

January 2019



# The Bookworm

***Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library***

**757-787-3400 [www.friendsespl.org](http://www.friendsespl.org)**

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Judy Malarkey	Ann Scott
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Becky Rootes	Donna Hanbidge

**From the President.**

Oftentimes, you will see charitable organizations evaluated for the amount of their funding that goes to administrative costs. The Friends of ESPL do have some administrative costs, but they are minimal—things like postage for mailing out the Bookworm or letters acknowledging your support, and publication costs for our posters about events. We have no salary costs; all of our people power is volunteer. The monies you donate support projects, like the Santa Visit and children’s reading programs, and improvements to the library, like the television at the check counter that keeps library patrons informed about library events. In recent years, we have contributed to the projected new facility in Parksley. We continue to participate in representing your interests in achieving a library that serves the needs of the community of users into the future. If there are ideas that you have for improving the library experience for our community, be sure to make comment on the membership form—although we rely on your financial support, it isn’t necessary to make a donation to make a suggestion.

In addition to your financial support, the Friends rely on your donation of goods: books that we sell to finance our projects. Merchandise at our two book sale days each year comes from your donation of books in pristine condition. Some of those books are on our ongoing sale tables at the front lobby. Also on those sale tables are books that have been withdrawn from the library collection. Withdraws are priced to sell at ten cents each. The sale tables are continually renewed, so check them out on each visit you make to the library.

**Santa Visit**

On December 1, Santa took a break from his busy schedule to visit the Children’s Room in Accomac. A record number of believers came to see him. There were 112 children who received a book from Santa with a total of 198 stopping by. We began to worry that Santa wouldn’t have enough books in his pack to

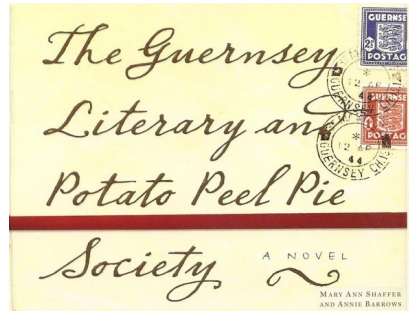
January 2019

meet the interests of all who came. But, fortunately, Librarian Janice Felker helped with the Santa magic that assures that there is always one more present in the pack.

This year, several teen volunteers from the Teen Advisory Board had coloring sheets for children to work on while they waited to talk to Santa. The teens also marked the event with tattoos (washable) for departing guests. Next Santa visit, we hope we can improve our traffic pattern to accommodate a growing number of visitors and a growing number of activities.

The Friends have been sponsoring Santa's book giving at ESPL for over 10 years. It is one of the projects that your donation as a Friend supports. We hope we are encouraging a lifetime habit of reading and enjoying library services in the younger generations of the Eastern Shore residents.

### **Booklovers Gathering**



On February 2 at 1PM, the Friends will lead a discussion of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, a novel by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. The story is set in England and covers events during and immediately post-World War II. The narrative is epistolary. It is a WWII story about the German occupation of the English Channel Island of Guernsey. It is a love story. It is a recollection of a time before technology dominated communication. Appropriately, it is a celebration of booklovers and book discussion groups.

Perhaps you read it a few years back or perhaps you recently viewed the Netflix movie—or perhaps you have done both of those. The Friends decided that it would be a good subject to brighten a February afternoon. If you have not yet read the book or need to refresh your memory, you can borrow a copy at the front desk of the Accomac ESPL. There are a limited number of copies available, so don't delay. If you plan to join the discussion, we ask that you register in advance to attend at the Information Desk (even if you have your own copy) by no later than January 29 so that we know how many to plan for.

### **Book Donations**

While your recycles in pristine condition are absolutely essential to our Firecracker and Fall book sales, our ability to store them is very limited. If you face similar constraints, we will find a way to cherish what you share until our next sale. However, if you can hold on to what you would pass along until a month prior to the sale--June, in the case of the Firecracker sale- it would be very helpful to us. Thank you.

### **Better World Books – Report for 2018**

Throughout 2018 we sent books to Better World Books so that books remaining after our book sales and library discards could have another chance of finding a good home. Every book we send to Better World Books earns a commission for the Eastern Shore Public Library when it is sold. Over the course of 2018, we sent some 36 boxes of books to BWB and received \$131.49 in commission checks.

January 2019

The nature of our arrangement with BWB changed mid-year; we now have to pre-screen our books to see if there are titles that BWB wants. While this has raised the ratio of saleable books, it has also increased our volunteers' workloads.

Because of the extra work involved in pre-screening the books, we are investigating other organizations that will accept large quantities of books for resale. If anyone has any experience with such an organization, please let the Friends of the Library know.

### **Friends 60th Anniversary Celebration and Book Sale**

Many library patrons joined us to celebrate the Friends 60 years of service to the Accomac Library and the community it services on Tuesday, October 23. This celebration was also in conjunction with the October 21-27 National Friends of the Library Week. A good time was had by all. Refreshments were served, including a cake with our Friends logo in icing! We gave away our new 2019 pocket calendars, bookmarks, pens and coloring books to our future patrons. Many shared stories with our library staff and patrons. Library staff was available to assist with training on many library resources. A special thank you to Wells Gregoire, Adult Services Specialist, who did an E-book tutorial and Janice Felker, Youth Services Librarian, who helped with the younger crowd.

Thank you for your new and gently read donations for this Book Sale to make it a fundraiser success and all the hard work of our Board Members Betsy Reich, Becky Rootes and Donna Hanbidge.

### **2019 Lifestyle Challenge**

Start 2019 by living a life that focuses on your well-being. Join the Eastern Shore Public Library Lifestyle Challenge! The library is partnering with the Accomack Parks and Recreation and other local agencies to promote the many aspects of having a healthy, socially active life. The Lifestyle Challenge will involve a variety of activities, from programs to learning about library resources that help you learn healthy living skills. Individuals or groups that sign-up for the Challenge will receive a free packet full of information. The program starts **Thursday January 10, 2019 at 3pm** and ends **March 28<sup>th</sup>**. The Challenge is free and open to the public. Registration and participation will take place at each library or by email. Visit [www.espl.org](http://www.espl.org) or call the central library at (757) 787-3400.

### **Membership renewals 2019 – check label.**

Not sure if you have renewed? Check your address label – if it says RENEW it means you haven't renewed for 2019.

Thank you to everyone who has already renewed.