

Friends

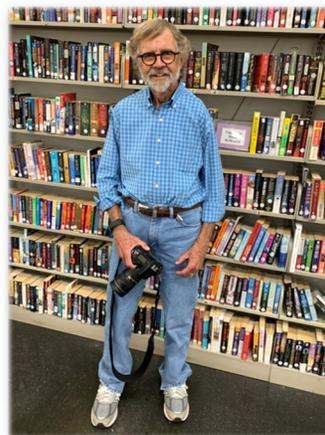
OF STARKVILLE LIBRARY

News from Friends

Fall 2021
Volume 22

President's Message

It is hard to believe that I started last year's newsletter with the following statement : "COVID-19 has totally redefined the operations of your library and Friends of the Library (FOL) programming." While much has changed since then, much is still the same. The U.S. is facing a wave of the COVID Delta variant; and although the library is remaining open, the library has reinstated a mask mandate. We resumed monthly book sales in March 2021 a full year after we stopped sales. During this interim the FOL was unable to raise revenues, but because we had built up a rainy day fund, we were able to meet our semiannual library donations of \$12,500 in spring 2020, fall 2020, and spring 2021.



Lynn Reinschmidt, president

As usual, the fall newsletter coincides with the kickoff of a new membership year as well as the election of FOL officers and the retirements and replacements of board members. Linda Morse, who has served as the secretary of the board for the past year, has asked to step down from that position but continue her service as a board member. Linda has done a tremendous job in this capacity, and we regretted to see her relinquish this duty. Peggy Bates, a board member since 2020, will assume the role of secretary. Likewise, I will be stepping down from the presidency after three terms and returning to the board, where I have been a member since 2014. I am pleased to announce that the 2020-2021 slate of officers includes Connie Forde, president; Linda Buehler, vice-president; Peggy Bates, secretary; and Myrna Lott, treasurer. Their duties will begin in October with the new year. On behalf of the board, let me offer a special thanks to this slate of officers.

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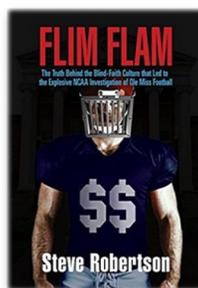
Newsletter Staff

Sue Minchew, Editor
 Connie Forde, Production Editor
 Peggy Bates
 Linda Buehler
 Maureen Lang
 Linda Morse
 Lynn Reinschmidt

Books and Authors Programs

When our last newsletter was published in September 2020, we were faced with a pandemic and the closing of many local businesses, including the library. At that time, we reported that we did not know if or when we would be able to resume the Books and Authors talks by published authors. Together we brainstormed and decided that we would attempt to continue the talks via the Zoom virtual format. With that in mind, we were able to schedule outstanding authors willing to make talks from their homes. The format actually enabled us to host several outstanding authors from remote locations, many of whom could not have traveled to Starkville to speak face to face.

Our Books and Authors series began in November with **Steve Robertson**, local author, journalist, and blogger, who has written several nonfiction books related to Mississippi State athletics (*Flim Flam*, *Stark Vegas*, *Alpha Dawgs*). He shared a delightful and informative interview with Starkville Public Library Director Phillip Carter.



In December, Jacksonian **Miranda James** (aka Dean James) discussed his popular cozy mystery series (*Cat Me if You Can*, *The Pawful Truth*).



In January, **Michael Farris Smith** discussed his best-selling novels (*Nick, Rivers*, *The Fighter*, *Desperation Road*, *Blackwood*), three of which are being made into films.



February's speaker, **Margaret McMullan**, a resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, made a very interesting presentation with slides detailing events from her memoir *Where the Angels Lived: One Family's Story of Exile, Loss, and Return*. Winner of the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters 2020 award for nonfiction, the work describes her quest to learn about her relative who died in the Holocaust.



Another Mississippi Gulf Coast resident, **Johnnie Bernhard**, spoke to the Zoom audience in March about her award-winning novels (*A Good Girl*, *How We Came to Be*, *Sisters of the Undertow*).



We concluded the speakers' series with Tupelo native and Albuquerque, NM, resident **Minrose Gwin**, a relative of the Gwins of Starkville. Her novel *The Accidentals* won the 2020 award for fiction given by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters. Her previous novels, *The Queen of Palmyra* and *Promise*, have been popular book club selections.



"The format actually enabled us to host several outstanding authors . . . many of whom could not have traveled to Starkville face to face."



