



# Winter Newsletter

Contact us: FOBL@LIVE.COM

Volume 2 Issue 1

## A Message from FOBL President

Greetings, Friends!

With the end-of-year holidays just weeks away, it occurred to me how much we all love to hold onto our traditions in the midst of all that is new. A new recipe, but served with the traditional fare, a new outfit worn with reliable old shoes; a new ornament added to familiar decorations. . . and the list goes on. Excitement tempered with comfort. The Bear Library, as usual, is offering an array of new holiday programs mixed with some old traditional favorites. Something for everyone! (A detailed program guide, organized by staff member Owen Thorne, is included in this issue.)

**First State Ringers** return for another outstanding presentation on Sunday, December 20 at 2pm. All ages are welcome, and refreshments, provided by the Friends, will be served. (Read the article about First State Ringers inside this newsletter.)

Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle by watching a critically acclaimed film in a comfortable setting, on a big screen, for adults, with snacks, and no charge. (Yes, it's free!) Bear also hosts movie night for **teens** on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Films are shown Wednesdays: December 22, December 29, January 27, and February 24 at 6pm. Contact the library for film titles.

Catch a special presentation of the movie "**Joyeux Noel**" on Wednesday December 30 at 6pm. The film, based on factual accounts relates the event of a Christmas Eve truce between warring World War I soldiers. A fascinating piece of history!

Bring the kids to see "Frozen" (Sing-Along Edition) on Saturday, December 5 at 1pm. Snacks will be served, and costumes are encouraged.

Ongoing traditional programs include "**A Good Yarn—Bear Library Knitting Circle**", Bear Book Group, Tech Tuesday, Computer Classes, and Adult Education Classes.

"Tis the season for old and new, and to give thanks." The Friends group thanks all the members who have continued their memberships, and those who allow us to email the newsletters to them. Emailing saves postage, the cost of which we can apply to supporting Bear Library programs. (Be assured that we **never** share email addresses)

Perhaps 10-year-old Alicia Wexler, winner of the mini-iPad drawing for the Summer Reading Challenge, said it best in her thank you note to the Bear Library: "I really love visiting the Bear Library . . . ." We love visiting the Bear Library, too, Alicia! And we love all our FOBL members who help support our programs, such as the Summer Reading Challenge.

Have a safe and happy holiday season. See you at the Bear Library,

**Connie Malin, President**

302-834-3016 (home) \*\* email: FOBL@LIVE.com

# Library Manager's Notes



Welcome to the winter season here at the Bear Library.

## From the Manager:

For those of you who have come to the library lately you may have noticed that we have rearranged the shelving in the front of the library a bit. This rearrangement is a result of a couple national library trends- the first being the shrinking of the reference collection. People just don't use reference books like they used to, they prefer to use books they can check out and take home, or they use the Internet.

So, like all the other libraries across the country, we have shrunk our reference collection and either stopped buying expensive books that nobody uses, or we moved them into the nonfiction collection so that people could check them out. This left us with a bunch of empty shelves, which is where the second library trend comes in.

Libraries are now spending a lot of time, effort, and space to expand their display areas, and in line with this trend we have rearranged the empty shelves to create a Marketplace area to support expanded display of new materials and also allow additional displays highlighting various areas of our collection. It is a way to encourage and support browsing of our new materials, and also gives us an opportunity to spotlight materials that people may not know that we have. The next time you come in take a look at our new Marketplace, and find a good new book to read!



Respectfully,  
Eric Kuhn, Manager, Bear Library

## Checkout Stats for October 2015

	<b>Tradi- tional Materials Checkout October 2015</b>	<b>E-Book Checkout October 2015</b>	<b>Total Checkout October 2015</b>	<b>New Patrons For October</b>	<b>User Visits FY: 2015</b>	
<b>BH</b>	54,733	4,330	59,063	<b>Bear</b>	384	36,126
<b>Newark</b>	48,512	3,411	51,923	<b>Newark</b>	261	25,977
<b>Bear</b>	44,769	2,675	47,444	<b>Kirkwood</b>	203	24,564
				<b>BH</b>	192	22,082

A lasting visual sign of support! Visit the Ceramic Wall Tile Gifts...at the left-foyer entrance of the Bear Library!

