

Final Days of Flower Fundraiser!



Find great plants while supporting the Friends!



Our Fundraiser, held in partnership with Delaware County Historical Society and Foertmeyer & Sons Greenhouse, ends on **May 6**. Go to <https://delawarelibraryfriends.org/online-flower-sale> to view the options and make your purchase.

Pick-up will be May 17 at the Barn at Stratford. We need volunteers to organize the plants and distribute them to customers. Keep an eye on your email for the SignUp Genius link. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Volunteers Needed: Sorting

When books and materials are donated from the public (soon, we hope!) or weeded out of the Library's shelves, they are sorted and boxed for Bargain Book Sales.

 **Sorting Coordinators** communicate with sorters to create and maintain a schedule, find coverage for absences, train new sorters, and assist with creating and communicating procedures. Coordinators are currently needed at Main Library and Orange Branch.

 **Sorters** are responsible for sorting and boxing the incoming books and materials approximately one week each month. Training is provided to categorize the books and to discard poor quality items. Sorters fill and stack boxes. Many people sign up with a friend or spouse to share the job. Sorters are currently needed at Main Library and Orange Branch.

Contact membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org to learn more. **Publicity volunteer needs are on Page 2!**

Welcome, Friends!

We welcome the following New Members:

Emily Calabro Frances Rothman

And we welcome Nichole Klatter to the Board and as our new Publicity Chair!

Evolving Future of DCDL: Part 2

This month we continue our interview with George Needham, Director, and Nicole Fowles, Communications Manager, DCDL. Their answers provide interesting information and cause us to reflect upon the value proposition of public libraries today and tomorrow.

How can our public libraries best serve rural communities in Delaware County? Are the needs of rural residents changing?

George: The needs of all Ohio residents are changing, and as a result, the ways in which we will meet those needs must change. It's comparatively easy to "plunk" a branch library down in the middle of a growing subdivision or an urban neighborhood, where many people are residing.

Serving rural areas has always provided a different challenge - the challenge of population density. In years past, we have served rural areas primarily through our Bookmobile, a service that will continue for the foreseeable future. However, there are at least three other types of services we can offer:

The first is a virtual library service, which allows us to provide e-books, e-magazines, downloadable movies and music, reference help, and even tutoring services. Of course, this is predicated on having good broadband service. We are working with the Ohio General Assembly to try to secure broadband access for all Ohio residents.

The second is the Little Free Library movement. We have used our Outreach Services Department to fill these little boxes locations around our service district. [See: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>]

The final method is one we haven't adopted yet but may be looking at in the future: book lockers. These lockers are like the Amazon lockers we see cropping up at various retail locations. You would order the books, magazines, DVDs or games from the Library, either online or by phone. We would deliver the materials to the locker location that is most convenient for you. You would bring your library card, scan it, enter a code number, and the locker would spring open. Your materials would now be checked out to you. The problem is that these lockers are expensive, so we will need to find a way to fund them.

The key to meeting rural residents' needs is continuing to work on getting that internet service that is fast and dependable to every corner of Ohio.

What are your "hopes and dreams" for the new library in Powell? In what ways will the Liberty Branch Library be "future ready?"

George: My dream is that the Liberty Branch Library will become a community center for the people who live in this rapidly growing area. I see a place where families can go for a learning experience, whether that's early literacy programs for toddlers and their parents or other caregivers; a gaming competition; an author visit; or a festival like the ones we've done at our other locations. *(continued on page 2)*

Volunteers Needed: Publicity

Our new Publicity Chair, Nichole Klatte, needs a few good Friends to strengthen our Publicity efforts. If you have any interest in the following areas, please contact her at publicity@delawarelibraryfriends.org for details. Other than the Library Minders, these jobs can be done from home.

- 📖 Library Minders to keep Friends displays (flyers and posters) tidy and current - all 4 locations
- 📖 Liaisons: Social Media, Website and WDLR Radio
- 📖 Press Releases (writing and emailing)

We are saddened to share that we have lost two Friends of the Library founding members. **Margaret Todd** is survived by daughter Stella Dickman. **Sylvia Jester** was an original Board member and a fixture at bargain book sales. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families; these ladies will be truly missed.