Books and Authors Programs Coming Soon

As fall 2021 approaches, we are, unfortunately, in a similar position as last fall. We originally planned to offer in-person speakers again, but the rampant spread of the COVID-19 Delta Variant has caused concern for indoor activities. In all likelihood, we will once again use the Zoom format for the Books and Author presentations. We will keep you updated through emails and social media about these plans. Presentation time has been changed to **6 p.m.** rather than noon. The good news outstanding authors representing a variety of genres are scheduled to speak this fall.



Catherine Pierce, who has just been named Poet Laureate for Mississippi, will kick off the series September 9. She was the recipient of the 2021 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters poetry award for her latest book of poetry *Danger Days*. She also wrote the award-winning poetry books *The Tornado Is the World*, *The Girls of Peculiar*, and *Famous Last Words*.

Susan Cushman, who, incidentally, was our last in-person speaker in March 2020, will discuss her latest novel *John and Mary* October 14. Her previous works include *The Cherry Bomb* and *Friends of the Library*.



To conclude the fall lineup on November 9 we will host **Becky Hagenston**, an English professor at Mississippi



State, who has published three award-winning story collections: *Scavengers*, *Strange Weather*, and *A Gram of Mars*. Her latest collection, *The Age of Discovery and Other Stories*, was launched in August 2021.

We are very excited about our lineup of authors for the Books

and Authors series this fall and hope that you can join us for the presentations. Please note the new time of **6 p.m.** We will make every effort to keep you informed about upcoming events and the format that will be used.

"We are very excited about our lineup of authors for the Books and Authors series this fall . . . Please note the new time of 6 p.m."

Book & Authors Programs

Fall 2021

September 9
October 14
November 9*

Spring 2022

January 13
February 10
March 10
April 14

*Book and Authors meet the second Thursday of the month unless the library is closed for a holiday.

UPDATED LIBRARY HOURS

Starkville Public Library
(662) 323-2766
M – Th: 9 am – 6 pm
Friday: 9 am – 4 pm
Saturday: 10 am – 2 pm

Maben Public Library
(662) 263-5619
M – Tu: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Th – F: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Sturgis Public Library
(662) 465-7493
M – Tu: 9 am – 5 pm
Th: 9 am – 5 pm

2021-2022 Book Sales

Book sales are the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) from noon until 6 p.m. The following dates are tentative and may change due to pandemic protocol.

Fall 2021

October 4
November 1
December 6

Spring 2022

January 3
February 7
March 7
April 4
May 2
June 6
July 11
August 1
September 12

Donate Books

Donations of books are greatly appreciated. Please drop off outside the sale room.



FOL appreciates your book donations.

Book Sales and Donations

You might have thought that during the pandemic the donation of books ceased to be an active occurrence, but it was not so! Although the library remained open during certain days and just for curbside delivery, boxes of donated books continued to find their way to the back door of the library awaiting entrance on a nearly daily basis. FOL board members continued to work in groups of two or three several times a week separating, dating, and shelving recent acquisitions. Our two free tables quickly became overloaded, and so, this led to a wonderful addition on the library's front porch where three folding tables were set up to handle all our "new-old" books that did not fit the copyright dates for the sale room or the anytime sale room.

Throughout the pandemic, many people visited the free tables to take numerous books home to enjoy. Some even came with boxes ready to fill! This proved to be a wonderful way to serve our community when so many people were desperate for something different to read.

Now that the book sales have restarted, and the library is open for entry, our free tables have reverted to the two display areas near our sale rooms. Books are for sale in the anytime room for fifty cents each whenever the library is open. This room contains books whose copyright dates span from 2006–2011. You will find reference books, classics, cookbooks and hobbies, nonfiction and fiction, homeschool materials, and books for children and youth.

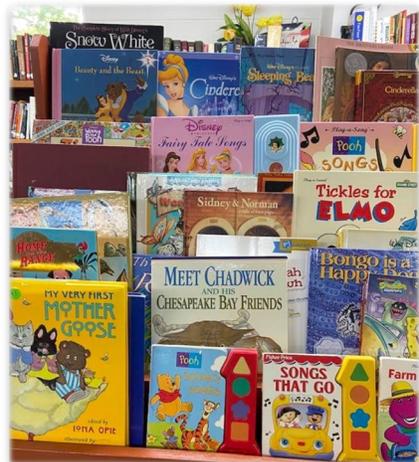
Our book sale room is only open during the monthly Monday book sale held the first Monday of the

month from 12–6 p.m., except on holidays. Then the book sale will be held on the second Monday of the month. Please consider visiting our book sales. Book prices range from fifty cents to three dollars. We think this is the best deal in town!

