



Officer's Letter

Note: L Charles "Friar" FitzGerald, President of the Friends of Duncan Library and usually the author of this column, was out of town for much of the summer. In his absence, Vice-President Linda Walker wrote the column.



It's been a busy summer for the Friends of Duncan Library Board and there have been quite a few significant changes. We've said goodbye to several long serving members of the Board, including Linda Morefield, who has served as Secretary to the Friends of the Duncan Library since long before I joined the board several months ago. I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Linda for making me feel welcomed from the first meeting I attended, and for all the time and energy she's given to support the Duncan Friends. Linda continues to stay involved with the Friends and is helping organize the upcoming Fall Book Sale.

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Friends of Duncan Library Fall Book Sale!!

Wednesday, October 16th: **First Chance Night for Friends* from 7 to 9 pm**

Thursday, Oct 17th: **10 am to closing**

Friday, Oct. 18th: **10 am to closing**

Saturday, Oct. 19th: **Outdoor Tent Sale from 9 am to 4 pm (rain or shine!)**

Volunteers are still needed, so please contact Peggy Sweeney (dlsweeney@comcast.net) if you can help!

**For Friends of Duncan Library Only – you can become a member at the event!*

Officer's Letter—continued from page 1



Jill Murphy

I'd also like to welcome our newest board members, Lisa Giambruno, who assumes the role of Secretary, and Jill Murphy, our new Membership Chair—please see their pictures below. Join us at during our next monthly open board meeting, which is held the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Duncan meeting room, and greet our new board members. Visit our website at <http://www.friendsofduncanlibrary.org/> for the date of the next open board meeting.



Lisa Giambruno

And speaking of websites, I'm very excited to announce that we have launched a redesigned Friends website. I especially like the new calendar page, where you can easily see what Friends events are coming up soon! Check it out at <http://www.friendsofduncanlibrary.org/calendar/>. If you are a Facebook fan, like the [Friends of Duncan Library Facebook page](#) to receive updates about upcoming events on your very own timeline (remember to be signed into Facebook before clicking on the link above)!

And I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the upcoming Fall Book Sale, to be held from October 17th – 19th. A special Friends 1st Chance Preview night will be held on Wednesday, October 16th. What a great time to renew your Friends membership and check out the great deals to be had! The final day of the Fall Book Sale will be a HUGE TENT Sale (thank you to Jen Walker for making this possible)! You don't want to miss this awesome event!

Popular Books at Duncan Library

Most Borrowed Best Sellers – Fiction

1. Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
2. Catching Fire by Suzanne Collins
3. Kill Shot by Vince Flynn
4. Mockingjay by Suzanne Collins
5. Fifty Shades of Grey by E.L. James
6. Private Games by James Patterson and Mark Sullivan
7. Guilty Wives by James Patterson and David Ellis
8. Stay Close by Harlan Coben
9. Victims: an Alex Delaware Novel by Jonathan Kellerman
10. Lone Wolf by Jodi Picoult

Most Borrowed Best Sellers – NonFiction

1. What Art Is by Arthur C. Danto
2. What Was Contemporary Art? By Richard Meyer
3. Titian: His Life by Sheila Hale
4. The Strange Career of Porgy and Bess by Ellen Noonan
5. Medieval Modern: Art Out of Time by Alexander Nagel
6. Mozart's Grace by Scott G. Burnham
7. The Cambridge Companion to Opera Studies by Nicholas Till
8. Picasso and the Chess Player by Larry Witham
9. The Violin by David Schoenbaum
10. Bernini: Art as Theatre by Genevieve Warwick

Friends' T-shirts!!

You know you want one -- or both -- of the Friends T shirts. There's a literary theme and a cinema theme. Stop by the Duncan circulation desk, ask for the desired size, hand over \$20, and walk away with your cool shirt!

Friends of Duncan Library Literary T-shirt



Friends of Duncan Library Cinema T-shirt



Books by My Bedside

This column features books that Duncan Staff and Duncan Friends are currently reading or have recently read. If you'd like to contribute to a future newsletter issue, please contact pollyjmo@verizon.net.

