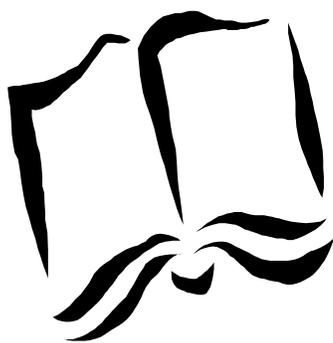


BookBytes

Volume X, Issue 1

Compliments of the Friends of the Library

January-March, 2009



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Local Volunteers Document Fairfield County Cemeteries

Jon Davis and Kadena Woodard have given Fairfield County a great gift by documenting gravestones from many of the cemeteries in the county.

Jon has recently finished updating the Fairfield County Cemetery Record books that were first published in 1991. The newly revised volumes include a picture of the church and location information for each church cemetery. The four volume set includes a volume for the eastern and western sections of the county; a volume for Winnsboro, and a volume for adjoining counties. Each book is indexed by last name. As part of his comprehensive endeavor, Jon also photographed each gravestone.

Kadena Woodard took on the task of documenting African-American cemeteries in Fairfield County. Her two volume set includes list-



ings for 76 cemeteries. There is no index, however names are listed alphabetically for each cemetery. Listings are also cross referenced to a 13-volume set that includes programs from many funeral services. These programs often include photographs and obituaries that provide a wealth of family information for genealogists.



Coming Soon!
Ask for a free car magnet with the logo above and display it to show your support for public libraries!

Public Library Appreciation Day: February 11th

Public library lovers of all types will descend on the State House in Columbia on February 11th for Public Library Appreciation Day (PLAD). Organized by the Association of Public Library Administrators of SC, PLAD is designed to be a day to thank our state legislators for their support for public libraries and to remind them that public libraries are a vital part of South Carolina's educational and cultural landscape. If you would like to attend as part of a Fairfield County delegation, please contact Sarah McMaster at the library. If you cannot attend, call or write our legislative delegation to express your appreciation for public libraries in general and the Fairfield County Library in particular.

DIRECTOR'S DESK

SARAH MCMASTER

Public libraries are cost effective.

As I write this, yesterday NBC news ran an in-depth look at how public libraries are overflowing with customers during this economic downturn. It's no surprise to anyone who works in the library world...we have known for years that library use goes up when times get tough. People who in good times don't think twice about buying a book from Amazon or Barnes and Noble or who routinely buy or rent DVD's find that they can save those discretionary dollars by "shopping" at their public library.

One thing that is different in today's economy is that people are also relying on the public library for access to the Internet. When money is tight, often cable or Internet service is something that must be cut from family budgets. The public library's computers are a way for many to search for jobs, do online schoolwork,

stay in touch with family and friends, or access informational and recreational websites.

Check out the "By the Numbers" article on the opposite page. It shows just a few examples of the kind of value the public library provides.

But public library service is not free...although we maximize value by sharing the cost, public libraries must still have tax dollars to provide services. State funding for public libraries has been reduced by over 20% in the last few months. My guess is that the budget crunch will trickle down to local governments starting in July and then cuts in services may become necessary. You can help by reminding your elected officials that public libraries are one of the best bargains for your tax dollars.

Feel free to reach me by phone at 635-4971 or by email at sarah@fairfield.lib.sc.us.

Just for Kids

- Come to Family Nights on January 8th, February 5th, and March 5th at 7:00 p.m.
- Remember the Winter Story Hour Series will be every Tuesday afternoon in February at 4:00 p.m.
- When the weather is bad and you can't come to the library, remember you can call Dial-a-



Story at 635-2020 to hear a story over the telephone.

- Watch the news on January 26th, when the Newbery and Caldecott award winning children's books for 2009 are announced.

