“THE SPEAKER”

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY ACCESS, INC.

FALL 2019

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2019 FRIENDS TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

Below is an updated list of Board Members. Officer's positions are noted after the Board Member's name:

* Paul Kurtz, President
* Sheila Young, Vice-President
* Irene Hewett, Secretary
* Allen Bornstein, Treasurer

Board members

* Marilyn Baldwin
* Nancy Burgess-Hall
* Doug Hall
* Patricia A. Lipovsky
* Pam Keezel
* Betty Boyette
* Jeff Saunders
* Wendy Willson

MISSION

To inform the public of the availability of the FREE LOAN of books and magazines in audio formats and Braille.

Show appreciation to the volunteers who perform invaluable service to the Braille and Talking Book Library by sponsoring an annual volunteer appreciation luncheon and providing other forms of recognition.

Purchase and donate materials that will assist the Braille and Talking Book Library in its provision of accessible media, including Braille, recorded, and electronic materials.

Advocate for improved accessibility of books and magazines, weather warnings on television, and audio description on TV and movies.

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Friends of Library Access, Inc. receives no government support.

We count on individuals, such as you, to become members of Friends of Library Access, Inc. Annual dues and generous donations enable the Friends to assist the Braille and Talking Book Library in providing equal access to educational, self-help and entertainment literature for people who are print impaired.

Join us as we seek to increase the availability of accessible media to Florida’s citizens who are blind, visually impaired, physically impaired and/or print impaired.

In addition to membership in the Friends, we gratefully accept donations, grants, gifts of cash and bequests.

Memberships and Donations may be sent to:

Friends of Library Access, Inc.

P.O. Box 10716

Daytona Beach, FL 32120-0716

You may also visit our web site at <http://www.friendsoflibraryaccessinc.org>

For further information, contact: Patricia A. Lipovsky, Membership and Outreach Chair at: [plipovsky@cfl.rr.com](mailto:plipovsky@cfl.rr.com) or 386-255-0288.

LOOKING FOR NEW TALENT

The Friends is managed by a Board of twelve trustees, who are elected for 3-year terms by the membership. Each November, four seats are open for election. The Friends' Board maintains a list of potential Board of Trustees members. Board meetings are open to anyone interested, and are held quarterly on the 2nd Saturday of February, May, August, and November. All meetings are held via telephone conference, except for our November meeting where those that can, meet in person.

Please consider serving on the Board by submitting your name and a brief letter stating your experience, expertise and goals as it pertains to the Friends. Letters of Interest may be submitted by email, print, or Braille and mailed to the Friends at:

Friends of Library Access, Inc.

P.O. Box 10716

Daytona Beach, FL 32120

Note: You must be a member of the Friends and have attended at least one meeting before you can apply for a board position.

For more information, contact the chair of the Nominating Committee: Doug Hall at 386-255-0377

HOW ABOUT READING THE NEWSPAPER AGAIN?

How would you like TO READ the newspaper with your morning cup of JAVA? Well, now you can!

The NFB of Florida is proud to offer you National Federation of the Blind Newsline®, a program sponsored by the National Federation of the Blind of Florida and a grant from the Florida Division of Blind Services.

Many seniors have lost enough vision that reading the daily newspaper is no longer possible. Now, once again, they can enjoy being able to participate actively in community affairs. Newsline®, gives subscribers access to newspapers, emergency weather updates, television listings, job ads, Target store ads, many magazines, and 14 Florida newspapers. Over 40 magazines, ranging from the Arts, Sciences, Health and Fitness, Pop Culture and National and International news are also available. In addition, there are multiple access methods such as the telephone, computer, NLS Talking Book player, hand-held reader and the iPhone.

NFB-NEWSLINE® has well over 300 publications AND it's still growing. Four Spanish-language newspapers are available to all subscribers. The service handles thousands of phone calls each day for individuals across the country. This also enables those who cannot read conventional print to have access to all content offered on NFB-NEWSLINE® when traveling throughout the United States, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

In Florida, we have several toll-free numbers for you to call to learn more. You may contact Sherri Brun, NFBF Newsline® chair at 1-800-603-8578.

For help in Spanish, please call Paul Martinez at 1-800-558-8261.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

by Irene Hewett

    Sally Neiger has volunteered and worked at the Braille and Talking Book Library in Daytona Beach since 2015.  She currently works four days a week handling braille books.

    Sally grew up in Clarkston, Michigan, where she lived with her grandparents, then with her mother and stepfather.  Sally did a lot of acting in high school and the community, and her dream was to become an actress.  However, she married at a young age, and had three children, two girls and a boy.

After about 17 years of marriage, Sally went through a divorce, and put herself through Specs-Howard School of Broadcasting in Detroit.

    Sally's first two jobs were working as a D. J. at a Rock station and as a host at one of the first cable TV talk shows in Detroit.  After about five years, Sally returned to the Specs-Howard School of Broadcasting to work as a teacher and their placement director.  She also worked for ten years during the summer and fall as a wench at the Michigan Renaissance Festival.

