



Friends of the Library



Potomac Chapter

Winter Happenings @ Your Library

December 2014

For Book Lovers: Try the Potomac Book Sale

Stuck for holiday gift ideas? Here's a suggestion: come to the Potomac Public Library's Used Book Sale on Saturday, December 13, 10 am to 1 pm, at the Library, for some really extraordinary choices in gently used hardcover and paperback trade books, some coffee table gems, children's and foreign language books and, if space permits, a large variety of CDs and DVDs.

And when you've read, admired, watched or listened to the books, CDs, and DVDs you got over the holidays, bring them back for resale at the monthly Used Book Sale in the New Year! It's recycling at its best!

The Used Book Sale is a fundraising effort of the Friends of the Library of Montgomery County (FOLMC) Potomac Chapter, bringing in the bulk of

the income the Friends then use to purchase special equipment and support book groups, readings, the foreign policy discussion group Great Decisions, children's, and community programs at the Library.

And the Book Sale itself has become an important community event. Says **Judy Davis**, chair of the Book Sale for the last 15 years, "We are very lucky to have such a good reading community in Potomac, one that is generous in its donations of good books for resale."



Photo: Storing books for resale – this is how the work begins!

"Book sales raise money for the Library and also bring...to page 4

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President's Letter

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to report that the Potomac Library was well represented at Potomac Day, October 29, thanks to your support as Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Thank you!

The Friends had a booth in the center of the action, where we had a display easel and asked readers of all ages to list on a post-it-note the name of their favorite book and their age. We had responses from readers aged 50 to toddlers. It was exciting to see how enthusiastic the boys and girls were about their reading and how many liked books from a series.

Favorites included: *The Land of Stories*, *Harry Potter*, *Rainbow Magic Fairy*, *Geronimo Stilton*, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, *Nancy Drew*, *Divergent*, *The Land of Stories*, *Knuffle Bunny*, *The Bad Beginning*, *Clifford*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and *Green Eggs and Ham*. The 50-year old liked the author Ernest Hemingway.

We gave each child a coupon for a free book to be redeemed at our November or December book sale. Adults—and even children—seemed to appreciate having a non-candy booth! And we were able to have Froggy, a favorite storybook character, who walked in the parade with us, and then mingled afterwards with the children.

T'is the season, but no matter the occasion, gift giving is often a challenge. I offer two suggestions.

- For a child, give them a coupon good for a trip with you to our monthly book sale, where they can select some books. Children's books fill up to 4 or more tables.
- We have a wonderful assortment of gently used books for children at all reading levels, both fiction and non-fiction. Prices range from 50 cents to \$1.00.
- For an adult, give the gift of a Friends' membership. See page 8 in this newsletter for details.



INTERESTING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

The Friends would like to offer more adult programming, but we need a volunteer to arrange for some author talks or other programs. Please consider being that volunteer or get a friend to do it with you. (To volunteer, please contact me at potomacfol@gmail.com.)

Best wishes to you during this season of wonderful celebration.

Edie



Notes from Sue



Good news! The Potomac Library has just received a new literacy workstation for our young users. Located near the Children's collection next to the children's computer catalog, it's definitely child friendly – it was just set up

and is already quite popular. We are working out the details for headphones and time limits should they prove necessary. Check it out the next time you are at the Library!

We are in the process of moving some of our collections to provide access, and we have expanded the area for new books. Large print books are now located on the opposite side of the computers. If you get lost trying to find books in their new locations, please ask at the Information Desk. We are always happy to help.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Sue Koronowski, Branch Manager

Potomac Village in Miniature

If you haven't already noticed the lovely holiday display of familiar Potomac buildings in miniature, we urge you to stop by and check it out in the glass display shelves in the library lobby. For many years, the display has been installed for the holidays by library volunteer Mary Moe, with the help of her daughter, Carole Drake. The structures, built many years ago by Loraine Kumm and her husband, represent important places in Montgomery County, including Potomac buildings that you will recognize.



