



FRIENDS OF KANSAS LIBRARIES

Want to win? Get ideas here!

FoKL's 2018 Challenge Grants are available soon, so don't delay to apply for funds to help your library. Last year's winners shared the success of their proposed projects, and we now share some with you. There are so many ideas out there — take time to show us how we can help you! Go to <http://www.fokl.net> to learn how to apply by April 1.



Budding Bookworms

"The Liberal Memorial Library is thankful for the grant we received from the Friends of Kansas Libraries. Our membership in FoKL allowed us to apply for this grant. With our grant we purchased a book story cart that we use for our Budding Bookworms program. Each child who attends a story time gets a free book, and the cart allows us to wheel the choices out to the kids after story time. They get to select the book they want. We were also able to get a Kiwanis grant to help pay for the books. With our recent remodel putting quite the hit on our budget, having FoKL there to help pay for the cart was much appreciated."

*Royce Kitts, Director
Liberal Memorial Library*

Winning ideas, cont'd. on Page 2

Friends of Kansas Libraries is a statewide organization of groups and individual members committed to helping libraries meet the need and expectations of their communities. It can provide startup grants to communities establishing new Friends groups or having unique program needs and provides technical assistance to local groups upon request. *FoKL Point* is the official publication of Friends of Kansas Libraries.

For more information or to submit newsletter articles, please contact: Wendy Morlan, editor, Pleasanton Lincoln Library, P.O. Box 101, Pleasanton, KS 66075, pleaslinlib@ckt.net



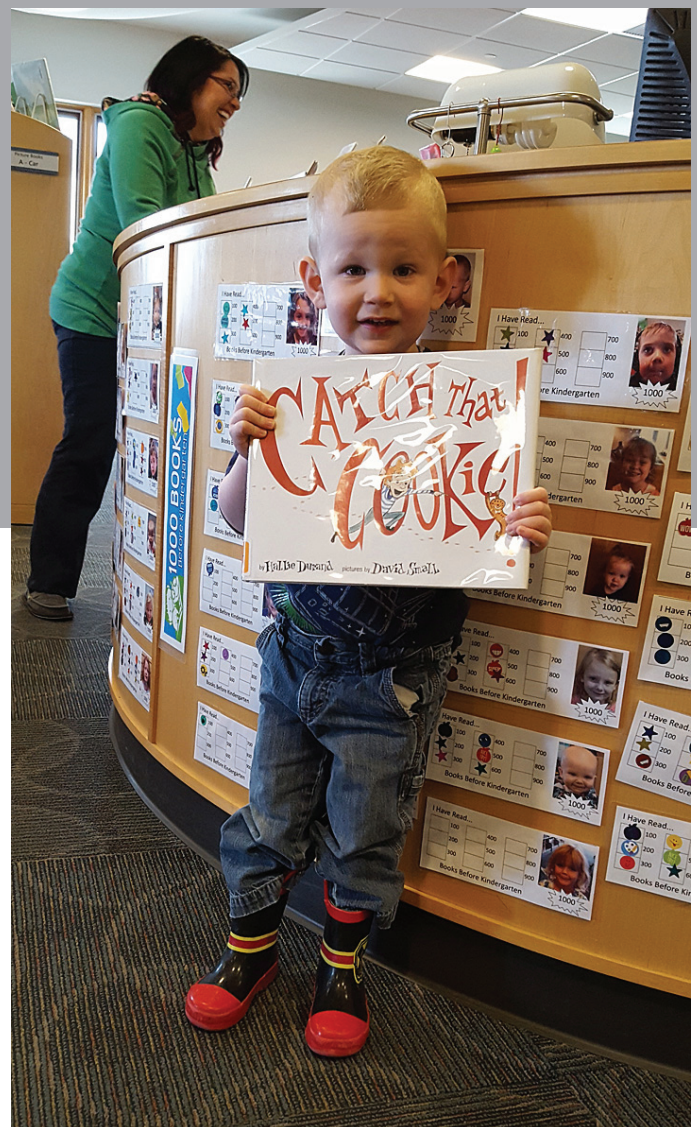
Winning ideas, cont'd.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

FoKL awarded the Friends of Basehor Community Library a \$250 grant to purchase books to support the library's 1000 Book Before Kindergarten program. Over 200 children have enrolled in the program. The 1000 Books program promotes reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers and encourages parents and children to bond through reading. Early reading has also been associated as an early indicator of academic success.

“We are thrilled to be able to give a free book to each child when they reach their goal. We really appreciate the grant from FoKL.”

*Erin Ragan, President
Friends of Basehor Community Library*



Winning ideas, cont'd.

Story Walk in the park

With a \$500 grant for construction of a Story Walk, Dodge City Public Library was able to construct 17 permanent sign posts in the city park. The ribbon cutting was September 30. The book inside the cabinets is changed every three months. They have received a lot of positive feedback from the community.



Winning ideas, cont'd. on Page 4

Thanks to Rozanna Bennett, Children's Service Coordinator,
Dodge City Public Library for this information.

Get Poppin' Membership Drive

Friends of the Independence Public Library was the recipient of a \$500 grant from FoKL in 2017 to support their Get Poppin' Membership Drive. The Friends reached out in three separate fall events to attract new members. They launched their membership drive at "Ghost Stories in the Park," a children's annual storytelling event sponsored by the Friends.