From Stephanie Clark, Branch Manager, Duncan Library:

The history of Florida has been distorted and whitewashed, according to T.D. Allman, and he sets out to correct all of that in ***Finding Florida: the true history of the Sunshine State!*** A very interesting read—my overall impression when I finished it was that everything I thought I knew about Florida was completely wrong. The National Book Foundation included *Finding Florida* on their longlist for the National Book Award for Nonfiction (winner will be announced October 16).

I was fascinated by ***Fall of the House of Dixie: the Civil War and the Social Revolution that Transformed the South!*** Rather than recounting battle maneuvers and the politics around the Civil War, Bruce C. Levin takes a broader look at the economic and social ramifications. He uses letters, diaries, newspaper articles, and more to make his case that the Civil War was also a second American Revolution with lasting ramifications throughout our country.

From L Charles "Friar" FitzGerald, President, Friends of Duncan Library:

Daniel James Brown has written an inspiring, non-fiction account of eight rowers and their talented coxswain, the underdog University of Washington rowing team that ultimately won the 1936 Olympic gold medal for the 8-man crew. Even if you're not into rowing—which I'm not—***The Boys in the Boat*** is much, much more than a sports book; it's an exciting well-told story built around one of the nine, his life and what he and his fellow rowers went through to form a team that accomplished this incredible feat. Much more than a sports book, *The Boys in the Boat* is a five star read.

At least one third of the people we know are introverts, those who have a preference for listening rather than speaking or reading rather than partying. Susan Cain's non-fiction book ***Quiet*** demonstrates how dramatically the world undervalues introverts and how much is lost in doing so. Cain introduces us to successful introverts—of which there are many—from public speakers to record-breaking sales men and CEOs of multinational companies. The book had so many points of affirmation for me, things that I intuitively knew. Highly recommended.

Gulp, on the other hand, is an unforgettable romp through our innards penned by Mary Roach, one of America's funniest science writers. Its humor for the digestively curious, a field trip that takes us from the nose, tongue and teeth to the bitter end. Mary Roach asks the questions that normal people want to ask but never get the chance—or courage. Non-fiction though it is, she even manages to make the footnotes hilarious. This is a fun read.

From Carolyn Harris, Treasurer, Friends of Duncan Library:

I've been introduced to BookBub.com, and, Oh, My!—it is so easy to see an "easy read" offered for free or 99 cents and download it to my Kindle (also available for other eReaders). ***The Illegal Gardener*** (The Greek Village Series by Sara Alexi) was such an offer. I really fell in love with the two main characters—from such different backgrounds—and the solid friendship that develops between them. I wanted to know what happened, so, it kept me reading, and I recommend this story to others.

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Books by My Bedside, continued from page 4

I so wanted to like ***And the Mountains Echoed*** by Khaled Hosseini because *The Kite Runner* was one of my favorites about a decade ago, and I also enjoyed *A Thousand Splendid Suns* about five years ago. However, *And the Mountains Echoed* was a really difficult read for me. I had difficulty following the characters and plot, and by the time I figured out the “convention,” I just didn't care about anyone.

From Linda Walker, Vice President, Friends of Duncan Library:

If you are looking for a light, entertaining cozy-mystery read, look no further than local author Donna Andrews. I am a big fan of her Meg Langslow mystery series—always good for some out loud chuckles. Even the titles are amusing. ***Murder with Peacocks*** starts the series, and the most recent book in the series released earlier this year is ***The Hen of the Baskervilles***. Other titles include ***Stork Raving Mad*** and ***Owls Well That Ends Well***. I'm sure you can see the pattern, right?!? Throughout the series, we follow the life of Meg Langslow, a blacksmith by trade, who always seems to end up right in the middle of a murder. Fortunately, Meg has plenty of family close by to offer their support. Getting to know the characters of the series is part of what makes it so enjoyable to me. And such characters they are! ***Duck the Halls*** is scheduled to be released on October 22, 2013. You can bet I'll be reading this one too!

In September I went to the National Book Festival to meet one of my favorite science fiction/fantasy authors, Elizabeth Moon. I love her Heris Serrano series that begins with the book ***Hunting Party***. Heris Serrano used to be an officer in the Regular Space Service, but she was forced to resign after failing to follow the orders of her superior officer. She accomplished the objective, but not the way she was ordered to, which she felt would needlessly sacrifice troops under her command. Now Heris has assumed command as captain of a space yacht, the *Sweet Delight*, owned by a rich old lady. Her job, to chauffeur Lady Cecilia wherever she wants to go. But not everything is as it seems, and soon Heris is embroiled with saboteurs, smugglers, and “sportsman” who pay handsomely to hunt what some consider to be the greatest challenge of all, men. Men who it turns out were the very same men who served under Heris that she resigned to protect. I've probably read *Hunting Party* more than a dozen times, and it shows by the condition of the book. It was a real pleasure to meet Elizabeth Moon and have her sign my well-loved copy.

