

Focus on a Friend

Diane Smith says that "boxing history is dangerous for me," but that is just one of the duties she enjoys as a volunteer in the Friends book sorting room...

A book that is generously donated to the library will travel a long path before it ends up in one of our book sales. As our logistical expert in the sorting process, Diane can tell you a lot about this process. It starts with the donation being dropped off at our garage on the third Saturday of the month. After the book is brought over to the library basement, the "presorters" will check it for quality and value. Books that have on odor, writing on them, or other defects, will be discarded or put on the free cart. Especially valuable books (more than \$20) will be set aside for the online sales team to process. Everything else will be presorted into fiction and nonfiction.

The second step is the actual sorting into all the various categories we have in our book sales, such as Religion or Mystery/Thriller. We have a few sorting room volunteers who specialize in particular categories; for example teachers are good at sorting the children's books. Once we have enough books in a category, a "boxer" will fill a box for that category and stack it on a cart. The "haulers" will move full carts of books from the basement back to the garage for storage until the next sale. This entire process takes about 25 volunteers working all year long to get books ready for the sales. In addition to the donated books we also process books that have been withdrawn from the library circulation.

One of the perks to working in the sorting room is that you get first chance at purchasing any of the donated books. That is why Diane says that boxing history is dangerous for her; she always finds something she wants to buy. Diane got started as a volunteer about 10 years ago by just sending email to friends.of.tcpl@gmail.com. She started by helping during the book sales, and then asked if she can do more. Now she does a bit of everything in the sorting room, including the purchase of supplies and training the volunteers. Diane likes being part of the Friends because "everyone here is a book lover like me." Does this sound like something you would enjoy? Please contact us if you would like to get started.



Some of the sorting room volunteers in 2003: Helen Slagel, Unknown, Adele Needham, Teena Flook, Rita Holman

Larry French
Newsletter Editor

President
Jim Plantenga

Vice-President
Scott Irvine

Secretary
Suzanne Cunningham

Treasurer
Barb Gibbs

At Large Members
Joan Briller
Nick Fetchina
Emily Frazier
David Gevers
Jean O'Reilly
James Vann

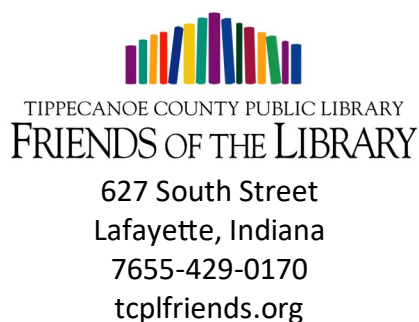
TCPL Board Liaison
Mida Grover

**notes"es
Contributors**
Suzanne Cunningham
Larry French

Upcoming Book Sales

August 26
Wyandotte Branch
Children's only

September 15-17
Tippecanoe County
Fairgrounds



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 74
Lafayette, IN

The Mission of the Friends is to provide programs and financial support to the Tippecanoe County Public Library.

Book Sale News

As summer progresses there have been four major donation days, including the most recent one, June 17. The presorters, sorters, boxers, and haulers will be busy these next few weeks going through six Sam's carts and four regular carts of donations. Mystery/Thriller, Science Fiction, Fiction, and Romance/Romantic Suspense boxes are piling up in the garage. We even have four boxes of Westerns for our September event! History, Biography, and Military books have been our largest categories in nonfiction. We have yet to go through the June donations, so that could change.

Volunteers have been sorting, pricing and boxing children's books, too. We have accumulated enough boxes of children's books for our upcoming August Children's Book Sale (Wyandotte) and September (fairgrounds, west wing) book sales. The August sale will include fall holiday books, while the September sale will include winter holiday and gift books for children.

If you are interested in unique titles, please check out the books we have listed on-line via Amazon or eBay. Jane Rutledge, Barb Gibbs, Diana Jones, Jean O'Reilly, and other volunteers have been busy this entire year reviewing and posting various books online. Please visit the sites, you will be surprised at the breadth of books listed.

The book sale committee will be meeting in the upcoming weeks to decide on 2024 dates, venues and times for our book sale events. **We will host two more donation days this year: July 15, and August 19.** Donations will be accepted in the parking lot east of the garage (across Alabama Street as you exit the library's south entrance). Enjoy your summer! Have you joined TCPL's Summer Reading Program?

Suzanne Cunningham
Friends Book Sale Chair

Our newsletter, *notes"es*, is published quarterly for the members of the Friends. We are a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.