

## First Annual Celebration of Rochester Authors

*Kay Aune, Event Chair*



On July 23rd, the Friends sponsored a gathering of 17 authors in the Library Auditorium. This was an opportunity for local authors to interact with each other and the public, exchange ideas, explore writing processes, and to sell their works. This first annual celebration just tapped the number of Rochester authors, and several additional authors are anxious to be included next year.

Thanks to Cold Stone Creamery for their wonderful donation of ice cream, and to the

Friends for the donation of toppings. It was a great snack on a hot day, too!

Authors attending the event included: Ken Allsen, Gerald Anderson, Tony Bridwell, Alan Calavano, Helen Chen, Carol Fosdick, Harriet Hodgson, Paul Koeller, Richard Krom, Nick Lauer, Douglas McGill, Sister Ramona Miller, Dorothy Lund Nelson, Tom Ostrom, Michael Reisman, Helen Pompeian and Fan Shen. Many brought their spouses and other family members, and two came in costume denoting the period of their book. Look for many of their pictures on the library READ posters!



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Krom in Civil War-era costume to promote his book, *1st MN, Second to None*

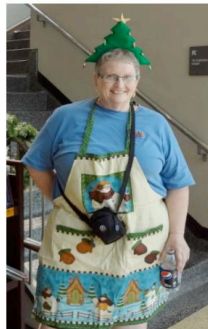
# From the Friends' Bookstore

*Mary Barrett, Friends' Bookstore Manager*

The bookstore folks did not have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Sale in June because of the Rochesterfest auditorium sale, but we more than made up for it with the Christmas in July sale on July 14th. We sold over \$900 in books and materials! The only other sale to even come close to those totals was the November White Out Wednesday Sale, and the sale that day was all day long. Many bookstore volunteers were on hand to make this event a complete success, and we are thankful to our many volunteers. At one point when the line was out the door, volunteers moved among the customers and prepared a list of book prices to help the folks at the register focus on ringing up books and bagging. While the sales are a lot of work, they are also fun – and a great fundraiser.



Shirley B., Meridith D., and Pat S. were having a great time getting into the holiday spirit!



Bookstore Manager, Mary Barrett



Marj S. and Pat S. begin setting up the sale tables in the foyer before library opening.



Manning the register during the sale.



Shoppers sift through the vast selection of books.

In other Bookstore news, Mary Barrett has agreed to remain on as Bookstore Manager for another three years. Ann Griese, our current bookkeeper, is retiring from her position in January of 2013. If you have an interest or skill in this area, please contact Elizabeth Ritman or Gail Harris to discuss volunteering your time.



## Record-Breaking Sales at Rochesterfest Auditorium Sale!

*Bruce Witts, Auditorium Sales Chair*

The Rochesterfest Auditorium Sales set a Friends record this year as sales reached \$5,560. Hundreds of people flocked in for the two-day event and business was steady.

The Stewardship was set up in the library lobby both days, contributing \$392.

The two-day event ran smoothly and everyone appeared to be having a good time.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, who donated more than 179 hours of enjoyable labor to make this event a success.



## 2nd Saturday Sales

*Pat Stephenson, Friends' Bookstore*

2nd Saturday Sales are the place to be! It's your opportunity to get even better prices on already low-priced gently used books! If you haven't been to one, mark your calendars now!

The next 2nd Saturday Sale is August 11th and will be an Overstock Sale with art, music, biographies, gardening, family topics, paperback fiction, children's books and anything else we have overflowing in our back room!

September 8th is our Back to School Sale with ONLY children's books. Sales run from 10 am to 1 pm on the 2nd Saturday of each month in the library's front entryway.

Not in the mood to shop? Come on down and let's talk books!

### 2nd Saturday Sale Dates (10:00 am - 1:00 pm)

**August 11th**  
**September 8th**  
**October 13th**  
**November 10th**

### Whisky Tasting with the Friends

*Sponsored by Glenfiddich Distillery*



**Thursday, September 27, 2012**  
**6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Ramada Rochester**  
**1517 16th ST SW**

#### **Registration:**

Before September 4th: \$25/person or \$40/couple  
 After Sept 4th: \$30/person or \$50/couple

Light refreshments, raffle prizes and silent auction  
 The pipes will be heard!

## Shirley Tucker August's Visiting Author



Don't miss your opportunity to meet author Shirley Tucker, as she visits the library on August 16th from 7-8 pm to discuss her first novel, *Diamonds in the Dust*.

Tucker's novel tells the story of Ida Morgan. When her husband is murdered, Ida feels abandoned by God and entirely alone in the world. Her road to healing

will be paved by the proverbial "diamonds in the dust."

Shirley Tucker was born in a doctor's bed in a leper colony and spent her early years in Zambia where she eventually became a teacher. She later moved to South Africa where she met her husband, Mark, and moved to Canada.