Sisters Donate Storybook to Library



Barbara Martin and Martha Renwick, local children's book authors are shown presenting Library Director Sarah McMaster with copies of *The Sleepy Town Train*. Recently published, the book is adapted from a bedtime story that the authors' mother, Ellen Atkinson Fridy, told them as children. Two versions of the book, *The Sleepy Town Train* for girls and *The Sleepy Town Train* for boys, were donated to The Fairfield County Library in memory of Mrs. Fridy. The books are cataloged in the library's South Carolina collection. Copies are available locally from the SC Railroad Museum, www.itsminemonogram.com, and from the authors.

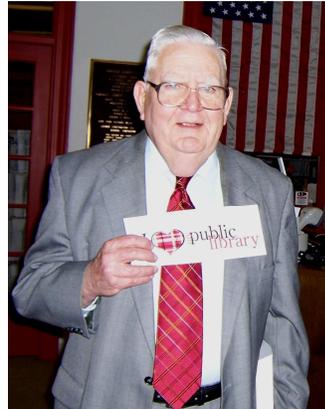
From the Friends... In Memoriam

Over the space of several months the Friends have lost two stalwart board members: Joe Steele and Colleen Dean.

Joe served on the board for many years, with several stints as President and Vice-President. He volunteered at every book sale, attended Legislative Day every year, and was always present for programs and activities such as judging the Halloween Costume Contest and the Reading Cheer Contest at the annual Read-In.

Colleen was a Friend for many years and served on the board for several. She was a regular volunteer with the book sale and also supported the library with many donations of paperbacks and other books.

Both Joe and Colleen were avid readers and regular visitors to the library. The Friends' board will miss their steadfast support.



Book Lovers' 2009 Calendars are available at the library for \$5.00. Proceeds go to the Friends of the Library.

BY THE NUMBERS

The 2008-2009 Fairfield County appropriation for the library is \$456,350.00. This is an expenditure of \$18.98 per capita. Is this a bargain? You bet. Here's why...

- The average hardback book costs \$25.00. If you check out one book per year, you have saved money.
- The average paperback book costs \$7.99. If you check out three paperbacks, you have

saved money.

- The average newspaper subscription costs over \$150.00 per year. If you read the paper once, you have saved money.
- The average cost for Internet service is \$20.00 per month. If you use a library computer once a month, you have saved money.

Based on these comparisons, regular library users save hundreds of dollars a year.

Don't Miss SC Book Festival in February

The annual South Carolina Book Festival will be held February 27, 28, and March 1, 2009, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Sponsored by the Humanities Council^{SC}, the event will bring together authors, scores of booksellers and vendors, and thousands of avid readers. Scott Turow, author of such favorites as *Presumed Innocent* and *Limitations*, will be the featured speaker.

For a complete schedule of events, check out the following website:

www.scbookfestival.org

The Humanities Council^{SC}
 inspiring. engaging. enriching.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY LIBRARY

Main Library

300 Washington Street
Winnsboro, South Carolina 29180
Phone: 803 635-4971
Fax: 803 635-7715
Hours: M,Tu,W,F 9-6 Th 9-9 Sat 9-1

Ridgeway Branch Library

175 S. Palmer Street
Ridgeway, South Carolina 29130
Phone/Fax: 803 337-2068
Hours: M-Th 2-6

Bookmobile

Phone Main Library at 803 635-4971

Dial-A-Story 803 635-2020

www.fairfield.lib.sc.us

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Library Events ~~~ January-March, 2009

Main Library

January 8 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night
February 3, 10, 17, and 24 at 4:00 p.m.
Winter Story Hour Series
February 5 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night
February 11 Public Library Appreciation Day
at the State House, Columbia
February 27, 28 and March 1
South Carolina Book Festival
(see article on page 2)
March 5 at 7:00 p.m. Family Night

Ridgeway Branch Library

January 8 at 4:00 p.m. Story Hour
February 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 4:00 p.m.
Winter Story Hour Series
March 5 at 4:00 p.m. Story Hour

The Library Will Be Closed

Thursday, January 1
for New Year's Day

and

Monday, January 19th
for Martin Luther King Day