**Thank you Members  
New and Renewal**

**Memberships and Donors**

Mary Baxter  
Barbara Erskine  
Jill W. Skelly  
Kathleen Smart  
Rev. & David Wright  
Kelly and Patricia Golden  
Friends of Melanie George Smith  
Bear Glasgow Dental  
Michael Garko  
Karen McLachlan  
Helen Sieling  
Sondra E. Draper  
Maryann Giordano  
Susan D. Anderson  
Janet Rentz

**Jean Runge, Membership**



**Next Friends Meeting**

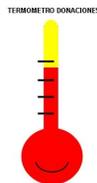
**December 16th at 7pm  
at the Bear Library**

**Meeting Room #2**

Looking to join a community organization with  
worthy goals and low-maintenance?

Join the Friends of the Bear Library

*We raise friends and money very quietly!*



**Join the Friends today!**

**Tile Project**

*The end of 2015 is approaching... what better way to give a lasting gift in your community for your community...support **The Friends of the Bear Library**. We invite you to participate in the growth of the Bear Library through your visible contribution of a 'wall tile'.*

The ceramic tile wall is at the left as soon as you enter the lobby. The **Tile Wall** was created by the **Friends** as a visible medium to exhibit this commitment. Please stop by to see the 'Tile Wall' and be sure to leave your name at the **INFO DESK** to join the next class.



**Bring a friend, and neighbor, the children. Everyone will have a great time and leave a lasting legacy at the Bear!**

Your donation is tax-deductible, we are a 501c3 organization.

Feel free to call 838-3300 the INFO DESK to sign up. We will call you with a date and time of the next session to create your own tile to be added to the wall of support.

Every time you visit the library you can enjoy your work through this visible sign of financial investment in support of your library.

**New Price to close out the 2015 Project**

- ◇ **\$30 for current members**
- ◇ **\$35 for non-members**

**Email us at: FOBL@LIVE.com.**

**...or stop by the Bear Library**

**Info Desk 838-3300**



## ***From the Children's Librarian ....***

The end of 2015 is heading our way, and, very quickly, we're entering the season when we reflect on the year behind us, and anticipate a brand new one.

This year was an exciting one for children's publishing. Inarguably, 2015's biggest publishing story was the release of Harper Lee's "lost" book, *Go Set a Watchman*. The children's book world was similarly rocked by the publication of a recently-found manuscript by Dr. Seuss, *What Pet Should I Get?* In Seuss' book, a brother and sister go to a pet shop to compare a variety of pets to find just the right one. In typical Seuss fashion, there is a lesson to be learned: some decisions in life are not easy.

Another highlight of children's books this year was the release of the latest book by Drew Daywalt, *The Day the Crayons Came Home*. In this funny, imaginative picture book, a boy named Duncan's crayons feel unappreciated, so they each write him a letter, listing their grievances. The beige crayon, for example, is tired of being compared to brown and tan, of which he is neither. Pink feels underused. Purple says that his "gorgeous color" does not deserve to go outside the lines of a drawing and, if Duncan continues to color outside the lines, Purple will "completely lose it." *The Day the Crayons Came Home* is one of those rare books that children and adults alike enjoy.

This was also an exciting year for chapter books. One of the biggest books of the year was released just in time for the holidays: the latest in Jeff Kinney's wildly popular *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series. In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School*, everykid Greg Heffley, along with his entire town, unplugs to go without electronic devices. As Greg finds, however, there's a reason why we call modern devices "conveniences."

Children who are into chapter books usually also love a good series. That's why the latest book by Rick Riordan was also one of the biggest of 2015. Riordan is best known for his Percy Jackson series, a group of books centered on the adventures of a young boy who discovers that he is a demigod: half human and half immortal, the child of the Greek god, Poseidon. In Riordan's new series, which began this year with *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*, the young protagonist finds that he is a child of a Norse god. What's more, a group of gods are preparing for war, and it's up to Magnus to prevent the war from coming. If *The Sword of Summer* is any indication, the Magnus Chase series, like the Percy Jackson series before it, promises to be thrilling.

These are just a few of the amazing children's books that visitors to our library have enjoyed this year. I'm excited to see the thousands more that will undoubtedly come in the new year. Until then, I wish you a joyous holiday season. Happy holidays, and happy reading!

*Lisa Burris*

## **ONGOING PROGRAMS**

### **A GOOD YARN – BEAR LIBRARY KNITTING CIRCLE**

Drop in for fellowship with crafters who enjoy knitting, crocheting, and yarn hobbies. Bring projects, and your friends, novice or experienced! All ages and skill levels welcome.

