



# FRIENDS of the TOWSON LIBRARY

Spring, 2014

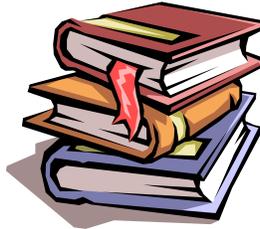
Volume 13, Number 3

## President's Letter

Aren't we all glad the winter of 2014 is over? There are two excellent ways you can celebrate spring.

First come to the Friends of the Towson Library's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale, April 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014. As most of you know we fill two rooms on the first floor of the Towson Library with gently used books. The Wilson Room has hardback fiction and paperback fiction, mystery, romance and science fiction. The Towson Room contains a great selection of history, non-fiction, books on cooking and gardening plus a great selection of childrens books. Spread the word. Tell your friends.

The second way to celebrate spring is to hear Burt Kummerow from the Maryland Historical Society speak about his book, *In Full Glory Reflected: Discovering The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake*, on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The author will be available to sign copies of his beautiful book at the end of the program. Books are \$20 cash or check (no credit cards). Please plan to attend our annual meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> where we will elect the officers and board members for the next year.



I'd like to take a moment to thank all the hard working board members who make the work of the Friends and the fund raising that we do for the Towson Library possible. They are all pleasant to work with, dependable and without their efforts none of the work we do would be possible. They spend their free time attending meetings, sorting books, hauling books to storage and working hours at the book sale. Three cheers for the hard work they do.

See you at the book Sale.

*Fay Citerone*, president of the Friends of the Towson Library

## Slate of Officers, 2014-2015

The following members of the Board of Friends of the Towson Library will be presented at the Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 7:00 pm, for election for the year, May 2014 through April 2015:

President – Mary-Lou Stenchly	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Nancy Grund
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Helen Moeller	Secretary – James Ransom
Treasurer – Susan Gillette	

## Friends Calendar 2014

April 1, 7:00 pm, Board Meeting, Wilson Room  
 April 10-13, 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale  
 May 6, 7:00 pm, Annual Meeting  
 May 23, copy deadline for June newsletter  
 September 2, 7:00 pm 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting of new year

## Suggested Reading List

At the March, 2014, Board Meeting, the members shared the most recent books we have read. We hope that some of these may appeal to you as well.

***Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman*** by Robert K. Massie. Written as a narrative biography, this book is the extraordinary story of an obscure German princess who became one of the most remarkable, powerful and captivating women in history.

***Love & War*** by James Carville and Mary Matalin. A fascinating look at the last two decades in American politics and an intimate, quick-witted primer on grown-up relationships and values, *Love & War* provides unprecedented insight into one of our nation's most intriguing and powerful couples.

***Protector: Foreigner*** by C.J. Cherryh. This is one in a series of science fiction books by this author.

***River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey*** by Candice Millard. At once an incredible adventure narrative and a penetrating biographical portrait, *The River of Doubt* is the true story of Theodore Roosevelt's harrowing exploration of one of the most dangerous rivers on earth.

***The Geography of Bliss: One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World*** by Eric Weiner. The book uses a beguiling mixture of travel, psychology, science and humor to investigate not what happiness is, but where it is.

***The Good Lord Bird*** by James McBride. An absorbing blending of history and imagination, this is the story of a young boy born a slave who joins John Brown's antislavery crusade -- and who must pass as a girl to survive.

***The Interestings*** by Meg Wolitzer. This book explores the meaning of talent; the nature of envy; the roles of class, art, money, and power; and how all of it can shift and tilt precipitously over the course of a friendship and a life.

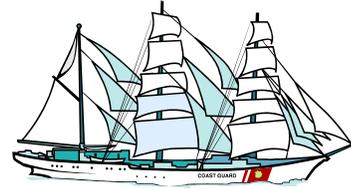
***In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin*** by Erik Larsen. This is a stunning eyewitness perspective on events as they unfold in real time, revealing an era of surprising nuance and complexity.