Board of Directors and Committees

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Karen Cowan, President | president@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Doug Wilson, Vice President | vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Linda Silverstein, Secretary | secretary@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Cheryl Stagg, Treasurer | treasurer@delawarelibraryfriends.org |

Standing Committee Chairs

| | |
|---|--|
| Executive, Karen Cowan | president@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Finance, Doug Wilson | vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Fundraising, Brad Cowan | fundraising@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Fundraising, Catlin Frazier | fundraising@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Membership & Volunteers, Jenny Ford (chair) and Bobbie Feigenbaum (vice-chair) | membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Outreach, Linda Silverstein (chair) | secretary@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Outreach (vice-chair), Brendan Newcomb | bnewc62@hotmail.com |
| Publicity, Nichole Klatte | publicity@delawarelibraryfriends.org |
| Special Events, Penny Mong | events@delawarelibraryfriends.org |

Keep Current with the Friends!



For up-to-date info on ticket releases, events and more!

Facebook: Friends of the Delaware Library (@FriendsoftheDelawareLibrary)

Instagram: Delaware Library Friends

Twitter: @friendsofDCDL DW Library Friends

Website: delawarelibraryfriends.org

Email: Make sure the Friends have your **preferred email address**. Send it to membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org.

Not receiving our email? Please check your spam folder for event notices, newsletters and other information. We use MailChimp and you can unsubscribe if you choose. Your email is not shared beyond the Friends and DCCL.

2021 CALENDAR

May 6 Flower Sale ends
May 17, 4-6 pm Flower Pickup, The Barn at Stratford

www.delawarelibraryfriends.org

Evolving Future of DCCL: Part 2

(continued from page 1)

We will make this facility "future ready" by doing some things we didn't do at our other libraries. For example, we are going to have more widely separated programming and study areas at the new library so that people can read and think in peace, even when a fun, noisy kids' event is happening. We will have space for a Makers' Studio, even though we may not have that area fully provisioned on day one. We are putting in many more electrical outlets so users can keep their phones and tablets charged. We'll have considerably more parking.

And of course, the most important aspect is making sure we have a staff that keeps their ears open and their eyes on what people actually want and need. As hockey great Wayne Gretzky used to say "you want to skate to where the puck is going to be." We want our staff to know where people are going to be so we can meet them there!

One of the trends identified by the University of Washington's Information School is the concept of *Short Reading (formats that take advantage of short opportunities to help encourage reading among those that are pressed for time, reluctant to read, or distracted by technology)*. Does DCCL have plans to engage more citizens to short-read for critical information?

George: "Short reading" was described in an innovation paper for the American Library Association's Library of the Future Initiative in 2016, but it doesn't seem to have "caught fire." That being said, we have provided short-form materials as part of our service for many years, including: graphic novels, short stories, news magazines, and short survey texts on various topics.

We have also steered away from the belief that the only way to learn is through reading narratives. We recognize that there are many learning styles, so we offer videos, websites, online learning modules such as LinkedIn Learning, and even hands-on programs in addition to books.

Trying to attract adult nonreaders to reading just by making texts shorter seems pretty futile to me. I think it makes more sense to use the media people are comfortable with to convey the information they need.

Nicole: Summer reading programs encourage school-age (and younger) children to read an average of 15-minutes a day over the summer. Completed over several weeks, this adds up to hours of reading, making a large goal easily attainable and hopefully not-too-painful, while also retaining crucial reading skills that children have gained over the school year. (Adults are also encouraged to participate in these reading challenges, with added incentives).

Libraries can help reluctant readers of all ages find their niche. What do you want to consume? How do you want to consume it? How much time do you want to dedicate? I'd encourage anyone to try our new DCCL **Personalized Picks** service. You tell us the last few books that you read, what aspects you liked, and what you want us to steer you toward - or away from - for your next title. Then, we'll send you an email with a list of books that we think you might enjoy, based on your answers. Find it at www.delawarelibrary.org/personalized-picks. Submitted by Becky S. Cornett