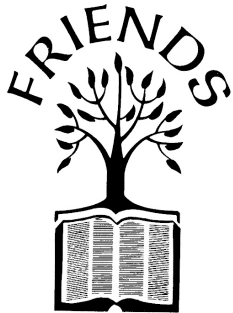


2011-2012

September



**Friends
of the
Rockwall
County
Library**

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2011 CALENDAR

- Sept. 13 **General Meeting**
Location/Time: Rockwall County Library, 11:00 am
Program: Support Your Troops with Linda Robinson, USO Volunteer Coordinator
Catered by: Zach’s Catering
- Oct. 1 - 30 **Pumpkin Patch**
Location/Time: Ridge Road Center Parking Lot, 9:00 am - 7 pm daily
- Oct. 11 **Lunch Basket**
Location/Time: Rockwall County Library, 11:00 am
Program: MusicFest Presents “Music Viva”
Catered by: Zach’s Catering
- Dec. 13 **9th Annual Christmas Luncheon**
Location/Time: The Center at Rockwall City Place, 11:00 am
Program: Holiday Table Settings & The Rockwall High School Jazz Band
Catered by: Zach’s Catering

GENERAL MEETING, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Rockwall County Library, Community Room

Catered by: Zach’s Catering

Program: "Supporting Our Troops at Home and Abroad", guest speaker, Linda Robinson

We are thrilled to have Linda Robinson to speak to us: she has been with the USO (United Service Organization) since 2004. In 2007 she served as the Program Manager of the USO in Balad, Iraq, and helped to establish the first USO in theater at Joint Base Balad. While there, Linda was also instrumental in the start up and operation of United Through Reading program. After returning home in November 2008, Linda serves the USO at DFW Airport as the Volunteer Coordinator. This will be a very informative and patriot program that we are sure you will enjoy.

Becky Achenbach & Darlene Bealmear, Program Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP / YEARBOOK

If you have not renewed your membership, please mail your dues and membership form to PO Box 1371, Rockwall TX 75087 or you may pay at the meeting.

The Yearbook will be distributed at the **September** meeting this year. If you are unable to attend the meetings, please arrange for someone to pick up your Yearbook to cut down on mailing costs.

Jane Buie, Pat Calhoun , Membership Co - Chair

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT....Kathleen Broze

Congratulations for surviving the long, HOT summer in Rockwall. However, there is always a silver lining...all the more reason to sit inside and read a good book. The Library has had record numbers participating in the Summer Reading programs for children, teens and adults. It is a "COOL" place to be seen!

There have also been some other HOT topics facing the Library since last we met in May. Through your voices at Town Hall Meetings, Commissioners Court Meetings, as well as by email and personal contact with our County Judge and Commissioners you have prevented the outsourcing of the Library Management and the worst case scenario of budget cuts. However, the final vote to adopt the budget will be on September 15th at 9:00 a.m. in the Historic Courthouse. At this writing, the Library will be cut by \$200,000 which will result in reductions in staffing, services and programs.

Even though Friends contributed over \$75,000 to the library last year, the need in the future will be even greater. I know we can continue to count on your unwavering support. How can you help? Pumpkin Patch is a start. We need three more week captains and a Grounds Operations Chairman. You will be able to sign up at meetings and online this year to work shifts. It will be a great opportunity to enjoy the fall and meet new friends. Other opportunities are to help underwrite one of our Lunch Baskets and to invite your friends and family members to join Friends.

We have been blessed with a fantastic Board and Committee Chairmen. They have done a great job preparing an exciting year for Friends. Put on your red, white and blue and come support our troops at the September General Meeting and get ready for fall at Pumpkin Patch. I look forward to meeting and working with each of you.



THE PUMPKIN PATCH

October 1 - 30, 9 am to 7 pm

New this year, sign up to work a shift at the Patch in your PJs from the comfort of your home. This year Pumpkin Patch is going on-line with its sign up sheets. Links will be provided on the volunteer page of our website, www.RockwallPumpkinPatch.com, you will be able to see what activities and time slots volunteers are needed and enter your contact information and make a commitment on line. You will even be sent an email to confirm the dates/times and activities that you committed to. If you have questions email volunteer@RockwallPumpkinPatch.com.

