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## FOCCL January 2025 Update

### Welcome New Members

<b>Renate Darby</b>	<b>Rebecca Reid</b>
<b>Kelly Nasula</b>	<b>Marci Meyering</b>
<b>Jeanne Evans</b>	<b>Barbara Mertz</b>
<b>Amanda Zubek</b>	<b>Librada Lozano</b>
<b>Dan Williams</b>	<b>Samuel Lemes</b>
<b>Gerry and Linda Belcher</b>	<b>Peter Henderson</b>
<b>Megan Heins</b>	<b>Kathleen Fannon</b>
<b>Patrick Wheeler</b>	<b>Brooke Truplano</b>
<b>Christine Scotti</b>	<b>Peg Stoddard</b>
<b>Kenneth and Becky Ravell</b>	<b>Angela Farrugia</b>
<b>Phoebe Ohi</b>	<b>Roy Bennet</b>





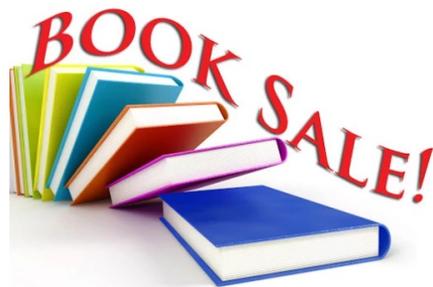
## November General Meeting - Garden Club of Cape Coral

Twenty five members and two guests attended our General Membership meeting on November 16th. Terry Fisher from the Garden Club of Cape Coral gave a wonderful presentation on staghorn ferns. All attendees were given ferns to take home along with directions on how to keep them alive! Thank you Terry for an educational and fascinating presentation.



## Smithsonian Came to Cape Coral!

The Smithsonian Exhibit, Voices and Votes-Democracy in America Exhibit closed on Friday November 8th. 153 people attended Ribbon Cutting Sept 13, 2024 and the exhibit was open to the public for 42 days (sadly seven days had to be cancelled due to weather). Nearly 1500 visitors intentionally interacted with the exhibition with many more visiting to view. The Cape Coral Library was one of five in Florida chosen by the Smithsonian Institution as part of their Museums on Main Street program. FOCCL provided refreshments for the opening day festivities and tee shirts for staff and volunteers.



Thanks to all who made our fall book sale a great success!! Our Wednesday set up crew, sales people, cashiers, organizers and our Saturday take down team all did a fantastic job allowing us to sell thousands of books! In addition, this year we were able to donate all of our fiction remaining books to Believe 'N Books, an organization in Fort Myers that provides underprivileged children a chance to expand their literacy horizons. We were happy to team up with them

in a way that benefitted both of our organizations.



Do you know that the FOCCL has already made their New Year's resolution? And you can help us keep it! **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to collect and transport book donations. Currently we are depending on a few volunteers to do the work of many. While our system is working our goal is to have more volunteers working fewer hours to get these jobs done. To accomplish this we need the following:

**1 Hotline Coordinator** to take calls and direct transporters for book collection. Time involved is of course determined by the number of calls to the hotline (they do not have to be answered immediately), this can all be done in your own home.

**1 Library Transport Coordinator** to schedule volunteers to pick up books from the library and take them to storage or Goodwill. The coordinator would determine what needs to be done based on book donations and find who is available to do it. This job can also be done at home.

**Transporters!** We need at least 3 volunteers who can come to the library and pick up books to take to our storage unit or Goodwill (there are several locations but one is very close to the storage unit). This would be at least once a week (depending on how many volunteers we have) or could be a solid one or two week commitment a month determined by volunteers' preference.

**1 Sorter/Packer** at storage to assist in determining if books will go on eBay, or in our book sales. We have two dedicated volunteers who will train you on determining the value of a book. This also involves packing books at storage for the book sales. This would require a once a week commitment.

**1 Book Sale Volunteer Coordinator** to create volunteer schedules for our April and November Book sales.

If you think you can help, please contact us through our hotline ([239-349-2572](tel:239-349-2572)), [web site](#) or [facebook](#) messenger. We will also have sign up sheets with job descriptions available at our General Meeting on January 18th.





Looking for another way to support the library, use some of your valuable skills and meet new people? Look no further, the Board of Directors has an opening for **Assistant Treasurer**. The A/T will learn all the duties of Treasurer to serve as backup, assist with banking duties, and ultimately assume the role of Treasurer. Requirements are basic computer skills, experience with spreadsheet software and ability to learn financial reporting software (Quicken). A [summary of Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer duties](#) is attached to the button below.