Also, consider contributing your newer books that are in clean usable condition. You can receive a record of donated books for tax purposes. Our book sale proceeds are used to buy books for the library or to fund special programs. Also, remember, as you get ready to donate books, please purge any books that are not in good, saleable condition, and remember, please, no textbooks. We deeply appreciate the contributions our generous patrons continue to provide. You are helping make our library a great place to be!



FOL provided free books on tables outside the library during the pandemic.



Children's books are always showcased at each book sale. The best buy in town!

Grants Provide Needed Library Support

For over a year during the worst months of the pandemic, the FOL was unable to hold the monthly book sales that contribute the bulk of the funds FOL donates to the library in support of its programs. But because of the generosity of a number of community groups and individual donors, FOL was able to maintain a consistent level of support to the library during the past difficult year without sales.

FOL greatly appreciates the support of the Starkville Woman’s Club that has been a faithful donor through the years. Grant money from Walmart has also been received in the past and, hopefully, another application request will be received favorably.

A consistent donor to FOL for a number of substantial special projects is 4-County Electric. Grant money from 4-County has made possible the replacement of obsolete library computers and, most recently, funding the purchase of additional shelving units for the library. If you have not been to the library in the last four months, come and see the new look of the collections.

Another important grant provided during the last six months was a significant grant from Starkville Utilities (SU) which designated pandemic funds made available to them from TVA to be distributed to entities serving the Starkville community. We owe a special thanks to Eileen Hill (SU) and Josh Wooten (TVA) who assisted FOL in the application process. The grant has been used to buy equipment for creating podcasts. An area has been designated in the library to provide the public access to the equipment and to present workshops that will aid in podcast and video production.

Another significant benefactor has been Modern Woodmen of America. We especially thank Barbara Coats and all of the local representatives for their willingness to support various library programs with grants to FOL. In addition to providing grant money, members of this group are frequent customers at our monthly sales. We are grateful for their unstinting support.

Last, but not least, FOL appreciates the many individual patrons who recognize the importance of the library in our community and continue to contribute to our efforts to promote and support the library’s many programs.



[From left to right] Jon Turner, 4-County Electric representative; Linda Buehler, FOL; and Phillip Carter, Director of Starkville Library



[From left to right] Starkville Utilities representative Eileen Hill, Lynn Reinschmiedt, FOL; Kara Roberts, Library; Sue Minchew, FOL; and Josh Wooten, TVA representative



[From left to right] Modern Woodmen representative Barbara Coats and Linda Buehler, FOL Board member

Book of the Week—New This Year

The “Book of the Week” book reviews were launched because of the need to provide fresh and meaningful content for the FOL social media presence. The publicity committee came upon the idea of posting a book review each week written by one of the FOL Board members. If you have met any of the FOL Board members, you realize quickly how easy it is for them to recommend an excellent book they are currently reading or have read recently. Often during the monthly book sale, FOL members are asked by shoppers to recommend a book. The “Book of the Week” seemed a great opportunity for the Board to do just that.

Having recommended the idea, Sue Minchew wrote the first book review of *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate on October 28, 2020. Since that initial post, FOL has posted 42 additional weekly reviews by 14 FOL Board Members, one by Phillip Carter, the director of the Starkville Public Library, and one by Nancy Hargrove, William L. Giles Distinguished MSU Professor Emerita and Starkville Library Discussion Leader. We owe a very special thanks to Maureen Lang for contributing 14 outstanding book reviews and Peggy Bates for writing 5 excellent reviews. They are both avid readers who read across a wide variety of genres.

To support the Books and Authors program that FOL was hosting via Zoom, book reviews were written on two of our Mississippi guest authors: *Where the Angels Lived* by Margaret McMullan and *Promise* and *The Accidentals* by Minrose Gwin. Additionally our own Bos Stevens included a book review on his three children’s books, *If You Went to the Zoo*, *If a Lonely Giraffe*, and *If You Met a Kind Fairy*.

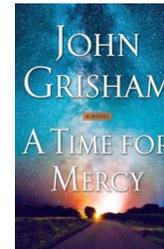
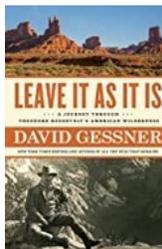
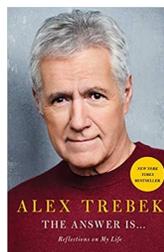
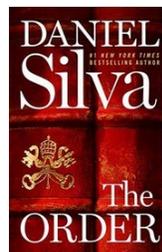
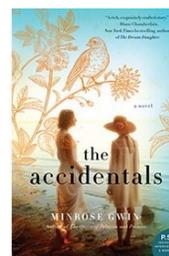
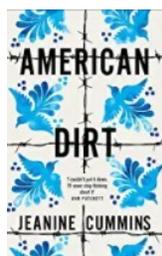
Of the popular book genres available to readers today, the FOL book reviews include books from the following genres: Suspense and thrillers, detective and mystery, fantasy, historical fiction, literary fiction, romance, biographies and autobiographies, memoirs, children, and cookbooks. This wide variety of genres is actually quite amazing as the board

members were open to writing on the books they enjoy. The responses from our Facebook views ranged from a high of 814 viewers on one post and a high of 143 engagements (likes, comments, shares, post clicks). The comments were often “That was an excellent read, and I learned a lot.” Another viewer question, “Is there a book club I can join?” showed active results.