Then they entered a float in the Independence fall festival parade. Finally, the Friends held a chili feed at the Halloween Trunk or Treat.

At each event, they promoted the Friends group and passed out membership forms. The grant money from FoKL allowed the Friends group to restructure and reprint their membership forms and pay for the decoration of the parade float. Their efforts were successful. They were able to sign up 15 new younger members and got a lot of new volunteers.

"Our goal was to reach a new demographic for our Friends membership. Most of our members are retirees. We were reaching out to parents of young children, the 20- to 40-year-olds."

*Brandon West, Adult Services Coordinator
Independence Public Library*



Storyteller Jo Ho provides "Ghost Stories in the Park."

Winning ideas, cont'd. on Page 5

Winning ideas, cont'd.



Friends of Independence Library decorated this float for the fall festival parade.



The Friends also provided a chili feed during the Halloween Trunk or Treat.

Friends thank library staff

In December the Basehor Community Library Friends treated the library staff to a stuffed potato lunch, warm baked potatoes with lots of topping choices. It was the perfect treat for a cold winter day.



Erin Ragan, President of Friends of Basehor Community Library, and Jenne Laytham, Assistant Director of Basehor Community Library enjoy the treat of an in-house potato bar.



Haysville Happenings

The Friends of the Haysville libraries stay busy year-round, and the past few months are no exception. Thanks to Friends member Marion Renner, FoKL stays informed about their activities. We'll list a few here, and maybe you can steal some of these successful program ideas.

December was a busy month beginning with a Village Christmas event on December 3. An overflow crowd swarmed into the library to celebrate the start of the Christmas season. Friends members helped with the train exhibit, sharing with the quilters and handing out 12 gallons of hot cider. Train rides were popular, and children who attended received a train whistle.

Friends members, with the help of the Girl Scouts, decorated the library for Christmas by assembling and decorating nine trees in addition to other holiday decorations. They didn't stop there, but returned January 6 to dismantle the trees and pack away the decorations. But before the clean sweep, a Christmas Open House was held at the library. The event was well attended and included a wide variety of yummy foods to eat. The entire community was invited to celebrate the season and participate in a quilt drawing. The Friends provided drinks, tableware and acted as hosts.

January 27, Ken Spurgeon visited the library to discuss his latest documentary, "Home on the Range." The film tells the story of how the song came to be written, and conflicts over copyrights. The Ham 'n' Beans Potluck featured the event's famous ham and beans, and Friends members were asked to provide side dishes. Payment of membership dues was encouraged during this event.

Once again, March 14 Pi Day was celebrated at the library, with whole pies as well as slices sold to eager customers. The Friends were asked to bring pies to sell and/or help out with the event for an hour or two.

Membership Report

At the Fokl's recent board meeting in Salina, Membership Chair Janet Schmidt reported on the 38 memberships received recently. They include:

| | | | |
|-------------|----|-------------|----|
| Best Friend | 2 | Individuals | 15 |
| Bookworm | 2 | Libraries | 1 |
| Groups | 18 | | |

Have you sent in your membership dues this year?

FoKL BOARD MEMBERS

We call on you to be part of FoKL

Serving on the Board of Friends of Kansas Libraries offers “priceless” rewards. Our board members meet with enthusiastic and creative Friends throughout the state. Though volunteering takes time, it offers much satisfaction. Can you be a library advocate? Are you enthusiastic in your volunteer efforts? Are you willing to be part of a creative team that shapes the future of a statewide organization? Please note vacancies on the list below.

Officers:

President, Judy Burgess, Manhattan, jlb6468@sbcglobal.net

Vice-president/Governance Chair, Cathy Newland, Silver Lake, newland.cathy@gmail.com

Secretary/ Newsletter Editor, Wendy Morlan, Pleasanton, pleaslinlib@ckt.net

Treasurer/Finance Chair, Laura Carroll, Basehor, lc Carroll@basehorlibrary.org

Immediate Past-president, Carolyn Little, Topeka, little.carolyn67@gmail.com

Regional Trustees:

Northeast: Laura Carroll, Basehor, lc Carroll@basehorlibrary.org

North Central: vacant

Northwest: Vacant

Central: Janet Schmidt, Membership, Salina, janfraser@usa.net

Southeast: Vacant

South Central: Vacant

Southwest: Amy Brucker, Syracuse, director@syracuselibrary.info

Trustees at Large

#1 Barb Mathews, Eudora, j54b55@gmail.com

#2 Brenda Hough, Lawrence, bckhough@gmail.com

#3 Michaeline (Mickey) Chance-Reay, Manhattan, mreay@ksu.edu

#4 M.E. Grosdidier, Eudora, megrosdidier@yahoo.com

#5 Vacant

#6 Vacant

Special Board Members:

United for Libraries Liaison: vacant; Kansas Library Association contact: Judy Burgess; Kansas Library Trustee Association (KLTA) Liaison: vacant; FoKL Web Site Coordinator: Carolyn Little

FoKL, c/o Northeast Kansas Library System, 4317 W. 6th, Lawrence, KS 66049