This looks a lot like the old Surrey building!



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This newsletter is published four times a year by the Potomac Chapter of the Friends of the Library Montgomery County (FOLMC).

Selby McPhee, Editor

Potomac Library

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240-777-0690, 301-765-4083 (TTY)

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 10 am – 8pm

Tuesdays: 1 pm – 8 pm

Fridays and Saturdays: 10 am – 6 pm

www.folmc.org www.folmc.org/potomac



Book Sale, continued from Page 1

together the community as volunteers, donors, and buyers,” Davis continues. “A book sale cannot happen without something to sell, somewhere to sell it, someone to sell it and someone to sell it to.”

This is no ordinary volunteer fundraising activity. Davis and up to 40 community volunteers are essentially running a full time business. Working daily, they accept and process thousands of donations, store the books (in limited space!) before the sales, set up, run, and take down monthly sales, handle all advertising, and account for the money earned and sales tax due. Sorting donated books is another time-consuming (though interesting) effort: fiction and nonfiction, adult and children’s books are only the beginning of a sort for separate sales tables that also includes romance, science fiction, travel, foreign language books, cookbooks, coffee table books, audio-visual sales, and seasonal books.

Almost all books are for sale as follows: hard covers \$1.00, soft covers \$.50, children’s books are \$.50 to \$1.00, CDs, DVDs, and books on CD \$2.00. Some very interesting and potentially very valuable books that come in as donations are set aside for sale in an online auction market. One very clever book sale volunteer who has the skills to navigate sales on E-Bay was recently able to sell a donated first-edition “Uncle Remus” for more than \$1,000 on E-Bay, yielding a significant contribution to the Potomac FOLMC coffers for future programs and equipment for the library.

Because of the quality of books and other items on sale at Potomac’s Used Book Sale, and the very good organization of the sale by volunteers, not to mention the low cost of books, buyers begin to line up as much as 45 minutes before the doors open for the Book Sale at 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month.



Books that don’t sell at the Saturday sales go on the Lobby Book Sale shelf near the meeting rooms, where they are for sale on the honor system whenever the library is open, or they are sent to other venues for book sales, including Better World Books, a social venture that funds literacy programs and provides books around the world through the sale of used books. The Friends receive a percentage of the sales.

Look just beneath the surface and you find that the Used Book Sales at Potomac Library are a rather extraordinary undertaking. Judy Davis, who has been volunteering at the library for more than 25 years, is modest, but her contributions, and those of her fellow volunteers, are incalculable in hours and service and benefit to our library. If you would like to join the effort by contributing your gently used books, CDs and DVDs, bring them to the library and put them on or near the cart just to the left of the large meeting room. Tax receipts are available at the information and circulation desks.

This newsletter lists book sale dates on page 5 . Come and join us for the next sale. You will be glad you did.

Fall Fun with Kids at the Library



Toddler story time, crazy pumpkins, and a SCARY Halloween elephant!



It's always party time at the Library...



Used Book Sales Potomac Public Library

Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, January 10, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, February 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Choose from a wide variety of books, videos, CDs and DVDs for all ages. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. Donations of used books, videos, etc., are always welcome, and can be dropped off at the Potomac Library. Just leave them on or near the cart outside the big meeting room. Tax receipts are available from the Information Desk. Please don't leave the books outside if the library is closed.

Great Decisions



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 United States. It is America's largest discussion program on world affairs.

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. Guests and new members are welcome. No registration is required. The Foreign Policy Institute briefing book (\$22 a year) provides an article and thought provoking questions for the topic of the month. For more information, contact potomacfol@gmail.com with "Great Decisions" in the subject line.

Thursday, February 5, 12:30 pm: Russia and the Near Abroad

As calls for closer ties with the EU failed to be met, Ukrainians took to the streets in November 2013. The movement Euromaidan (Euro Square) pulled western Ukraine closer to its European neighbors, while another powerful force – Russia – threatened to tear away the country's eastern half. Putin's pushback against European expansionism has the West wondering: If Putin's Russia isn't afraid to take an aggressive stance against Europeanization in Ukraine, what does it mean for the rest of Russia's neighbors?

