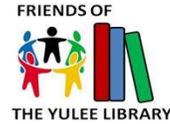


NEWSLETTER



A Message from the President Derryl B. Johnson



*Derryl B. Johnson
FOYL President*

Greetings Yulee community,

This month I would like to focus on the number one partner of Yulee Library and the Friends of the Yulee Library (FOYL) - the Betty P. Cook Nassau Center at the Florida State College Jacksonville (FSCJ). For almost two decades, the Yulee branch Library has shared a space within the college library. Now the college has graciously made even more space available for the Yulee Branch Library. Yulee is growing and our library is growing with it.

The new space is much larger and has a separate entrance. This will allow the

library to expand hours and provide more programs.

FOYL looks forward to helping the library go beyond its goals for this year and FSCJ has made this possible. Stay tuned for more information about the Grand Opening later this spring.

We've been corresponding with and actively pursuing relationships with several Yulee and Nassau County-based organizations. The responses have been favorable and future collaborations are in the near future. In addition, the Northeast Florida Library Information Network (NEFLIN), an organization

which specializes in providing services to member libraries to promote communities of excellence, invited members of FOYL to attend a workshop designed to challenge and enrich Friends groups. It was an informative and eye-opening experience -so much so that the NEFLIN presenter, Lawrence Webster, has been invited by the library director to visit the Yulee library next month. Thanks, NEFLIN - another new partner!

And last but not least, the FOYL recognizes Black History month and hopes to salute the black history of Yulee and Nassau County in the future

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New IRS Status for FOYL

As of December 2019, the Internal Revenue Service has recognized the Friends of the Yulee Library as a (501 c3) tax-exempt organization and a (509 a2) public charity.

That means that any donations or gifts given to FOYL are tax-deductible for the giver. Although membership fees have been the primary means of raising funds so far, FOYL can now begin accepting donations and monetary gifts.

March Public Meeting in the *new!* Yulee Library*

FOYL is pleased to announce that the March 19 meeting will be held in the new Yulee Library from 6pm-8:30pm.

Guest speaker Lawrence Webster of NEFLIN will be presenting "Great Friends Make Great Libraries".

The Yulee Branch Library is located at the Betty P. Cook Center at FSCJ Room B110 76346 William Burgess Blvd. Yulee FL 32097

**The library itself has not yet moved but the new space can be used for meetings.*

Library News from Dawn Bostwick

Nassau County Director of
Library Services



Dawn Bostwick

Yulee Branch Library Update:

The opening of our new Yulee Branch Library space is quickly moving ahead! The existing bulletin boards have been removed and the walls have been repaired and repainted. The opening of the closet door has been relocated to inside B110.

The new furniture is anticipated to arrive by

April 17th. Until the new furniture arrives, extra chairs and portable tables from the Fernandina Beach Branch have been sent, so the room may be used for meetings. Our first meeting to try out the space will be a staff meeting held on March 6th. Lawrence Webster, consultant and presenter, will present a follow up workshop to "Great Friends Help Make Great Libraries"

on March 19th.

Library staff are working on a design board that will feature photos of the furniture with fabric samples for everyone to see the final product. This is all very exciting, and we can hopefully look towards a Grand Opening event in May.

Meet the Librarians

Janet Loveless, Assistant Director of the Nassau County Public Library System



Janet Loveless

Janet Loveless is the Assistant Library Director for Nassau County. Before coming to Fernandina Beach, her extensive background as an educator carried her through multiple academic settings. She's been a public school media specialist, an administrator of a primary school, a community college instructor and a university reference librarian. She began her career in Nassau County as a reference librarian and now wears two hats – Assistant Director for the county and Managing Librarian of the Fernandina Beach Branch Library. "I love what I do," Janet said. "I've always wanted to be a librarian."

Janet is a passionate champion of equal access to computer technology for all students in Nassau County. Much of today's school work depends on research or online assignments. "I feel strongly that no student should be at a disadvantage due to issues affecting access to technology," she declared, "and I speak about this whenever I can."

Her time with the Nassau County Library has allowed Janet to observe the connection between the library system and an active Friends of the Library group. "People who join Friends organizations are dedicated to promoting literacy and improving the resources

provided by the library. I've watched the Friends of the Library in Fernandina Beach grow over the years. They started small and gradually increased their programs and activities." Ms. Loveless serves as an advisor to FOYL. "As Yulee grows, FOYL will become increasingly important as library advocates and information distributors. The community needs to know about the libraries and what they have to offer. We need people from all parts of Yulee to come together and engage with the library so that they can carry the word to the community about the benefits of the library system."

