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FOCCL Spring 2025 Update

Welcome New Members

Elaine Muir	Patricia Lewis
Mary Widmer	Maria Johnson
Joseph & Phyllis Walters	Margaret Rookey
Lillian Till	Whitney Burrows
Steve and Gail Wotruba	Dana Vargas
Vefa Sicularl	Thomas Ritz
Evar Strazdin	Cynthia Farina
Rae Vanderheyden	

Welcome New Lifetime Members

Shane Gaillard
Laura Whiteley

Winter Festivals

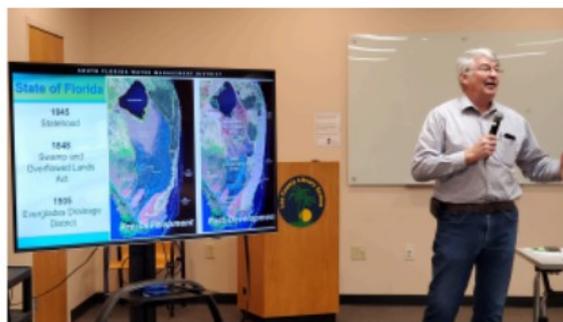
The FOCCL was well represented at the Burrowing Owl Festival in Cape Coral and at the Southwest Florida Reading Festival in Fort Myers. Our booth allowed children to draw an entry for the Children's Environmental Art Contest and over 100 entries were created during these two events. Free books were distributed to children at the Burrowing Owl Festival and our sponsored author Debbie Macomber at the Reading Festival was an extremely popular stop! Thanks to Monica Rahman, Alessia Leathers for organizing the booths and the volunteers who came out to help.





March General Meeting

An audience of 45 people that included members and guests came to our March General Meeting for an exceptionally informative presentation by Mr. Philip Flood, Legislative Liaison and Regional Representative for the South 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.



Butterfly Garden Open House and Tours

April 5th was a wonderful Saturday celebrating the Butterfly Garden at the Cape Coral Library. Funded by the FOCCL and maintained by the Garden Club of Cape Coral, this is a beautiful spot to decompress and see some of our local butterflies. This event organized by the Garden Club included educational and craft experiences and even some human butterfly sightings! If you haven't seen the garden yet it's directly behind the circulation desk at the library.



Spring Book Sale

Our Spring Book Sale took place from April 10-12th - a week earlier than usual this year due to Easter. Many, many volunteers worked hard throughout the three days sorting, carrying and selling books, DVDs, CDs and crafts. Their labor paid off with a very successful sale, which will allow us to continue to support the library in so many ways. Thanks to all who worked the sale and all who came to buy! And welcome to twelve new members who signed up on our members preview day.





UPCOMING EVENTS

19th Annual Children's Environmental Art Contest



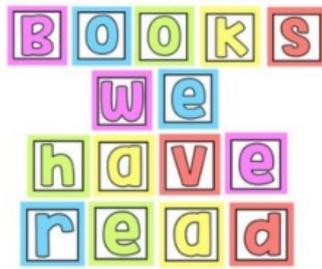
The theme for this year's children's art contest is Let's Protect Our Mangroves! Contest is open to youngsters ages 5 thru 12. Deadline for contest entries is Saturday, May 3rd at noon. An award ceremony will take place at the library on May 14th at 6PM- winners will be notified before the event and their artwork will be on display in our gallery.

Volunteer Luncheon

All volunteers have been invited to a luncheon hosted by Gulf Coast Village, 1333 Santa Barbara Blvd, Cape Coral, FL on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM (lunch will be served at noon). Door prizes will be available for all attendees. Thanks to Joanne Eddy and Rose Browning for organizing this event. If you have volunteered and haven't received an invitation please reach out to us through our web page capefriends.org.

General Membership Meeting
July 26 - 9:30 AM

Library Meeting Room



Join us on Saturday, July 26th for our always popular round table discussion of books we have read. Bring a title or two that you've read and enjoyed to share with the group. Light refreshments will be served at 9:30 followed by a brief business meeting and our book discussions.



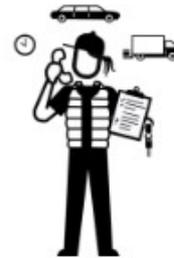
Book Transporter

We now have a great crew collecting and transporting donated books but as we say goodbye to our snowbird volunteers we need some help filling their shoes. This might be a great chance to try this out for the summer and if you like it we promise you can stay!

This involves either collecting donated books at the library and taking them to our storage unit or picking up book donations at homes. It's a one day a week commitment (maybe less depending on donations).

Transport Coordinator

In addition to transporters we need a volunteer to coordinate them! This involves receiving and sending text messages to transporters when books need to be collected. It can be done from home and the time commitment depends on the number of donations.



Book Sale Coordinator

Following our successful book sale it becomes clear to us that we still need a Book Sale





Coordinator. For those of you who worked the sale you saw that we are a “well oiled machine” but one person (or two working together) to oversee all the moving parts would be a valuable and much needed addition. It’s a twice a year commitment and would be much appreciated!

To volunteer for any of these opportunities please reach out to us through our website capefriends.org



Assistant Treasurer

We are still very much in need of an assistant treasurer. If you have a background - or interest- in bookkeeping, finance, or accounting and you want to sharpen your skills please consider this position. 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 link below.

Send email to treasurer@capefriends.org or leave a message on FOCCL hotline 239-349-2572 if you are interested in learning more about the position.

[Asst. Treasurer Duties](#)

President's Message



Dear Friends,

First and foremost a huge thankyou to all of you who volunteered at our Spring Book Sale. Collecting, organizing and selling thousands of books in three days

is a daunting task and we could not do it without so many of you stepping up!

As spring winds down and we head into the quiet time of year for us, we say goodbye to our snowbird friends and helpers and hunker down for a hot summer and hopefully very quiet hurricane season. This is a great time to come to the library and see the winners of our Children's Environmental Art Contest, visit the butterfly garden - enjoy sitting under the new umbrellas- see what's happening in the children's room during the summer reading program, check out book pages to help you decide what to read, and share what you've been reading with a group of friends.

All of these activities are provided by you- the Friends of Cape Coral Library. After all of our hard work it's nice to sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labors. Happy summer to all of us!

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:

May 7- Copperhead by Barbara Kinsolver

June 4- The Murder of Mr. Wickham by Claudia Gray



The FOCCL are happy to sponsor in part with other Lee County Library Friends a 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 \(libraryc.org\)](#).



Library Art Gallery

From May 14th to June 26 on the walls of our gallery will be framed art created by the twenty winners of the Children's Annual Environmental Art Contest, Coloring the Earth with a theme of "Let's Protect Our Mangroves!" In the display cases will be a sampling of crafts made by members of the Friends of the Cape Coral Library informal Book Craft group that enjoys creating lovely items by repurposing old or obsolete books.



July 8 through August 28: A solo exhibit of art by Robert Bozek will feature his paintings of a wide variety of sizes, subjects and media. His work will be on the walls as well as in the illuminated display cases.

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](#)

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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