Thursday, March 5, 12:30 pm: Privacy in the Digital Age

Fearful of British spying, influence, and intervention, the founding fathers granted citizens significant protections in the Constitution. Now the tables have turned: concerns about what some see as a U.S. "dragnet" and unwarranted privacy intrusions have compelled other countries to revamp their own privacy protections. Legislation, both at home and abroad, hasn't kept pace with technological developments. Is privacy as we knew it long dead?



A parking-lot-full of people came to the Great Decisions bonus program December 4 to hear Dr. Dorothy Fontana give a talk on Chinese and American culture and language as they related to Sino-US political, economic, and social interactions.

Potomac Calendar of Events

Used Book Sales

Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, January 10, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, February 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Great Decisions Group

First Thursday of the month, 12:30-2 p.m.

February 5: Russia and the Near Abroad

March 5: Privacy in the Digital Age

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. See page 6 for details on the winter programs.

Crafty Kids: T'is the Season

December 16, 4 p.m.

Make your own seasonal ornaments. For children 8 and up or younger with a parent.

Chinese New Year Celebration!

Saturday, February 7, 1 p.m.

Celebrate the year of the goat with the Washington Kuai Chi Chinese School, including a fabulous lion dance performed by the "East Rising Lion Dance Troupe," Chinese yo-yo, martial arts and folk dance performances. Clay figure making, paper-cutting calligraphy, and more. Family program for all ages. No registration required.

Potomac Chess Group

Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Participants of all ages are invited to play chess on Saturdays, 3 to 5 pm. You may bring your own chess board. Free, no registration.



Chinese Language Book Club

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

December 2: *Hidden River* by Jiaze Xu

January 6: *Outsiders* by Pinwen Ke

February 3: *Cloud Painting* by Shuyao Chen

March 3: *Grand Railroad* by Ji Xiao

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

Preschool Storytime, Potomac Toddlers and Potomac Cuddleups

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Stories, songs and rhymes for children and their caregivers. Preschool Storytime is for 3-to-6 year olds, Potomac Toddlers is for children ages 12-36 months and Cuddleups is for babies from birth to 11 months. No registration required.

Winter Schedule:

Preschool Storytime: Dec. 18, Jan. 22. Feb. 19 will be a special bilingual Chinese-English storytime.

Cuddleups: Jan. 8, Feb. 5

Potomac Toddlers: Dec. 11, Jan. 15, 29, Feb. 12, 26

Lego Masters!

Mondays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.*

Set your imagination loose constructing all kinds of things, with two huge tubs full of legos!! Geared for kids 8 and up, but younger can attend with adult supervision.

*When the library is open, some Mondays may have slightly later start times due to room demand.

Adult Book Club

Third Wednesday of the month, 1-2 p.m.; No registration required; new members welcome.

December 17: *Runaway Stories* by Alice Munro

January 21: *The Aviator's Wife* by Melanie Benjamin

February 18: *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor

March 18: *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. Ask for the book at the circulation desk.

For a full schedule of events, please check the calendar of events on the Montgomery County Public Library website under Potomacwww.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/libraries/newsandevents/calendarofevents.asp.

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

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Your information is never shared with any other organization or individual. Friends of the Library is a 501(c)3 organization. Dues are 100% tax deductible.

Membership Levels

__ \$15_ Page Turner (seniors, students, teachers)
__ \$25_ Short Story
__ \$50_ Novel
__ \$100_ Classic
__ Donation - \$ _____

I would like to make my donation in honor of:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State ____ Zip _____

And here's an idea for the holidays... Give a membership in the FOL Potomac Chapter as a gift to your favorite library lover! – perhaps in honor of a teacher or someone who taught you to read... or in memory of a book lover, librarian, or your bedtime storyteller.

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/ (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 _____



New Potomac Library Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Tuesday 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM