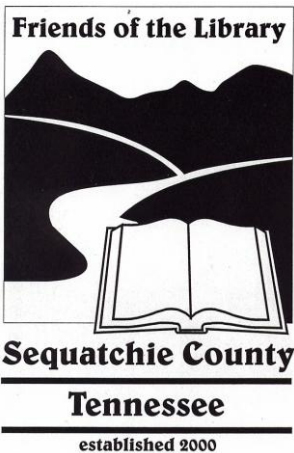


SEQUATCHIE COUNTY LIBRARY LIGHTS

Winter 2014

February 2011



*A great
community
deserves a great
library.*

World War I began 100 years ago and still haunts us.

Friends member Terry Earnest vividly presented the tragedy and losses of World War I to us at this year's annual meeting.

From its beginning on June 28, 1914, to the armistice at 11 o'clock in the morning of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the carnage and casualties of the First World War, also known as the Great War or World War I, were totally unexpected for a world population which had never experienced battles of such great length and such great scope. Terry Earnest underscored for those attending the annual meeting presentation just how vast the losses were in comparison to little ground lost or won and to how little this war did to secure world peace. Indeed, he told us, instead of being "the War to End All Wars," as some foolishly hoped, its conclusion sowed the seeds of World War II and turmoil we experience to this very day.

Terry's presentation examined World War I from year to year: the combatants' military objectives; their achievements or lack of them; and the background of the various campaigns or offensives, including interesting anecdotes. From the beginning of his presentation, Terry also enlivened it with details which made the history live. He told us, but for a cup of coffee, history might have been quite different. The spark that ignited World War I was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie.

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Earlier on the day they died, Franz Ferdinand and Sophie were touring Sarajevo when a Serbian nationalist threw a bomb at their car. The bomb failed to harm them, but wounded an officer and some bystanders. Later, on their way to visit the injured officer, the archduke's procession took a wrong turn. Unhappily for Franz Ferdinand and Sophie, another assassin had just finished his coffee at a nearby café, and he seized the opportunity to fire into the touring car and kill them.

Another interesting anecdote concerned the Christmas truce of 1914. Although the soldiers had been fighting only a few months, the fighting had already been very bloody with unacceptable losses. Despite this, a Christmas Truce began on Christmas Eve along the British and German lines somewhere in Belgium. Terry explained the truce took place mainly where the soldiers were less likely to view the Germans as invaders. While Christmas Eve 1914 began as a normal day with firing on both sides, in some areas firing began to slacken through the afternoon. By Christmas morning men visited across lines, exchanged gifts, and sang together. Some even played a game of soccer. The officers on both sides took a dim view of their soldiers fraternizing with the enemy. Orders were issued to stop this spontaneous truce, and it was never again repeated.

Terry's presentation was very complete, given he had to cover one of the most historically important events, lasting more than four years, in an abbreviated amount of time. He is a retired Army officer, who has been interested in military history since he was very young. World War One is a secondary interest of his, but since it saw the development of several military technologies now in use, for example tanks, close air support, strategic bombing, undersea warfare, and weapons of mass destruction, he studied it off and on throughout his 30-year-long military career. His presentation also highlighted several military innovations World War I produced, like the expanded use of aircraft. Terry closed by emphasizing the consequences of this war and its aftermath are still with us. The present turmoil in the Middle East can be attributed in part to the victorious countries drawing of arbitrary borders for the countries in this region.



Will Sims sang beautifully for us. To open the presentation he sang "Arlington." To close he sang "In Color," both well suited to the presentation. We also appreciated the assistance provided by Kirk Rogers and Daniel Rogers, who provided and operated the audio equipment.



Terry Earnest prepared a thorough and interesting summary of World War I for us.

The 2nd VP has the responsibility for arranging the annual meeting, and Karen Fletcher did so with great efficiency and style. Her decorations added a great deal to the presentation. Despite the weather requiring us to call off the original date and use the snow date, we had a good turnout.

