

# Friends of the Lacey Library



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## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

2016 was a busy and exciting year for the Lacey Timberland Library and the Friends of the Lacey Library (FoLL) were honored to play a supporting role. Many FoLL volunteers work quietly behind the scenes every week. They organize, maintain and stock the ongoing Bargain Books sale shelves inside the library, as well as supplying sale items for the daily Lobby Cart in the entrance. Both sales are excellent sources of income for the library and all sale items are donations provided by the general public, our patrons.

A volunteer researches donations for unusual and notable editions for the FoLL online book sale through Amazon's website. Currently, about 90 items are listed online and your purchase will be mailed to you.

FoLL holds 6 large book sales per year in the Lacey Library meeting room. A whole crew of volunteers show up regularly to set up tables on Thursday night. Then on Friday morning they unpack and arrange books by categories on the tables for the Friday afternoon members only PreSale. Saturday is the all day sale to the general public; most items are \$1. Monday morning the trusty volunteer crew comes back to take down the sale, which means pack up all the books in boxes by category and arrange them in the storage room so the books left from the previous sale go out first! Did I mention also folding all the tables and stacking all the meeting room chairs.... For the FoLL volunteers this is a labor of love because it allows us to help the Lacey Timberland Library in so many ways.

In February the Friends purchased new meeting room tables and chairs, not only useful in the book sales, but also in the many programs the Lacey Library produces and schedules. In March the Friends purchased a new dishwasher for the staff break room. And in April we took delivery on a shipment of new upholstered chairs and benches for the library seating areas in both youth and adult areas. In May FoLL supplied the Summer Reading Program with prizes, craft and program supplies. We also supported the Staff Appreciation Lunch at their Spring Training Day. June, July and August featured Kids Lego Club, Teen Fanaticon, and Pie in the Library, among other FoLL supported events. In the Fall, FoLL sponsored K creators for teens, Candyland for kids, and the Quilt Gala and History of Lacey for adults. The year ended with a bang with the all ages Animal Video Festival, and for kids, Harry Potter's Wizarding Wonderland and Fantastical Beasts Scavenger Hunt.

The Friends support many outreach programs for the library, including donating Mystery book baskets to the City of Lacey's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary charity auction. The Friends do outreach through the Thurston County Health Dept., selecting new board books for infants, which are then donated to a federally funded program for low income 1<sup>st</sup> time mothers, serving 175 families in Thurston County. The Friends also participate in Lacey Loves to Read, a month long community wide reading and writing literacy initiative, every year since 2002. It is a partnership with the city of Lacey, North Thurston School District, the South Sound Reading Foundation, TRL and the Lacey Chamber of Commerce. In 2017 the Friends are giving \$5,500 to Lacey Loves to Read, which includes a \$2,500 grant from the Nisqually Tribe.

It has been a wonderful year, and I would like to thank all my fellow board members, Paul, Becky, Janet and Carolyn, and our committee chairs, Pam, Carol, Lynn and Edith, for all your hard work in keeping this organization going. This year we said goodbye and many thanks to our Secretary of 5 ½ years, Janet Zibell, who retired after many years as a Friends volunteer. And we miss her!

I look forward to working with all of you and with Holly and her great staff in 2017. Thank you everyone for all your support and assistance.

Rosemary Conor  
FoLL President