

**Montgomery Friends of the Library**

**Christiansburg Library**

**October 16, 2018**

**The annual MFOL meeting was held at Christiansburg Library on October 16, 2018. This meeting was co-sponsored with Christiansburg Library. The speaker for the event was Mary Carter Bishop, who talked about her new book, "Don't You Ever: My Mother and her Secret Son."**

**Attending were: Ellen Hall, Mary Bishop, Lynn Brammer, Phyllis Eschenmann, Sam Hicks, Susan Keith, Janice Litschert, Linda Powers, Linda Spivey, Sue Hossack, Marg Modlin, Erma Jones, Jill Songer, Tom Bailey, Nora Keen, Ann Herbert, Elsebeth Brain, Tracee de Hahn, Heni de Hahn, Cristian Londoro, Maria Rubio, Rebecca Mays, Fay Shamanski, Donna Alvis-Banks, and Bobbie Helvey.**

**The meeting began with a short social-hour where everyone was invited to help themselves to lovely refreshments provided by the MFOL Hospitality Committee chaired by Phyllis Eschenmann and Lynn Brammer.**

**Our Speaker was then introduced by Salena Sullivan, branch manager of Christiansburg Library.**

**Mary Carter Bishop grew up in Keswick, Virginia, which today looks much as it did 100 years ago. There were people with great wealth living there. It was a place of fox hunting, Country Clubs, golf, but there was also the servant class, who kept these estates going. Mary's parents were servants on one of these estates. Mary was privileged in a special way, she was greatly loved by her parents. There was a young boy, ten years older than Mary, who was often hanging around. He was referred to as a cousin. Not until she was grown, and looking at her birth certificate, did she find out that this was her half-brother, born out of wedlock, her mother's son. This is the story of her search and reunion with her brother, and the realization of how different his life had been from hers. Mary, a trained journalist felt that she needed to tell his, Ronnie's,**

story. Her talk was very interesting and moving. Afterwards, she signed books for those who wished to purchase one.

A short FOL Board meeting followed the program.

Ellen Hall called the meeting to order at 7:38.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Sam Hicks, treasurer, reported that we have \$47,169.83 in assets. He then went over the "Profit and Loss Budget" with the Board. A motion to approve the report passed. It was noted that a check was sent to Master Gardeners for their help with the Garden Tour.

Sue Hossack reported that 64 people had requested electronic newsletters.

Ellen said that the November meeting will be announced by e-mail, and that it will be an important meeting. We need to approve the slate of officers for next year. Also, Karim Khan, the Library Director, will present his request for next year's funding from the Friends.

There will be no meeting in December.

The meeting ended at 8:00.

Submitted by Susan Keith, Secretary.