    For the next 20 years, Sally worked managing low-income senior housing facilities in Ohio, Michigan and Florida.  She currently lives in one of these facilities locally.  Sally has also worked as a waitress, driven a school bus, managed a book store and worked in retail.

    Sally enjoys taking care of her little dog, and spending time with friends.  She stated that she likes books and numbers, and working at the Library keeps her involved with both.

Sally, thanks for helping out at our Volunteer luncheons, and for your work at the Library.  You certainly have an interesting life, and we wish you continued good health.

NOMINATIONS FOR FRIENDS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Below are the nominees who have applied for our openings for 2019. We currently have four seats open. They are each 3-year terms. Please look the applicants over carefully and select who you think would be best suited to fill these positions.

**Marilyn Baldwin**

Marilyn Denise Baldwin graduated from Bethune Cookman College, with a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Elementary Education in April 1982. Marilyn graduated from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, in May 1977, with a High School Diploma. After attending Bethune Cookman College, she worked at Wightwood School in Maitland, Florida as a Teaching Assistant and Primary Grade Teacher from 1983 until 1986. Ms. Baldwin worked as an Administrative Receptionist for the City of Orlando, from 1987 until 2002, when she retired on Long Term Disability. Marilyn was a faithful public servant and received many awards during her employment with local government.

Marilyn has served as an advocate for people with disabilities for many years. Ms. Baldwin was appointed as a member of the Florida Bar Citizen’s Forum representing people with disabilities from July 2007, until July 2011. She served as Vice Chairman from June 2009, through July 2010. Marilyn was also appointed by Governor Lawton Chiles, as a Commissioner on the Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, from 1994, until 2002. During her tenure on the Commission, Marilyn represented Urban Citizens with disabilities and worked to bring additional funding to the program, as well as advocating for riders with disabilities. Commissioner Baldwin represented the Commission on the Easter Seals Project Action National Steering Committee from 1999 until 2001. Ms. Baldwin served as a founding member of the Orange County Disability Advisory Board from 1996 to 2004, serving as chairman of the Board for five years.

Currently Marilyn continues her advocacy for persons with disabilities by serving on the Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board for Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties. As a member of the LCB, she chairs the Quality Assurance Task Force. Marilyn is Vice President of the National Federation of the Blind, Greater Orlando Chapter. She is a member of the Friends of Library Access Talking Book Board of Directors, and the League of Women Voters of Orange County.

Ms. Baldwin is a longtime resident of Orlando, Florida. She is an active member of Zion New Life Lutheran Church, serving on the Board of Education, Stewardship and Parish Involvement Boards. Marilyn served as President of the Orlando West Zone Lutheran Women in Mission from December 2010 through November 2013. Marilyn is Legally Blind and enjoys reading, traveling and helping others.

**Nancy Burgess-Hall**

I would like to continue to serve on the Friends of Library Access, Inc. Board of Trustees. I am a consumer of Audio Books due to limited hand strength and dexterity resulting from juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. I am a retired speech-language pathologist with over 30 years’ experience.

I have been a member of the Friends of Library Access, Inc. (FLA) since its inception in 1992 and have served on the Board since 1999. Prior accomplishments include working collaboratively with members of the Braille and Talking Book Library staff and FLA Board members to update the Friends brochure, design the Friends signature guide, and design a license plate promoting Accessible Media and Friends of Library Access. I currently serve on a committee developing an updated “Talking Book” shirt for the Braille and Talking Book Library. It will be available to volunteers free of charge and for purchase by staff and others.

In years past, I have served in the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary. I have participated in numerous public education events promoting Braille & Talking Book services and accessible media.

Aside from the Friends, I am an active member of Halifax Council of the Blind / Florida Council of the Blind and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO).  I advocate for increased accessibility, independence and opportunity for people with disabilities (including voting access, pedestrian safety, accessible pedestrian signals, and audio description.

**Dolor Ginchereau**

Membership in organizations:

I am a member of Florida Council of the Blind since 2014 as an at large member. In 2015, the Broward Council of the Blind was formed and right now, I am the immediate past president of the chapter. I was president from August 2016 until November 2017.

I have been a member of Friends of Library Access Inc. since late 2017.

I have been a user of the talking book library for several years. I believe the NLS talking book program is one of the best services available to the blind community.

We must do what it may take to ensure that the talking book program is available to the blind for years to come well into this century and beyond.

This is why I want to serve on the board of directors of Friends of Library Access, Inc.

**Patricia Lipovsky**

Hello. My name is Patricia A. Lipovsky. I am currently a resident of Daytona Beach, Florida, and a proud mom of three children and six grandchildren. I moved to Florida in the early 80’s, and have been a patron of the Braille and Talking Book Library ever since.

I was elected to the Friends board in 2010. I am currently the chair of the Membership and Outreach Committee, and am the editor of the Friends of Library Access Newsletter. I also chair a committee that is designing a shirt for the Braille and Talking Book Library, which is given to each of our volunteers in appreciation for all of their time and effort they put in here at our Library with various things that need to be done.

In addition to the Friends, I am also a member of the Florida Council of the Blind; the National Federation of the Blind; serve on the state board of the Florida Rehab Council for the Division of Blind Services, and the President of the Coalition for the Concerns of the Totally Blind.

