a set of assorted shapes in various colors to create their own design. They had so

much fun and were so imaginative! Well done, First Graders! A copy of the book is donated to each classroom and each child receives a corresponding bookmark to remember the visit. An additional copy of the book is also donated to the Sherrills Ford-Terrell library for all to enjoy.

It has been our pleasure to bring the joy of reading into these classrooms this past year. We are happy to announce that we will be adding Catawba Elementary School first graders to our schedule starting Fall 2023.

Many thanks to George and Milda Trepina who were an integral part of the First Grade Program. We will be looking for more readers as we expand our impact in the community. Please contact Charlene

Callahan charcallct@gmail.com or Emily Huling sellstrat@aol.com if you would be interested in volunteering.



Wait!! — We Don't Want to See Clean, Orderly Book Shelves!!

Looks a little bare, doesn't it? Can you bring in some gently-read books to cover those bare shelves? We hope so! Donations also go to Mountain Creek Park for our Little Free Library box there. Come by often to browse, and buy to support our literacy programs! (We're half the price of Goodwill books.)



Puzzles Continue to Change Hands at the Library—Join the Party!

That one in the front has 2000 pieces!!! Could that be the one to occupy every rainy day between now and September? Puzzle Exchange and Group Puzzle continue to be popular with library patrons of all ages. Recent offerings included a Locomotive scene and “Things I Did as a Kid.” Bring one of yours in and exchange!!!



Do These Photos Remind You of an Event in June? Look Carefully—Are You Hungry Yet?



June 20th at 6:30 marks the end of our 2022-2023 organizational year, so ring in the New Year with the **June Social & Book Exchange!**

The Friends will supply the fried chicken—from Butcher Boy Restaurant, of course—and with a side dish offered by each Friend in attendance, we will have a feast to celebrate.



Since we did not have a holiday celebration in December, we are bringing back the popular Book Exchange in June. Bring in a new or gently-read book and find a new one to enjoy!



Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Program Schedule for 2022-2023 Fiscal Year

May 15, 2023 (Monday) 6:30-8:00

**Collectors' Showcase featuring
Mike and Jacob Mosteller**

June 20, 2023

Annual Social and Preparations for our
2023-2024 Fiscal Year



You Can Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram

We currently post pictures and information about our events on both platforms. You do not need a Facebook account to keep current.



<https://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL/>

We are listed on Instagram as: sherrillsfordfol

Search for **Friends of Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library** on Facebook and if you're on Instagram, we are **sherrillsfordfol**. Please LIKE and share posts! Feel free to send a message if you would like a photo of you at the library or a Friends Event posted to either site. Ellen Janzen Dewey is the Administrator and initiator of our social media sites.

To see more of what is happening at SFT—by the week—and throughout the Catawba County Library System, visit :

<https://www.catawbacountync.gov/county-services/library/about/friends-of-the-library>

OR: Search in your browser for Catawba County Library/This Week @ Your Library.

Newsletter Submissions: Please e-mail **news and photo submissions, and community announcements** to Joyce O'Neal, newsletter editor, by the fourth Tuesday of the month: joyceoneal417@gmail.com .

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library 2022-2023

Officers:

President — Erica Batten

Vice-president: — Lisa Yakovenko

Secretary — Kathy Camarco

Treasurer — Priya Palmer

Publicity — Ellen Dewey

Membership — Sabine Detzel

Programs — Beth DeMauro

Newsletter — Joyce O'Neal

Board of Directors:

Linda Greenwell

Joanie Gardner

Pat Elston

Jeanne Lebens

Library Staff:

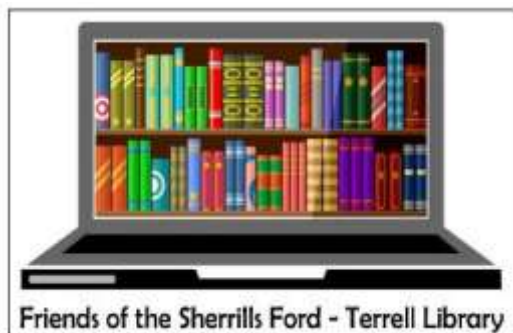
Library Services Manager — Shelley Orr

Librarian — Melissa Housel

Library Services Specialist — Kacy Steiger

Library Assistants — Lindsay Lewis, Keri Flowers, Carolyn Smith

Location: Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library, 9154 Sherrills Ford Road, Terrell, NC 28682 Phone: (828) 466-6827



2022-2023 Membership Form

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library

Consider following us on Facebook or Instagram to keep current on planned activities

<http://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL> or  @sherrillsfordfol

Who are we?

