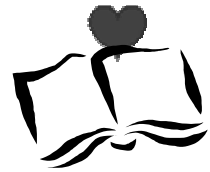


FRIENDS of the LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Volume 14 Issue 2

Spring 2007



FRIENDS of the LIBRARY
NORTHUMBERLAND

FROM THE PRESIDENT—*Jay Walker*

Welcome to the spring edition of the Friends of the Library Newsletter. While we are in the welcoming mode, let's welcome Eve Jordon. Eve has volunteered to recruit volunteers. No, recruit is not the right word. Encourage would be more like it.

Right now our most pressing need is for volunteers to handle the raffle sales at the various venues in the Northern Neck, starting with the Tavern Farmers Market on Saturday, May 19. By the way, we understand that the Jack Russell dogs will be back on that day, so the Tavern Foundation is expecting a good crowd.

You don't have to be a Sgt. Bilko to sell the raffle tickets. For one, people at the farmers markets and other venues are in a buying mood. For another, we will have an enhanced set of offerings, in addition to the quilt. (See inside for the details.) Finally, folks at the venues are easy to approach – think Northern Neck, not the big city.

Here's an idea that has just come off the Walker husband and wife idea assembly line. Because Earline has had a string of authors reviewing their own books for the Books Alive Program, she thought it would be nice to invite members to join the authors for supper prior to the program. Then we thought it would be double nice to make this a special opportunity for Lifetime Members. It would be a time to meet the authors and get a preview of their books. It is always interesting to find out how an author gets the inspiration for a book and how the book is finally completed. More details will be avail-

able as the idea germinates.

Look inside for details about this year's Friends of the Library Outing. Yes, it's primarily a picnic at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument. But the Birthplace offers much more than picnic grounds. FOL members are by definition people who have wide-ranging interests, be they history, nature, gardening, birds, or archeology. What better place to do feed these interests than a Birthplace picnic. You will soon get a flyer about how to sign up for the outing. Until then, pencil in Thursday, June 7.

One final note: Friends of the Library has changed its fiscal year to match the calendar year. As a result, the annual meeting and election of officers will be held in January, rather than June. The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in June, however.

As always we want to hear from you about whatever interests you. Use our FOL email address: friends@netscape.com.

Attention members renewing membership. There continues to be some confusion between the Library's annual fund-raising drive and membership in the Friends of the Library. These are two different entities – both working for the good of the Library. To renew your membership, you need to use the member form and select a membership level. We hope you will renew as a Lifetime Member.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FROM THE PRESIDENT	1
BOOK REVIEW CORNER	2
FOL MEMBER OUTING PLANNED	3
WAYS AND MEANS	3
BOOKS ALIVE	4
FINANCIAL REPORT	4
MEMBERSHIP FORM	5
BOARD MEETING MINUTES	6
FROM THE DIRECTOR	7
LIFE MEMBERS	8

FOL Board Members

President: Jay Walker
Vice President:

Lien Groenwold
Treasurer: Phil Landry
Secretary: Bob Lindsey

Publicity: Bob Lindsey
Ways and Means:

Lien Groenwold
Books Alive: Earline Walker
Hospitality: Ginny Estell
Membership: Ann Raikes
Newsletter: Rita Johnson

THE BOOK REVIEW CORNER—*Bob Lindsey*

A Unique and Significant Anthology of Poetry in Our Library

I don't know what impelled me to pull this long-shelved book down—I had been searching for another. I turned to one of the dog-eared pages and my eyes fell on the last two lines of a poem that stirred me as it had years before:

Yet do I marvel at this curious thing:
To make a poet black, and bid him sing.

I immediately reread the whole of Countee Cullen's sonnet "Yet Do I Marvel," then moved closer to the light, turning to other marked pages in the revised edition of James Weldon Johnson's *The Book of American Negro Poetry*.

A noise—the refrigerator motor starting up—woke me to the sudden realization that a half hour had passed when nothing existed but the renewed connection in my hands, and before my eyes, to the poetic expression of these late 19th and early 20th century African American writers.

I had been utterly transported by the poetry that so vividly portrayed the spiritual lives and emotions of people only a generation or two removed from slavery and the painful transition historians call Reconstruction, and who were part of the Great Migration to the commercial and industrial centers of the North, pioneers at the grittiest level of America's new industrial age and at the barriers to justice.

