



# *Friends of the Pickens Library*

## **A Message from Susan White President, Friends of the Pickens Library**



A great big thank you to all of the people that worked the annual book sale and also to those that attended and purchased all of the items. An extra special thank you to the chair Jim Hughes who worked all year transporting books all over the county in order to have them ready for the sale. It was a success and I really appreciate everyone that had anything to do with making it a success again.

It is almost time again for the state legislature to meet in January. Once again the Pickens Library project is on the list of possible funding projects where it is in fifth place. If you come in contact with Representative Jasperse or with either of the two Senators that will represent us, please speak to them about trying to get the project funded by the state. The money is being collected locally due to the SPLOST that began over two years ago, but in order for the renovation and addition to proceed the 2 million dollars has to be funded by the state. Your help is definitely needed to proceed with this building project.

There were four board members that rotated off the board for 2017 and we want to recognize their service over the last several years. Those retiring from the board are: Jim Hughes, Christie Pool, Marty Callahan, and Margie Hall. The new board members are: Paula Adams, Carol Hagadorn, Sandy Tatum, Bill Horton, and Paige Reynolds. Ann Dobson will be continuing for another three years. Thanks to everyone for serving as board members in this great organization.

## **Ten Resolutions**

The beginning of a new year has always been a time for looking forward. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want or need to make and resolve to keep.

1. Spend More Time with Family and Friends.
2. Get Fit.
3. Tame that Bulge.
4. Quit Smoking
5. Enjoy Life More.
6. Quit Drinking.
7. Get Out of Debt.
8. Learn Something New.
9. Help Others.
10. Get Organized.

Nearly one-half of Americans make New Year's resolutions, but just 8% follow-through. New Year's resolutions are a bit like babies: They're fun to make but extremely difficult to maintain.



## Phishing

Phishing (pronounced "fishing") is a kind of identity theft which is growing in popularity among hackers. By using fraudulent websites and false emails, perpetrators attempt to steal your personal data - most commonly passwords and credit card information.

Criminals gain this information by sending you links to sites that look like sites you trust, such as your online banking provider or social networks, and are able to steal your data as you enter it. Some of the sites spoofed most regularly include PayPal, eBay, Yahoo! and MSN, as well as financial institutions - so don't think that an email is guaranteed to be safe when it's not from a bank.

How to protect yourself:

1. Be wary of emails asking for confidential information - especially information of a financial nature. Legitimate organizations will never request sensitive information via email, and most banks in the UK will tell you that they won't ask for your information unless you're the one contacting them.
2. Don't get pressured into providing sensitive information. Phishers like to use scare tactics, and may threaten to disable an account or delay services until you update certain information. Be sure to contact the merchant directly to confirm the authenticity of their request.
3. Make sure you familiarize yourself with a website's privacy policy. The majority of commercial websites have a privacy policy, which is usually accessible at the foot of the page. The most useful thing to look for is the website's policy on whether it will or will not sell its mailing list. Most of the spam you receive on a daily basis - as well as potentially dangerous phishing emails - is coming to you because a site you have signed up to has sold your email address to another company. If you're not ok with this happening, it might be worth reconsidering whether you want to sign up to the site.
4. Watch out for generic-looking requests for information. Fraudulent emails are often not personalized, while authentic emails from your bank often reference an account you have with them. Many phishing emails begin with "Dear Sir/Madam", and some come from a bank with which you don't even have an account.
5. Never submit confidential information via forms embedded within email messages. Senders are often able to track all information entered.
6. Never use links in an email to connect to a website unless you are absolutely sure they are authentic. Instead, open a new browser window and type the URL directly into the address bar. Often a phishing website will look identical to the original - look at the address bar to make sure that this is the case.
7. Make sure you maintain effective software to combat phishing.

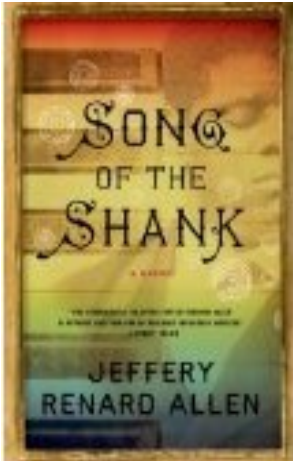


### Member Profile

#### JC and Cathy Smith

**In this issue we are honoring two members, JC and Cathy Smith. As the photo background tells us, they were volunteers at the 2016 Annual Book Sale, as was the case in 2015, the year before that, the year before then and the year ....**

