Dark and Stormy Night 2022 a Success!

The Friends of the Library hosted their 4th Dark and Stormy Night Ghost Storytelling fundraiser at the Gainesville Library. The event again sold out! The Friends of HCLS invited Barry Stewart Mann as the feature storyteller this year. He told two sets of stories which included creepy classics such as Edgar Allan Poe’s *Cask of Amontillado*, a tale from Japan, and a haunting story of a beloved necklace with a ghost attached to it. In the middle of telling one tale, all of the computer equipment turned itself off and restarted............it gave the audience a fright! Could it have been the Lady of the Library Ghost? At intermission, guests enjoyed desserts from Diletto Bakery such as Oreo cheese cake, espresso cookies, strawberry shortcake, and much more. Funds from the event went to support library and literacy programs in Hall County. Plans are already underway for Dark and Stormy Night in October 2023. The committee plans on bringing in new stories and fun for the night.

A book club for everyone!

The Friends of the Library is a non profit group that loves the library and loves its books! After the Covid Pandemic, patrons requested more book clubs to reconnect with others, make new friends, and explore exciting books! The Spout Springs Library offers a monthly fiction book club, historical books club, and a Sci Fi club! The Blackshear Place Library hosts a monthly “As Seen on Book Tok!” Book Club so patrons can read and discuss extremely popular new books. The Gainesville Library is starting a monthly Jane Austin book club and also offers the “Better Read than Dead” Book Club for patrons who love horror books. For those who love military history, the Murrayville Library hosts a Military book club with bestselling books and even local military authors. Kids can also join in! There are tween graphic novel clubs at most branches. So if you are looking for a new book club.......Hall County Library System has plenty to pick from!

Meeting Dates for 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Gainesville Library Conference Room 3PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Gainesville Library Meeting Room 3PM</td>
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<td>August</td>
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<td>Gainesville Library Meeting Room 3PM</td>
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<td>November</td>
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<td>Gainesville Library Meeting Room 3PM</td>
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Dear Friends,

A happy new year to all! 2023 is going to be an exciting year for the Friends of the Hall County Library. The library system has a calendar full of wonderful programs for kids and adults. The shelves are full of new books. We hope you will join us at our meetings to discuss ways we can continue to support the library system as they expand their services. The library will need volunteers for their many outreach events. Also, we need volunteers for the Friends Annual Used Book Sale at the end of April. This is one of our biggest fundraisers, and it is always appreciated by the community.

Once again, a special thanks goes to Jim and Mari-Ann Wise, who have worked extremely hard on sorting weekly book donations for the Friends Store or packing to be sold to Thrift Books. Thanks to their hard work, the Friends raise a lot of money from this program. The Friends will also be instrumental in support for the updates to the Blackshear Place Library this year, the construction of the East Hall Library, and state/local support for Hall County Library System from our government officials.

As always, we want to increase our membership. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join the Friends of the Hall County Library System. We need your help and your dues and donations to assist the library staff in all the good things they do. We also solicit book donations, so spread the word!

With gratitude,

Ruth Bruner

President’s Message

Friends of the Library
Annual Book Sale

Saturday April 29th
Sunday April 30th

Gainesville Library

Volunteers will also be needed:
Set Up Help
Monday April 24th-28th daytime

Clean up help:
Monday May 1st daytime

If you can volunteer email:
ajunius@hallcountylibrary.org

Stop by the Spout Springs Library and enjoy lunch at Diletto at the Friends Cafe

Some of the proceeds from the cafe go to the Friends of the Library!
It is time to renew your Friends membership for 2023. Our membership/renewal form is located on the back of the newsletter. If your name is not listed, we have not recorded your renewal for 2023. If you feel we have omitted your name in error, or if we have misspelled your name, please call Adrianne Junius at 770-532-3311 ext. 126. All membership renewals are based on the calendar year and due in January.

Friends Board 2022
Ruth Bruner--President
Jim Wise-Vice President
Janet Ordway-Treasurer
Mari-Ann Wise-Secretary

New Books!
Join Friends of the Hall County Library System and enjoy your membership through the year 2023. With your help, we can expand our library activities and services throughout Hall County.

Individual $25   Family $50   Patron $100   Sponsor $150   Lifetime $500

NAME________________________________________PHONE___________________

ADDRESS______________________________________________________________

EMAIL_________________________________________________________________

Please send me the newsletter by U.S. mail _____ Please send via email only _____

I would like to help with:   Library book sales_______ Author programs_______

Fundraising_____ Service on the Board ________

My check for $_____________ is enclosed.
Pay to FOHCLS, 127 Main Street NW, Gainesville. GA 30501