



# FRIENDS FOCUS

Volume 10, Issue 1 - September 2014

## PAST PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

After 7 long years of being President of the Friends of Lakes Regional Library I have decided to retire. I have enjoyed immensely working with the Friends and the Library Staff and I plan to stay involved. I wish the best to Jane Ann and the Friends Board as they continue to serve the Library. Thanks for supporting me all these years.

**Dee Ahlfeld, Past President**

## JOANNE FISCHER RETIRES

By the time you read this issue of the Lakes Friends' Focus, I will have retired from Lee County Library System. The successes that we have seen at Lakes Regional Library are equally due to the steadfast support of the Lakes Friends group and the professional, energetic attitudes of the library staff. I will miss everyone very much but it is time for me to move on to another adventure. Jill Horrom, previously Senior Librarian and Head of Reference, will take my place as Principal Librarian/Regional Manager. With her professional leadership, you are in good hands. The library department managers, Hilde Adinolfo, Circulation Coordinator, and Chrissie Bishop, Youth Services Senior Librarian, are the other members of this very capable team. A new Senior Librarian/Head of Reference will be hired to replace Jill. I cannot begin to list the accomplishments that you have achieved as our Friends group over these nine years that Lakes has been open. From programs for all ages to facility needs including shelving, work area re-design and an enormous purchase of the AMH 24/7 equipment, you have been supportive of us.

I wish every member of the Friends of Lakes Regional Library the very best and I sincerely thank you for your loyal support of me as the Principal Librarian/Regional Manager, this extraordinary library staff and our Lakes Regional Library. It has been such a pleasure to know all of you and work together with you. I know going forward that you, Lakes Regional Library and this amazing staff will soar to new heights of success!

Thank you for everything,

**Joanne Fischer**  
Former Principal Librarian/Regional Manager

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This summer Friends of Lakes Regional Library has seen many changes. President Dee Ahlfeld and Secretary Flo Morris retired as of the end of June. Then Joanne Fischer announced she was retiring and moving out of the area and Jill Horrom has been promoted to take Joanne's place. Since I moved into the President's position Marge Ford has agreed to become Vice President.

We are currently looking for members to volunteer to fill some committee

# NEED VOLUNTEERS

positions. These are Lunch Reservation chair, assistant to Publicity chair and Display case chair to be filled. If anyone would like to help with any of our committees please let me know.

I hope to see many of our members at the Sept. 12 meeting and lunch. We will have more details on ongoing events and activities.

Jane Ann Kennedy,  
President

## MESSAGE FROM THE NEW BRANCH MANAGER

Hello, Friends of the Library! I am happy to be writing this as the new Branch Manager of Lakes Regional Library. I was so lucky to work with the recently retired Joanne Fischer for nine years as the Head of Reference here at Lakes Regional. We will miss her very much and I appreciate your patience with me as I work to fill her (figurative) big shoes! Please stop by to say "Hi" and let me know if there is anything I can do to improve your library experience.

**Thank You, Jill Horrom**

**FRIENDS OF LAKES  
REGIONAL LIBRARY**

15290 Bass Road  
Fort Myers, FL 33919  
friendslakeslibrary@gmail.com

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Jane Anne Kennedy  
Vice President: Marge Ford  
Secretary:  
Treasurer: Len Ahlfeld  
Past President: Dee Ahlfeld

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Display Case:  
Focus: Len Ahlfeld  
Historian: Colleen Wheeler  
Lunch: Cindy Ahrens  
Jane Ann Kennedy  
Membership: Pat Davidson  
Nook Books: Anita Jenkins  
Program: Gillian Emery  
Publicity: Ginny Testa  
Volunteers: Jane Ann Kennedy

**LEE COUNTY LIBRARY  
ADVISORY BOARD**

Len Ahlfeld

**MEETINGS**

September thru May  
2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the Month  
Lakes Regional Library

11:30 AM Meeting  
12:00 noon Lunch  
1:00 PM Guest Speaker

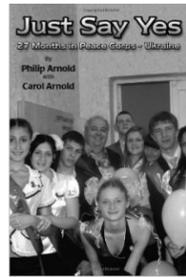
**WELCOME NEW  
MEMBERS**

**Helen Donegan  
Jelena Gill  
Wendi & Ray Green  
Rosemary Lewis  
Ken McAfee  
Linda Meredith  
Shirley Stewart**

**SEPTEMBER GUEST AUTHORS**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2014 AT 1:00 PM**

**Phil and Carol Arnold** served as Peace Corps volunteers from 2006 to 2008 after long and satisfying careers with the Railroad Retirement Board, an agency of the federal government. Peace Corps assigned them to Ukraine to serve as English teachers in one of the most charming cities in Eastern Europe - Sevastopol on the Southern tip of the Crimean Peninsula. Their book, *Just Say Yes - 27 Months in Peace Corps - Ukraine*, is a collection of essays, journal entries, and correspondence, in which Phil and Carol paint a compelling picture of day-to-day life as Peace Corps volunteers serving as English teachers. Their personal motto - "Just say yes", yes to every offer of hospitality, yes to each invitation no matter how tired they were or how seemingly boring or unfamiliar the activity - led to many rich and rewarding experiences. In this book, you will read about the Peace Corps experience from the perspective of someone more than 30 years older than the typical volunteer. You will experience the naiveté and frustrations of trying to blend into a new culture, the stress of learning a new language, and the satisfaction of ending a two-year service commitment with many new friends and a job well and meaningfully done.



