

# BETWEEN FRIENDS

News for Friends Of Georgia Libraries

## FOGL Receives Commendation

Governor Sonny Perdue presented Friends of Georgia Libraries with a special commendation on September 26. On hand to celebrate the occasion were State Librarian **Lamar Veatch**, FOGL President **Jenny McCurdy**, VP **Mary Lee Davis**, Board Members **Debbie Manget** and **Elaine Yontz**, and most importantly, Friends of Libraries **Amber Loyd**, **Rita Spisak**, **Alma Ruth Byrd**, **Debbie Cushing**, and **Jack Fisher**. FOGL Board Treasurer Wally Eberhard was overheard proclaiming this as a "good moment in FOGL's young history!"



## The Guru is Coming, The Guru is Coming...

The FOGL annual fall workshop will feature **Stephanie Vance**, the nationally known "Advocacy Guru" and author of *Government By the People: How to Communicate With Congress*. Join other Friends of Georgia Libraries Friday, November 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Decatur Library Auditorium for "Grassroots Advocacy: Shaking the Money Tree."



Attendees will learn how to influence local government agencies to adequately fund Georgia's libraries. Vance promises a highly interactive workshop with plenty of opportunity for questions and discussion of issues.

The workshop includes a speaker's reception on Thursday evening, November 15, 6 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Decatur. For registration information, visit [www.georgia-friends.org](http://www.georgia-friends.org).

## Quick Tips for Friends

- To enhance communication, designate a Friends member to attend your library board's regular meetings.
- Host an "each-one-reach-one" campaign to boost your membership.
- Are all the library volunteers members of your group? Invite them to your next meeting!
- Forward this newsletter to all your members who have e-mail. Print out and mail to the others.

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## Friends Donate Books to the 3rd Brigade of 3rd Infantry Division

The **Muscookee County Friends of Libraries** (Columbus) showed support for soldiers in Iraq by donating 1150 paperback books to the 3rd Brigade of 3rd Infantry Division. Mary Lawler, wife of 203rd BSB commander Lt. Col. Kelly Lawler, contacted the library seeking donations to send to the unit. The 203rd BSB supports the 3rd Infantry Division with facilities and services for soldiers in the field. Among the facilities is a tent that serves as a library.



Grace and Shannon Lawler help their mom and Carolyn Smoot box books to send to Dad in Iraq.

## Group Benefits Expanded

Recently the FOGL Board of Directors decided to extend a special benefit to Friends of the Library group members. Your Friends group can join FOGL for \$50. And now that will entitle the group to send 5 of its members to events at the reduced member rate.

The bylaws allow only one vote per member (group or individual), so for maximum participation, many will also want an individual membership.

## Athens Regional Library Friends News

More than 300 people attended the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Café au Libris, hosted by **Friends of Athens-Clarke County Library**, on October 12. This unique evening at the library included books, local authors, delicious desserts and coffee, and live music. Authors Mary Kay Andrews, Terry Kay, Ferrol Sams, and Grady Thrasher with illustrator Elaine Hearn Rabon were on hand to autograph their latest books and to share thoughts and insights on being an author.

The **Friends of the Lavonia Library** once again sponsored a successful Fun Run/Walk. Money from this popular annual event will help purchase extras for the library such as new chairs, large print books, Vacation Reading Program incentives, and a new alarm system for their historic building.

The **Royston Friends of the Library** held a Staff Appreciation Day and had a book sale booth at Royston's Fall Festival in October. **Bogart Friends** once again prepared baskets of goodies to raffle off at the Bogart Fall Festival, making about \$320.

## The Grammar Matter

Some of you have no doubt read our newsletter title and winced. Yes, we do know that "between" is used for two people, and "among" for more than two! We chose this title in spite of that fact, because we like the connotations of "Between Friends."

FOGL is a grassroots organization, and our success in communicating our message depends on one-on-one interactions in local communities, as well as group activities. As you read your newsletter, there are two parties involved—the printed page and you. So we're sticking with our decision, and hope you'll let the grammar slide this time!