The Friendly News

February, 2025

Friends of the Sherrills Ford - Terrell Library

Greetings from the President

Greetings, Friends!

I've heard it from at least three different people: January seemed to last forever! Did you feel it? Maybe it was the extreme cold snap and slushy mix that wasn't quite enough for snowmen; maybe it was just hard to get going after a busy holiday season. We'll see what Punxsutawney Phil has to say about the rest of winter.

Thank goodness for the library, which, in my opinion, is made to cure the winter blues. We've helped make the library a little cozier with our heart-warming Krafts-4-Kids, our welcoming Book Bonanza, our author-publisher visit (read more below), and the student art show (ditto).

At any rate, January is in the books and we're looking forward to a busy couple of months. First and foremost, the Second-Grade Reading Program needs another volunteer to read at Sherrills Ford Elementary on Feb. 21st. Please contact Tammy Hallman at (704) 651-4604 if you can help! Tammy could also use some ongoing help for the program, so don't be afraid to step up.

We have our next business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 18th, All members are welcome. In March, we will welcome Jennifer Marquardt from the Catawba County Historical Association. In April, our final regular business meeting of the year will deal with budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year.

Make like the groundhog and come out!

Cheers, Erica

FOSFTL Calendar for 2024-2025

February 18	Business meeting, Community Room: **6:30 p.m.**
March 18th	**Jennifer Marquardt** of the Catawba County Historical Museum will speak on "Churches, Cemeteries and Camp Meetings." Community Room: **6:30 p.m.**
April 15th	Business meeting, Community Room: **6:30 p.m.**
May 10th	2nd Annual **Family Fun Day**, a repeat of our successful 2024 event.
Date t/b determined	**Catawba Land Conservancy** program paired with a **members-only tour** of a "green" home.
Date t/b determined	Celebrated author **Tommy Tomlinson** returns to Rehobeth Church.

Cold Night, Warm Welcome for Author and Publisher

Novelist and biographer Austin Allran

Austin Allran, author of The Legend of the Isle of Cats, and Patty Thompson, CVCC's Redhawk Publications Acquisition Editor, received a warm welcome on January 21st. FOSFTL's Authors' Program was well attended and the audience enjoyed listening to both speakers present an insider's view of the writing process—from pen-on-paper to bound volume. A big thanks to Linda Greenwell for arranging this novel (pun intended) evening for FOSFTL.

Austin explained both his motivation to be a novelist and the process that, for him, began years ago with several short stories. He began to see the connections between the characters he had already created and the ways in which they began to interact in his imagination. After more than ten years of effort, (and a lot of support from his wife, Judy, and his editor), those ideas became his first novel and have afforded him the joy of becoming a published novelist. He offered insights into crafting what could be called the "skeleton" of a novel: the first sentence, the first chapter, the constant challenge to "show" rather than "tell" the story; and the necessity to create a bond between the characters, the story and the reader. His novel is a mystery involving a forbidden island journey and the effect that has on the lives of the five characters. (No spoiler here—you'll have to read it!)

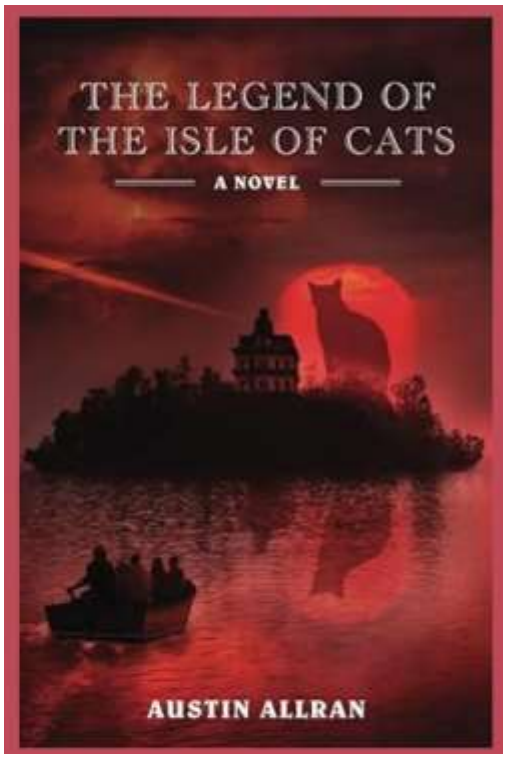
Linda Greenwell, Patty Thompson and Erica Batten continue the discussion...

