Potomac Library Welcomes Chinese Patrons

Chinese language services are thriving at the Potomac Public Library! In fact, according to Library Associate Helen Sun, the word is out in the Washington area, and Chinese readers are coming from all over the county and crossing the Potomac River from suburban Virginia to use the Potomac Library’s collection.

Helen explains that Montgomery County’s library system has a number of foreign language readers, and has collections at other branches of the library in Korean, Vietnamese, Spanish, Russian, Farsi and Amharic. But with library budget cuts in 2010, foreign language budgets suffered serious cutbacks. Potomac’s Chinese collection has remained robust, Helen says, “thanks to the unconditional and generous support of the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter!”

Working with the librarians, Helen Sun is responsible for maintaining and augmenting the Chinese book collection, and for supporting the Chinese Book Club, which meets monthly at the library. Helen keeps up with current Chinese books through periodicals like the New York-based Chinese Daily News (also known as World Journal), and the literary magazine Crown. Chinese library patrons also contribute books to the collection, leaving books on the Friends’ book sale donation cart, which librarians can then review for library use. The collection includes books in both traditional and simplified Chinese characters. Older generations generally read the traditional characters, while younger professionals and children read simplified characters. (continued on page 5)
President’s Letter

Dear Friends,

Thank you—wonderful supporters and Friends of the Potomac Library! Look what your membership dues and donations plus our book sales enabled us to do this year for our Potomac Library!! (Fiscal year July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015)

**Our Results for FY 2015 (a la David Letterman’s Top Ten List)**

10. Rented (and wore) *Costumed Story-book Characters* for Potomac Day Parade
9. Hosted talk on *History of Potomac*—over 80 attended
8. Began 3rd year of *Great Decisions*—194 attended first 5 of 8 sessions for 2015 Series
7. Paid the $300 cost of the *Chinese New Year Celebration*
6. Provided $2,000 to *Potomac Village Garden Club* to add to the money and labor they provide to enhance the library grounds.
5. Provided $2,000 to fund several of the *Children’s Summer Reading Performers*
4. Donated almost 4,000 hours to *Book Sales and Board Activities*—by 41 volunteers
3. Raised over $5,800 in *Memberships and Donations*
2. Budgeted over $12,600 for *Library Enhancements*—more was available by request
1. Raised close to $26,000 dollars via *Book Sales*

Speaking of donations, for many years a donor has been making a generous donation to “keep the fish swimming.” Next time you are in the library be sure to take a look in the Children’s alcove to see the aquarium full of big, healthy fish and the nearby poster created by some of the Thursday morning preschoolers to express their thanks.

For this fiscal year we budgeted to fund most of above programs, fill new requests and reserved money for three areas of improvements: library hardscape, large meeting room enhancement and new technology and equipment.

Finally, don’t forget to look for us at *Potomac Day*, October 24, when we’ll have special surprises at the FOL booth, and our costumed story characters will help us celebrate our library and our town!

Happy reading,

Edie Wingate

PS. One of our newest members agreed to be Program Chair—YAY—look on page 5 to see what Janice Weaver has planned in October.
Notes from Sue

This fall is shaping up to be a busy time here at the library!

First, please join us Thursday, September 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the County Executive’s Library of the Future Summit. County Executive Ike Leggett wants to hear directly from the community about the needs and desires for library services. The event is open to the public but advanced reservation is required. You can register on the MCPL website: http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/summit

If you are not able to attend in person, each branch will be collecting your feedback to the Summit questions from September 9 to 19. Stop into the branch and share your thoughts! More information is available on the Library website.

September is Library Card Month!

Check out the Montgomery County Library BLOG, http://montgomerycountypubliclibraries.blogspot.com/ and find out 25 things you can do with your library card, beginning with...
1. Downloading magazines  
2. Taking high quality online classes from Gale Courses  
3. Using the Digital Media Lab to learn, explore, and create digital media...

Look for us at the annual Potomac Day festivities and watch for some new programs coming to the Potomac Library this fall.

Sue Koronowski, Branch Manager
Speaker Series: How to Publish your Book!

Authors and those with a book idea hiding in their hearts will want to mark Wednesday, October 7, 2015 on their calendars for a seminar, “How to Publish and Market your Book,” presented by publisher Craig Schenning.