Locally, I also serve on the Citizens Advisory Committee for the River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), am a Member of the Lions Club, and also serve on the Local Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating board (TDLCB) of Votran, our local Transportation Agency.

The Braille and Talking Book Library provides a wonderful service, not only to me, but also to many throughout the state of Florida, and is truly a Godsend for those who are print impaired. Being on the Friends board has given me an opportunity to give back something in return for a wonderful service that was provided to me for many years, as I truly do appreciate such a service, and love my books!

So now, it is still my desire to continue giving back to the Braille and Talking Book Library by remaining on the Friends of Library Access board. I will do whatever is deemed necessary to ensure and enhance the quality of service to all print impaired patrons throughout the state of Florida, as having accessibility to books for independence, education, employment and pleasure is paramount to all.

Thank you.

**Jeff Saunders** MBA in Business, BS in Electrical Engineering, AAS in Electrical Engineering Technology, and various advanced supervisory and diversity courses of study.

Retired from the Federal Government in March 2011 from the Social Security Administration as a Senior Service Representative. ☺

Served on the HOA Park Shore Resort Condo Board in Naples, FL (9 years) and the Rapallo Enclave Condo Board in Estero, FL (2 years) ☺,

Currently volunteering at the Lee Memorial Hospital, Gulf Coast Medical Center with the Arts and Crafts Program and the St. Matthew’s thrift store, a non-religious faculty, operating through donations that support the local homeless and provides shelter and training for minorities. Created and facilitate the monthly Rapallo Community and Lamb of God Church Disability Support Groups.

Current proud member of the Friends of Library Access and the Talking Book Library in Daytona, FL.

Served on the City of Gainesville and Alachua County, FL Citizens Disability Advisory Committees, including the Human Rights EEO Boards, and the Gainesville City Hall Front Desk.

A past SCORE new business advisor/mentor and Toastmaster’s membership director.

Served on the Board of the Matheson History Museum, Gainesville, FL for 3 years, serving as volunteer coordinator and was awarded volunteer of the year in 2013.☺

Member of local NARFE and IEEE chapters, Estero Historical Society,

Co-founder of the 501C “Pets on Wheels” program of Fairfax County, Virginia, served as chairperson of fund-raising committee and program volunteer for 14 years.

I am a low vision impaired individual, living in Estero, FL full time and married 37 years to the same wonderful woman, Mary Ann and have 2 dogs (Chihuahuas). I enjoy educating, marketing and informing the residents of SWFL on the Talking Books Program to provide increased independence for the impaired! I request consideration to remain a member of this amazing board☺.

Thank you for your time!

APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

Membership is for the Calendar Year, January 1 to December 31.

All dues received after 9/1/2019 will be applied to the remainder of 2019 and the calendar year 2020.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Please complete this form and return it along with your check to: | Friends of Library Access, Inc.  P.O. Box 10716  Daytona Beach, FL 32120-0716 |

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: home: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_alternate: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY. \*required to process application.

\*1. Print Impaired people qualify for Free Matter for the Blind and

Handicapped from the postal service.

\* Check in front of text if you qualify **\_\_\_** yes **\_\_\_** no

\*2. What media do you prefer? (Check in front of text)

**\_\_\_** Large Print **\_\_\_** E-mail \_\_\_ Audio

**\_\_\_** Braille (should the latter 2 become available)

\*If E-mail checked, write your e-mail address:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. F.L.A. Membership Selection (Check in front of text)

**\_\_\_** Annual renewal ($10.00 per year)

**\_\_\_** Contributing Member ($50.00 or more per year)

**\_\_\_** Life Member ($200.00 may be paid in up to four installments within

one year)

**\_\_\_** Supporting Membership ($250.00 per year group sponsorship)

4. I am interested in helping with (Check in front of text):

**\_\_\_** Public Relations /Education **\_\_\_** F.L.A. Board of Trustees

\_\_\_ Fund Raising

BALLOT

You must be a Friends member in order to vote. If you are not a current member, please include membership dues with the ballot.

Print your name:

PLEASE CHOOSE 4 CANDIDATES for the 4 open seats.

Place a check in front of the candidate's name of choice:

\_\_\_\_\_\_Marilyn Baldwin

\_\_\_\_\_\_Nancy B. Hall

\_\_\_\_\_\_Patricia A. Lipovsky

\_\_\_\_\_\_Jeff Saunders

\_\_\_\_\_\_Dolor Ginchereau

Write in Candidate (s):

We must receive your ballot by Thursday, November 8, 2019 unless you vote in person.

You may MAIL the ballot with your name on it to:

Friends of Library Access, Inc.

P.O. Box 10716

Daytona Beach, FL 32120-0716

Or email to: [pkk22258@aol.com](file:///C:\Users\pac67e\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\G8BQAEUM\pkk22258@aol.com)

Make Your Voice Heard – VOTE!

Newsletter Editor, Patricia A. Lipovsky

Friends of Library Access, Inc.

P.O. Box 10716

Daytona Beach, FL 32120-0716