

## Friends 2011 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Friends of the Rochester Public Library annual meeting and luncheon January 31, 2011, at 11:30 am. Hear all that we volunteers have done in 2010, and elect our new officers and board members. Al Dollerschell will discuss his experience on an archeological dig in Jordan. Please R.S.V.P. for lunch to Shirley Edmonson 288-7553 or Gail Harris or Marilyn Campbell 328-2341. If you forget to call, you are still welcome.

*Shirley Edmonson, Friends President*

## Holiday Gift Book And Bake Sale

Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> brings our Holiday Gift Book and Bake Sale to the Rochester Public Library auditorium. Get your money and taste buds ready for this delightful annual sale. Do your holiday shopping for others and yourself. The homemade goods



are made by the Friends members and are a good buy. The items are all priced, with 1 pm entry for Friends, (the coupon printed on the last page of the newsletter or your membership cards will be checked) and 1:30-4:30 for the public. If you are willing to help set up Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:00,

or sell December 5<sup>th</sup>, call Majel Hall (282-7085) or Bruce Witts (282-5237), co-chairs. If you are willing to donate baked goods: cookies, bars, cakes, breads, candy, jelly or jams, etc., call Elaine Schmidt 282-4107. Sign up sheets for workers and bakers will also be on the bookstore bulletin board.

## A Friend Goes to Jordan



Al Dollerschell is a retired RCTC librarian who has completed nine years on the Friends board and served as president for two years. During the past five years he has sold online some of the unusual books donated to the library for resale. He is currently a part-time cataloger at the library. In addition to volunteering with

several other community organizations and his church; he and his wife have traveled extensively.

A year ago his brother-in-law, a retired minister in Florida, invited him on his third archaeological dig in Jordan. Together they spent most of January 2010 in Jordan at the Tall e-Hammam Excavation Project just north of the Dead Sea. The project is a joint venture of the Archaeology Department of Trinity Southwest University in Albuquerque and the Department of Antiquities in Jordan. While the broad goal of the project is to learn more about the history of that relatively unexplored region, the more immediate goal is to uncover the ancient Biblical city of Sodom which the project leader believes is located in that area, rather than at the south end of the Dead Sea where Biblical archaeologists have always believed it to be found.

As the speaker at our annual meeting, Dollerschell will recall his experience with a Power Point presentation.

*Al Dollerschell*



## From the Director

### Library Starts Self-Check Pilot Project

The library is constantly looking for ways to do things more effectively and efficiently. Over the last couple years we've had several library teams improve processes. Some of the projects have included how we get materials back to the shelf, how we process new materials, and how we create and share publicity materials.

In April of this year the library's self-check continuous improvement committee determined the best way to increase self-check usage was to purchase more self-check units. (The research and discussions were a lot more complicated than the recommendation might seem at first glance. If you are interested in the full report, please ask.)

The committee also recommended a space study be conducted on the library's lobby to determine the best placement of the self-checks. A group of architects from the Rochester Area Foundation agreed to help with the study. After meeting with Circulation desk staff and observing traffic flow in the library, the architects presented a plan for a new self-check area between the Circulation desk and the Fiction, Movies, and Music desk.

The new location would slightly increase the space for self-check units making check out more convenient for patrons; move the self checks units away from the doors to discourage children from running out into the entryway or street; make the self-checks units more accessible by circulation staff so assistance is more available, increase the space for express reserve items; and provide more prime merchandising space for fiction, movies and music.

Before investing in a permanent move to that space (reserve shelving, revamping the FM&M desk, new furniture for the self-checks, etc), we decided to run a pilot program in order to determine the viability of the proposal. We need to make sure that patrons use the self-checks in their new location, and we need to judge the impact on adjoining areas.

The pilot program started on November first. The pilot entailed moving our existing self-checks, putting up temporary shelving, moving existing EPACs, creating a new EPAC area in the former

Self-check space, and merchandising from the old reserve shelving. After 90 days we will determine the success of the area using self check data, staff feedback and a patron survey.

We appreciate the support of the Friends in this project by funding an additional self-check unit. A committee is back at work to select new self-check units. All the current self-check units will be replaced from the computer replacement fund. The existing self-check units are seven years old.

Please try out the new space and give feedback to staff. We value your input!