Patricia (Patty) Thompson continued the saga of manuscript-to-publication. In her role as Acquisition Editor for Redhawk Publications, she receives original manuscripts from prospective authors and begins the evaluation process. Since CVCC is one of only three community colleges in the country to have a publishing division, there is a constant influx of original work arriving at her desk. She explained the process of "vetting" the manuscript by using "beta" readers to render opinions, noting that this is more challenging for technical non-fiction, where experts in the field have to be found. Patty also pointed out that almost all published authors have had to hire professional editors (a major financial investment) to help shape the book. After the book is

accepted for publication, Patty negotiates author contracts, oversees the finished "look" of the book (font, cover illustrations, etc.) and creates book-launch marketing strategies. In the four years she's been with Redhawk, she's worked with over 100 authors and has overseen the publication of over 180 books!

Allran has received awards from the NC Writers' Network for a short story and the Hugh T. Lefler Award for a historical biography. He is a practicing attorney and is also a current Catawba County Commissioner. He has previously served three terms in the North Carolina House and fourteen terms in the North Carolina Senate.

Patty is not only an outspoken advocate of the literary arts, but she champions all artistic endeavors and proudly serves as the President for Arts Culture Catawba, formerly known as the United Arts Council of Catawba County.



It Beeeeeing February, Of Course!

Love is all about hearts and flowers—and to have flowers, we must have bees! Barbara MacArthur has linked her Friendly Krafts-4-Kids offering to all of these symbols of love.

Love in all its forms—familial, romantic, filial, platonic—provides some much-needed warmth in frigid February, so it's a wonderful time to celebrate these joys. So pull up a chair, put on a sweater, grab a fluffy blanket and a cup of hot cocoa! Perhaps you and a little loved one can snuggle up with Barbara's sting-less bee and read one of the many books in the library about our friends, the bees. And once it's warmer, those little bees will be out there pollinating flowers for us all to enjoy!

FOSFTL Winter Scholastic Art Show Features Work by Bandys High School Art Students

Not only the expertise displayed, but also the wide variety of subject and medium make an impressive collection of art works now on exhibit at the library.

Evelyn Campbell has arranged this eye-opening experience with Bandys High School art teachers Ms. Marcie Foster and Ms. Jessica VanEseltine. The works will be on display at the library until February 28th, so please drop by to view and marvel at the young talent around us. Thanks also to Pat Elston for the photographs, (in which she attempted to include the identifying placard with each piece), and to the SFTL staff for their help in the installation.

Here is a virtual visit, but it cannot begin to replace the actual experience!

If you love art (it being February and all), be sure to take in this exhibit. Watercolor, charcoal, pottery, acrylic, pastels—**it's all here. With "beginners" like these, there's real delight in** store for our future walls!

You Can Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram

We currently post pictures and information about our events on both platforms. You do not need a Facebook account to keep current.

https://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL/

We are listed on Instagram as: sherrillsfordfol

Search for **Friends of Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library** on Facebook and if you're on Instagram, we are **sherrillsfordfol**. Please LIKE and share posts! Feel free to send a message if you would like a photo of you at the library or a Friends Event posted to either site. Ellen Janzen Dewey is the Administrator and initiator of our social media sites.

To see more of what is happening at SFT—by the week—and throughout the Catawba County Library System, visit :
https://www.catawbacountync.gov/county-services/library/about/friends-of-the-library
OR: Search in your browser for Catawba County Library/This Week @ Your Library.

Newsletter Submissions: Please e-mail **news and photo submissions, and community announcements** to Joyce O'Neal, newsletter editor, by the fourth Tuesday of the month: joyceoneal417@gmail.com .

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library 2023-2024

Officers:

President — Erica Batten

Vice-president: — Lisa Yakovenko

Secretary —Charlene Callahan

Treasurer — Joe Lebens

Board of Directors:

Joanie Gardner

Pat Elston

Jeanne Lebens

Sheryl Schuhose

Lynne Nelson

Erica Batten

Publicity — Ellen Dewey

Membership — Sabine Detzel

Programs — We're looking!!