From Marilyn Doherty, Duncan Library Circulation Manager:

I picked up a paperback copy of ***The Killer Angels*** by Michael Shaara for my grandson, who is fascinated with history. The cover blurb says “The best and most realistic historical novel about war I have ever read” —General H. Norman Schwarzkopf. Since I don't know much about the Civil War, I thought I'd better preview the book if I was about to recommend it. The covers the four days of the Battle of Gettysburg from the points of view of the various commanding officers, both Union and Confederate. Shaara did several years of research, so the historical framework feels accurate, but it's the dialog among individuals, planning and then executing the troop movements, that gives the story immediacy and grips the reader. There are moments of human fallibility and amazing courage. This book is really hard to put down. Not surprising that it won the Pulitzer prize for fiction in 1975.

You've probably seen the movie ***The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel***, especially if you're in my age demographic, but it's still worth reading the book (of the same title) by Deborah Moggach—they are quite different in many ways. The book spends more time on the set-up, in England, of all the characters and their motivations. The movie moves more quickly to India, leaves out some characters and modifies others, and makes the most of some colorful Bangalore settings. I loved the complexity of the book, watched the movie again, and loved it too, for other reasons entirely.

News from the Library

By Stephanie Clark, Branch Manager, Duncan Library

With school back in session, we are in full swing with a schedule full of great programs for kids and families. For families that have been missing Pajama Story Time, it is back on the calendar—the second Wednesday evening of every month, Pajama Story Time is held at 7pm and 8pm. The Youth Services Department is planning lots of fun events throughout the fall. Feel free to give us a call or stop by for a copy of the calendar. We hope you're able to join us for some—or even all—of these events!

Have you discovered Zinio yet? Zinio is a new e-resource the Library is offering. Read full digital copies of your favorite magazines on a computer, tablet, or mobile device using the free Zinio Reader app. You can even download the magazines to read offline! For more information, see <http://bit.ly/145eOiv>.

Also this fall, the Library is asking the community to Help Shape Our Future. As we're planning for the Library's future, we would like to know how we can more effectively meet the needs of our community. Your input is vital! Please take a few minutes to complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q95TLZM> or stop by the Duncan Branch to fill out a paper copy.

All of us at the Duncan Branch continue to be grateful for the wonderful support we receive from the Friends. It's wonderful to know we have such a great group encouraging and supporting us as we continue to grow and improve our programs and services!



Author Talk: *Drummer Boy of Company C: Coming of Age in the Civil War* by Mary Louise Clifford

By Carolyn Harris, Treasurer, Friends of Duncan Library

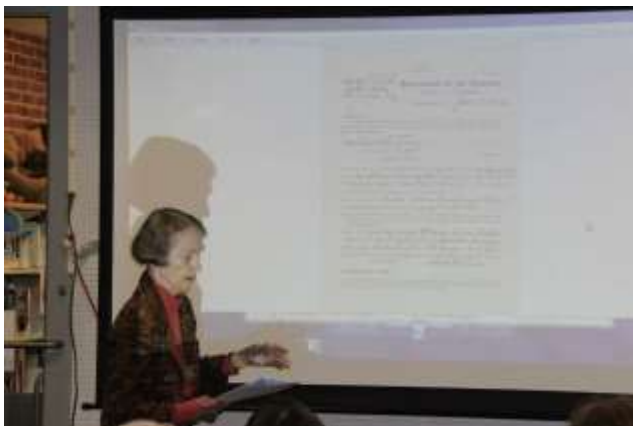
Long-time Duncan Friend, Mary Louise Clifford, is the granddaughter of a Civil War veteran who provides a most interesting tale starting as a 14 year old run-away determined to be a drummer boy in an Indiana regiment.