President-Elect Linda Johnson presided over the brief business meeting which preceded the presentation. Linda opened the meeting, welcoming members and guests. The budget was presented by Pat Treadwell, Treasurer. Jane Indyk presented board member nominations. Five Friends members, whose terms were ending at the annual meeting, had their terms renewed: Karen Fletcher; Nina Hunt; Linda Johnson; Pam Ryle; and Lucy Szelengiewicz. Janese Freye replaced Reba Childress, and Terry Earnest replaced Wilda Moss as board members. After the vote on the new board members, the board met to elect 2014 officers: Linda Johnson, President; Terry Earnest, 1st VP; Karen Fletcher, 2nd VP; Norma Lizotte, Secretary; and Pat Treadwell, Treasurer.



Our new President-Elect Linda Johnson opened the meeting.



A delightful holiday tradition has been in place for a couple of years. The December meeting of the Friends board is brief to allow board members to enjoy each other's fellowship at a lively party afterward. The party is open to any Friend and their guests, and we would welcome many more guests next year.

Another Christmas tradition is decorating the library. The "lighting up" of the library is sponsored by the Law Offices of Stephen T. Greer, and Tim Worley goes above and beyond every year to make it happen.



We are once again grateful for the generosity of the Cooperative Response Center and its employees, who will be sponsoring summer reading at our library again this year. This year's general theme is science. Studies show that library summer reading programs help raise student learning levels and help prevent learning losses during the summer months.

The library staff has decided to invest in books on school reading lists and may add e-books to the offerings. Children have so many competing activities during the summer, spending a great deal for performers or other planned activities makes little sense when participation levels are uncertain. Instead, the focus this summer will be on improving reading incentives.

Hats off to our nearly new volunteer coordinator, Lorna Earnest. If ever there were "a tough job that somebody *has* to do, it's a job like volunteer coordinator. Lorna, however, does it with charm and good will, and her success in obtaining volunteers for the various projects needing man and woman power is a testament to this. Whether it's manning a booth or bringing refreshments, Lorna's voice will be the one you hear asking you to volunteer. Please thank her for her efforts the next time you see her, and, when she calls, be ready to pitch in and help with whatever is needed.



On Monday, February 3, the Childrens eReading Room debuted on the Tennessee READS web site, a system offering thousands of digital ebooks and audiobooks to patrons of Tennessee regional public libraries. READS stands for "Regional Ebook and Audio Download System." READS has expanded its services with a new digital collection website experience just for kids. The main digital collection, <http://reads.lib.overdrive.com>, now has a separate site to provide a safe and easy browsing experience for kids.

READS recognizes the need to provide a safe environment for kids to browse library materials. This appealing and user-friendly page, <http://reads.lib.overdrive.com/kids>, contains eBooks and audiobooks just for children. Browsing can be done by subject, reading level or interest level.

The Kid's Collection site filters the overall digital collection to just show children's content, which gets kids to the titles they want faster! This new service is free for users with a library card. Digital titles are available anytime, anywhere and expire automatically, so no need to worry about late fees.

Libraries in the Digital Age

While computers and the Internet have had an incredible impact on our lives, a study released by the Pew Research Center in January 2013 concludes library “[p]atrons embrace new technologies – and would welcome more. But many still want printed books to hold their central place.” Here you will find just a snapshot of the information the research center gathered and published. For more information, visit <http://libraries.pewinternet.org/2013/01/22/library-services/>

The report highlights the balancing libraries must do to serve both their traditional patrons and patrons who increasingly embrace digital technologies. An example of the difficulty this balancing presents is demonstrated by survey responses about “whether libraries should move some printed books and stacks out of public locations to free up space for tech centers, reading rooms, meeting rooms, and cultural events: 20% of Americans ages 16 and older said libraries should “definitely” make those changes; 39% said libraries “maybe” should do that; and 36% said libraries should “definitely not” change by moving books out of public spaces.”

