



The Foundation

October 2016

The Alachua County Library District Foundation

providing long-term support to the Alachua County Library District
through major gifts and bequests since 1989

Recognizing 25 Years of the Headquarters Library

The ACLD Foundation Annual Meeting, held Sunday September 11th, had as its theme “Celebrating 25 Years of the Headquarters Library.” The theme was carried through with table decorations that included books from the library collection published in 1991, bookmarks with notable titles from 1991 at each seat, and a beautiful cake with a photo of the Headquarters Library. Ann Williams, the first Director of the newly-constituted Alachua County Library District, was the featured speaker for the evening. Her talk, “Linking Gainesville’s Architectural Past to Alachua County’s Future,” focused on the efforts to fund and then build the new Headquarters Library, which opened on February 2, 1991. The District used the same bond funding to build four new branches (Millhopper, Tower Road, Archer, and Newberry) and renovate five others. The text of her talk can be found in the “Documents Archive” on the Foundation web site (<http://www.acldfound.org>).



Ann Williams, Pushpa Kalra, and Shaney Livingston

Library Director Shaney Livingston presented an update on ACLD activities over the past year, making special note of the grand reopening of the renovated and expanded High Springs Branch (on Sept. 24), to which the Foundation contributed \$35,000 for a Teen Space and Snuggle Up Center. The renovation and expansion of the Tower Road Branch will commence at the end of 2016 and will take a year. Also, she noted that the past year has been “a year of retirement” for many long-time staff. A major new emphasis for the ACLD will be on the library user experience.

Business matters included electing as new officers Bill Burger (Vice-Chair) and Maggie MacDonald (Secretary) to serve along with continuing officers Pushpa Kalra (Chair) and Mitzi Austin (Treasurer) for 2016-17. Treasurer Austin reported that the Foundation’s financial assets stood at a healthy \$1,146,696.00 as of August 31st.



Pushpa Kalra, Maggie McDonald, Bill Burger, and Mitzi Austin