James Weldon Johnson, at times a teacher, school principal, newspaperman, diplomat, songwriter, novelist, and poet, published this collection of "African American" poetry in 1921, shortly after the beginning of the African American flowering of the arts that was to become known as the Harlem Renaissance. An astute and energetic participant in and observer of the contemporary surge in Black social, political, and cultural consciousness, Johnson thought the time right to recognize the literary achievements of African American poets up until the outbreak of World War I, and acclaim the new Black poets who had emerged during the Great War and its aftermath.

Especially moving are the poems written in dialect. Johnson wrote critically of the use of dialect in Black poetry in his Preface to the collection, reflecting the general disapproval of dialect among the leaders of the "New Black" literature, but he recognized the authenticity of their place and time of origin, and appreciated the patois of the New York street in some of the Harlem Renaissance poetry.

I could understand why many Black intellectuals of Johnson's time, self-conscious of their progress midst the greater American (White) cultural development, scorned contemporary writers who wrote dialect (e.g., Zora Neale Hurston), but the older Black poems in dialect help locate their unique place in the history of American civilization and project their lyrical voice. It is hard to resist reading them aloud.

Not all the poems were written in dialect; most, in fact, were written in styles considered mainstream at the times they were written, while usually focused on some aspect of the Black experience. The poetry in this anthology is appealing to a reader's sense of history and humanity, as well as literary aesthetics.

A Significant New Acquisition:

***The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11*, by Lawrence Wright**

This riveting history of modern Islamist extremism, from its birth in the Egyptian prisons of Gamal Abdul Nasser to the terror of 9/11, and the actions of the FBI and CIA operatives who understood the threat and almost prevented al-Qaeda's signature achievement is a "must read" for anyone seeking enlightenment on subject.

FOL MEMBER OUTING PLANNED

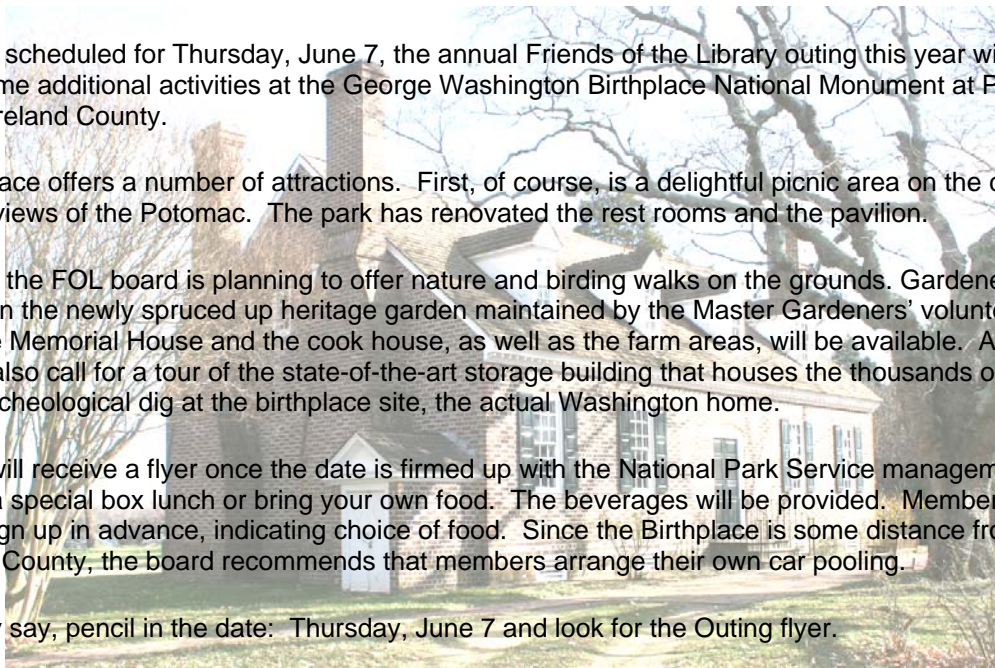
Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 7, the annual Friends of the Library outing this year will be a picnic with some additional activities at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument at Popes Creek in Westmoreland County.

The Birthplace offers a number of attractions. First, of course, is a delightful picnic area on the creek with wonderful views of the Potomac. The park has renovated the rest rooms and the pavilion.

In addition, the FOL board is planning to offer nature and birding walks on the grounds. Gardeners will be interested in the newly spruced up heritage garden maintained by the Master Gardeners' volunteers. And tours of the Memorial House and the cook house, as well as the farm areas, will be available. At this writing, plans also call for a tour of the state-of-the-art storage building that houses the thousands of artifacts from the archeological dig at the birthplace site, the actual Washington home.