A very interested audience of 27 listened to Mary Louise describe her research process supported by slides of documentation she obtained from multiple primary sources. She worked at the National Archives, where her researcher daughter, Candace, works. Mary Louise said she received some good early advice about making a list of all the men who served in Company C with her grandfather, Almon, and used that to help her pull together various sources of information. Finding a letter written by her grandfather was a pivotal moment in her work. It was at that time when it all became "real" to her, and she knew she would persevere and complete the book. She used [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) to post a query about her work and received a message back from Almon's great-granddaughter, who said she had his memoir!



Friends Officer Carolyn Harris introducing author Mary Louise Clifford during Author Talk at Duncan Library.

The book uses official documents found in the National Archives. Illustrated with four maps and 80 photos to chronicle Almon's life when he drummed commands for his company as they marched and skirmished across Kentucky and Tennessee. During the battle of Chickamauga in Georgia in September 1863 he was captured by the Confederates and spent the next 14 months imprisoned at Richmond, Danville, Andersonville Stockade, and Florence Stockade. When he was exchanged in November 1864 for



Author Mary Louise Clifford

Confederate prisoners at Savannah, he went home on leave, then in April 1865 returned to his regiment at Holly Spring, North Carolina. The war ended, and the regiment marched to Washington to participate in a victory parade down Constitution Avenue on May 24, 1865.

Mary Louise suggests the text is suitable for readers age 14 and older. She very generously donated a portion of the evening's book sales to the Friends of Duncan Library in support of program's at Duncan. She also has donated a copy of the book to the Duncan circulation. So, check it out! Many thanks to Mary Louise Clifford for a splendid literary evening. (Did you know—you can access [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) and other research databases at Duncan?)

How Can Your Online Purchases Help Friends of Duncan Library?

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Landscaping Update

By Elaina Palincsar, Landscaping Committee, Friends of Duncan Library

We have begun the information-seeking phase of developing a Landscaping Master Plan for the Duncan Library. How exciting and satisfying it will be to see our neighborhood library surrounded by beautiful grounds. If the plan is developed and approved in time for some fall planting, help will be needed to keep the new plants watered. We hope that you're as enthusiastic about this project as we are and will lend your support.

Adult Programs at Duncan

By Walter Gross, Adult Programs Committee
Chairman, Friends of Duncan Library

The Wednesday night movie series continues to enjoy community support with over 20 fans of the films of Alfred Hitchcock turning out for the screening of *Shadow of a Doubt* on September 4. On September 16, an audience of 12 enjoyed the 2013 Academy Award winner for best documentary, *Searching for Sugar Man*. The next two films in the Hitchcock series will be screened on October 2 and November 6. Enjoyment of the *Sugar Man* film was enhanced by improved audio from a new sound system provided by funds from the Friends.



Poems for Children was the theme of the September 16 meeting of the Duncan Library Poetry Society when attendees read and/or recited by heart favorite poems written for the entertainment of children throughout the ages. The next meeting of the Poetry Society will be on November 18 when poetry from Virginia poets including former U.S. Poet Laureate Rita Dove and Pulitzer Prize winner Nikki Giovanni, among others will be read and discussed.

Friends Funds at Work

By Carolyn Harris, Treasurer, Friends of Duncan Library



Here is a near-3rd Quarter (Jun 11-Sep 24) summary of income and how the Friends used the funds in 2013 to support Duncan Library:

<u>2013 3rd Quarter Income</u>		<u>2013 3rd Quarter Expenses</u>	
Membership Donations	295	Adult Programs (Authors, Film & Poetry)	424
Other Donations	174	Newsletter	168
Online Book Sale	911	Beautification	33
iGive	30	Staff Recognition (dedicated donation)	482
T-Shirts	240	Summer Quest	4,610
Bank Interest	12	Library Requested Materials	27
Total	\$1,662	Children's Dept Materials	125
		Equipment & Furniture	388
		General Operations	
		Business Fees & Website	590
		Fundraising Expenses	1,276
		Total	\$8,123

Duncan Library

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
<http://www.friendsofduncanlibrary.org/>

FRIENDS OF DUNCAN LIBRARY ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!

Did you know we have Facebook and Twitter accounts? If not, please visit and "like" the Friends Facebook page so you can be notified of Friends events, such as upcoming book sales, film and poetry club meetings, and other fun activities. Search for us on Facebook at Friends of Duncan Library! The Friends Twitter account is @DuncanFriends.

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