The seminar, sponsored by the Friends of the Library (FOLMC), Potomac Chapter, is designed for anyone interested in finding out how to become a published author. The detailed presentation includes information on self-publishing, artisanal publishing, traditional publishing, design, printing, distribution, and marketing. The goal of the seminar is to give attendees all the information they need to make good decisions about how to proceed with their manuscripts.


Schenning’s experience in researching and writing the book, then making presentations around the country, led him to feel that the publishing experience could be improved. So he created and modeled a publishing business to provide a higher level of satisfaction for authors by providing an honest and fair approach to getting a new book on the market. He now runs two companies, both in Maryland – Old Line Publishing, a traditional publishing house, and Maple Creek Media, which is devoted to producing self-published books. To date, Old Line has published 170 books, and Maple Creek another 56 books. Schenning has been involved in every aspect of publishing, including distribution networks and implementing marketing strategies.

Mr. Schenning is a chemist by background, training at Salisbury University and the University of Maryland. He worked as an environmental chemist in industry.

So mark your calendars for this interesting evening:

**Wednesday, October 7, 7 pm at the Potomac Public Library**

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This poster was created by grateful preschoolers in July, to thank the wonderful anonymous patron who contributes the funds to “keep the fish swimming!” in the Library’s aquarium. THANK YOU, Anonymous!
Chinese Programs, (continued from Page 1)

The Potomac Library also maintains a children’s book collection for children of Chinese descent, who learn to read Chinese at the Chinese schools they attend on weekends. Librarian Helena Geary organizes a colorful Chinese New Year Celebration for Chinese patrons at the Library, and provides a bilingual Chinese/English story time during the New Year season.

The principal service to Chinese patrons is the book club, which meets the first Tuesday of the month (see calendar, page 7) from 7 to 8 pm. Members pick the books to be read and discussed in the book club. Books include fiction and nonfiction, classics, biographies, and martial arts.

Helen and her colleagues Helena Geary and Circulation Supervisor Amy Chen are all available to provide guidance, in Mandarin, to Chinese library patrons. They encourage Chinese speaking patrons to share their comments and suggestions with the staff, to seek help when they need it, and to respond to online surveys in order to improve service.

Summer Fun: Kids at the Library, Summer 2015

Blast off at story time!

Family Game Day

Flumpa and friends
Great Decisions

The Potomac Library is in its third year of Great Decisions, a national program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association in which local groups gather monthly to discuss topics associated with foreign policy of the United States.

The Friends of the Library, Potomac is delighted to sponsor a group here at our Potomac Library. We meet on most first Thursdays from 12:30 to 2:00 pm and most months we have a guest speaker. The program is free and open to the public; bring a brown bag lunch if you are hungry. A copy of the 2015 Briefing Book is available at the Information Desk. The book cannot be checked out, but it only takes about an hour to read the relevant article. Books can be ordered at fpa.org. For more information, contact potomacfol@gmail.com with “Great Decisions” in the subject line

No meeting in September! We have added a December meeting in its place.

Thursday, Oct. 1: Syria’s Refugee Crisis
Syrians have for a century welcomed over a million refugees from Armenia, Palestine, and Iraq, among other countries in the region. Thanks to war, they are now the source of one of the world’s largest refugee populations, as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and other neighbors strive to accommodate millions of Syrians, risking dependence on emergency aid and becoming a “lost generation.” The safety of displaced Syrians rests with the whole international community.

Thursday, November 5: Human Trafficking in the 21st Century
Human trafficking represents a multibillion dollar international trade per annum and continues to be one of the fastest growing criminal industries. While undeniably a global phenomenon, the U.S., as one of the world’s leading human trafficking importers, bears a special responsibility to combat this practice. The U.S. and the international community have adopted various treaties and laws to prevent trafficking, but to truly understand and combat the issue, they must find the root causes enabling traffickers to exploit millions of victims.

Thursday, December 3: Brazil’s Metamorphosis
Brazil — it’s the “B” in the acronym BRICS, five emerging economies once seen as soon-to-be superpowers. After economic troubles in the 1990s, Brazil has risen to new global prominence — it’s drawing in more investment, working on global issues ranging from climate change to peacekeeping, and even hosting the 2016 Olympics. But some of Brazil’s trickiest problems — deep divisions over how to tackle serious income inequality, weak civic institutions and poor regional leadership — have held it back.
Potomac Calendar of Events

Used Book Sales
Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Saturday, October 10, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Saturday, November 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Saturday, December 12, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Great Decisions Group
First Thursday of the month, 12:30-2 p.m.
October 1: Syria’s Refugee Crisis
November 5: Human Trafficking in the 21st Century
December 3: Brazil’s Metamorphosis

Great Decisions is a program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association in which local groups gather monthly to discuss topics associated with foreign policy of the U.S.