HELP WANTED!

Due to the recent County financial crisis, substantial cuts were made to the Rockwall County Library budget. These cuts will impact library personnel, programming, and funding new materials. We, as a community, need to step forward and assist the library in as many ways as possible.

Lunch Basket Underwriters...We need to find underwriters for the three Lunch Baskets. Do you know of a business or an individual who would contribute a minimum of \$100 up to \$500? The profits from the lunches fund programs for children, teens, adults, and adult literacy. We will feature the underwriters' names prominently in press releases and at the event.

Pumpkin Patch....is just around the corner. The Patch is the largest fund raiser for the Friends of the Library and absolutely necessary for funding library programs. Please be thinking of ways you can help. We still need week captains for the first two weeks and a set-up/tear-down chairperson.

Book Alcove...Don't forget the Book Alcove at the library. Selling books is only possible when you donate gently used books and media.

Contact Linda Garrett (fundraising@friendsofrockwallcountylibrary.com) if you have any ideas for fund raising activities. We want everyone to enjoy our beautiful, new library and share in the excitement of new programs and materials.

LIBRARY NEWSFrom Marcine McCulley

Another extraordinary summer at the Library is drawing to a close. The Library staff members have managed all of the special activities and extra circulation beautifully, despite concerns over proposed county budget cuts and the potential impact on staffing levels. Summer Reading Program participation was excellent, with 2,435 registered for the children's and infant programs, 506 registered for the teen program, and 76 registered for the adult program. Attendance at special summer events included 5,459 children, 2,939 adults and 532 teens. In the months of June and July, the library had 42,401 visitors who checked out 80,969 items and used the internet computers 7,214 times and the children's educational computers 1,670 times.

This summer we had 85 volunteers who helped at the registration tables and with programs, in addition to the wonderful volunteer shelvers and tutors who help at the Library throughout the year. In addition to the special summer events, we offered eight storytimes each week including one per week in Spanish, family movies on Mondays and Wednesday Games and Gab. Terrific Thursdays brought great professional performers including some new talent from a marionette group and long time favorites like the Critter Man. The "Read to Your Bunny" program for families with infants up to age 2 was new this summer. Ninety-eight families participated in this fun program to encourage the development of early literacy skills.

Thank you for the fantastic support that the Friends provide to the County Library throughout the year, both in monetary donations and volunteer support. You help make all of these wonderful activities possible for our community.

Marcine McCulley, Library Director

TABLE HOSTESSES NEEDED FOR 9th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Sign up now to create a holiday table for eight for this special Lunch Basket held on December 13, 2011 at The Center at Rockwall CityPlace, S. Goliad at Washington Street. Friends of the Library will set up large round tables with white tablecloths. You will add your special touch with your favorite china, flatware, crystal, and centerpiece.

Don't worry about having dirty dishes to take home. Lunch and desserts will be served on clear plates and your dinner plates will be used as chargers. Doors will open at 11 o'clock for the public to view the tables. The RHS Jazz Band and director Mike McGill will entertain with seasonal music followed by a buffet lunch catered by Robert Zachary who provided the food last year.

For more information about hosting a table, call Pat Calhoun at 972-772-1863, or Nell Welborn at 972-722-3084.

RESERVATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We will be taking paid reservations for the Christmas Luncheon at the September meeting. If you want to make a reservation, please be prepared to pay at the meeting. Cost for the Christmas luncheon is \$20.00. Only paid reservations will be taken. Please pay separate from you payment for lunch.

To make a reservation after the September meeting contact Pat Calhoun at the number above or by e-mail at christmas_lunch@friendsofrokwallcountylibrary.com This is reservations for the Christmas Luncheon only.

MEETING & LUNCH BASKET RESERVATIONS

All reservations must be made by 5:00 pm the Friday preceding the meetings and/or Lunch Baskets. For all reservations (except Christmas Luncheon) Contact Leigh Plagens, 972-771-8976 or email lunch@friendsofrokwallcountylibrary.com. Unless cancelled by deadline, a reservation made is a reservation paid!