



# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020 | VOLUME 16 | ISSUE 1

## President's Letter John Spruhan, President

As we are in the New Year of 2020, I want to thank all of our members who donated to the book sale last year. We set a record by making over \$8,000! I also want to thank all of our volunteers who spent many hours sorting and pricing books, and working the days of the sale. Lastly, I want to thank our book sale chairman, Ken Sosnowski, for coordinating it all, and for many hours of picking up books! Ken was honored as the Volunteer of the Year at the luncheon on the Friday of the book sale.

In preparing for this year's sale, it's a good idea to start setting aside books, DVDs and CDs, and bringing them to the library now. There are certain items that we would prefer that you not donate, such as books that are falling apart, text books, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, devotional/feel good books and Bibles that have a gift dedication written in front, cassette tapes, and VHS video tapes. Last year we sold comic books and graphic novels for the first time, so these are ok to donate. Magazines are now going to the turn style in the front reading area for giveaway. When August comes around, we will need your help in setting up the sale, as well as volunteering at the sale. You can financially support the library in between sales by using amazon smile if you go through that amazon smile website ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), not [amazon.com](https://amazon.com)) and designate Friends of the Salem Library to receive a small percentage of your amazon purchase. There are books for sale, as well as the printing services at the library that also support the Friends of the Salem library. Any special monetary donations are also welcome, and can be dropped off at the library circulation desk. Our fund raising for the library supports many events, services, and physical improvements that are not covered in the regular library budget.

There are other important ways that you can support the library.

Come in often and check out books and DVDs of interest. The library is always ordering new books and DVDs for loan. The staff keeps track of the number of library visits, and this assists funding for the library (Continued on page 2)

## Election of Officers By the Editor

The following slate of officers was nominated to serve in 2020.

John Spruhan, President  
Susan Ahalt, Secretary

Phil Roark, Vice President  
Ken Sosnowski, Treasurer



L to R: Susan, Ken, John, Phil

At the January 12 meeting, the slate of officers was elected by acclamation.

## Board Notes: By The Editor

The board members were elected by acclamation at the January meeting.

The elected board members are: Sara Ahalt, Betty Waldron, Gale Evans, and Janis Augustine.

Ken Sosnowski sits on the board as most recent Post-President. Janis Augustine was appointed to the seat previously held by Helen Robertson.

## WE'VE LOST A FRIEND

Ken Sosnowski

This past December, Dr. Robert McClanahan (Dr. Bob) passed away. Dr. Bob had been an active member of FOSL for many years. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors and as President in 2008. He especially enjoyed all the activity involved with the book sale. His children remembered their father searching for books to donate, although his wife, Gerry, accused him of buying back many of the same books. He will be missed!

(President cont'd)

from government and private sources. The library also has computers for online use, printing services, notary services among other things as a community resource. As part of the Roanoke Valley Library system, you can order books that our library does not have, but are available from another library. The staff can assist you on looking up the book that you want, and ordering it. There are teen, adult, and all age events coming up, so there is something for everybody! You should review the list of events at the circulation desk when you come into the library, or check the library Facebook page and/or web page ([www.salemlibrary.info](http://www.salemlibrary.info)). These events bring the library out to the community, and the community into the library for more than just books.

### **2019 Booksale:** Ken Sosnowski

Each year as August rolls around, a dedicated group of FOSL members gathers. This group would appear to have little in common. It includes both sexes, some newly retired and others long-time retirees. They range in age from 15 to "I'm not going to ask her how old she is!" What could bind this diverse group together? Books and a love of reading! All year, FOSL and the Library have worked to collect as many books as possible. Some are donated as soon as the owner has read them. The majority come from personal libraries being downsized. Each year, a few collections are donated by the heirs of a deceased dedicated reader, usually with the comment "I know that Mom (Dad) would want them to go to the library". Every book is gratefully received.

On the second Saturday of September, all of those donations reappear on the shelves of the Book Sale. For three days, crowds of happy readers peruse the collection, some seeking that special title, others just looking for anything that sounds interesting. Then the sale is over and everyone waits for the announcement by the Treasurer. How much did we make? Well, this year was an excellent year. We had a net profit of \$7,912.56., a new record. Thanks to all who help in any way, from cleaning and sorting books, to reminding neighbors at yard sales that books can be donated to the library at any time.

If you would like to join these happy warriors, send Ken an email or send him a note via the Library. August will soon be here!