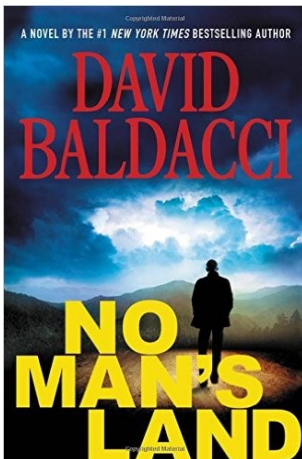
JC and Cathy Smith have been residents of Big Canoe since 1997 and members of Friends of the Library for almost as long. Their keen interest in books of all types is part of the reason they serve as volunteers in the book sale conducted by the Friends in the fall of each year. In addition, they have been key organizers of the annual Big Canoe book sale that occurs earlier in the year. JC and Cathy work well together; she as the person who says "stack them over here" and JC as the person who does the stacking. By being actively involved in the Big Canoe sale, JC and Cathy bring extra "know-how" to the Friends sale. This is so mainly because books not sold at Big Canoe are donated to the Friends' sale. A lot of toil is avoided when JC and Cathy organize the unsold books according to genre and other classifications applicable to the Friends' sale. NOW, after 16 years of collecting, sorting, boxing, transporting and stacking books, JC and Cathy are stepping aside to let others fill their shoes – which is no small task.



### **Song of the Shank, Jeffery Renard Allen**

Blind Tom Wiggins, a 19th century piano prodigy and former slave, occupies the center of this “Faulknerian tour de force,” said Mike Fischer in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. But Jeffery Renard Allen’s “ingeniously constructed novel” is less a hero’s tale than a “star-crossed history of race in America,” told through characters whose response to Tom reveals their blindnesses. You may sometimes feel lost, but this book is also an “exhilarating, glorious and unforgettable” read.

Blind Tom — actually born into slavery in nearby Georgia, in 1849 — entertained thousands across the country and abroad, including Mark Twain, Willa Cather and other high-minded types. As if world touring weren’t amazing enough for a child, Tom made history as the first black known to play at the White House when he performed for President James Buchanan at the age of 10. Now, to Tom’s list of accomplishments, we can add his role as the protagonist in this masterly novel.”

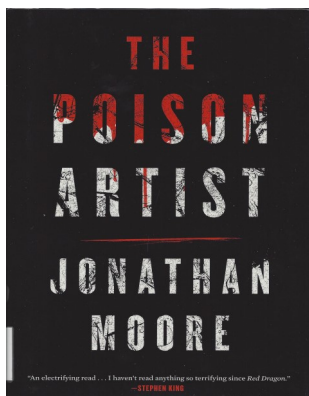


### **No Man’s Land, David Baldacci**

CID Special Agent John Puller, combat veteran and the army's most tenacious investigator, is back in this action-packed thriller from worldwide #1 bestselling author David Baldacci.

John Puller's mother, Jackie, vanished thirty years ago from Fort Monroe, Virginia, when Puller was just a boy. Paul Rogers has been in prison for ten years. But twenty years before that, he was at Fort Monroe. One night three decades ago, Puller's and Rogers' worlds collided with devastating results, and the truth has been buried ever since.

Aided by his brother Robert Puller, an Air Force major, and Veronica Knox, who works for a shadowy U.S. intelligence organization, Puller begins a journey that will take him into his own past, to find the truth about his mother.



### **The Poison Artist, Jonathan Moore**

Dr. Caleb Maddox is a San Francisco toxicologist studying the effects of pain on human body chemistry. After a breakup with his girlfriend —she threw a glass at him and cut his forehead, Caleb is drinking at a bar when a hauntingly seductive woman appears. She whispers to Caleb over absinthe, touches her finger to his blood and then brushes his ear with her lips as she says goodbye. No names given.

Thus begins a terrible obsession. Caleb must find the woman. Instead he finds himself a person of interest in a series of mysterious deaths. A man disappears. Days later, a body is found in the bay, apparently dead from drowning. Toxicological analysis points toward something more mysterious as the cause of death.

*Friends of the Pickens Library*

100 Library Lane  
Jasper, GA 30143

**Membership Application**  
**Friends of the Pickens Library**

I am a new member \_\_\_\_ I am a renewing member \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street or PO Box Number \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If a family membership, please provide one additional name. \_\_\_\_\_

Please send newsletter by email \_\_\_\_ Please send newsletter to above address OR to:

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Membership categories: Student: \$5 Individual: \$15 Family: \$30

Contributor: \$50 to \$99 Sponsor: \$100 to \$199 Benefactor: \$200 or higher

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Pickens Library and mail or deliver it to 100 Library Lane, Jasper, GA 30143. We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

You are invited to visit the Friends of the Pickens Library website at: [friendsofpickenslibrary.org](http://friendsofpickenslibrary.org)

I would like to volunteer for: Annual Book Sale Hospitality Membership Newsletter