Library patrons still depend upon libraries primarily for printed material. Seventy-three percent of library patrons visited libraries in the past 12 months to browse the shelves for books or media, and they visited to borrow print books. Only twenty-six percent reported they visited libraries to use computers or library wifi to go online.

It has been very cold. A comforter and a good book are a great combination. *It is time to find some good books, like these newly arrived at the library, and curl up next to the heat for a good read..*



This Dark Road to Mercy by Wiley Cash

This novel is equal parts family drama, Southern Gothic thriller, and road trip novel. It has been selected as an Amazon Best Book of the Month, February 2014. After the sudden death of their mother, young sisters Easter and Ruby are sent to a foster home. Their long-absent father Wade appears and takes them in the middle of the night. As Wade and his girls travel west, to a destination unknown even to Wade, the three are being tracked down by their legal guardian, an ex-cop named Brady, and an ex-con named Pruitt, who has sinister intentions for Wade. The perspectives alternate between Easter, Brady, and Pruitt, each with a unique view of Wade, whose own secrets slowly unravel throughout the course of Cash's dark and delicate novel. When all three characters converge--at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, no less--Wade is shown at his most honest self: a father who turns out to be too little, too late.

Gone by James Patterson & Michael Ledwidge

Manuel Perrine fears no one or nothing. A charismatic and ruthless leader, Perrine slaughters rivals as effortlessly as he wears his trademark white linen suit. Detective Michael Bennett once managed to put Perrine behind bars, the only official in the United States ever to accomplish that. But now Perrine is out, and he has sworn to find and kill Bennett and everyone dear to him. Detective Bennett, along with his ten adopted children, their nanny, and his grandfather, are hidden safely on a rural California farm, with guards courtesy of the federal witness protection program. Perrine begins to embark on an escalating series of assassinations across the country, killings whose brazenness and audacity bring into question the possibility of safety and law in the country. The FBI has no choice but to ask Detective Bennett to risk it all in Perrine's war on America.

Beyond These Hills (Smoky Mountain Dreams) by Sandra Robbins

This is the third and final book in the author's *Smoky Mountain Dreams* series. The year is 1935, and Laurel Jackson fears the life she's always known is about to become a memory. The government is purchasing property to establish the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and nearly all the families in Cades Cove have decided to sell. Laurel is determined to save the land her family has lived on for a hundred years. Andrew Brady, the son of a wealthy Virginia congressman, arrives in the Cove to convince the remaining landowners to sell. Sparks fly when he meets Laurel, the outspoken young woman who is determined to thwart his every effort.

The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd

Inspired by the true story of early-nineteenth-century abolitionist and suffragist Sarah Grimké, Kidd paints a moving portrait of two women inextricably linked by the horrors of slavery. Sarah, daughter of a wealthy South Carolina plantation owner, exhibits an independent spirit and strong belief in the equality of all. Thwarted from her dreams of becoming a lawyer, she struggles throughout life to find an outlet for her convictions. Handful, a slave in the Grimké household, displays a sharp intellect and brave, rebellious disposition. She maintains a compliant exterior, while planning for a brighter future. Told in first person, the chapters alternate between the two main characters' perspectives, as readers follow their unlikely friendship (characterized by both respect and resentment) from childhood to middle age.

The Death Trade by Jack Higgins

An eminent Iranian scientist has made a startling breakthrough in nuclear weapons research, but he cannot stand the thought of his regime owning the bomb. He would run if he could, but if he does, his family dies. He is desperate; he does not know what to do. Sean Dillon, and the rest of the small band known as the Prime Minister's private army, must think of a plan. Most particularly their newest member, an intelligence captain and Afghan war hero named Sara Gideon, thinks there just might be a way to pull it off. But plans have a way of encountering the unexpected. As the operation spins out, from Paris and Syria to Iran and the Saudi Arabian desert, much is unexpected indeed. And much blood will be spilled.

