

ROOTS & BRANCHES CELEBRATES TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County was founded twenty-five years ago in the former library on W. Rich Ave., DeLand. Once organized, in 1989, they were given a second floor room when the current library was opened three years later. The society originally was formed to educate the members and the public in research and exchange of family histories. During the early times, genealogical research consisted of asking relatives, information in books, IGI, films, courthouses, newspapers, and lots of traveling. The bulk of IGI came through member donations. Readers frequently broke down as did film machines with cranks. There was an active book committee and a person assigned to ordering and returning films.



Through donations of members and Friends of the Library, collections have continued to grow into one of the best in the county. The collection consists of many books, periodicals, a large vertical file, films, readers, a computer, the 1850 census on CD, obituaries, local newspapers and other sources for research.

The society attempts to keep the room staffed with volunteers. Experienced members are available to help new volunteers acquaint themselves with the room. General membership meetings, under the guidance of their president Rosemary Sutton, are held the third Sunday, September through June, at 2:00 p.m. in the library auditorium. These consist of a short business meeting followed by a program usually featuring a guest speaker. Beginner classes are given at 1:00 prior to the general meeting. Both are open to anyone interested in genealogy. New members, volunteers and interested guests are welcome.

Speak of the moderns without contempt and of the ancients without idolatry; judge them by their merits, but not by their age.
Lord Chesterfield

From the pen of our president



Recently I read about what was called the library of the future that had opened in a suburb of Chicago. Crowds gathered to see the three story building that cost \$39.5 million and featured flat screen TVs, computer terminals, self-checkout stations, an automated book sorter, state-of-the-art Wi-Fi equipped space and a café. Nearby stood the former one story brick building built in 1975, that was now awaiting the wrecking machine. The new library, it was said, would serve as a technology blueprint, as iPads, Kindles and Nooks replaced dusty old paperbacks. And the article ended with what seemed almost an afterthought. It said the library came with a dedicated reading room for the more traditional library user. It closed by saying, "We always have books. We always have people who want books." I'm glad they discovered that.

Then there are other libraries, but not any duplicates of the Haskell Free Public Library and Opera House located in Derby Line, Vermont, and Stanstead, Quebec, which straddles the border between the United States and Canada. The library collection and opera stage are located in Stanstead, and most of the opera seats are in

Derby Line. There are even two street addresses. You enter in the United States and check out your books in Canada. A bright red line runs diagonally across the center of the reading room to mark the international boundary. The collection of more than 20,000 books is in English and French, which is co-filed and the librarian will probably be bilingual. The library, opened in 1901, in memory of Carlos F. Haskell, is on the National Register of Historic Places and also appeared in *Ripley's Believe It or Not*.

A red phone booth has become Britain's smallest library. When their mobile library service was cancelled, readers from Somerset's village of Westbury-sub-Mendip gathered together to set up the book exchange that stocks around 100 titles. They put up wooden shelves and donated their own books. The phone box library is open 24 hours, lighted at night and has a constantly changing range of books. The idea has become so popular that 350 other communities have now followed the lead. This small British village proved that it doesn't take thousands of books to make a useful library, just people who think creatively.

A happy thought that there are still places where things like this work.

Cordially,
Louise Caccamise

AMONG FRIENDS
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Regional Librarian: Kathleen Mann

AMONG FRIENDS is published by
The Friends of the DeLand Area Public Library
in February, April, September, & December.

At our library

Morning and evening book discussion groups continue to meet. Adult and children summer activities are being planned. Free beginner computer classes for adults continue April and May. Topics include: "Beginning Internet", "Internet Tips & Tricks", "Yahoo Mail", "Social Networking: Facebook/Twitter". For required registration and further information, contact the Audio/Visual Department of the DeLand Library, 386-822-6430, ext. 110 or 109

Meet Our Members

Rosemary Sutton is currently very active as President of the Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County. In the past she was the secretary for the group. She is a supporting member of Friends as well. Rosemary was born in Columbus, Indiana, earned her RN in Muncie, Indiana, and worked in the nursing field for many years. Her husband served in the military. They moved to the Port St. Lucie, Florida area in 1973. She studied and became an emergency medical technician, later attending the Florida Atlantic University, in Boca Raton, to earn her BSA in theater. They moved to DeLand in 1989, and Rosemary joined the Roots & Branches group. Another member and she conferred while researching their family lines, and they established relationship to each other more than six generations back. Rosemary and her husband had three children. She presently lives with her daughter in DeLand.



Rosemary Sutton

Books and Authors

Nicolas Sparks is lauded as one of the world's most beloved storytellers. Five of his novels have been major motion pictures, including *The Notebook*, *Message In A Bottle*, *A Walk To Remember*, *Dear John* and *Nights In Rodanthe*. He has had at least eight bestsellers with more than thirty million of his books in print worldwide. All of his books have been New York Times bestsellers, international bestsellers and are translated into more than forty languages. A memoir he wrote with his brother, Micah, titled *Three Weeks With My Brother* is included in this list. Other titles include: *The Rescue*, *A Bend In The Road*, *The Wedding*, *The Guardian*, *The Choice* and *The Lucky One*. He writes of first love, love between parents and children, how love can break hearts and how to heal, tender romance and suspense, the surprising paths our lives can take and the power of fate to guide us. He captivates readers with beautiful heartrending stories. Nicolas and his wife live in North Carolina with their family. His website is www.nicolassparks.com. A fan newsletter is found at www.HachetteBookGroup.com



Nicholas Sparks

BOOK SALE DATES

Fridays 9:30 - 5:00 and Saturdays 9:30 - 3:00

May 13, 14

June 12, 11

July 8, 9

Continuous Book Sale in Lobby

Thurs. eve after setup, the book sale room is open from 4-7:15 p.m. Hardcover books are \$2.00, soft covers \$1.00 and paper backs 4/\$1.00, during those hours. For book sale hours, hardcover books are \$1.00, softcovers .50 and paper backs 6/\$1.00. Magazines are .25, videos, cassettes, DVDs and puzzles are as marked. There are assorted collectible or specialty books researched for their values and priced accordingly. Friends welcomes book and newer magazine donations.

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