Letter from a Friend by Marcella Claridge, member FOYL

As a kid growing up in New York City, I never owned a book of my own. My library card was my access to a free bookstore. My weekly visits, arms laden with books, brought me to unknown lands, outer space, and events and people of the past. From the neighborhood branch of the library, I moved on to college and medical libraries, but the Richmond Hill library branch formed my love and enjoyment of reading.

When I read the ad in the local newspaper that a Friends of the Yulee Library was forming, I saw it as an

opportunity to give back by helping our branch grow its potential to provide quality services for our community. It was obvious from bringing my grandchildren to Story Hour at the Yulee library that the collection of books was small, the space cramped, and the available hours of operation limited. I also discovered in speaking with neighbors and friends that many people didn't know that Yulee had a library. How sad!

Through advocacy in the community, communication with civic leaders, fundraisers, and other events

our Friends group, working with the wonderful librarians in our system, can make a difference that benefits all ages from youth to senior citizens. With extended hours of operation and a larger space, we can offer evening and weekend hours for families to enjoy programming together or meetings rooms for community groups to keep seniors active and engaged with one another. Join us with your talents!

Marcella Claridge lives in Yulee with her husband Tom.



Marcella Claridge

FOYL Book Club by Lynn Steiner, Book Club Chairperson

What to Expect:

Since this is our first meeting, we'll spend roughly the first half of this meeting getting to know each other and setting up the guidelines for how future meetings will be conducted. The second half of the meeting will be dedicated to discussing the book.

How to Prepare:

Everyone is responsible for getting their own copy of the book and for reading it by meeting time. It's okay if you haven't quite finished

reading, but we won't be able to prevent "spoilers" during the discussion. Nobody will ever be put on the spot with a direct question, but please come prepared with at least one question or discussion point about the book that you would like to talk about.

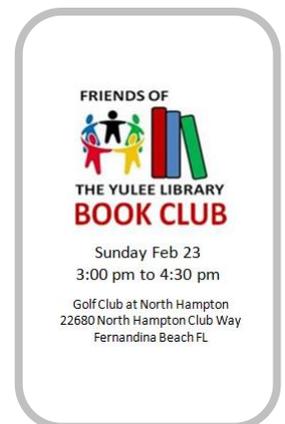
What's Next?

We'll meet every month. There will be a new discussion leader for each meeting. Usually, that's the person who has chosen the book, but we are open to a variety of

suggestions about how to choose a discussion leader. That person will moderate the open discussion, keep the conversation on topic, allow time for all those who wish to speak and provide thought-provoking prompts, if necessary.

Come join us!

*The book selection for February is **The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek** by **Kim Michele Richardson**. Copies are available at the Yulee Library.*



CONTACT:**FRIENDS OF THE
YULEE LIBRARY**

P.O. Box 472
Yulee, FL 32041-0472

E-Mail:

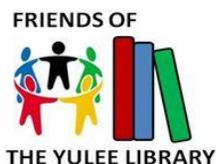
FriendsOfTheYuleeLibrary@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at
nassaureads.com/friends/yulee

Search for "*Friends of the Yulee Library*" on

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter



Community Question of the Month

"As a private citizen of Yulee, realistically what can I do to help the Yulee Library grow? I'm just one person."

Without a doubt, the very best thing you can do to help the Yulee library is to **use the library services and programs**. In the world of commerce, if a product is popular, the manufacturer will make an investment to be able to produce more of it to meet the public demand. The same is true for the library – if more people use the library goods and services, more investments will be made to

provide more books, more services and more programs.

So, what can one person do?

Go to the Yulee Library and

1. Sign up for a library card
2. Borrow a book, audio tape or DVD
3. Make use of the Cloud Library and download an eBook or eMagazine
4. Attend a library program
5. Repeat steps 2,3 &4

The more you use the library, the more it can offer to you. That's pretty powerful for just one person, isn't it?

About Our Organization

Public meetings of the *Friends of the Yulee Library* are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6pm to 7 pm at

the James S. Page Building

96135 Nassau Road, Yulee 32097

(Note location change for March 19)

The *Friends of the Yulee Library* is a volunteer non-profit organization that supports the library by helping with fundraising, promoting awareness of library events and sharing information to group members and to the general public. Our goals and projects are designed to help the Yulee branch library grow and to foster a strong, beneficial relationship between the Library and the community of Yulee.

2020 Meeting Dates

Jan. 9 OMB Conference Room
Feb. 13 BOCC Chambers
Mar. 19 Yulee Library
Apr. 9 BOCC Chambers

The Yulee Branch Library is located at
The Betty P. Cook Center at FSCJ
76346 William Burgess Blvd. Yulee FL 32097
phone 904 530 6560

[view map](#)

A library is more than just a building ...

a library is a cornerstone of the community.