

Could it really be September? Could it really be summer's heat is behind us? Could it really be the fall book sale of the Friends of Beaufort County Library right around the corner, Sept. 25, 26 and 27?

The answer to these questions is a resounding "yes," so collect your dollars and dimes and plan on heading down to the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park to check out this year's collection of literary goodies.

The Friends have collected more than 700 boxes of donated books for this year's sale, making it possibly one of the largest offerings ever, according to Book Sale Chairwoman Geni Flowers.

"The Friends are thrilled with the generous donations from our members and other community residents, donations that we can pass on to book-lovers with proceeds from those gifts going to benefit the Library," Flowers said. As in years past, a wide variety of treasured volumes will be presented during the silent auction. A sample of this year's offerings range from a signed copy of Cassandra King's "The Same Sweet Girls" – signed not only by King but by her husband, Pat Conroy, as well – to a 1868 copy of Rev. Charles Kingsley's enchanting "Water-Babies."

The auction will feature a copy of local storyteller Pierre McGowan's collection "Tales of the Barrier Island" as well as a 1956 copy of President and Mrs. Herbert Hoover's translation of the

Agricola's "De Re Metallica," a Latin text on mining practices of the 16th century.

In addition to the fall and spring book sales, the Friends also sponsor the popular "Books Sandwiched In" program during the months of January and February. Sale hours are Friday, from noon until 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.;

Sunday, noon until 4 p.m. A special preview sale open to Friends organization members only is Friday, 10 a.m. until noon.