Members will receive a flyer once the date is firmed up with the National Park Service management. You can order a special box lunch or bring your own food. The beverages will be provided. Members will be asked to sign up in advance, indicating choice of food. Since the Birthplace is some distance from Northumberland County, the board recommends that members arrange their own car pooling.

So, as they say, pencil in the date: Thursday, June 7 and look for the Outing flyer.



WAYS AND MEANS—*Lien Groenwold, Chairperson*

Wow!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I went to Richmond today and one of the things I did was pick up this year's Friends of the Library Raffle Quilt! It is gorgeous! I just hope that this year I will be the winner of the raffle. I am sure that I won't be the only one wishing this.

This year the "Ladies of the Night" opted for a traditional quilt. Traditional it may be, but the batik material and the vibrant colors make it a one-of-a-kind quilt. I will hurry to put the binding on and hope to have it done in time for the April Heathsville Farmers Market. Please come out and see it for yourself.

The highly successful Friends of the Library Quilt Raffle will have added punch this year. Joining the 2007 Quilt will be other items designed to attract more buyers to the library stand.

At this writing, the FOL Board is lining up donations or discounted raffle offerings. These include art work, a kayak, dinner for two at a local restaurant, and a fishing charter. The tickets will be changed to list the raffle offerings and a sign at the raffle venues will describe them.

Ticket prices will be \$2 each, or three for \$5. The drawings will continue to be a wine and cheese party at the Library in November on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. The first winning ticket holder can choose any of the items. The second winner, any of the remaining items, and so on until all the items are selected. The winners do not have to be present. This year the raffle party will have an added attraction, a silent auction.

The Super Raffle will debut at the Heathsville Farmers Market, Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Raffle Tickets will also be sold at the semi-annual Library Book Sale, Saturday, May 26

BOOKS ALIVE—*Earline Walker, Chairperson*

The Books Alive winter series was a winner! Our January, February and March programs were varied, interesting and well attended. In January Friends partnered with Rice's Hotel/Hughlett's Tavern Foundation to present a program by Edward Wright Haile, author of Jamestown Narratives and *Where None Before Hath Stood: a Poem of Jamestown*. Mr. Haile recounted the story of how the English and the Indian cultures in Virginia attempted and failed to understand one another. In February, award winning author Nancy Wright Beasley reviewed *Izzy's Fire: Finding Humanity in the Holocaust*, the story of one family's struggle to survive. The February program featured author and Associate Professor of Conflict Resolution and Anthropology at George Mason University, Susan F. Hirsch, reviewing her book *Terrorism, Grief, and a Victim's Quest for Justice*, the story of the 1998 U.S. embassy bombing in Tanzania that killed her husband.

The upcoming spring programs are not to be missed! We begin this month on April 24 with Connie Lapallo appearing in period costume, to review her book, *Dark Enough to See the Stars in a Jamestown Sky*, a historically accurate novel based on the story of

her 13th great-grandmother, Joan Pierce, who left her 9-year-old daughter behind in England, bringing her 4-year-old daughter to Jamestown. Her presentation is appropriate for all ages. On May 22 Sarah Honenberger will talk about the true story behind her novel, *White Lies*, a compelling account of parental heart-break and hope in the wake of vaccine injury issues. The author will talk about the true story behind the novel and read from her book. On June 26 Northumberland Public Library Director, Jayne McQuade will suggest what we should be reading this summer. Who would know better! Those who attended Jayne's program on this topic last year will know that it's not to be missed.

So mark your calendars for the fourth Tuesday in April, May and June and plan on being entertained, and stimulated by award winning authors and the company of good friends and, of course, the greatest goodies, provided by Ginny Estelle!

Any questions or comments about Books Alive can be directed to Earline Walker, Chair, at 804-529-9362

FINANCIAL REPORT—*Phil Landry, Treasurer*

As previously reported, we have realigned our fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year - hence January 1, 2007 was the beginning of our fiscal 2007. This change simplifies our reporting and financial tracking along with making it easier on our supporters. No more trying to remember if your donation in February is on time for this fiscal year or late for the last one.