## **Gingerbread Festival brings over 2,000 people to Downtown Salem:** Ann Tripp

The annual Gingerbread Festival was held on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> this year, and it was a perfect day to celebrate the holiday season! Sponsored by the Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce, the Salem Public Library, and Salem Parks & Recreation, this family-friendly event showcases gingerbread creations of all shapes, sizes, and themes made by children, local home bakers, and professional chefs. This year, attendees enjoyed visits with Santa, crafts in the library meeting room, petting llamas, bunnies, and other animals with Little Critters Traveling Petting Zoo, and many other fun and free activities organized by the Chamber and Parks and Recreation.



### **2019 Book Sale**



## 2019 Book Sale



## Beat the winter blues with Light Therapy Lamps – available at the Salem Public Library:

Ann Tripp

Don't let the cold, dark days get you down – instead, check out a Light Therapy Lamp from the Salem Public Library! These lamps simulate the warm rays of the sun, prompting your body to produce serotonin, which can elevate your mood and give you more energy. 15-30 minutes per day can help you make it to spring with a smile on your face! There is also a Light Therapy Station set up in a quiet study room in the library, so you can read or work in the library while boosting your mood. The light therapy lamps check out for 7 days, and if they're all checked out, you can be added to the waiting list for the next available lamp. Ask at the front desk for more information!

## New Editor:

By the Editor

As I takeover this job, I am looking back at previous editions of the FOSL newsletter. Volume 1 Issue 1 was dated August 2005. The editor was Charlie Draper. A quick look at the last edition Volume 15, Issue 2 indicates that Charlie Draper was still the editor. Charlie is a good friend, but I did not realize that he had been the only editor of the FOSL newsletter. He has helped me immensely during the preparation of this edition. Maybe I should credit him as co-editor. At times, Charlie has posed questions about this newsletter. What is its purpose in our world of online communication? What content changes would make it more useful?

So I pose a question to the readers. What changes would you like to see? I will be adding, changing, and reformatting content in each issue. Maybe the best plan is to let this newsletter be a written and pictorial record of the activities of the Friends of Salem Library. Thanks, Charlie, for your years of dedication to the news.

Phil Roark (proark@rev.net)

## DVD's and more



## Watch British TV shows, Indie films, and much more with the library's NEW streaming video collections:

Ann Tripp

Do you love Doc Martin? Wish you could binge-watch Midsomer Murders? Pine for the days when you could watch vintage "Popeye" and "Betty Boop"? Then you're in for a treat! The Salem Public Library now offers free streaming video through Acorn and IndieFlix! Visit the library's website at [www.salemlibrary.info](http://www.salemlibrary.info), click on "Streaming Video, eBooks, and More" on the left-hand side of the page, and select Acorn or IndieFlix to create a free account and start streaming your favorite shows and movies! You can stream on your computer, tablet, smartphone, Roku or other streaming device, and more using your library card!

ACORN  IndieFlix



### The Friends of Salem Library is online

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/friendsofsalemlibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsalemlibrary/)

Website: [www.salemlibraryfriends.org/](http://www.salemlibraryfriends.org/)

Contact us: email: [library@salemva.gov](mailto:library@salemva.gov)

FOSL

Salem Public Library

28 E. Main Street

Salem, VA 24153-3397

### The Salem Library appears on the city website

Library: [www.salemlibrary.info](http://www.salemlibrary.info)

Menu: Friends of Salem Library

Programs and events

Search the Catalog, and more

## Public Print Station

Capable of both color and B&W printing



### Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:

President: John Spruhan

Vice President: Phil Roark

Secretary: Susan Ahalt

Treasurer: Ken Sosnowski

### Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt, Chairman

Gale Evans

Janis Augustine

Betty Waldron

Ken Sosnowski

### Standing Committees:

Book Sale: Ken Sosnowski

Newsletter Editor: Phil Roark

Historian: -vacant-

**Membership dues** (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year**. **Consult your mailing label**. If the date shown is **prior to 2020**, please renew your membership. Pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk, by mail, or at the Member's Sale.

## FOSL Schedule, 2020

FOSL holds four regular meetings each year. They are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute to regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make activities such as the Book Sale a success.

- **March 8:** Regular meeting (*DST begins today*)
- **March 8:** Board meeting after regular meeting
- **May 17:** Children's Art Show and reception
- **July 12:** Regular meeting
- **August:** Book Sale Preparation starts
- **September 11-13:** **FOSL Book Sale.**
- **October 11:** Regular meeting
- **January 10, 2021** Regular meeting

**Membership Form:** Dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Type: Please indicate type of membership below with an X.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10)    \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$15)    \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining (\$25)    \_\_\_\_\_ Life (\$75)

**Please mail to:** Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St, Salem, VA 24153. Make checks payable to: *Friends of the Salem Library* or *FOSL*. You may also drop this form and your check at the Library Desk.