As you can imagine, this project was a major undertaking and commitment of the FOL Board. Yet each week another exciting book review was available for social media readers. To allow all interested readers to enjoy these selections, the book reviews are now available at the Starkville Public Library website at <https://starkville.lib.ms.us/index.php/fol-books-of-the-week/>.

The FOL Board is delighted to share the first book review *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate on page 7 of this newsletter. This review received 814 views and 143 engagements.

Click a cover to access these selected book reviews.



Book of the Week

***Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate**
Book Review by Sue Minchew

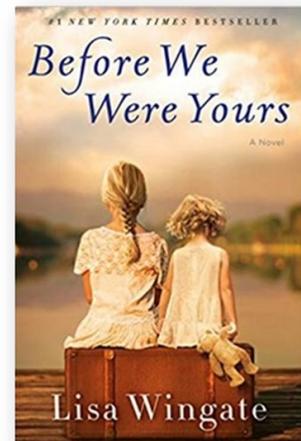
Members of the Friends of the Library Board have decided to begin a Book of the Week series with board members reviewing some of their favorites. I have always loved books, but they have really sustained and entertained me during this pandemic. Thus, I was happy to write about one of my favorite recent reads.

Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate is a book that grabbed me and would not let go, and it has stayed with me long after I finished reading it. The novel is based on a true-life scandal involving the Tennessee Children's Home Society Orphanage in Memphis run by Georgia Tann, who appears as herself in the book. Tann and her minions, with the support of police and politicians, actually abducted indigent children from their parents, placed them in the orphanage (in horrendous conditions), and sold them to wealthy parents.

Wingate utilizes two narrators and two different time frames, alternating between Avery Stafford in present day Aiken, South Carolina, and Rill Foss, a 12-year-old girl living on a shanty boat on the Mississippi River in 1939. When the novel opens, Avery, a successful prosecutor in Maryland, has come home to South Carolina to help her ill father, who is a wealthy senator. She is being groomed for his senate seat if he should be unable to continue in office. By chance, during one of her father's visit to an assistive living home, she meets an elderly woman who seems to know her. Intrigued, Avery begins to look into her family's past, uncovering secrets long buried.

Rill's story begins with a description of the idyllic life that she and her four younger siblings have with their parents traveling up and down the river. One stormy night when Rill's mother Queenie goes into a difficult labor, her father Briny has to transport Queenie across the river to a hospital in Memphis, leaving Rill in charge of her siblings. While her parents are away, a policeman and some other men arrive at the shanty boat and take the children to the Tennessee Children's Home Orphanage for "safe keeping" until their parents can return. It does not take Rill long to realize that they have, in fact, been kidnapped to be adopted by wealthy parents. As Avery discovers more about her family's past, the two stories intersect.

The novel was one of the most engrossing that I have ever read. It was also one of the most shocking as I learned about the scandalous practice by the Tennessee Children's Home Society in Memphis of literally trafficking children, kidnapping and selling children for adoption.



FOL Contributes to *Arts & Eats* Cookbook

Arts & Eats, the new coffee table cookbook produced by the Starkville Area Arts Council, will soon be available! This beautiful book will feature art, photographs, and stories about Starkville, as well as wonderful recipes curated by a committee of talented cooks. Each recipe was reviewed and tested before being included in the book. The FOL's own Nelle Elam served on the coordinating committee and was instrumental in recipe development. These recipes cover a wide range of local favorites and family specials.

The book was developed through partnerships with several local groups, including FOL. Each of these partners had a formal agreement to contribute time and talent to the cookbook's development. In turn, each partner will share in the future profits from the sale of the books. Several members of the FOL Board made significant contributions to the development of this outstanding publication.

Preorders for the cookbook will begin in October with a scheduled delivery date of early 2022. The cost of *Arts & Eats* will be \$35. Please consider buying this lovely book. Your purchase will help support both the library and your local arts groups.

Visit the website <https://www.starkvillearts.net/25thanniversary.html> for up-to-date information about the release of the cookbook.