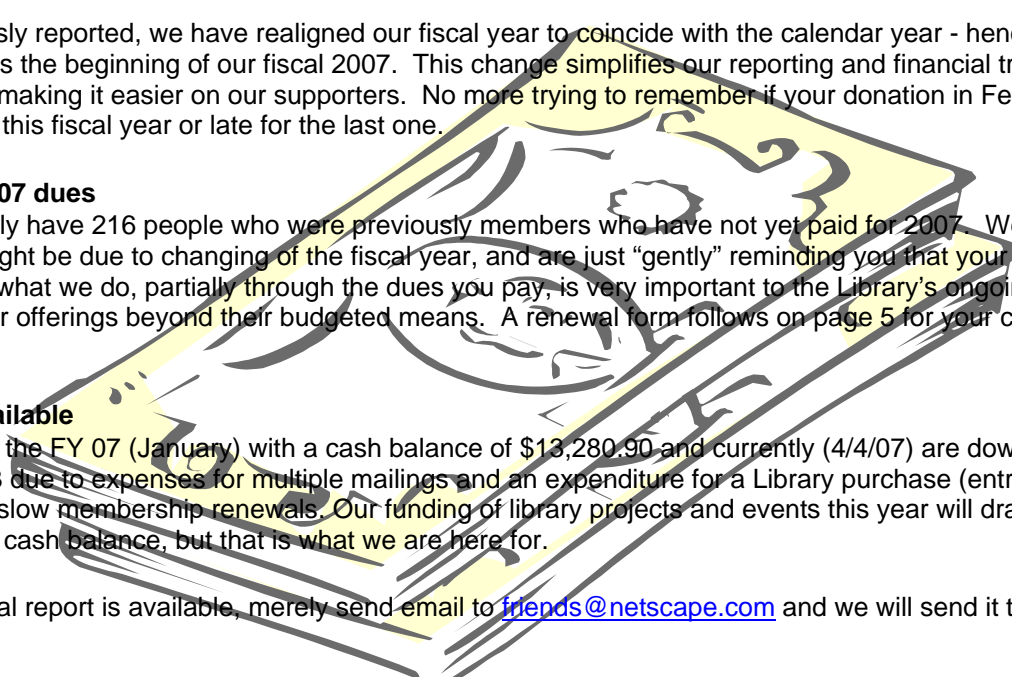
Unpaid 2007 dues

We currently have 216 people who were previously members who have not yet paid for 2007. We suspect that this might be due to changing of the fiscal year, and are just "gently" reminding you that your financial support of what we do, partially through the dues you pay, is very important to the Library's ongoing ability to extend their offerings beyond their budgeted means. A renewal form follows on page 5 for your convenience.

Funds Available

We started the FY 07 (January) with a cash balance of \$13,280.90 and currently (4/4/07) are down to \$12,813.03 due to expenses for multiple mailings and an expenditure for a Library purchase (entry mat), along with slow membership renewals. Our funding of library projects and events this year will drastically reduce our cash balance, but that is what we are here for.

Full financial report is available, merely send email to friends@netscape.com and we will send it to you.



DID YOU FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2007? FRIENDS OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Like all libraries across the country, the Northumberland Public Library has a support group: FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY. Our mission is to help this great library grow as a community asset.

One obvious goal is to fund special Library projects such as purchasing up-to-date audio/visual equipment, computers, and DVDs. But the Friends of the Library also runs programs that augment what the Library does. For example, we sponsor a book review series, called Books Alive, which meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month from September to June. In addition, at least once a year we sponsor a major fund-raising event designed to entertain or enrich the community.

Membership is open to all. You will receive our quarterly Newsletter. A Friends-only bulletin board mounted at the Library will keep you up-to-date on all events. Finally, special mailings will alert you to our planned activities. **BE SURE TO CHECK THE VOLUNTEER INTEREST LISTING BELOW.**

Your Library needs your support to continue its great work. How can you join in this mission? **JOIN FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY.** And please consider making your membership a Lifetime Membership.

Leave this membership form at the Library desk with your dues or mail it to the address on page 8 of this newsletter. Gift membership is also available.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

New membership Renewing membership Gift membership

_____ Single Annual Membership \$10.00

_____ Family Annual Membership \$15.00

_____ Lifetime Membership \$150.00

Checks should be made payable to Friends of the Library.

VOLUNTEER INTEREST: Please check activities to help lend a hand.

Raffle sales Fund raising Special events Public relations

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING—MARCH 23, 2007

The meeting was opened at 11 a.m. by FOL President Jay Walker. Board members in attendance were Vice President Lien Groenwold, Treasurer Phil Landry, Secretary Bob Lindsey, Earline Walker, Eve Jordan, Ann Raikes, and Bill Estell representing the library board of trustees.

