

Where Do They Go?

By LaVoyce Ewing, Boone County Library Director

So you decided to do some fall cleaning. All those books that were gathering dust need to go somewhere - but where? What about the library? No, they couldn't use old books, they have lots. Wait a minute, what does happen to books that are donated to the library? Well, they go on quite an adventure and meet a lot of wonderful people before they find a new home.

First, when a book is donated its condition is inspected. If it has been wet or is dirty, we can't expose our other books to their disease, so it is discarded. If the book is clean then we look to see if we already have it on the shelves. If we don't have it and believe that others will be interested in it, then we add it to the collection. "Welcome to the wonderful world of circulation."

If we have the title, then Sherri looks at the copy we have on the shelf. If it looks like it is ready to retire, then we switch the tired worn book with the newer donated book. "Hello gorgeous!"

But if we don't need it in the library, what happens next? The lucky book then gets to meet the **Book Sleuths**. This group of Friends of the Library volunteers will look this book over and decide its fate. Will it go to the silent auction? "The strong and silent type." Will it go on the book trolley or into an FOL book sale? "Only the best will do." Once the decision is made, the book is given to the care of the book sleuth that is in charge of each point of sale. So the books you have donated to the library may now be in an FOL book sale. How does that help our library? Oh, let me count the ways

The Friends of the Library will use the money raised at their book sales to ...

Provide bags and prizes for the Children's Summer Reading program.

Provide books for the daycares in Boone County to read to the children there.

Provide funds for wonderful and interesting speakers, although most of the speakers are generous enough with their time that they don't even charge. "Aren't they sweet?"

Provide funds for the honor books. Now, just what are "honor books", you may ask? Well, honor books are purchased in the spring with money raised from the book sales. These books are non-fiction (true and informational) adult titles and brand new shiny titles for the children's, teen's and genealogy departments.

Our new adult non-fiction titles for 2011 are now ready to meet you and go stay at your house for twenty-one days. But they do like to come back and see who is still on the shelf in their section and who has gone on a grand adventure. Meet the results of your old donated books at the front of the library in the FOL honor book alcove.

As Dr. Seuss said, "Oh, the places you'll go!" Who knows? Maybe he knew about books donated to the library and the grand adventure that awaits them.

**Please keep those
book donations coming.**

**They are the wind
in our sails.**



Book Sleuths sorting donated books