Newsletter — Joyce O'Neal

Library Staff:

Library Services Manager — Shelley Orr

Librarian — Melissa Housel

Library Services Specialist — Kacy Steiger

Library Assistants — Lindsay Lewis, Katherine Sisak & Kelsey Farah-Albertson

Location: Sherrills Ford-Terrell Branch Library, 9154 Sherrills Ford Road, Terrell, NC 28682 Phone: (828) 466-6827

Friends of the Sherrills Ford - Terrell Library

2024 - 2025 Membership Form July 1 – June 30

Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library

Consider following us on Facebook or Instagram to keep current on planned activities

http://www.facebook.com/FOSFTL or @sherrillsfordfol

Who are we?	What do we do?	What do you get?
•**The Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library** is a local non-profit 501(c) (3) organization comprised of members of the community. We are dedicated to supporting the mission of the Catawba County Library System, encouraging reading, expanding literacy, providing cultural opportunities, and inspiring a passion for life-long learning in our community.	•Support Library Programs such as the Summer Reading Program for adults and children •Provide Community Programs throughout the year that offer broad learning opportunities for all ages •Facilitate Literacy Programs at Sherrills Ford and Catawba Elementary •Advocate for the Library by offering support and resources to fill needs not covered by their budget	•Besides the enjoyment of supporting community literacy initiatives and cultural events, your annual membership includes: •**"The Friendly News"** periodic newsletters which keep you up to date on activities, events, and volunteer opportunities •**Priority Access** to unique, fun, and enriching programs •Many opportunities to **Get Involved** (see other side of this form for a complete list)

How do you sign up? We would love to have you join **"The Friends"** and we can't wait to meet you.
Being part of this organization is an excellent way to support your community.
Simply choose your donation level and fill out the below information.

- Donations above our annual $10 Family Membership cost fund the bulk of our programs!
- We intentionally keep our Membership cost low and affordable.
- Revenues from Membership cover roughly 25% of our annual operating budget, so we very much appreciate and rely on donations beyond the basic membership cost.
- While most of our funds are used for our Sherrills Ford-Terrell community, a portion of our donations may be used periodically to support the Catawba County Library Endowment to ensure consistent and critical financial support beyond that provided annually by our state and local governments.

☐ Annual Renewal – Thank You** ☐ New Membership – Welcome! ***Please consider submitting your donation for possible Gift Matching, if your Company offers the opportunity.** ****Annual Membership July 1 – June 30.**	☐ $10 Family Membership Cost ☐ $50 Sponsor Donation* ☐ $100 Patron Donation* ☐ Other Donation Amount $_____* Checks made payable to: **Friends of the Sherrills Ford-Terrell Library**

Name: _____ (as you wish used on our FOSFTL nametag)

Address: _____

_____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____)_____ E-mail: _____

You can drop off the membership form and check while at the library or send by mail to:
FOSFTL
9154 Sherrills Ford Road
Terrell, NC 28682

If you are interested in any of **the Volunteer Opportunities** below, put a check next to them, and we will get back to you. Teens may be eligible for school volunteer requirements.

- ☐ **Officer Role** – President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary (2-year term)
  - ☐ Nominating Committee to help us recruit talented Officer and Board Members

- ☐ **Fundraising Committee** to help us create a strategic approach to fundraising
  - ☐ **Book Bonanza Committee** helps us ensure ongoing supply of books

- ☐ **Holiday and Special Event Support** helps with our events such as our children's holiday party

- ☐ **Literacy Program** supports our program in the First and Second Grades by helping select books, assemble reading packets, or reading in one of our classrooms

- ☐ **Membership Committee** helps with outreach for renewal/new members through advertising and staffing event tables with information

- ☐ **Program Committee** partners with the library to generate and implement programs

- ☐ **Refreshment Team** organizes and provides refreshments for our events

- ☐ **Roadies Team** helps set up and clean up events

- ☐ **Publicity Committee** helps coordinate and expand how we publicize our work

- ☐ **Art Show Committee** will coordinate the dates for display with each school and the library calendar. The artwork will need to be collected from the school, library display set up and return the artwork to each school at the end.

- ☐ **Little Free Library Committee** helps facilitate a new venture with **Little Free Libraries** throughout our community

- ☐ **Friendly Krafts 4 Kids Committee** creates, organizes and stocks the "Take and Make" literacy-based kits for younger patrons of the library