Potomac Chess Group
Saturdays, 3 p.m.
Participants of all ages are invited to play chess on Saturdays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
You may bring your own Chess board.

Fall Programs for Kids
Crafty Kids Fall Pumpkin Decorating
Monday, Oct. 19, 3:30 to 5:30 pm
Celebrate fall with your own decorated pumpkin!
For kids aged 8 and up, or younger children with an adult. No registration required, but wear old clothes!

Beale Street Puppets – Halloween Hijinx!
Saturday, Oct. 31, 10:30 am
Spooktacular spectacle of Ghostly Girls, Vinnie Vampire and more, including our own dancing pumpkin! Silly, not scary, for all ages.

Jingle Bell Jazz for Kids
Monday, Dec. 7, 4 pm
Christiana Drapkin livens up the holiday season with a jazzy take on familiar holiday tunes. For all ages.

Crafty Kids: Winter Crafts
Monday, Dec. 21, 3:30 to 5:30 pm
Add sparkle to your season with fun wintry crafts. For kids aged 8 and up or younger with adult. No registration but be prepared to get dirty.

Chinese Language Book Club
Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.
Sept. 1: Flowing Fragrances of Tea by Zhizhang Xie
Oct. 6: New Era of Love by Hailing Wang
Nov. 3: Noises All Over by Any Wang
Sept. 1: Model Young Man by Ay

Book discussion in the Chinese language. Ask for the book at the circulation desk. No registration required.

Preschool Story time, Potomac Toddlers and Potomac Cuddleups
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Stories, songs and rhymes for children and their caregivers. Preschool Story time is for 3-to-6 year olds, Potomac Toddlers is for children ages 18-36 months, and Cuddleups is for babies from birth to 11 months. No registration required.

Fall Schedule:
Cuddleups: Sept. 3, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 3

Lego Masters!
Mondays, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23, Dec. 14, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
For children 8 and up to build and create with Legos. Parents and caregivers are welcome and are required to accompany children younger than 8 years old. Not recommended for children younger than 4. No registration required.

Adult Book Club
Third Wednesday of the month, 1-2 p.m.
Sept. 16: The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri
Oct. 21: The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown
Nov. 18: An Unnecessary Woman by Rabih Alameddine
Dec. 16: Where’d You Go, Bernadette by Maria Sample

Ask for book at the circulation desk.

Speaker Series: How to Publish Your Book
Wednesday, Oct. 7, 7 pm
Publisher Craig Schenning presents a seminar on traditional and self-publishing.
**Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter Membership**

**Yes, I want to support the library!**
- Please enroll me as a member of Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter
- Please renew my current membership

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<td>_<em>$15</em> Page Turner - seniors, students, teachers</td>
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<td>_<em>$25</em> Short Story</td>
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Name_______________________________
Address_____________________________
City_______________ State___ Zip ______
Phone_______________________________
Email_____________________________

__Donation - $__________

Your information is never shared with any other organization or individual. Friends of the Library is a 501(c)3 organization.

**I would like to make my donation in honor of:**

| Name_______________________________ |
| Address_____________________________ |
| City_______________ State___ Zip ______ |

You will not only be keeping friends up to date with library activities and events through the newsletter, you will be giving the gift of support to the library for all the special events that bring you and your children back to the library again and again... for book groups, author talks, foreign policy discussions, Lego Masters, preschool reading hours.

Membership makes no demands on personal time, but shows support for the enhancement of Potomac Library.

Please enclose your check made payable to
Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter, with this form and leave with staff at the checkout desk, or mail to:

Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter
10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, MD 20854

Payments may also be made with credit card or Paypal at [www.folmc.org/get-involved/become-a-member/](http://www.folmc.org/get-involved/become-a-member/) (choose Potomac as your “Favorite Library”)

Volunteer activities are welcome but optional for chapter members. If you would like to help, tell us what your interests are and we will put you in touch with the right people!

- __Advocacy in support of the library budget
- __Membership Recruitment
- __Newsletter
- __Special Events
- __Other __________________________