

Letter from the President

Happy holidays to all of you. As I indicated at the annual meeting, 2022 has been a year of doing things and a year of looking forward.

We had very successful author visits including William Kent Krueger, who 170 people came to the Barn at Stratford to hear. He is a true gentleman, and I can't wait for his next book. And Sara Nisha Adams helped us think through her "Reading List".

We restarted things that we had stopped during COVID including Young Writer's Workshops and book sales. We had great responses to both of those, and we are glad to be getting back to normal.

The library is going through changes that began in 2022 – a new Director, Bryan Howard, was hired to replace retiring director, George Needham. We truly miss George, who was our mentor and our friend, but we look forward to working with Bryan.

The new Liberty Library is opening in 2023, and it is affecting us as well as all of Delaware County. Our offices will move from Orange Library to Liberty Library, and we will have book sales at Delaware and Liberty Libraries instead of Orange Library. Our Friends room at Liberty will look like a bookstore with books shelved rather than boxed and shoppers better able to find their favorite books.

The Friends launched a fund-raising drive to furnish the Maker Studio in the new Liberty Library and to help keep the equipment updated in both Liberty and Delaware Maker Studios. To date we have raised over \$60,000. If you want to know more about, or donate to, the campaign, go to <https://delawarelibraryfriends.org/maker-studio-donations-page/>

The Friends are going to have more changes next year. Our current Treasurer, Cheryl Stagg and our Fund-Raising Chair, Brad Cowan, are both going off the board in 2023. Cheryl was instrumental in "professionalizing" our accounting system and our bookkeeping process. Thank you, Cheryl.

Brad has totally revolutionized our book sale process. We have evolved from boxes on tables to bookshelves that we can stock and sort into more categories than "Fiction" and "Non-Fiction." With a volunteer group that is not as young we "used" to be, not having to carry boxes full of books is definitely a step in the right direction. We also thank Alpha Group for their help when we do need to move boxes. Without them, we would have had a very difficult time setting up for book sales. *(continued on page 2)*

2023 Book Sales

We eagerly anticipate the book sales we will hold at Liberty Branch in 2023 and beyond! While we have stopped holding book sales at Orange, we will continue **Delaware Book Sales**, starting on **March 17 from 5 - 8 pm and March 18 from 10 am - 3 pm**. We will also hold a **media Sale (DVDs, CDs, audiobooks) in the community room on March 18 from 10 am - 3 pm**.

Did you notice the hours change?

We are changing the starting time of our book sales to accommodate the new Library operating hours going in effect January 28, 2023. For more details about the changes, go to delawarelibrary.org, but here's a quick overview:

Hours for the Delaware and Orange branch libraries:

- Monday through Thursday will be 10 am - 7 pm
- Friday and Saturday will be 10 am - 5 pm
- Closed Sunday

(When Liberty opens, it will follow this schedule, too.)

Hours for the Ostrander and Powell branch libraries:

- Tuesday through Thursday will be 10 am - 7 pm
- Friday and Saturday will be 10 am - 4 pm
- Closed Sunday and Monday

Annual Meeting Highlights

Our Annual Meeting was held December 8 at the Delaware Library Community Room. We had perhaps a record turnout of members; thanks to all who attended! Karen Cowan, President, gave us a year in review including news about the Maker Studio fundraising campaign, to which Friends, community members and businesses have very generously donated.

DCDL Director Bryan Howard graciously responded to questions ranging from his impressions of his first months in the job to parenting four girls, including a newborn.

New Board Members were elected. We welcome Suzanne Binau, Michael Butler and Calvin Gebhart. Learn about these new members on page 2 of this newsletter. We offer our thanks to retiring Board Members Brad Cowan, Brendan Newcomb and Cheryl Stagg.

Welcome, Friends!

We welcome the following New Members:

Calvin Gebhart

Rita Selle-Grider

Young Writers Workshops in 2023

We anticipate holding Young Writers Workshops at Delaware, Orange and Liberty libraries in 2023, starting with **Delaware on March 11**. Registration info will be on our Facebook page, emailed to Friends members, and available in Library branches.

The Underground Railroad in Ohio

Our friends at the Delaware Historical Society will present an author visit on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 2 pm at the Barn at Stratford. Author Kathy Schulz will present a program on her research and the writing of *The Underground Railroad in Ohio*, with book copies available for purchase and signing. Visit delawareohiohistory.org for registration information.

Board of Directors and Committees

Karen Cowan, President	president@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Doug Wilson, Vice President	vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Linda Silverstein, Secretary	secretary@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Cheryl Stagg, Treasurer	treasurer@delawarelibraryfriends.org

Standing Committee Chairs

Executive, Karen Cowan	president@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Finance, Doug Wilson	vicepresident@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Fundraising, Brad Cowan	fundraising@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Fundraising, Brenda Eldridge	fundraising@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Membership & Volunteers, Jenny Ford (chair) and Bobbie Feigenbaum (vice-chair)	membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Nominations, Cheryl Stagg	treasurer@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Outreach, Brendan Newcomb (vice-chair)	bnewc62@hotmail.com
Outreach, Linda Silverstein	secretary@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Publicity, Nichole Klatter	publicity@delawarelibraryfriends.org
Special Events, Penny Mong	events@delawarelibraryfriends.org

Keep Current with the Friends!



For up-to-date info on ticket releases, events and more!

Facebook: Friends of the Delaware Library (@FriendsoftheDelawareLibrary)

Instagram: Delaware Library Friends

Twitter: @friendsofDCDL DW Library Friends

Website: delawarelibraryfriends.org

Email: Make sure the Friends have your **preferred email address**. Send it to membership@delawarelibraryfriends.org.

Not receiving our email? Please check your spam folder for event notices, newsletters and other information. We use MailChimp and you can unsubscribe if you choose. Your email is not shared beyond the Friends and DCDL.

Letter from the President (cont.)

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Thank you to our members who have supported us, and to our volunteers who work community events, sort books, get ready for Young Writers' Workshops, design and distribute our publicity, contact authors, make sure our volunteer and membership database is accurate, and ensure that we take time to appreciate our members and volunteers.

2023 has some very cool events coming, so stick with us. THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

Submitted by Karen Cowan, President of Friends of the Delaware County District Library

Introducing New Board Members

Learn about the new Board Members elected at our Annual Meeting on December 8:

Suzanne Binau is an insatiable reader who believes public libraries are one of the most valuable assets of a civilized society. She has worked the book sales at Orange and Delaware Libraries. As a recently retired professional fundraiser, she assisted the Friends in brainstorming fundraising strategies. Suzanne also reviewed the Friends grant proposals to acquire funding for the Maker Studio.

Michael Butler is a long-time volunteer at Friends Book Sales with his wife, Jan. He served as the Executive Director and CEO of OhioNET for 26 years helping libraries and their teams connect, communicate, and collaborate. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the DCDL from 2005 until 2021, including two two-year terms as President. Michael believes the best library collaboration celebrates the assets that make individual libraries unique while ensuring that there is a consistent level of service available to every library user. The Friends of the DCDL exemplifies this type of collaboration.

Calvin Gebhart has been in Powell for 8 years as Regional President at First Citizens National Bank. He served on the Powell Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for 2 years and served on numerous committees for the Chamber. Calvin recently served as Maker Studio Fundraising Chair for the Friends of DCDL.