



2017 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE LACEY FRIENDS

OUTREACH PROJECTS

The Friends have been a partner in Lacey Loves 2 Read since 2003. In 2017 book sale funds plus a grant from Nisqually Charitable Funds resulted in a \$5,000.00 contribution to bring author Matt de la Pena to Lacey. Friends also volunteered to listen to students read a sample of their own writing, and discussed the importance of reading and writing in various jobs at the library. 2018 looks to be even more exciting with author Kate DiCamillo.

Our other outreach program is *Books for Babies*. In 2017 Friends purchased 170 new board books for infants. First time mothers in Thurston County received a gift book for their baby and information about the library, delivered by the visiting nurses of the Thurston County Health Department.

MEMBERSHIP

We have a new and energetic Book Sale Manager, Alex Stone. Alex organized two special sales in September and October for a total of 7 book sales in 2017. He has developed a tracking system for the number of boxes sold at each sale and is also able to track the inventory by general subjects, which can be pulled for special sales. Alex also organized the design and purchase of new sale signs for the book sales, both indoor and outdoor. I would also like to add that of the 335 Library programs in 2017, 139 were funded either wholly or in part by Friends fundraising from the book sales.

Our Membership Chair, Larry Russell, reports as of the end 2017, we have 349 members, including Lifetime, Individual and Family; a record number of members.

2017 brought the passing of Carol Getchman, a devoted and active member of Friends of the Lacey Library from the very beginning. April 10, 1972 was the first informal meeting and she became the first Co-President, effective May 8, 1972. She was there raising funds for the new library. She was there at every Friends meeting. She was there for every forum and gathering of the Friends. She was there when *Lacey Loves to Read* was initiated. She was there when the first quilt show was displayed in the library. (Charlotte Hunter and Dee Corwin Laceyfriends.org)

Carol Getchman was one of the founding members of the Friends. In her memory the in house book sale will be renamed the "Carol and Art Book Place" with a bronze memorial sign. Memorial donations have covered the full cost of the sign. I would like to thank our Publicity Chair, Edith Cornfield, for all her hard work in guiding the memorial sign for Carol Getchman to completion. It has been a carefully thought out process this last year. We will soon be saying goodby to Edith after 4+ years of publicizing Friends events, designing flyers and most recently, redesigning the web page.

And in 2017 the Friends went digital: emailing the quarterly newsletter to our members and posting it on our website, <u>laceyfriends.org</u>. Book Sale schedules, upcoming events at the library, articles by Lacey staff, and general information about the Friends can also be found on the website.

I have had a wonderful year volunteering with all the Friends and am proud to say that I am a Friend of the Library.

Rosemary Conor President, Friends of Lacey Library