History of Suwannee County

Live Oak Public Library

Children

|

Adults

|

Intergenerational

History of Suwannee County

Mar 7, 2016

$1-50

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Byline

Susan Martin, Library Aide II, Live Oak (Fla.) Public Library

I love history, especially the history of the county I live in. Six years ago I asked a local author and clerk of court to speak at the Live Oak Public Library, and now the discussions have expanded to a Lunch ‘n Learn series, with each presentation covering approximately 10 years of Suwannee County history.

Advanced Planning

We had several books in the library about the history of Suwannee County written by Eric Musgrove. When I initially asked Eric to speak at the library, he gave a one-hour general overview of Suwannee County history. Since then, he has created 24 programs.

The Lunch n’ Learn series is held the second Thursday of each month. Eric comes once a month, so it takes two years to complete the whole history of the county. He has just begun on his second two-year presentation.

Marketing

Fliers are printed with five months of presentations listed. **(View the flier under Attachments at right.)** The program is publicized on our library's website and in our email newsletter and local newspaper.

Budgeting

Bottles of water are provided for Eric and audience members.

Day-of-event Activity

We cover tables with plastic tablecloths and set up chairs so they're facing the podium at the front of the room. The set-up takes about two minutes.

Eric uses our computer and large-screen TV to show his PowerPoint presentation. We also make his county history books available during the presentation.

Program Execution

Eric shows a PowerPoint presentation with text and images of the county's history. Since he is also employed by the clerk of court, he has access to historical documents housed in the county's archives. He brings documents and shares them with the audience. He also takes questions from audience members throughout the presentation. **(View pictures from the presentation under Slideshow at right.)**

People always seem to be interested in their county's history. The audience loves Eric; he is very personable. Many of the elderly folks in attendance start a lively discussion because they lived during the time period the presentation covers. Home-schooled children also attend.

The formal presentation lasts approximately one hour, but general discussions continue past the hour. Sometimes audience members bring in show-and-tell items (historic items they have in their possession). Our average attendance is 15 to 20 people, and there are at least 15 of the same people that attend each session; they look forward to seeing each other.

Advice

Don't give up. There is always someone willing to talk about their county. Local authors, the historical society or just a panel of "old-timers" make for a good start. As a token of our appreciation, the Friends of the Library give Eric a $100 gift certificate each year.

Did you try this program at your library? Share your experience using this form.

Supporting Materials

Document
suwannee_history_flier.pdf
Download this Program as a PDF

- Programming Librarian Facebook Group

Slideshow Images







More Programs

Jan 6, 2016
Adults (21 and up)+ | □□
Image



Historically Speaking

Audiences:

Audience
Adults (21 and up)
Intergenerational
Jul 16, 2015
+ |
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Oral History @ Your Library

Audiences:

Jun 10, 2015
Young Adult (17 - 20)+ | $
Image



Telling, Mapping and Listening to Nashville

Audiences:

Young Adult (17 - 20)
Jun 25, 2015
Children (9 and under)+ | $
Image



They Made Their Stamp on History (Display)

Audiences:

Children (9 and under)
Young Adult (17 - 20)