The book is especially timely given the events that have transpired in Ukraine and the Crimean Peninsula in recent months. There are many passages in the book that address some of the underlying issues and attitudes that led to the Russian annexation of Crimea.

**September 12, 2014**

**Lunch Menu - \$10.00**  
(From Jason's Deli)



**Traditional Sandwich Box:** with lettuce & tomato. *Meat choices:* oven-roasted turkey breast, chicken salad with almonds & pineapple, tuna salad with eggs, roast beef, or premium ham. *Bread choices:* white, whole grain wheat, or rye. Includes baked chips and chocolate chip cookie.

**Spinach Veggie Wrap Box:** organic wheat wrap stuffed with organic spinach, fresh-made guacamole and pico, mushrooms and asiago. Served with a side of fresh-made salsa. Includes baked chips and fruit.

**Chicken Caesar Salad Box:** fresh romaine, asiago, croutons and creamy Caesar dressing. Topped with natural grilled chicken breast. Includes chocolate chip cookie.

**Added Special Salad - \$12**

**Chicken Club Salad:** Natural, grilled chicken breast tops mixed salad greens, grape tomatoes, sliced avocado, cheddar, asiago and bacon with fresh-made ranch dressing. Includes a chocolate chip cookie.

Arizona iced tea, coffee, hot tea are provided. Sharing and brown bagging are OK.

For LUNCH ORDERS call JANE ANN KENNEDY @ 239- 437-0649 or e-mail [janeannk2004@yahoo.com](mailto:janeannk2004@yahoo.com) by noon Wednesday, September 10, 2014.

**PROGRAMS AT LAKES LIBRARY**

Parent Workshop – How the Library Can Help Your Child Succeed

Tuesday, September 23 at 6:30 PM

The library offers so many resources to help children with school work! Come and learn about how to find homework help, e-resources, where to find important books, and what the librarians can help with! This workshop is designed for parents but children may attend.

**Registration Required, 533-4000 option #3.**

**ENGLISH CAFE**

Mondays, September 8, 15, 22 at 6:00 PM

**Conference room B**

The 90-minute sessions provide adult learners an opportunity to practice speaking English with Native speakers. Topics include everyday situations, current events, and cultural areas.

**Participants may start at any time.**  
**Advance registration is not necessary**

**NEW STAFF MEMBERS**



**JOHN TOWER**

John Tower is our new full time Page at the Lakes Regional Library. John is a third generation Floridian, and recently retired after 25 years as a member of the Florida Highway Patrol. Prior to his career in law enforcement, John graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology. He is married to his wonderful wife of 28 years, Cyndy, and has a middle school aged son, named James. John is an avid reader, football fan and dog lover.

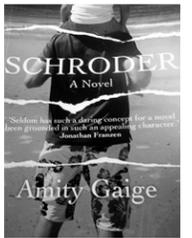


**KASEY FAUGHN**

Kasey is the new Library Associate, Circulation Supervisor at Lakes Regional Library. Kasey has lived in many different places and moved to Fort Myers in May from Kentucky where she is from originally. Kasey enjoys spending time with her children, traveling, music, art, going to the beach, and of course reading.

**BOOK DISCUSSIONS**

*Schroder* by Amity Gaige  
Tuesday September 16 at 2:00 PM



Read and discuss this this novel by Amity Gaige. Alternately lovesick and ecstatic, Amity Gaige's deftly imagined novel offers a profound meditation on history and fatherhood, and the many identities we take on in our lives—those we are born with and those we construct for ourselves.

**Registration Required, 533-4000 option #3**

**Display Case**

The display case this month features items from the Ukraine loaned by Phil and Carol Arnold, our September guest authors, and Colleen Wheeler. These items were collected during their service in the Peace Corps.

**SUMMER READING 2014**

The Youth Services department just wrapped up another successful Summer Reading Program! A total of 1,219 children registered, surpassing last year's total. We hosted 7 special events for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade children, supporting this year's theme: "Fizz, Boom, Read!" To extend the science fun, staff transformed one of the children's study rooms into a Mad Scientist Lab, complete with a different hands-on science experiment for kids each week. Approximately 800 children visited the science lab this summer. The Youth Services staff would like to extend a huge thank you to the Friends of Lakes Regional Library! Your generous support funded our special events, prize books, and supplies for the Mad Scientist Lab. On behalf of our youngest patrons, thank you for a great summer!

The Teens had record participation in the "Spark a Reaction" Summer Reading Program this year – 69 game boards were given out to children between the ages 11 to 18. The teens read books, wrote book reviews, checked items out from the library collection and more to earn teen bucks that they spent at the End of Summer Auction on prizes like movie gift cards, games and books. The Reference staff offered interesting programs like chess and book discussions to keep the teens engaged over the summer. Thanks again to the Friends of Lakes Regional Library for monetary support for the prizes.

**Chrissie Bishop-Youth Services and  
Jill Horrom-Teen Services**