*Audrey Betcher, Rochester Public Library Director*

## Let's Pretend...

Just in time for the upcoming magical season, the Unusual & Special Books team has conjured up a wonder-full assortment of classic fairy tales, verses and rhymes, fables, and bedtime stories to share with the children (young and old) in your life. Titles include: *The Snow Queen* illustrated by Edmund Dulac, *First Book of*



*Fairy Tales* (a board book), *Kipling's Jungle Books*, *Uncle Wiggily's Picture Book*, a *Beauty and the Beast* pop-up book, *Fireside Tales* (Scottish) *of the Traveller Children*, the Classic Volland edition of *Great Children's Stories*, and many more.

The books, priced from \$5 to \$25, are displayed in the glass case next to the elevator on the Library's main floor; the Friend's bookstore staff can help you purchase your selections.

*Sylvie Nickel*

## President's Column

This has been a busy, productive, and prosperous Fall for the Friends.

- Rochester hosted the Minnesota Library Association meeting October 6-8 at the Civic Center, during this meeting several Friends members volunteered to assist with registration, greeted, gave flu shots, and made program presentations. We were delighted to win the award from the MLA for our project, *Threads of Our Community*.
- The podium on the second floor that holds a copy of the quilt book also has our Evy Nordley plaque for first place in the MLA Friends Project Competition.
- Deanna Hahn, RPL staff member, answered the Unique Management Systems survey from which the Friends won \$1,500 in a drawing. The Friends' board voted to donate this money directly to the Library Communications to assist in the purchase of a Mac Book Pro (lap-top computer) for video processing. This will enable the library to be more involved in You Tube, Facebook, Twitter, and other blogs to maintain our institutional visibility.
- We held a successful auditorium book sale on October 16th and 17th and earned \$1,178. Pat Stephenson took left-over cookbooks to Chanel One.
- The bookstore continues to be a most vital project of the Friends under the leadership of Mary Barrett, our volunteer store manager. Stop in and see all of the changes since January.
- Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> is our Holiday Gift Book and Bake Sale. It is always a fun event with tasty food and gift quality books for sale. Majel Hall and Bruce Witts are co-chairs.
- The Friends' Annual Meeting will be Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. After lunch and our business meeting, Al Dollerschell will describe his experiences assisting at an archeological dig in Jordan.

Have a Happy Holiday Season.

*Shirley Edmonson, President*

## Nominations for the Friends Board for 2011

The Nominating Committee for the Friends is pleased to announce the slate of Officers and Board Members to be elected at the Annual Meeting on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> 2011.

At that time the following current board members will leave the Friends Board:

Emily Anderson, Al Dollerschell, Karen Krueger, Dick Massaro, Ruth Stroebel.

We thank them for their many years of dedication and service as they encouraged volunteer involvement and helped build community and financial support for the Rochester Public Library.

Following is the Nominating Committee Report:

### **Nominees for new board members (3 year term):**

Denny Anderson, Phyllis Hambricht, Liz Ruffalo, Julie Taylor, Bruce Witts

### **Nominees for re-election to the board (3 year term):**

David Anderson, Helen McIver, Carol Stucki

### **Nominees for election to office (2 year term):**

President	Elizabeth Ritman
Vice-President	Barbara Eakins
Secretary	Carol Stucki
Treasurer	David Anderson

*Elizabeth Ritman,  
Chair Friends Nominating Committee*



**Friends bookstore blog: <http://friendsbookstorerochmn.blogspot.com>**

**RPL blog: <http://rochpubliclibrary.wordpress.com/>**

**Friends Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/friendrochpublib>**

# Minnesota Library Association Meeting Friends and Foundation Day

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with registration, greeting, giving flu shots, and presenting programs. The Rochester Civic Center certainly had a busy three days. The big news was Rochester's first place Evy Nordley award among MLA library friends groups for our *Threads of Our Community Quilt* project. Congratulations to the 55 artists who contributed individual quilting squares and special recognition to Karen Koeller, Annette Sjolund and other quilters who organized the project and fabricated the quilt. Karen and Annette illustrated the quilt project in detail during their Power Point presentation at the MLA meeting. In addition to the plaque, we received \$1,000, which will be used to expand the needlework and foreign language materials in the RPL's permanent collection.



At the workshop on How to Make Money from Donated Books, Mary Barrett described how we operate our bookstore and sales; Alan Dollerschell talked about selling books online.

