Greetings and Hello to everyone. It’s time for another of our Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library Quarterly Update, so....

The past few months have gone by very quickly. We continue to gently rearrange the store (both front and back) to make it easier for you to find the books/CDs/DVDs, etc. that you are looking for, and from the feedback we are receiving, it is well worth the effort. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

There is one item that I find particularly interesting, if that is the correct word. Let me explain. As part of our reorganization, we are now identifying sub-sections within the larger categories of non-fiction. For example, in Military History there are sections for the War of 1812, WW-I, Korea, Vietnam, etc. These sub-sections are identified by books with bright orange paper, with the sub-section identified on the spine. These books are wrapped in tape and the identifying section has a book cover on it to help protect it. We are now finding that these books are being removed by some customers during our bag sales and taken home. (An inventory of these books revealed that 15 “disappeared”.) As you know we do not review the contents of the bags, so we don’t know the sub-section makers are missing until we look for them. What is sad also is we purposely do not use a book that is even close to subject matter to the area it is being used in, so when the person takes it home and works their way through all of the tape, they find a book they most probably did not want!

Our last bag sale was as success, and we are looking forward to seeing you at our next sale in August. Details of this sale can be found on our web site, FJPL.ORG or by searching “Friends of the Jacksonville Public Library”. If you haven’t visited our new web site, please do so, and send us some feedback. We’d love to hear from you.
And, in case you haven’t noticed, it is Summer—at least the thermometers say so—and school is out. One question that I am asked a lot goes along the lines of “I’d like to volunteer here, but I cannot commit to all the days that you are open.” Well, that’s an easy one. When can you come? One day a week, twice a month, etc. We are very flexible, and quite frankly, we’d love to have you when it best fits your schedule. Another question a lot is “Are there any age requirements”? Youth 16 and under must be supervised by a parent or older sibling.

Lastly, and I know I speak for all of us here at FJPL, I would like to thank all of you for your support in helping us support our library. Through your patronage we can all make a difference.

Mike Steve
VP, FJPL

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