The Wedding Planners of Butternut Creek by Jane Myers Perrine

The ladies of Butternut Creek Christian Church, known as the Widows, have always taken pride in their infallible matchmaking. They have succeeded again, and having found the perfect wife for Pastor Adam, they are ready to start planning the wedding. The one problem is that Adam has yet to propose. Clearly he still needs their help. Meanwhile, Adam's sister Hannah, a doctor, has returned from work in refugee

camps, exhausted from the horrors she's seen. Though physically weak, Hannah becomes animated when verbally sparring with Gabe Borden, the high school basketball coach. The Widows, however, see sparks of a different kind between them and are soon up to their matchmaking ways once again.

Brown Dog by Jim Harrison

This book was selected as an Amazon Best Book of the Month, December 2013. *Brown Dog* is a maddeningly simple man. As long as he has got a few crumpled dollars, or a dog by his side, or a bottle at hand, or a woman in his bed, he is just fine. In these six novellas—one never before published—the author reminds us that he is still vibrant, still a voice for the underdog, still a true literary original.

Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Retribution (Jason Bourne) by Eric Van Lustbader

Jason Bourne is one of the most popular and compelling characters in modern fiction. Originally created by bestselling author Robert Ludlum, now New York Times bestselling writer Eric Van Lustbader carries on Ludlum's legacy with a new novel about the rogue secret agent who has lost his memory. Bourne's friend Eli Yadin, head of Mossad, learns that Ouyang Jidan, a senior member of China's Politburo, and a major Mexican drug lord may have been trafficking in something far more deadly than drugs. Yadin needs Bourne to investigate. Bourne agrees, but only because he has a personal agenda: Ouyang Jidan is the man who ordered Rebeka—one of the only people Bourne has ever truly cared about—murdered. Bourne is determined to avenge her death, but in the process he becomes enmeshed in a monstrous world-wide scheme involving the Chinese, Mexicans, and Russians.

Outlaw by Ted Dekker

Julian Carter departs from Atlanta, Georgia, travelling to Indonesia with her two-year-old son, Stephen. A freak storm wrecks the ship she travelled on and leaves Julie the sole survivor, captured by the Tulim people. She is taken as a slave by this savage tribe unknown to the world. Her mourning for Stephen is tempered only by her own need to survive. Thrown into an alien world where she is considered less than human, Julie must adapt to survive—learning the customs and seeking the favor of her captors. Her value to the Tulim rests solely in her ability to bear a son fathered by one of the warring princes.

The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg

Mrs. Sookie Poole of Point Clear, Alabama, has just married off the last of her daughters and is looking forward to relaxing and perhaps traveling with her husband, Earle. The only thing left to contend with is her mother, the formidable Lenore Simmons Krackenberry. Lenore may be a lot of fun for other people, but is, for the most part, an overbearing presence for her daughter. Then one day, quite by accident, Sookie discovers a secret about her mother's past that knocks her for a loop and suddenly calls into question everything she ever thought she knew about herself, her family, and her future. Sookie begins a search for answers that takes her to California, the Midwest, and back in time, to the 1940s, when an irrepressible woman named Fritzi takes on the job of running her family's filling station. Soon truck drivers are changing their routes to fill up at the All-Girl Filling Station. Then, Fritzi sees an opportunity for an even more groundbreaking adventure.

LIBRARY HOURS AND INFORMATION

HOURS: Monday, 8am-5:30pm

Tues. & Wed., 8am-5:00pm

CLOSED THURSDAY

Friday, 8am-4:30pm

Saturday, 8am-Noon

Betty Worley,
Library Director
Donna Moore,
Assistant Director

Upcoming Events

Friends Meetings

Second Tuesday of Every

Month at 4:30pm*

Book Club Discussion Same Date 7:00pm

Spring Book Sale March 26-29, 2014

*Ask Librarian to confirm meeting date before attending

THE SEQUATCHIE COUNTY

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