All memberships expire on December 31, 2010; renew your membership now for 2011. Save your membership card--you need to show it to receive a 20% discount on used books in the Friends' Bookstore. If you have questions concerning your membership, please contact Nan Frie at [nanlibrary@charter.net](mailto:nanlibrary@charter.net).

These "how to" presentations were very well received. A number of attendees came to shop at our bookstore, using some of the \$1.00 off coupons that had been printed in the meeting program.

The Rochester Friends also sponsored the Dacy Cello Duo as entertainment for the late-afternoon reception.

All of the Rochester Friends who attended the meeting declared it a positive experience.

*Shirley Edmonson, Friends President*

## Shop at Amazon—Help the Library



The holiday season is coming faster than any of us would like to admit. I found a way of avoiding the claustrophobic, "I'm going to scream-if-one-more-person-bumps-into-me feeling." If you've ever used Amazon, you know that, just like a library, they offer more than just books. Much more! They have everything from diapers to snow blowers, music, movies, toys, games, electronics, tools, clothes, snacks, pet food, and even flame throwers! I'm serious! They have home décor, musical instruments, lawn mowers, shoes, magazine subscriptions, seat covers for your cars. I could go on and on for a good long time.

The best part of shopping at Amazon is that I help support the library at the same time. The Friends of the Library have a portal to Amazon that you can use to turn your purchase into a donation. How awesome is that? All you have to do is use the portal when you shop and anything you buy, and I mean anything, a percentage of the purchase price comes back to the Friends with no extra charge for you.

Happy Holidays and happy shopping.

*Ginny Erbe, Library Staff*



# Friends' Bookstore News



With a new cash register, new shelving, alphabetized books, and new merchandise, the bookstore has undergone some major changes this year. The bookstore volunteers have settled into a comfortable routine now that all the changes have been

implemented. In mid-October, we celebrated with our customers at an open house during our Second Saturday Sale and gave out coupons good for \$1.00 off any purchase in the store.

In late October we celebrated with a breakfast for Friends who volunteer in the bookstore, including a few who came dressed as their favorite author or character.



Mother Goose, Dilbert, Amelia Peabody, Tom Sawyer (Pat S., Sue M., Shirley E., Marilyn C.)

Recently we began handing out 2011 magnetic calendars that contain the bookstore hours, just another push in our goal to advertise the Friends' Bookstore's presence a bit more.



We are now looking forward to our winter second Saturday sales (next sale December 11 – Holiday Gift Books Sale) as we take a rest from all the changes we've implemented this year and dream of more changes for the new year.

*Mary Barrett, Bookstore Manager*

## Fall Book Sale

Once again, we had an overflow of donated books for the auditorium sale on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to 30 volunteers who donated over 83 hours to make the sale a success; we made \$1,178. Teachers attending the sale and having proper ID could select a free bag of books for their classrooms. The left over books were taken to Channel One by Pat Stephenson. A special thanks

to



Bruce Witts, who has stored the many boxes of books in the auditorium closet for the sales. That's a lot of lifting.

*Shirley Edmonson, President*

### Friends Bookstore Hours

Monday: 10 am-7 pm

Tuesday: 10 am-4 pm

Wednesday: 10 am-7 pm

Thursday: 10 am-7 pm

Friday: 10 am-4 pm

Saturday:

Summer 10 am-1 pm

Winter 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday:

Winter 1:30 pm-4:30 pm

Summer: Closed

*Friends  
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101 Second Street S.E.

Rochester, MN 55904-3776 (507) 328-2306

[www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/friends](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/friends)

Newsletter Staff:

Editors,

Ruth Stroebel .....[ruthstroebel@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthstroebel@yahoo.com)

Barbara Eakins.....[eakinsbf@aol.com](mailto:eakinsbf@aol.com)

Friends President..... Shirley Edmonson

Circulation Manager.....Francenia Wilson

Membership Chair.....Emily Anderson

(507)282-4352..[EmilyAnderson01@yahoo.com](mailto:EmilyAnderson01@yahoo.com)

Library Staff Liaison.....John Hunziker



**Holiday Book and Bake Sale**

**December 5, 2010**

**Hours 1:30—4:30**

**Early Admission Pass  
Friends can enter at 1:00 PM**

**Rochester Public Library Auditorium**

Are you still receiving your newsletter via the postal service? To help us save postage and paper, please send you e-mail address to [nanlibrary@charter.net](mailto:nanlibrary@charter.net). Thanks to all who have already chosen this option.