

FOBL NEWS

| Newsletter of the Friends of the Bear Library |



Contact Information

Friends of the Bear Library
P.O. Box 668
Bear DE 19701

Friends of Bear Library
Website: DE-FOBL.org

Phone: 302 838-3323 and leave a message.

E-mail: FOBearLib@DE-FOBL.org

Facebook: Friends of the Bear Library.

Meetings: Third Wednesday of January, May, July, September, and November at 7p.m. in the library.

Annual Meeting is held in March. Date to be announced.

We continue to work to finish the tile wall in the hallway to the meeting rooms. If you or an organization that you belong to would like to create a tile, please, email us at the above address to set up an appointment

Greetings Friends!

As the winter holiday season approaches your Bear Library “Santas” have been busily planning activities, programs, and film presentations that are sure to enhance your holiday experiences. Of course, the extensive list of on-going programs will continue to be offered throughout the year ahead. (Check out the list of offerings for the ages in the newsletter) Children and adults alike will be excited to learn that **THE BEARS ARE BACK!** Visit the Bear Library to see the newest bears that Manager Eric Kuhn has added to the ever growing collection. Nestled among holiday lights and decorations, the bears welcome everyone to partake of the many amenities that the Bear Library has to offer.

First State Bell Ringers of Newark United Methodist Church pay their annual visit to the Bear Library on Tuesday, December 12th @7pm. Last year 12 ringers performed for a rapt audience of approximately 60 people. Come early to get a good seat for this popular presentation—and bring the family! Refreshments, provided by the Friends of the Bear Library, will be available during the performance.

The bears, Bell Ringers, refreshments, holiday decorations, and many library programs are just some of the gifts that the Friends provide to Bear Library patrons. Please consider giving Friends of the Bear Library memberships to friends and family this holiday season and renew your own membership to the Friends. We need your support so that we can continue to provide quality programs for you, the community of the state’s busiest library.

Here’s wishing you a “beary” happy holiday season!

See you at the Bear Library!

Gonnie Malin, President

Memberships & Donors

Memberships:

**Cheryl Rice Moore
Gail and Drew Yeager
Donna and Mike Ricchutti
Westover Civic Assn.
Connie Georgov
Debra Berke & John Roberts**

Thank you to all. You have helped the Bear Library!!!

Join Us For These Great Programs:

Tuesday, December 5

Paint Your Own Holiday Cards (date may change)

Use watercolor paints to create a few holiday or winter themed cards of your own design. Supplies provided. Registration required. Ages 10-17 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 7

Wondrous World of Button Collecting

What's in Grandma's button box? Enjoy an afternoon learning the history of buttons and those who collect through a fascinating variety of unusual examples. Have your own buttons examined by National Button Society collector Sara Mulford of First State Buttoneers. Registration recommended. Adults/teens 2-4 p.m.

From the Library

Manager's Desk:

The holiday season is my favorite time of year...between the good food, the great deserts, getting together with friends and family, and the decorations...what is not to like!? The staff and I have been busy here at the library decorating and getting ready for the season; we spent Thanksgiving eve on ladders and stools putting up the garland, lights and wreaths, outfitting our mascot bear in his winter hat and holiday finery, and putting the polar bears back in place above the service desks. The children are definitely appreciating the decorations; we have heard a couple exclaim as they come to the desk that "the bears are back!" We have started changing over our displays to showcase titles on entertaining, cooking, baking, decorating, and holiday crafts, and have a variety of holiday programs planned throughout the month of December to celebrate the season. I hope all of you can come in and take advantage of some of the programming available; I personally am looking forward to the hand bell holiday music concert!

For me the holiday season is also a time to take stock...to think about the past year and how it went. It was a busy year here at Bear Library, and I think it was a good one as well. We offered more programs and had more people attend them, we developed and launched a 3D printing program, we had smashing success piloting a new literacy program for Spanish language speakers, our meeting rooms and study rooms were full of groups and individuals, the library materials were well used, and the library literally hummed with activity as members of the Bear community came in to use their library.

On behalf of the staff of Bear Library, I thank you for making us a part of your community and lives, and I wish all of you a happy holiday season!

Eric Kuhn
Manager, Bear Library

Bear Library Youth Services

Once again, December is upon us. It seems like only yesterday that we were finishing up with this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

With the holidays comes the time for reflecting on the year, and 2017 was a great one for Bear Library.

Recently, a group of Bear staff was selected to receive the New Castle County Community Services Employee of the Quarter award. Beth Borene, Rose Perry, Kim Friberg, Shelly Amin, and I were recognized for our teamwork in helping an elderly patron with Alzheimer's disease who drove from near Lancaster, PA to our library, without his family's knowledge. Working together in shifts, we were able to keep the gentleman safe until first responders were able to come to the library and help him.

In the Youth Services department, we have worked hard this year to produce and develop programming. Our coding club is picking up steam, but our LEGO, Pokemon, and Yu-gi-oh! programs are also gaining followers. For younger children, Library Assistant Julie Billips now offers a fascinating Musical Story Time, which gives kids the chance to meet real musicians and introduces children to works of Classical music.

Aside from our professional responsibilities, Bear Library staff has done tremendous charitable work this year. We are just finishing up our annual Salvation Army Christmas Stocking program. These stockings are handed out to underprivileged children at the New Castle County Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. This year, staff members from our library were able to fill 18 stockings. We are also active in the annual Stockings for Soldiers campaign, in which materials are collected to be put into holiday stockings which are then sent to military members overseas. This program is done in conjunction with Volunteer Delaware 50+, and the organizers of the program were so impressed with the number of donations from our location that they sent us a



wonderful thank you letter. In all, our contributions helped to fill the over 1,900 stockings that Volunteer Delaware 50+ is sending overseas.

Yes, 2017 has been a busy and rewarding year for us, yet we also look forward to the wonderful experiences that 2018 will bring.

On behalf of all of us in the Bear Youth Services Department, I wish you the happiest of holidays and all the best in the new year.

Lisa Burris
Youth Services Librarian

More Programs available @ The Bear Library:

Wednesday, January 17

Mark Bowden’s Vietnam “Hue1968”

Fifty years after history was made, enjoy reading Bowden’s new book on a crucial turning point in the Vietnam War. Pick up your copy at the Info Desk, while supplies last, then join our discussion with a Vietnam veteran and Delaware Humanities Forum. Registration requested. Adults/teens. 7-8:30pm.

Monday, February 26

Exploring Our Extraordinary Winter Skies

Your Solar System Ambassador, Wilmington University’s Terence Blanch, shares a multimedia exhibition and hands-on telescope views of our Moon, the planets, and objects much further away. All weather educational fun for any age. Registration requested. 7-8:30 p.m.

We would like to thank those members that agreed to receive the FOBL News via email. It saves us postage and printing. Email us at FOBearLib@DE-FOBL.org if you would like to join them. Thank you!!!!
Your membership and donations are used to provide enrichment to the library. The Friends provide extra programs and items to the library that make the Bear Library the best library in the state!!! Thank you to all who provide support.

Membership Application

- Student \$ 5.00
- Senior \$ 5.00
- Individual \$ 10.00
- Family \$ 15.00
- Business/Civic Organization \$ 25.00
- Good Friend \$ 50.00
- Better Friend \$ 100.00
- Best Friend \$ 500.00

- New
- Renewal

I would like to help in the following areas:

- Newsletter
- Hospitality
- Membership
- Fund-raising
- Public Relations

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail:* _____

*We will NOT share your email address with others.

The Friends of the Bear Library, Assoc. is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization. Your donation should be tax deductible.

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