FOL Board 2020-2021

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Lynn Reinschmiedt

Vice President

Connie Forde

Secretary

Linda Morse

Treasurer

Myrna Lott

BOARD MEMBERS

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Peggy Bates

Linda Buehler

Marianne Crowell

Pat Colwick

Nelle Elam

Julia Hodges

Eddie Keith

Cathy Kemp

Maureen Lang

Sue Minchew

Joy Odom

Cheryl Rowe

Emily Rust

Bos Stevens

Suzy Turner

Sherrie Welch

Wayne Wilkerson

Phillip Carter, Director of
the Library

Special Thanks to Retiring Board Members

Marianne Crowell

Emily Rust

Make FOL Your Kroger Community Rewards Program

Kroger is committed to helping our community grow through the Kroger Community Rewards Program. By joining this partnership, the FOL is earning needed dollars to assist in funding the outstanding library programs showcased in this newsletter. We need your support to secure these community dollars generously donated by Kroger. Here is how you get started:

1. You'll need a Kroger Plus Shopper's card. If you do not have a card, stop by the customer service desk at Kroger to obtain your card. You'll need a Kroger account. To create an account, go to www.kroger.com.
2. Login to your Kroger account and select "Friends of the Starkville Public Library" as your community rewards program. You can search for the name or enter UW747 as the code and click Enroll.
3. Now comes the easy part. Each time you shop at Kroger and use your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card, Kroger will contribute a portion of your purchase to FOL.



Join Friends of the Library for 2021–2022

Become a member of Friends of the Starkville Library for 2021-2022 and enhance your library's collections and service; supplement library programs for children, youth, and adults; and strengthen the library's vital role in our community.

Join by completing the membership form and mailing it to Friends of the Library **or** complete the form online and pay online. Click the links below to join FOL. Your generosity and support are appreciated.

Complete Membership Form and mail completed form:

<https://starkville.lib.ms.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Membership-form-v2.pdf>

Complete online Membership Form and pay online:

<https://starkvillelibraryfriends.square.site/>

Types of Memberships

Individual Membership	\$25
Family Membership	\$35
Patron	\$100
Benefactor	\$250
Sponsor	\$500
Life Membership	*\$1,000
Corporate	*\$1,000

*Plaque in Library will acknowledge donors.

Honorarium and memorial gifts are welcomed.

Notes from Phillip Carter, Library Director

My first year and a half in Starkville was anything but what I expected. When I moved here and assumed the role of director for the Starkville-Oktibbeha County Public Library System, I had no way of knowing what was coming. The pandemic has forced us to pivot and adapt on an almost daily basis. Coming up with creative and safe ways to engage and serve our patrons has been a continual challenge, and I'm proud of the work we have done to meet those needs, even if in a less than ideal situation.

Our children's librarian Loraine adapted story times for videos on Facebook that drew an international audience as she daily told a story accompanied by one of her many furry friends from farms and homes here in the Golden Triangle. Our Young Adult Librarian Rachel moved programming to Discord, a text and voice chat application. She also engaged our teens through text message groups and Zoom meetings.

We haven't neglected our adult readers either. During the pandemic while the library was closed to walk-ins, we provided curbside service, allowing patrons to simply call and request books that a staff member would deliver curbside. Finding other ways to keep our adult readers engaged, we've had drive-thru trick-or-treating, adult book bingo, and Talk Like a Pirate grab bags, in addition to the thousands of books checked out and enjoyed by our patrons in the last year. We are proud of the accomplishments we have made thus far, but I genuinely feel that we're just beginning to create the impact I believe we can make.

We have begun redesigning the space inside the library to better serve our in-person patrons and are looking forward to completing those changes in the coming months. By moving some of the furniture and shelving to other locations, the area near the circulation desk is now more accessible and inviting. Computer stations have been relocated, freeing up the space at the front entrance, and bookshelves have been moved to the west end of the main floor



Library staff director and staff always eager to assist patrons

with shorter aisles, making it easier to locate books. Now placed at a right angle to the reading area, the shelves contain end caps that make the entire area more attractive. Plans are underway to convert the room now used as the law library to a space for the Young Adults.

In the coming months we're working to build partnerships with groups like Starkville Strong, Casserole Kitchen, the Discovery Center, the Starkville Area Arts Council, and others to create opportunities to serve the people of Starkville and Oktibbeha County in new and much needed ways. By providing small community job fairs, conducting résumé writing workshops, and hosting basic computer skills classes, the library can help meet the needs of our diverse population.

