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FOCCL February 2023 Update

Welcome New Members

Dorothy Baker
Susan Elson Price
Linda Riczo
Serena Tartaglia
Josie Zappie

New Lifetime Members

Michael Bromirski
Maggie Crouthamel
Sue Merrill



Volunteer Opportunities

Festival Booth Workers

Volunteers are needed to work in our booths at the Burrowing Owl Festival and The Southwest Florida Reading Festival (see dates below). We will be helping children draw their picture entries for this year's Children's Coloring the Earth Art Contest. The theme of this year's contest is Save the Florida Scrub-Jay. Just an hour or two would be very helpful! If you're available to help please contact alessialeathers@yahoo.com.

Spring Book Sale April 19-22

Many volunteers will be needed for the Spring Book Sale. We need people to sort and set up books by authors and subjects on Wednesday April 19 from 9AM-5PM. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks throughout the sale Thursday & Friday 9AM-4PM, Saturday 9AM-3PM. To volunteer please email Mary Achilles at booksale@capefriends.org.

eBay Sales

If you're looking for a great way to enhance your computer skills and be directly involved in making money for the library, eBay Committee Chair Lorelee Hamel is looking for backup coverage when she is out of town. She will teach you everything that needs to be done --- monitor eBay to respond to a sale, close the sale, print shipping labels, get books from storage, package them and take them to the Post Office.

Book Donation Hotline

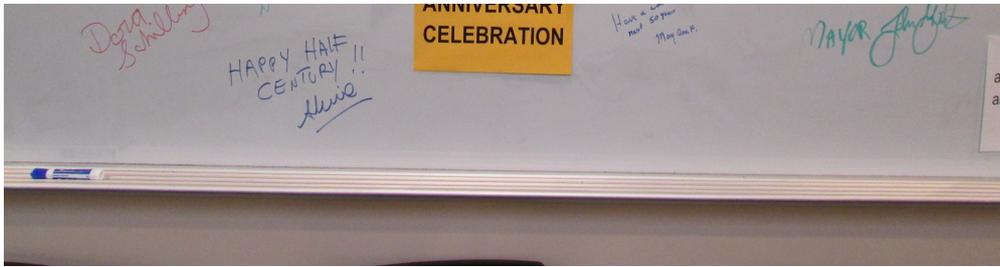
The Hotline Message Service was created many years ago and was managed by the Book Sale Event Coordinator until 2020. The Hotline Service serves two purposes: managing large quantity book donations that the library is not set up to handle, and helping people who are unable to pack & transport make book donations to benefit the library. So, we are providing a service to the library and to the public.

New volunteer transporters joined the Hotline team in 2022 but more are needed. Transporters receive a text from the coordinator with donor information, transporters contact the donor to make arrangements for pickup, then deliver the donations to our storage unit at 4413 SE 15th Ave (one block west of Del Prado). Durable shopping bags are provided, some lifting is required. This public service is key to providing the supply of books needed for our two Book Sale events per year!

Send email to president@capefriends.org if you're interested in volunteering for eBay or Hotline, or if you have interest or questions about volunteer opportunities.

FOCCL 50th Anniversary Celebration





We were finally able to celebrate our 50th anniversary on January 21, 2023, and it was a fabulous day! 39 members and 26 guests came to celebrate! We especially want to thank Mayor John Gunter and Lee County Board of County Commissioners Kevin Ruane and Brian Hamman for attending and showing great support for the FOCCL. Thanks also goes to Mindi Simon, director of the Lee County Library System for her ongoing support to FOCCL, and of course our past presidents Maria Maddalena and Monica Rahman who gave a firsthand account of the history of our organization. Finally, a huge thanks to our current president, Dawn LaVacque for bringing our vision of a 50th anniversary celebration to life. Her power point presentation on the history of Little Acorns to Friends of the Cape Coral Library was wonderful! - Teresa Goulding



Mayor of Cape Coral - John Gunther



Lee County Commissioner - Brian Hamman





Mindi Simon - Director of Lee County Library System



21st Annual Burrowing Owl Festival

When: February 25th 10AM - 4 PM

Where: Rotary Park- 5505 Rose Garden Road, Cape Coral



Come celebrate Cape Coral's very own burrowing owls! The FOCCL will have a booth for children to participate in the 17th annual Children's Environmental Art Contest.

