



Library Association of Brevard

The Fall meeting for the Library Association of Brevard was held on Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015 at 3 p.m. at Keiser University campus, in their new north building, on Babcock St. in Melbourne. 19 people attended. Light refreshments provided by LAB were served.

President Ashley Huser welcomed everyone, and introduced the main speaker, Terry Meer, from Orlando, a specialist in the science of Permaculture. Also a guest speaker was there from the Kashi International community. Mr. Meer explained that he had grown up on a sailboat, and therefore gained a mindset of using energy properly. He works with design science, (the way things are used, either linear or circular), in dealing with nature. After gathering together the audience into groups for an exercise, he explained about the three ethics of Permaculture. Permaculture ethics are learning to care for people, learning to care for the earth, and using the practice of fair share.

He talked about using a functional relationship between systems. His example, that he drew on the whiteboard, involved chickens, compost and grapes. He explained about creating a system based on needs, and yields. For example, you can build a chicken coop, with grapes on one side, and have a compost pile in it. The chickens will eat the grapes, fertilize into the compost pile, and you can harvest the eggs or chickens. Then start the whole cycle again by planting more grapes. Using these interdependent systems, it will help build a functional relationship between them. He concluded with encouraging words to start the audience to rethink and reuse the limited available resources left on the planet.

Ashley then presented him with a gift card from Barnes and Noble for his talk. A second speaker was then introduced. He was from the Kashi Ashram International community, a community farm environment in the Sebastian, FL area. They have 80 acres, of five farms, growing crops organically, with a communal kitchen on a vegetarian emphasis. Classes are offered there for yoga, living healthy, gardening, and permaculture. They also offer volunteer training in gardening, and using compost piles. "Getting dirty for a clean future" is their motto. Also there is a monthly farmer's market where they sell their own vegetables. For more information, their website info is: www.kashi.org.

The public meeting then concluded at 4 p.m. A short LAB executive meeting followed.

Afterward, there was a short executive board meeting, with treasurer Lisa, secretary Lynn, President Ashley, and past president Barbara attending to discuss business matters and future planning. Suggestions and discussions were made about compiling a treasurer's report of income and expenses. Also for the next two meetings, board members will start planning for the play meeting in Jan. or Feb., and the spring meeting in March or April. Lynn suggested a meeting concerning presidential libraries speaker, time and date in the spring to be discussed. Mtg. adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Bennett, secretary.