### Treasurer & Asst. Treasurer Duties

Send email to [treasurer@capefriends.org](mailto:treasurer@capefriends.org) or leave a message on FOCCL hotline [239-349-2572](tel:239-349-2572) if you are interested in learning more about the positions.

## Upcoming Events

### General Membership Meeting: January 18th - 9:30 AM

Join us on Saturday, January 18th for our first General Membership meeting of 2025. Our guest speaker is Mr. Philip Flood of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The South Florida Water Management District is a regional governmental agency that manages the water resources in the southern half of the state, covering 16 counties from Orlando to the Florida Keys and serving a population of 9 million residents. It is the oldest and largest of the state's five water management districts. Created in 1949, the agency is responsible for managing and protecting water resources of South Florida by balancing and improving flood control, water supply, water quality and natural systems. This is sure to be an informative and enlightening presentation. Light refreshments will be served at 9:30 followed by a short business meeting and our speaker.



### Burrowing Owl Festival- February 22 10AM - 4PM

Once again, the FOCCL will sponsor a booth at the Burrowing Owl Festival on Saturday, February 22nd. The festival will be held at Rotary Park from 10AM to 4PM. Children from ages 5-12 can stop by our booth and create an entry for the **19th Annual Children's Environmental Art Contest**. This year's theme is 'Let's Protect Our Mangroves!'





The FOCCL is proud to be a sponsor of the **26th annual Southwest Florida Reading Festival** which will be held on Saturday, March 1st from 10AM to 4PM. In addition to sponsoring author Debbie Macomber, we will have our booth available for children to create entries to the art contest.

If you're interested in helping out at either of the festivals there will be sign-up sheets available at our general meeting or contact [alessialeathers@yahoo.com](mailto:alessialeathers@yahoo.com).

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## President's Message

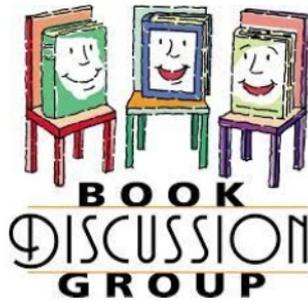


Dear Friends,

Happy New Year to each and every one of you! The new year is not only a time for making resolutions for going forward but a time to look back at the past year. This was my first year as president of the FOCCL and it's definitely a work in progress! But I'm happy to say that it has been an exciting and positive experience. In 2024 we held two book sales bringing in record sales, and our eBay and First Dibs sales were robust as well. We hosted speakers from many walks of SWFL life, including Captains for Clean Water, CROW, Wink Weather and our own Garden Club of Cape Coral. We were able to continue to support the library in so many ways including the art gallery and butterfly garden, the children's art contest and this fall we were thrilled to be a part of the Smithsonian Museums on Main Street exhibit. Most importantly we came together as a group of lovers of literacy to make our community just a little bit better. My hope is we continue to do so in 2025.

Teresa Goulding

President FOCCL



Looking for a Book Club but don't want the responsibility of hosting the group at your home? The library offers a Book Discussion program on the first Wednesday of the month in the Conference room, typically from 11AM-12PM. Find titles of featured books and program timing on the Library online calendar. Books for next month's program are available for checkout on a shelf behind the Circulation desk. Upcoming titles are:

February 5- The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George

March 5- The Women by Kristen Hannah



The FOCCL are happy to sponsor in part with other Lee County Library Friends a new program of online author events. Each month a bestselling, award-winning, and highly acclaimed author from around the world will be featured in this new program. These featured writers and thought leaders cover a wide range of fiction and nonfiction genres. Participants have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the author. All presentations are available on demand after the live event. Registration is required. For more information and to register go to [LSC | Watch | Lee County Library System Online Author Events \(libraryc.org\)](https://libraryc.org).



## Library Art Gallery

On display now through February 27th- Kim Carioto-Krugle has returned to the gallery again after a couple of years and has over 40 pieces of new artwork for the walls that include not only beautiful paintings but also incredible "mosaics" created with tiny pieces of paper. Small, colorful and whimsical paintings by Martha Stevenson and art by some of her friends and students are in all three display cases.



Website: [CapeFriends.org](http://CapeFriends.org)

Photos from Events: [CapeFriends.org/photo\\_gallery](http://CapeFriends.org/photo_gallery)

Annual Calendar: [CapeFriends.org/calendar](http://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](http://leegov.com/library/programs), go to bottom of page, click on [subscribe now!](#)

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