To volunteer in our booth, send email to alessialeathers@yahoo.com.

Southwest Florida Reading Festival

When: March 5th 10AM - 4 PM

Where: Fort Myers Regional Library- 2450 First Street Fort Myers



FOCCL is a proud sponsor of bestselling author Gregg Hurwitz. The Gallery Committee will have a booth setup during the festival to promote the 17th Annual Children's Environmental Art Contest. To volunteer in our booth, send email to alessialeathers@yahoo.com.

For information on Festival authors and presentation schedule, visit www.readfest.org.

FOCCL General Membership Meeting

When: March 25th 9:30AM-11:00AM

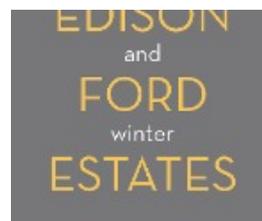


Where: Cape Coral- Lee County Library Meeting Room

Who: Walt Irmen Docent at the Edison and Ford Winter Estates

Walt will give a brief presentation on the friendship between Thomas Edison and Henry Ford and their winter homes. The Edison Ford Estates contain a historical museum and 21-acre botanical garden on the adjacent sites of the winter homes located in Fort Myers beside the Caloosahatchee River.

Refreshments and social time start at 9:30am, followed by brief business meeting and program. Meeting is open to the public.



Spring Book Sale

Our Spring Book Sale fundraiser will take place in April. Members only preview sale will be on Thursday, April 20th from 10-3 pm. Become a member for \$15.00 and get the first chance at thousands of titles. The sale will be open to the public on Friday and Saturday, April 21-22 from 9-3 pm.



President's Message

The 50th anniversary celebration on Jan. 21 was a huge success, it was everything I had hoped for. The event was well attended by members and guests, all happy to meet Friends, old and new. The atmosphere was festive, and smiles were plentiful. Everyone was ready to celebrate something positive!



Special thanks to guest speakers: Mindi Simon, Director, Lee County Library System; Mayor John Gunter, and Lee County Commissioners Brian Hamman and Kevin Ruane. They shared personal stories about the impact libraries had on their lives and careers. All expressed their appreciation for our service and offered congratulations on achieving a great milestone.

At the end of the program an oversized check was presented to Commissioner Ruane representing our funding for interactive play walls in the children's section and shaded seating in the butterfly garden.

Thanks to the gals attending from the Cape Coral Garden Club. They worked hard to spruce up the butterfly garden before the event and it looks terrific, with new plantings and walking paths to complement the new furniture. Watch for umbrellas to be in place soon!

Special thanks to all the volunteers who made the event fun and memorable: past presidents Maria Maddelena and Monica Rahman for sharing stories that brought FOCCL history to life, and committees on Decorating, Hospitality, Membership, Photography and Publicity. Teamwork makes the dream work!

If you missed the celebration, the brief history presentation and library tour guide are archived on our website newsletters page, capefriends.org/newsletters. Both documents highlight FOCCL contributions and can be viewed in browser with no software needed. Photos from the event can be found on capefriends.org/photo_gallery.

Congratulations to all the Friends,
Dawn LaVacque



On Exhibit in Library Art Gallery

Showing Feb. 2 through Feb. 27, 2023

On the Walls: Cartoons by Doug MacGregor- "Enjoying the Humorous Side of SW Florida."

In the Cases: Beautiful fused glass creations by June F. Bennett and Judy Van Inwegen.

Ongoing exhibitions are sponsored by FOCCL. For information about the gallery, contact Art Gallery Chairperson Monica Rahman by email to galler@capefriends.org.





Website: CapeFriends.org

Photos from Events: CapeFriends.org/photo_gallery

Annual Calendar: CapeFriends.org/calendar

Follow us on Facebook: [Friends of the Cape Coral Library](https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Cape-Coral-Library)

Hotline Message Ph.# 239-349-2572

Cape Coral Public Library [Calendar of Events](#).

Contact Library Ph.# 239-533-4500

Subscribe to Library newsletter: leegov.com/library/programs, go to bottom of page, click on [subscribe now!](#)

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