We are extremely grateful that the City of Starkville and Oktibbeha County have seen the work we're doing and are being incredibly supportive. Their continued social and economic support is very important for us to make the changes needed to maintain the library as a community hub and information center for everyone. While we continue to deal with the challenges of COVID-19, I am still hopeful for the future of library service in Starkville and Oktibbeha County and can't wait to share more of what we're doing with everyone. I encourage you to visit our redesigned [Website](#) to stay abreast of the latest activities at the library.

Children's Programming

When meeting Loraine Walker, the award-winning children's librarian at the Starkville Public Library (SPL), it is immediately apparent that she is a force of nature. Also known as Miss Rainey to children, not just in Starkville, but followed all over the world, she can hardly contain her enthusiasm and pride in the record-breaking response to the programs she offers. It is her mission to light a fire of possibility and interest in the minds of children in the fields of literature and arts, culture and science, and the nature she so loves.



Congratulations, Miss Rainey

Loraine celebrated the most successful summer reading program to date. There were nearly 6,000 attendees at the library for the onsite Monday through Thursday programs offered in June and July. The ranks were swelled by the regular inclusion of the local Boys and Girls Club. These sessions ran the gamut from science, technology, and arts and crafts to the ever-popular Miss Rainey's Storytime. Loraine praised the dedicated participation of Mississippi State University, local businesses, and artists who gave their time and talents to spark the interests of the children in attendance. She could see it in the face of the boy who imagined that digging in the dirt, an activity led by the Cobb Institute of Archeology, is not just fun, but also exciting and important, or in the sparkle of interest when the little girl realized that she could study the stars and go into space, as described by MSU's Rocket Team, the Space Cow-boys.

In the area of arts and crafts, Loraine is earnestly thankful for the local businesses and artists who stepped up to provide projects on Art STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) days in the wake of cancellations by performers and entertainers due to COVID-19 restrictions. Children made bath bombs with Magnolia Soap, dyed T-shirts with Hi Y'all! Made in the South, and 3-D printed bubble wands with MSU's Idea Shop. The Starkville Area Arts Council, Chick-Fil-A, Dunkington Arts and Jewelry, The Flower Company, and Jilly Bean's Pail of Paints also provided exciting activities. The season finale was a surprise visit from the Mississippi Aquarium, which brought a display of artifacts and living reptiles that are native inhabitants of our state.



Children enjoying summer programming

Reading remained the major focus with children logging over 2,200 reading hours! For each hour read, Game Stop awarded a prize to the reader. The Kids Need to Read program donated over 500 new books to the SPL, including a new book to each child participating in the summer library Storytime.

Library Resources

Access Miss Rainey's Videos

For a playlist of all of Miss Rainey's videos, go to <https://www.facebook.com/watch/STKPUBLIB/161502711695772/>.

Use Overdrive or Libby Apps

We now offer Overdrive for eBooks and Audio eBooks. You can find an app in the app store by searching for either Overdrive or Libby.

You can also visit them online: [Mississippi eBook Consortium](https://www.mississippi-ebook-consortium.org/). In the app, search for Mississippi eBook Consortium. You will need your library card number and pin number.

Tumble Book Databases

TumbleBooks' databases are easy to use and feature unlimited access from home! Read as many books as you want, when you want, and on any device. There are no check-outs, holds, or bulky downloads. Books are available instantly.



Miss Rainey as Cat in the Hat

(continued on page 12)

Youth Adult Programming

The Starkville Pubic Library is more than a place with a lot of books. It is also a place that offers activities for adults, children, and the youth of the community. Leading the young adult (YA) activities for almost three years is Rachel Watson. The very successful summer YA reading session, led by Rachel, included activities such as an Anime club. Summer readers earned scratch-off tickets with a chance to win prizes.

Rachel, who is an MSMS and MSU graduate, is looking forward to even more activities that appeal to teens who join the group. Rachel brings enthusiasm and a joy in working with the thirteen and up youth along with creativity in her program planning.

During the upcoming fall program, youth can look forward to a new meeting place in the library which is more spacious and which will allow the youth to make use of the new equipment provided by FOL as a result of a grant from Starkville Electric/TVA. Teens can learn how to create their own video and audio podcasts and share their creative efforts with one another.

As the new session begins, activities have been planned that take into consideration current health protocols. To-Go bags will be available every other week, and there will be passive programs for the youth—things they can do on their own time in the library with little instruction needed. These activities will change every other week. Teens are encouraged to come to the Starkville Library and join in fun with the YA programming.



Youth meet for YA activities at the library

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING (continued from page 11)

For some, this was the first time they had owned their own brand spanking new book! Loraine cannot express her thanks enough for the monetary donations given by everyone, including the Kiwanis Club, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), and both Cadence and Renasant banks. The summer program excelled because of their generosity.

