

FRIENDS

OF
THE **MOBILE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

WINTER 2020-2021

Annual Meeting Plans

First, the bad news: following health guidelines, FOMPL has cancelled the in-person portion of our 2021 Annual Meeting. The good news is that Patti Callahan Henry has agreed to be our guest on Thursday, January 20, 2022, so mark your calendars now!

Patti Callahan Henry is a New York Times and USA Today best-selling author of fifteen novels, including *BECOMING MRS. LEWIS* writing as Patti Callahan, which earned her both The Harper Lee Distinguished Writer of the Year for 2020 and the Alabama Library Association Book of the Year for 2019. On March 9, 2021, *SURVIVING SAVANNAH*—a new historical fiction novel based on the true story of the Steamship Pulaski wreck will be released. A graduate of Auburn University, the full-time author resides in both Mountain Brook, Alabama, and Bluffton, South Carolina with her husband.

While we won't be meeting in person this January, we must vote on the 2021 Budget and Slate of Officers. Please join us on Zoom to cast your vote.

2021 Business Meeting - Thursday, January 21, 2021 5-5:15 p.m.

Zoom Details: Meeting ID: 952 3044 1740

Passcode: 942111

Technical Assistance: 251-281-5344



GRAND BAY LIBRARY & MUSEUM

10379 Freeland Ave.

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Grand Bay Library Opens

More than a decade in the making, the Grand Bay Library is NOW OPEN!

The Citizens for a Better Grand Bay and The Friends of the Grand Bay Library worked hard to secure the necessary funding over the years, and the County Commission, with funds earmarked by former Commissioner Carl, have allocated money for an annual operating budget.

Librarian Veronica McCoo and her staff look forward to seeing you soon!

Questions & Answers with Margie Calhoun



A familiar face became Director of the Mobile Public Library earlier this year.

We sat down with Margie to ask a few questions to get to know her better.

Q: You've worked at so many MPL locations over the years. Where would we have seen you?

A: My very first job at MPL was Reference Librarian at Moorer. Subsequently, I've been manager at Toulminville, Cottage Hill, West Regional, and Ben May. I became Assistant Director in 2017.

Q: What's the best book you've read this year?

A: *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid. I'm starting *Begin Again* by Eddie Glaude.

Q: What's the strangest Dewey Decimal Classification?

A: The Dewey classification for house plans is domestic architecture. Never had patron come in and ask for that!

A Message from Marie Mack

Whew! When 2020 began, we had no idea what was to come. This is always the way of time: things can change whether good or bad, up or down. It is how we react that will define the times. We, the Friends of the Mobile Public Library (FOMPL), continue our mission to actively support the library through advocacy, volunteer services, and fundraising.

The Library is an equalizer. The MPL provides free access to information for all. People can check out materials, learn a language, use a computer, take a course, apply for a job, join a book club, obtain book recommendations, and attend Zoom story time among many other services the Library provides. In these unprecedented times, the Library is constantly evolving to provide the public with services in new ways. After years of dedication and hard work, there is a new branch in Grand Bay to provide local services for even more patrons of the Library.

To all the Friends who have renewed, thank you because this enables us to continue the great work of supporting the staff and various programs throughout our system. If you are already a Friend, we thank you greatly and remind you to renew now for 2021. If you were a Friend in the past or have never been a Friend, please consider joining online at MobilePublicLibrary.org/Friends or by completing the membership form in this newsletter. To those who have not renewed or have yet to join, now is a great time to do so. The FOMPL is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and many companies match donations enabling you to double or possibly even triple your impact. Check with your HR department to see if your company will match!

Let us concentrate more on what we have and what we can do. Now more than ever, achieving the mission of the Friends is important in helping the Library remain accessible to all in the community. Help us to remain a stable source of support for the MPL. Be versatile. Be kind to your fellow humans. Stay Safe.

Marie Mack
President, FOMPL

DID YOU KNOW?

The Franklin Society's lending library, which was started in 1835, caught on fire which ended its existence. Fortunately, some books were saved and turned over to Miss Addie Moses who began a "public" library in 1874 to 1916. The Mobile YMCA also had a subscription library which opened in 1856.

2021 Proposed Budget

Revenue		
Fundraising		
Merchandise Sales	1,500.00	
Book Sale	35,000.00	
Gala/Author Events	1,000.00	
Membership Dues	18,000.00	
Donations	500.00	
Donations - Memorial Gifts	500.00	
Total Revenue	56,500.00	
Expenses		
Gifts to Library		
Direct Grants to Library	18,000.00	
SLP Children's program	3,000.00	
SLP Teen Program	3,000.00	
SLP Adult Program	3,000.00	
Database Sponsorship	5,000.00	
Employee of the Year	250.00	
Employee/Volunteer Recognition	3,750.00	
Staff Training (Conf., Meals, etc.)	3,000.00	
Library Board Recognition	300.00	
Subtotal Gifts to Library	39,300.00	
Fundraising		
Book Sale	3,500.00	
Gala/Author Events	5,000.00	
Subtotal Fundraising Expenses	8,500.00	
Publicity/Advertising	2,500.00	
Membership		
Advocacy	250.00	
Annual Meeting/Writing Contest	4,000.00	
Membership	2,000.00	
Board Development	1,000.00	
Subtotal Membership Support	7,250.00	
Administrative Costs		
Office Supplies	100.00	
Postage	1,500.00	
P.O. Box Rental	300.00	
Printing/Newsletter	2,500.00	
Merchandise for Sale	2,000.00	
Miscellaneous	500.00	
Subtotal Administrative Costs	6,900.00	
	Total Expenses	64,450.00
	Net Surplus/Deficit	(7,950.00)

Proposed Board Members

Officers

Marie Mack

President

Kathy Hamilton

First Vice President

Kelley Lamberth

Second Vice President

Catherine Pierce

Secretary

Amber Guy

Treasurer

Members-at-Large

Russell Adams

Mary Banks

Sarah Berg

Aletha Boudreaux

Diana Cox

Richard Hopkins

Valerie Longa

Raven McShan

If you'd like to be a part of the our-board, please contact us at mobilealfol@gmail.com

Friends of the Mobile Public Library

2021 Membership Contribution

When you become a Friend of the Library member, you become an advocate for the Library.
All contributors will enjoy the full benefits of membership.

Partner - \$500 Patron - \$250 Sponsor - \$100 Associate - \$50 Regular - \$30

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Date _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Name and Address as they should appear on our mailing list

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name as it should appear on the roster in our Newsletter

Name _____

New Member Membership Renewal

**Did you know that you can join or renew your Friends membership online?
Go to mobilepubliclibrary.org/friends**

After you fill out the membership form online, please select your membership level and click the *Join Online Now* button to pay using a credit card with PayPal's secure online check-out. You do not need to have a PayPal account to make your payment.

Donations to The Friends of the Mobile Public Library are tax-deductible as we have been recognized as a tax exempt organization by the IRS, under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code



Visit our website at mobilepubliclibrary.org/friends