"I cannot live without books" – Thomas Jefferson

Two very book friendly people came to tell us about their favorite books on Oct. 5. They were Lindsay Ideson and Krista Farrell. Lindsay has worked for the Jefferson-Madison library for 30 years. She has a degree in history from Duke and a master's in library science from UNC-Chapel Hill. Krista has worked at the Jefferson-Madison library for 16 years and has a degree in library science from the University of Maryland.
They are both lifelong avid readers.

Krista began by telling us about her favorite books. She broke them down into three categories – non-fiction, beach reads and books about books. The first category included Lisa Shannon's "A Thousand Sisters: My Journey into the Worst Places on Earth to be a woman", Claire Dederer's "Poser: My Life in Twenty –Three Yoga Poses", Roger Rosenblatt "Making Toast" and Corrigan Kelly "The Middle Place".

The second category included Courtney Sullivan's "Maine" and Mary Kay Andrews' "Summer Rental". The third category included Pat Conroy "My Reading Life" and Susan Hill "Howard's End is on the Landing". She told us something about each of the books.

Lindsay presented us with four pages of recommended reading. She also broke hers into categories. Included in the non-fiction were James Shapiro's "Who Wrote Shakespeare", Robert Edsel's "Monuments Men", and Bill Bryson's "A short History of Private Life".

In the biography category was Stacy Schiff's "Cleopatra" (highly recommended) and Roseanne Cash's "Composed: a Memoir" In the history category was Michael Kranish's "Flight From Monticello", Alan Pell Crawford's "Twilight at Monticello", and Virginia Scharff's "The Women Jefferson Loved".

The fiction category included Geraldine Brooks "Caleb's Crossing" about a Native American who was the first to graduate from Harvard in 1665, Daisy Goodwin's "The American Heiress" and Jack Finney's "Time and Again" which combines mystery and time travel.

In the mystery category she included Laurie King's "The Beekeeper's Apprentice" which features an aging Sherlock Holmes, Thomas Perry's "Vanishing Point", Sharon Kay Penman's "The Queen's Man" which is a medieval thriller. And Deanna Raybourn's "Silent in the Grave".

Like Krista she gave a brief description of each book. Unfortunately there is isn't time and space enough to go into detail but you can learn more from their websites. Krista's is kfarrell@jmrl.org and Lindsay is www.jmrl.osrg. We are grateful to them for this interesting presentation.

In other business it was reported that the Friends now have 303 members. On Oct. 26 we will be having our field trip to Fredericksburg. For further information on this call Carol Tracy on 589-3287. You are also reminded that our book sale will be held on Nov. 3-6 at the library. Don't forget that books make great Christmas gifts. Just ask our guest speakers Krista and Lindsay. I hope they gave you some ideas.

Our next meeting will be on Nov. 9. Our speakers will be Drs. Douglas and Victoria Weiss, local optometrists, who do volunteer work in remote areas such as the Appalachian Mountains. They are part of the organization, Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, who serve people with limited access to eye care.

See you at the library.