Reading the Minutes of December 15, 2006 Meeting
Accepted as published in the December Edition of the FOL Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

President Walker's motion to defer consideration of the treasurer's report to its publication in the next issue of the FOL Newsletter was accepted.

Books Alive

Earline Walker reported that the April program for Books Alive is yet to be finalized.

Fundraising Event

Jay Walker reported that permission has been granted FOL to use The George Washington Birthplace facilities for its members picnic in May. These include picnic tables, gardens, and trails for a birding and nature walk. Jay also said that park officials would offer a tour of the Birthplace storage facilities where many items of historical interest are seldom brought out for public display. Tours of the Birthplace buildings would be available and the gift shop would be open.

Earline will arrange to provide beverages for all FOL picnickers as well as box lunches at \$5-6 each for those who choose not to bring their own victuals.

Jay and Earline will take charge of the mailing to invite the members of the FOL to the event, and agreed to include in the invitation a recommendation to carpool transportation to the G.W. Birthplace.

Discussion of the proposed May date for the event led to the recommendation that it be held in June instead. Walker agreed to see if the Birthplace calendar has a suitable open date in early June available.

Fundraising Raffles

Lien Groenwold reported that the new quilt will be ready for its debut at the Heathsville Farmers Market on May 19.

Phil Landry presented details of the "Super Raffle" proposed for this year wherein the purchaser of the ticket drawn first would earn first choice between several

prizes; the holder of the second ticket drawn would get second choice, etc. Possible choices, in addition to the quilt, might include a fishing charter, a kayak, an original painting or print, a case of wine from a local winery, among others yet to be determined.

The board agreed to keep the price of the raffle ticket at \$2 each, and 3 for \$5.

The board agreed to a ticket design based on a sample used for a recent Rappahannock Wildlife Refuge raffle, that would list and illustrate the prize choices.

The board agreed to move the raffle display on May 26 from the festival at St. Stephen's Church to the library midst the book sale taking place there on the same day.

Bob Lindsey agreed to research the possible purchase of a suitable outdoor stand or easel to display a poster advertising and describing the Super Raffle at events where the tickets are sold.

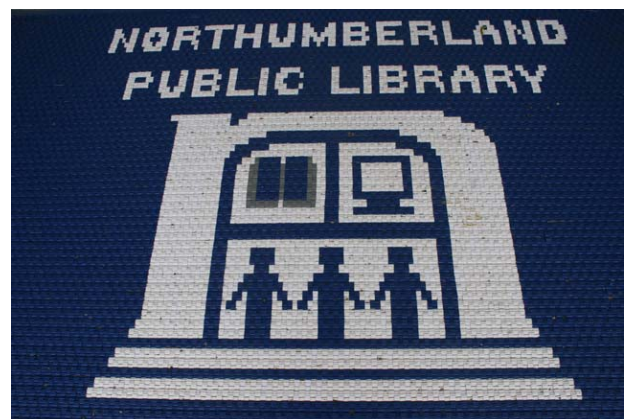
Eve Jordan agreed to staff and recruit additional volunteers to help the Super Raffle set up at the Irvington Farm Market on May 5.

Election of Officers

The board agreed to move the date for election of FOL officers from June to November to bring their term of service to coincide with the fiscal and calendar years.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Bob Lindsey, Secretary



FOL purchased this door mat which is at the front door of the Northumberland Public Library.

FROM THE DIRECTOR—*Jayne McQuade*

A report on the Virginia Festival of the Book

In late March, I attended the 13th annual Festival of the Book in Charlottesville. It was billed as “400 authors, 200 free programs,” so I should have known that it would be difficult to choose which to attend. Put on by the Center for the Book, a part of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, it was sponsored by hundreds of local and national foundations, companies and individuals, in dozens of venues around the city—classrooms, libraries, auditoriums, theaters, even retail establishments like Barnes and Noble and Blue Ridge Mountain Sports.

Talk about overload! I’d pored over the schedule at www.vabook.org, read about possibilities, checked off sessions I’d like to attend, realized I’d scheduled 3 at the same time, made agonizing choices. By the time I arrived I had printed out and highlighted my choices on several pieces of paper.