As the fall season begins, Mississippi remains in the thrall of the COVID-19 pandemic. Loraine's imagination is running wild with plans, and we know we will have a lot to look forward to. She will have To-Go bags with books and projects. There will be virtual arts and science projects that will include crafting Shrinky Dinks, a nostalgic activity from Miss Rainey's childhood, and building your own hummingbird feeders, another enthusiastic nod to learning about nature. She plans for special Halloween programs and perhaps a movie in the park night, all in line with social distancing. And let's not forget the unforgettable Miss Rainey's Virtual Storytime! Knowing Loraine, there will be tons of fun and learning to boot as we move toward 2022.



Children enjoy reptiles from the MS Aquarium

Executive Board 2021-2022



[Left to right] Myrna Lott, treasurer; Peggy Bates, secretary; Linda Buehler, vice president; Connie Forde, president

FOL Board 2021-2022

President

Connie Forde

Vice President

Linda Buehler

Secretary

Peggy Bates

Treasurer

Myrna Lott

New Board Members

Kim Cadenhead

Joyce Polk

Welcome New Board Members



Joyce Polk



Kim Cadenhead

Goodbye to Two Former Board Members

It is with deep sorrow that we mourn the death of our FOL Board Member Marianne Crowell. Marianne could often be seen at our Books and Authors events. She was a hard worker on our book donations and especially on the behind-the-scenes job of getting ready for the sales. We will continue to miss her as both a friend and colleague and appreciate all that she did to help our sales run smoothly.

We also bid a fond farewell to FOL Board Member Emily Rust. After her serious bout with COVID-19, Emily and her husband Richard have moved to be with their family in Hattiesburg, MS. Emily was such a very willing worker and always had a positive, friendly attitude. We wish her the best of luck as she gets to enjoy time with those grandsons!

*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
(continued from page 1)*

I am sorry to report that over the course of the past year, Marianne Crowell, board member since 2016, succumbed to a relatively short battle with pancreatic cancer. Another board member Emily Rust, a new member in 2019, fell ill to COVID in July 2020. After spending months in the hospital, Emily and her husband have relocated to the Hattiesburg area. Replacing these two individuals will be Kim Cadenhead and Joyce Polk.

During the time when the library was closed and our book sales were discontinued, the board devised new ways to keep the public engaged with reading. As donations continued to pour in, we began to offer free books located on the front porch of the library. Additionally, FOL was able to maintain a reasonably normal Books and Authors program via ZOOM, offering outstanding published authors who provided virtual presentations. Also, it is important to note that Sue Minchew and Connie Forde introduced a “Book of the Week” feature, whereby board members and others submit a review of a book they have recently read and enjoyed. A very popular addition to our FOL programming, the Book of the Week, as well as the archived reviews, can be accessed at the FOL [Facebook](#) page and [Web page](#) on the Library website. The board recently voted to retain these reviews as a regular feature, but on a monthly rather than weekly basis.



2020-21 Officers (left to right): Lynn Reinschmidt, president; Connie Forde, vice president; Linda Morse, secretary; Myrna Lott, treasurer

The mission of FOL is to support, expand, and improve the Starkville-Oktibbeha County Public Library. In a normal year we generate funds through membership fees, donations, grants, and monthly book sales. These funds not only enable the library to purchase additional books supplementing the Library’s collections, but have provided many extra services and programs for the community that would not be possible on the Library’s operating budget alone. FOL funds, for example, regularly provide funding for children’s and young adult programming.

This newsletter includes a listing of the 2020–2021 (October–September) FOL members. On behalf of the FOL board let me extend our appreciation for your continued support. With a new membership year beginning in October, we are asking you to continue to help serve your community by renewing your [FOL membership](#). Additionally, we ask that you help spread the word about FOL and its role in supporting your local public library. I am sure that you each know individuals who, like you, strongly believe in the importance of having a vibrant active public library and are supportive of its activities, but who are not currently FOL members. Please encourage those individuals to join FOL.

Thanks to all of you Friends of the Library who continue your annual support of FOL through your membership dues, book purchases, and donations. Without your financial support, the library simply could not continue to offer many of the services currently provided. On a closing note, please be aware that you can stay abreast of FOL activities through a variety of electronic media: the Library’s website <https://starkville.lib.ms.us/>; the Library’s Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/STKPUBLIB/>; and FOL’s Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FOLStarkville>.

“...Without your financial support, the library simply could not continue to offer many of the services currently provided.”