- The Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library is a local non-profit 501(c) (3) organization comprised of members of the community. We are dedicated to supporting the mission of the Catawba County Library System, encouraging reading, expanding literacy, providing cultural opportunities, and inspiring a passion for life-long learning in our community.

What do we do?

- Support Library Programs such as the Summer Reading Program for adults and children
- Provide Community Programs throughout the year that offer broad learning opportunities for all ages
- Facilitate Literacy Programs at Sherrills Ford and Catawba Elementary
- Advocate for the Library by offering support and resources to fill needs not covered by their budget

What do you get?

- Besides the enjoyment of supporting community literacy initiatives and cultural events, your annual membership includes:
- "The Friendly News" periodic newsletters which keep you up to date on activities, events, and volunteer opportunities
- Priority Access to unique, fun, and enriching programs
- Many opportunities to Get Involved (see other side of this form for a complete list)

How do you sign up? We would love to have you join **"The Friends"** and we can't wait to meet you. Being part of this organization is an excellent way to support your community. Simply choose your donation level and fill out the below information.

- Donations above our annual \$10 Family Membership cost fund the bulk of our programs!
- We intentionally keep our Membership cost low and affordable.
- Revenues from Membership cover roughly 25% of our annual operating budget, so we very much appreciate and rely on donations beyond the basic membership cost.
- While most of our funds are used for our Sherrills Ford-Terrell community, a portion of our donations may be used periodically to support the Catawba County Library Endowment to ensure consistent and critical financial support beyond that provided annually by our state and local governments.

☐ Annual Renewal – Thank You ☐ New Membership – Welcome!	☐ \$10 Family Membership Cost ☐ \$50 Sponsor Donation ☐ \$100 Patron Donation ☐ Other Donation Amount \$ _____ Checks made payable to: Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library
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Name: _____ (as you wish used on our FOSFTL nametag)
 Address: _____
 Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____ Zip Code: _____

You can drop off the membership form and check while at the library or send by mail to:
 FOSFTL
 9154 Sherrills Ford Road
 Terrell, NC 28682

Friends of the Sherrills Ford – Terrell Library (FOSFTL)

If you are interested in any of the Volunteer Opportunities below, put a check next to them, and we will get back to you. Teens may be eligible for school volunteer requirements.

- ☐ Officer Role – President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary (2-year term)
 - ☐ Nominating Committee to help us recruit talented Officer and Board Members
- ☐ Fundraising Committee to help us create a strategic approach to fundraising
 - ☐ Book Bonanza Committee helps us ensure ongoing supply of books
 - ☐ Gift Basket Committee helps us assemble gift baskets with others throughout the year
- ☐ Holiday and Special Event Support helps with one of our special events, such as our children's holiday party
- ☐ Literacy Program supports our program in the First and Second Grades by helping select books, assemble reading packets or reading in one of our classrooms
- ☐ Membership Committee helps with outreach for members, greets and staffs our event tables
- ☐ Program Committee helps generate program ideas and implements those selected
- ☐ Refreshment Team organizes and provides refreshments for one of our events
- ☐ Roadies Team helps set up and clean up at our events
- ☐ Publicity Committee helps us coordinate and expand how we publicize our work
- ☐ Art Show Committee sets up displays of school artwork throughout the year
- ☐ Little Free Library Committee helps facilitate this new venture with Little Free Libraries throughout our community
- ☐ Friendly Krafts 4 Kids Committee creates, organizes and stocks the "Take and Make" literacy based kits for younger patrons of the library