Weekly, Mondays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Monthly, Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.: December 16, January 20, February 17

### **BEAR WHOVIANS**

Watch episodes of Doctor Who, play games, and have fun with friends. Age 13+. 7 p.m.

Mondays: January 25, February 29

### **BEAR CHESS CLUB**

Drop in to meet opponents, improve your game, learn rules, sportsmanship, and strategy, or just have fun! All ages and skill levels welcome. 6:30-8 p.m.

Tuesdays, December 1-February 23



### **PAWS FOR READING**

Read aloud to a furry, friendly therapy companion to help inspire a love of reading. Readers of all ages and stages welcome. Offered by PAWS for People. Registration required.

Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m.: December 1, 15; January 5, 19; February 2, 16

### *Introducing Ian Hercus. . .*

**Ian Hercus** boasts a wide range of experience working in libraries. He has been a circulation aide at the Bear Library for two years, where he is responsible for checking items in and out for patrons. Before his current position, he worked for three years as a page, shelving books. Ian works five to six days a week in libraries, including Elsmere and Woodlawn, but Bear Library is his "home base."

"The first-generation American in his family (his dad is from Scotland), Ian was born in New Jersey and raised in Delaware. He graduated from St. Mark's High School and the University of Delaware, studying history and writing. After college, he worked in museums as an exhibit designer, often working with architects and engineers on displays. Ian has designed exhibits for the Dover Visitors Center, among other venues. His love of history also led him to volunteer at the Delaware Historical Society.

Ian's interests include playing guitar, harmonica, and several percussion instruments, as well as basketball and shooting pool. An avid writer since third grade, Ian continues to write as often as possible. He recently self-published a booklet of 21 poems. You may wish to check out his website at [ianhecius.com](http://ianhecius.com).

Ian loves working with the Bear Library staff, although he is often teased about being a vegan. He particularly likes his job at the Check Out area because he gets to interact with patrons about their music, movie and book selections. He enjoys many types of music and films but his personal reading preferences are biographies of artists and musicians.

Meet Ian at Check-Out, and be sure to ask him about his "trivia-oriented" mind (or his unusual way of reading a book)!

### **FIRST STATE BELL RINGERS**

**First State Bell Ringers hand bell ensemble from Newark United Methodist Church will perform for us on Sunday, December 20, at 2 pm. The program is becoming a holiday tradition at the Bear Library.**



**First State Ringers was organized many years ago when the church was given a memorial fund to establish an adult choir. A two-octave set of bells was purchased, and as interest grew, the bells became a five-octave set. The group has twelve members, ten women and two men. Each ringer usually plays one position, although each is qualified to play more than one bell. The heavy bells, however, are rung by men. In addition to outside performances ringers are required to play four services at the church each year,**

**Director Lauren Cataldi-May, who rang with the ensemble from 1996-2008, says, "There are about 65 bells, so it is helpful to be able to read music!"**

**Music for the performance is chosen from Handbell Magazine, traditional and contemporary holiday music, and brand new pieces. Silver chimes and some surprises also are offered this year.**

***Join us for this tuneful holiday event!***

## BEAR LIBRARY PROGRAMS

For more information on these and other library services contact  
Bear Library staff at 302-838-3300.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Holiday Lights Toddler Tales

Enjoy seasonal stories and craft featuring Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. Ages 2 and up with a caregiver.  
10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Genealogy Series: Public Archives

Exploring family history? Join Tom Summers for a fascinating look at what is available to you for genealogical, and other, research in Delaware Public Archives. Your family tree will thrive! Registration requested. Adults. 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Money for Teens

Join instructor Harry Fisher, MBA, PMP, as he helps parents and teens master key money management skills. Register through [dfli.org](http://dfli.org) or 877-307-6858. Teen/Adults. 2:30-4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

Cookies and Candy Canes Holiday Toddler Tales

Enjoy seasonal stories and a craft featuring Christmas traditions. Ages 2 and up with a caregiver.  
10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

The Juggling Hoffmans' Holidaze

Juggling Hoffmans' holiday show is interactive comedy fun. Tickets are given at Kid's Desk fifteen minutes before show. All ages. 11 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

Holiday Bell Concert

Join us for a free musical experience featuring First State Ringers hand bell ensemble from Newark United Methodist Church. Program and snacks courtesy of Friends of Bear Library. All ages.  
2 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Holiday Movie *Joyeux Noel*

Join us for a special Wednesday Night At the Movies holiday edition featuring the Academy Award nominated film about opposing World War One soldiers fraternizing on Christmas Eve. Two hours. Rated PG-13. Snacks. Adults. 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Genealogy Series: Saving Family Treasures

Tucked away in neglected drawers and chests, films and photos, even online; family heirlooms connect the generations and tell us of our past. Delaware Humanities Forum historian, Mike Dixon, provides hands-on skills. Registration required. Adults. 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Make Your Body a Disease Fighting Machine

Understand why we eat what we eat. Diane Callaway teaches healthy for weight loss, boosting metabolism, and lowering cholesterol can dramatically improve health. Registration. Adults/teens. 11 a.m.