***SuperFreakonomics*** by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. Based on revolutionary research and original studies *SuperFreakonomics* promises to challenge our view of the way the world *really* works.

***Sycamore Row***. John Grisham's latest takes you back to the setting for *A Time To Kill*, his first novel, as Jake Brigance once again finds himself in a fiercely controversial trial at that famous courthouse in Clanton.

***The Kennedy Half Century*** by Larry J. Sabato. This is a fascinating analysis of the legacy left by Kennedy following his assassination. It reveals how the presidency of all who followed were impacted. This is "must reading" for anyone interested in understanding national and world politics.

## ***SAILing to School Success***



Dear Friends of the Towson Library,

Spring is bringing some new initiatives in the growing partnership between Baltimore County Public Library and Baltimore County Public Schools. While we have collaborated for many years on the very successful Summer Reading Club, which helps students maintain their reading skills during summer months, some additional efforts are under way.

Dubbed “SAIL: Students Achieve in Libraries”, the enhanced partnership launched by Jim Fish, Director of BCPL and Dr. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Baltimore County Public Schools aims to increase cooperative efforts to enhance service to students.

The first addition is the installation of the school system’s Wi-Fi in all branches so that BCPS students will have access to it outside of school. BCPL staff will also be able to use it to help serve students looking for assistance with assignments and other school needs.

Even more exciting is the joint effort to expand the number of BCPS students who are receiving a special new library card. BCPL is

making every effort to facilitate the students’ use of the cards, and in some cases, canceling or negotiating past delinquencies so that students will have access to the materials and electronic resources they need to be successful in school.

Additionally, the Teacher Loan Card program has been broadened to help teachers use more BCPL materials to benefit their students. A special new Teacher Loan Card has been designed and will assist teachers in keeping track of materials borrowed on these accounts.

BCPL and BCPS will look to share savings in costs, also, by evaluating holdings, databases, and other services in order to eliminate duplication and negotiate best prices for joint use as appropriate.

All of these efforts will be significant contributions in realizing our vision of making BCPL “the place to be empowered, inspired, informed and to succeed”.

Students and Friends, let’s raise the SAIL!

*Lisa Hughes*

Manager of the Towson Library

### **Programs sponsored by the Friends of the Towson Library**

December 7, 2013: Build a Gingerbread House

January 16, 2014: Ben Franklin, Scientist and Inventor

January 29, 2014: Teen Open Mic Night

February 15, 2014: Build a Snowman

February 20, 2014: The Battle of Baltimore

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## FIRST CLASS



### **Friends of the Towson Library**

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**FoTL Mission:** To increase and improve the services, facilities, and resources of the Towson Library.

## **20<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FRIENDS BOOK SALE**

APRIL, 2014! Baseball season will be in its first full month and the Orioles look good this year. The weather will be warm and all the snow shoveling will be memories. The **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Friends of the Towson Library Book Sale** will be held on the lower level of the library. Yes, we are celebrating our **20<sup>th</sup> book sale!**

First Choice night is Thursday, April 10, 2014, from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Since you are a member there is no charge for *Friends* members on First Choice night. All others will pay \$10.00.

The sale continues on Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. The prices are reduced each day.

The last day of the sale is Sunday, April 13,

2014, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Be ready to *shop until you drop* on Sunday since almost everything except the Special Pricing Selection and CD s and DVDs (music and movies) are \$2.00 a foot. We measure your purchases and you will be very pleasantly surprised how many books equal one foot. We kept the prices the same as last year as part of the celebration.

There will be a few other surprises!

It is not too late to volunteer to work for a few hours at the book sale. Email Pam Bowman at [pambowman@comcast.net](mailto:pambowman@comcast.net) with contact information (phone number) and she will be in touch with you.

We hope to see you at the Book Sale!

*Nora Kotula*