LIFE MEMBER

Anonymous
John and Mary Lee Beal
Catherine Boyd
Michael and Alison Buehler
Russell and Lynn Gaines
Ernie George Family Foundation
Elizabeth J. Hawkins
William and Ginny Holtcamp
Bill and Billie Lane Hood
Warren and Judi Housley
Doug and Sue Minchew
Walt and Ellen Newsom
Pendley Family Foundation
Bob and Donna Reese
Glenn and Cherie Steele
Barry Stewart and Penny Walsh
Joe and Becky Stockwell
Helen Thomas
Suzy Turner
Robert and Amy Wills
Wayne Wilkerson and Sandra Sistrunk
Robert E. Wolverton, Sr.

SPONSOR

Larry and Florence Box
Tom Fisher
Molly Zuckerman

BENEFACTOR

James and Janis Bryant
Sharon Fly
John and Connie Forde
Keith and Gayle Hodge
David and Maureen Lang
Lewis and Pie Mallory
Alan and Jeanne Marcus
Larry and Rae Oldham
Lynn Spruill
Ron and Jan Taylor
Robert and Joan Wilson

CORPORATE

4-County Electric
Modern Woodmen
SOAR
Starkville Utilities/TVA

PATRON

Vernon and Terry Ammon
George and Wendy Ansel
Margaret Bates
Ann Bonner
Frank and Ann Chiles
Albert and Glenda Clark
Ed and Barbara Clynych
Bob and Pam Collins
John and Pat Colwick
Armando and Ruth de la Cruz
Tom and Ginger DeWeese
Elliott and Tani Dubuisson
Wayne and Jo Durst
William and Nelle Elam
Joe and Barbara Farris
Jim and Brenda Harden
Donna Harrison
Jim and Ruth Haug
Kent and Connie Hoblet
David and Betty Lynn Hunt
Pam Jones
Eddie and Susan Keith
Deborah O. Lee
Jim and Page Leftwich
Mark and Carol Lehman
Bryan and Myrna Lott
Kent and Emily Maret
John and Jeanne Marszalek
Wynema McGrew
John McWhorter
Roy and Fairfax Montgomery
David and Linda Morse
Richard and Melanie Mullenax
Joy Odom
Robert and Lucy Phillips
Lynn and Myra Reinschmiedt
Richard and Emily Rust
Norma Jean Smith
Starkville Woman's Club
Helen Thomas
Hayes and Judy Truitt
Steve and Virginia Turner
Vance and Jo Ann Watson
Graham and Martha Wells
Clyde and Marsha Williams
Turner and Gloria Wingo

FAMILY

Andy and Libba Andrews
Rachel Brandon
Larry and Susan Brown
George and Linda Buehler
Janice Chambers
Betty Jane Chatham
Danny and Dorothy Cheatham
Lawrence and Elsie Croft
Terry Crow
Edwin and Diane Ellis
Doug and Bonnie Feig
Brenda C. Garner
Stanly and Jeannie Godbold
Robert and Edna Jean Gunn
Brien and Amanda Henry
Judge and Mrs. Lee Howard
Suzanne Huffman
Gaddis and Pam Hunt
Jerry and Jamie Inmon
Nancy Jacobs
Silas and Daphne Knox
David and Kathryn Laughlin
Mark and Karen Lilly
Wayne and Mary Ann Livingston
Dolton McAlpin
Jack and Jimmie Faye McCarty
John and Kay McReynolds
David and Barbara Monts
Carroll and Georgia Murphy
The Oates Family
Jim and Helen Ormon
Bill and HelenSue Parrish
Laura Rackley
Saunders and Jordan Ramsey
Keith and Ruth Remy
Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Smith
Charles and Martha Sparrow
Bos and Kim Stevens
Mike and Wanda Thorne
Jim and Jacqueline Tisdale
David and Sherrie Van Landingham
Johnny and Bobbie Walton
Glenn and Sherrie Wiygul

INDIVIDUAL

Anonymous
Roxene H. Atkinson
James L. Bailey, Jr.
Larry Brewer
Nancy M. Critz
Louis Capella
Barbara A. Frank
Susan Gordon
Carole Haynes
Julia Hodges
Cathy Kemp
Kim Laird
Jessica Lindsey
Susie Lowery
Jill Massey
Ellen Drane Mauldin
Edith McMillen
Dolly Moore
Cindy Morgan
Joyce Polk
William M. Porter
Anna Marie Raspberry
Linda Ratliff
Cheryl Rowe
John Schneider
Martha Helen Swain
Emilie Thompson
Nancy S. Walsh
Sharon Welch
Elaine White
Sara Wilson
Opal W. Wood





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Starkville, MS 39760

Website:

<http://starkville.lib.ms.us/friends-of-the-library>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FOLStarkville>

Twitter:

<https://www.twitter.com/OfStarkville>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/friendsofstarkvillelibrary/>