Programming continued...

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Keys to Networking in Delaware

Known as a small wonder, Delaware often networks like a small town. Get things done through effective social and business networking with unique tips from Anne Eidschun who brings over 40 years of networking and coaching experience. Registration requested. Adults/Teens. 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Movie *Our Friend Martin*

Animated fantasy adventure depicting the life of young Martin Luther King voiced by Whoopi Goldberg, Susan Sarandon, Angela Bassett, and others. Historic footage may be disturbing to younger children. Ages 7 and up with a caregiver. 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Parent Information Center (PIC) - Effective Advocacy

This month's PIC program aims to help Spanish and English-speaking parents become more effective advocates on behalf of their children, gifted and special needs included. Get results using tips to help frame your issues with school staff. Registration requested. Adults. 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

Predictions that Turned Out WRONG!

Too often, history has proven self-proclaimed experts completely wrong. Delaware Humanities Forum storyteller Ed Okonowicz illustrates some whoppers then discusses what our future may offer. Registration requested. Adults, teens, and kids with a caregiver. 11:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Digital Photo Basics

Bring your camera or smartphone and let's walk through each button and setting so you can learn what they all do and get more from your pictures. Interactive workshop focuses on you understanding the camera you bring. Registration required. Adults/Teens. 2-4 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

Etsy 101: How To Sell Your Arts and Crafts Online

Interested in opening your own store on the web? Learn how to get the most benefit, make sales, create listings, get found, write compelling descriptions, and post photos. Registration required. Adults/Teens. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

African-American History Month Teen Movie: *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*.

Life for the Watson family drastically changes when they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963. Film is based on the bestselling chapter book. Rated PG. Snacks. Ages 12-17. 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

African-American History Toddler Tales

Learn about John Henry who builds railroads better than a machine through classic folk tales and a train craft. Ages 2 and up with a caregiver. 10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Meet the Presidents

Delaware Humanities Forum's author and storyteller, Ed Okonowicz, presents truths, tales, and trivia about our 44 chief executives. From Washington to Lincoln, Roosevelt through Obama, elevate your Presidential knowledge level. Registration requested. Adults, teens, and kids w/caregiver. 11:30 a.m.

**NEW...*COLOR MY WORLD*** Adult coloring hour offers a fun, unique way to unwind through creativity. Enjoy fellowship, light music, and an artistic craft. Basic material are provided. Adults, **Thursdays from 10am—11am.**

Winter

## Library Hours

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>1—5pm</b>
<b>Mon/Tues/Wed:</b>	<b>10am—9pm</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>10—5pm</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>10am—5pm</b>

### Season Special! 2pm Sunday, December 20th

Join us for a free musical experience featuring **First State Ringers** hand bell ensemble from **Newark United Methodist Church**. All ages. Snacks courtesy of Friends of Bear Library.

### Friends of the Bear Library

#### Our Mission Statement

It is the mission of the *Friends of the Bear Library* to enhance and enrich the Bear Library. The members of the *Friends of the Bear Library* do not have the legal responsibility of running the library itself, but are the voice of the library through advocacy, enrichment and enhancement.



**What is the Book Buddy program? It is an outreach program of the NCC Libraries. Book Buddy volunteers deliver library materials to homebound individuals. Interested in becoming a Book Buddy volunteer? See the Library INFO DESK.**

This newsletter is brought to you by the Friends of the Bear Library with contributions from the Bear Library Staff.

Designer, Editor: Cheryl Rice-Moore

Current Resident

#### First Class Mail

If you find that your membership expiration date noted is incorrect, please contact us at FOBL@live.com or call 833-3323. Renewals are accepted by mail

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Please remember to check your mailing label for your membership expiration date next to your name. Use the membership form inside for your renewal; we appreciate your support!

Post Office Box 668 Bear, DE 19701

Bear Library @ Governor's Square

Friends of the Bear Library