Friends of the Library

Annual Report

May 2023

Welcome Friends, May 6, 2023

Purposes of the Association:

The purposes of this organization shall be to actively support the Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library by doing the following:

* Maintain an association of persons interested in books and libraries.
* Focus attention on library services and needs.
* Fundraise and stimulate gifts, desirable collections, endowments, and bequests.
* Strengthen reading interest and library information services for young people.

This statement was approved at the Board's annual review of the Bylaws. The current Bylaws can be found on the Friends page of [clarksville.org](http://clarksville.org) under the Your Library menu tab.

FOL is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, ten directors, and the immediate Past President of the Board. Officers are elected by the General Membership and serve a two-year term.

An election of officers was held in May of 2022 and are as follows:

Jennifer Ford, President

Jan Hodgson, Vice President

Christina Chester-Fangman, Secretary

Anne Black, Treasurer / Past-President

All officers are serving two-year terms and are just beginning the second year of the present term. Therefore, there will be no elections this year.

Board Directors are Jacqueline Crouch, Darwin Eldridge, Brenda Harper, Shirley Hood, Heather Clark Mendoza, Linda Nichols, Malinda Scott, and Barbara Wilbur.

We have two Board vacancies that we hope to fill by the end of the month.

Sadly, long-time Friend and Board member, Jim Marshall, passed away on January 19, 2023 in his home. He was 88 years old. In addition to the library, Jim was very active with Trinity Episcopal Church, The Roxy Theater, and other charitable organizations. Jim was a beloved part of our community and will be missed.

The Booktique continues to do well. The Booktique features fiction and non-fiction books, children's books, DVDs, audiobooks, and more, for $1 each! All funds raised by the Booktique support the Friends, which helps support important library programming and other forms of Library support. In the last 12 months (May 2022 – April 2023), the Booktique has brought in $9,362 of income.

The April and October Used Book Sales of 2022 raised approximately $13,800, and Friends contributed almost 700 hours of volunteer services in support of the 2022 sales.

The April 2023 Used Book Sale was a huge success. We had a great turnout from the community, and our Friends volunteers were outstanding. For the first time, we were able to accept card sales as a form of payment by using a Square Terminal, which significantly increased our income. The April 2023 Book Sale raised approximately $9,500 in book sales, tote bag sales, and membership dues. Our wonderful Friends volunteers and board members donated around 323 hours of their time. Our next book sale will be at the end of October.

On behalf of the Board, I thank all Friends for the support of the library. Our current membership for 2023 stands at 158.

At our last board meeting in April, we approved the Treasurer's Report, which, as of March 31, indicated current assets of $7,156.05 in our original certificate of deposit, $20,000 in our secondary certificate of deposit, $15,371.96 in the FOL bank account, and $70,310.24 in the account we hold for the Imagination Library (the program that sends books from birth to age 5).

This year (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023), Friends took in funds raised by the used book sales, membership dues, Friends of the Library tote bag sales, and the Booktique. Other significant sources of income were memorials and donations from generous groups and individuals.

This year (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023), Friends' support of the library included programming expenses for Harry Potter Night, Sci-Fi night, children’s holiday programs, supplies and prizes for teen and tween programs and lock-ins, supplies for the Noon Year’s Eve celebration, special story times, a new stand and monthly maintenance of the fish tank in the children’s room, and support of the Summer Reading programs. In addition to support of children and youth programming, approximately $3,924 was given to library support ($3,500 yearly support, Cricut software, Canva graphic software, and holiday gift cards for library staff), and $3000 to the Imagination Library.

Current volunteer opportunities for all Friends members include sorting through book donations, weekly stocking and refreshing of the Booktique, and volunteering for the Scholastic Book Sale in June, which raised $2,276.42 for the library last summer.

We remain the 501(c)3 organization for Imagination Library to hold donations in a separate account for the Clarksville Imagination Library Board.

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends and the Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ford, President