Checking into the hotel could wait. I was off to hear Dr. Pauline Chen, author of [Final Exam: a Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality](#) at the UVa Bookstore. A young transplant surgeon, Dr. Chen spoke movingly about the realities of modern medical practice and how physicians must grapple with their emotions surrounding death. *Publisher's Weekly* said she “...writes with immaculately honed prose and moral passion...” The audience sat entranced as she traced her personal journey of understanding.

Next up, a session with great local interest. John Page Williams, author, and Bill Portlock, photographer, described their book, [Chesapeake: Exploring the Water Trail of Captain John Smith](#). A newly authorized “trail” will allow boaters of today to retrace Smith’s voyages. Beautifully illustrated with Portlock’s photos, the book both describes the voyage of 1608 and makes a plea for conservation and the saving of the Bay. The second half of the program was presented by Susan Schmidt, who circled the Bay in 2002 in a 22-foot boat, following Smith’s path and visiting places her ances-

tors lived beginning not long after the founding of Jamestown. She has written [Landfall along the Chesapeake](#), describing her voyage, and illustrated her talk with beautiful slides.

That evening, I arrived late at Barnes and Noble, and found a seat on the floor behind a stack, around the corner from a large crowd who’d come to hear the executive producer of the NPR program “This I Believe”, which invites people to submit 500-word essays describing their personal philosophies. I could just glimpse the speakers from my vantage point. To date, 25,000 essays have been submitted! Look at www.thisibelieve.org The program took its concept from a fifties-era radio show of the same name, edited by Edward R. Murrow. Three remarkable people who had had their submissions broadcast read them. Essays from the original show and the current one have been collected in a book [This I Believe](#).

The next day, continuing the Jamestown theme, I sat in a packed theater to hear James Horn, author of [A Land as God Made It; Jamestown and the Birth of America](#) and Bill Kelso, author of [Jamestown, the Buried Truth](#) talk about their studies, Horn’s in libraries and Kelso’s digging in the ground and finding the original fort.

Members of my book club will groan when they hear I attended a session called Travel to Difficult Climes, as I always choose books involving lots of walking in exotic places. Gary Geddes spoke of his book [Kingdom of Ten Thousand Things: an Impossible Journey from Kabul to Chiapas](#) which chronicles his extraordinary 50,000-mile journey to follow the trail of the legendary Huishen, an Afghan monk who fled from Kabul to China and crossed the Pacific to North America a thousand years before Columbus. John Kropf read from his book, [Unknown Sands: Journeys around the World's Most Isolated Country](#), dealing with post-9/11 duty in Turkmenistan. Mark Jenkins spoke of [Worlds to Explore: Classic Tales of Travel and Adventure from National Geographic](#), a compilation of 54 articles from those old yellow-covered Geographics from the early 1900’s to 1957, when jet travel became “common.”

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LIFE MEMBERS

Roger D. Anderson	Fred and Ann Harrman	Donald Pumroy
David and Corinne Anthony	Gregory and Susan Haugan	Robert and Ann Raikes
Elwood and Carolyn Ball	Sonny and Charlotte Hayman	Ralph and S. Isabel Rose
George and Jan Beckett	John and Ruth Huber	Charles T. Self, Jr.
Carl and Patricia Bellas	Rita Wright Johnson	Warren and Ann Stansbury
Ralph and Audrey Brainard	Eve Jordan	Richard and Janet Steelman
Cecil and Betty Burton	Porter and Mary Kier	Richard & Jeanne Stephenson
Edith Carstarphen and S.K. Hopkins	Sandra K. Kramer	Thomas and Jean Stevens
Robert and Susan Christopher	Phillip and Virginia Landry	Tavern Quilt Guild
Robert and Gene Covington	Bryna (Brennan) Levinson	Joe M. Thompson
Robert and Judy Crown	Wayne and Beverly Lowe	Rocco V. Tricarico
Tad and Connie de Bordenave	Mary L. Mc Fall	George and Virginia Turner
Winifred Delano	Jayne Mc Quade	Jay and Earline Walker
Edgar and Donna Dolman	Charles and Helen McKerns	Nancy White
Bill and Ginny Estell	Deirdre O'Hara	William and Nancy Williams
George and Adele Fallmezger	Barbara Perry	Mervin and Edith Withers
Walter and Joan Gillions	Robert and Janet Price	
Beg and Lien Groenwold	Brad Primeau	

Northumberland Public Library
FRIENDS of the LIBRARY
7204 Northumberland Highway
Heathsville, VA 22471

Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 41
HEATHSVILLE VA
22471