

Friends of Delaware Libraries Annual Report for 2015-2016

We're Friends Helping Friends Make Libraries Better!

Our mission is three-fold: Outreach to Friends groups in Delaware, Advocacy for our libraries, and networking for the common good. We invite all Friends of Libraries to join us in fulfilling our mission.

The Friends Board was reactivated in 2014 with present board members as follows:

President, Kay Bowes (Brandywine Hundred Library)

Secretary, Theo Loppatto (South Coastal Library)

Treasurer, Terri Allen (Kent County Public Library)

Members at Large:

Bob Wetherall (Dover Public Library)

Kay Wheatley (Seaford Public Library)

Gwen Elliott (Dover Public Library)

We are still seeking members from New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties to round out the Board.

Currently the Friends has twenty-seven (27) individual members, with seven (7) Friends groups as members.

The Friends of Delaware Libraries Board members met several times for planning and creation of an Advocacy Plan for Delaware Library Friends Boards, which will be ready in early fall of 2016.

Accomplishments this year:

- Contribution of books to Kent County's "Everybody Reads"
- Established a Friends of Delaware Libraries FaceBook page
- Were instigators for establishing a Friends/Trustees Special Interest Group in the Delaware Library Association
- Frequently forwarded and/or originated information on the Delaware Friends listserv
- Contributed monies for the Blue Hen Prize poster for all libraries
- Both Kay Wheatley and Kay Bowes (FODL Board members) participated in the Delaware Library Town Meeting by presenting TED Talks on Advocacy
- Donated prizes for the Delaware Library Town Meeting in December and in June
- Donated prizes for the Delaware Library Legislative Day in April
- Participated in the Delaware Library Legislative Day (Dover, DE) and in the American Library Association Library Legislative Day (Washington DC)

- Members attended Delaware State Joint Finance Committee Hearings and provided goodies for the legislators
- Provided an Auction Basket for the Delaware Library Association/Maryland Library Association Conference
- Attended workshops at the DLA/MLA Conference on Advocacy