After many years in Canada, Tucker and her husband returned to South Africa, where together they founded Phakamani Foundation.



**THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
CELEBRATE**

**ARTi  
gras**  
*Something for everyone....*

**BOOK SALE IN ARTIVILLAGE  
MAYO PARK (BEHIND CIVIC CENTER)  
AUGUST 18TH • 9AM - 4PM**

**MUSIC BOOKS - ART BOOKS  
COLLECTIBLE BOOKS - KIDS' BOOKS**

VISIT OUR BOOTH FOR A  
\$2 COUPON GOOD FOR  
YOUR NEXT VISIT TO THE  
FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE!

**Visiting Author Series!**  
**Mark your calendars now for  
this Fall's Visiting Authors!**

**August 16**  
Shirley Tucker

**September 9**  
Brenda Child

**September 24**  
Martha Fitzgerald

**October 21**  
Larry Millett

**November 11**  
Nancy Paddock

**Watch for details at the library and  
on our blog!**

[www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com](http://www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com)

## President's Column

*Elizabeth Ritman, Friends' President*



Summer 2012 has been one long hot, steamy period. But through it all the Friends have continued with their many activities, and it is truly amazing the number of hours they so willingly volunteer to support our Mission Statement.

Part of the Friends Mission statement reads: "...building community and financial support and encouraging volunteer involvement." This is amply noted in the Auditorium Sale held during Rochesterfest, a community-wide event. Bruce Witts, Chair, and his busy crew did a sterling effort to arrange the successful sale on June 20 & 21. The library auditorium was completely filled with tables of books and other items for purchase at bargain prices. But many people do not realize the amount of time and hard work that is involved both before and during these auditorium sales, which take place four times a year.

For a period of time prior to the sale, items are selected, boxed and stored. Then, on the day before the sale, a willing group of Friends under Bruce's direction come to set up the auditorium. It's hectic but organized as the storage room, bulging with boxes, is gradually unpacked and the books put on and below tables waiting to be sold. Those Friends who take part in this sale are dedicated and contribute so much to the overall enjoyment and financial success of the occasion.

Another community event, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebration of Rochester Authors, was held on July 23rd. Kay Aune, Chair, and her creative team pulled together this free event after a suggestion given by a library patron. Combining a book event and an ice cream social, the public was invited to meet and visit with local Rochester authors. The committee logged many

hours in planning the event and whittling the list of over 150 Rochester authors to a feasible number to fit into the auditorium. On a very hot evening it was a cool spot for people to chat with 17 local authors, buy books and enjoy ice cream donated by Cold Stone Creamery. Authors have already started asking to be put on the list for next year.

Friends who willingly and cheerfully volunteer are so important to support and strengthen our library. In 2011, volunteer statistics show 378 volunteers worked 18,166 hours. Though we try to keep tabs on the hours Friends volunteer, we know that many give much more and go far beyond these numbers.

Some of our Friends have a public face working in the bookstore, book sales or at events such as mentioned above. But many Friends volunteer behind the scene in the back rooms and throughout the library. These Friends are not always recognized.

So to all of you dedicated Friends out there and for all that you do – a big THANK YOU for your continuing support.

## Membership Update - PayPal

*by Kay Aune, Membership Committee*

September is the month we send out letters for 2013 membership – and we are glad to point out a different way for you to be involved.

New this year is the potential to become a member and pay your fee online. Please share the news with friends and Friends.

To renew your Friends' membership online, simply go to the following address:

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

# Visit our Blog and Win!

Cathie Armstrong, Friends' Blog Editor

Have you been out to our blog yet? It's filled with all kinds of fun information, including information about upcoming library events, book reviews and even author interviews.

Throughout the summer, we've been running a FREE BOOK CONTEST! It's easy to win: Just check out our blog, read our book reviews, and enter to win! Just this summer we've given away the following books:



- Books 1 and 2 in the *Unearthly* Series
- 3 copies of *On the Island*
- 2 copies of *The Postmistress*
- *The Birthing House*
- *The Last Lecture*
- *The River Between Us*
- *Death Comes to Pemberley*
- *Divergent*

Coming up this Fall, you can expect to see more FREE BOOK GIVEAWAYS. We'll be offering free copies of books like *The Game of Thrones* and *The Fault in Our Stars*. Just watch our blog to win!

Additionally, we'll be bringing you information about upcoming library events, as well as more book reviews and author interviews.

Don't miss out on great information and your chance to win free books! Visit our blog today at [www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com](http://www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com).

## Join Our Book Review Team

Do you love reading books and recommending them to others? Join the Book Review Team on our blog! We're looking for people to write reviews of the books they read for posting on our blog. Especially in need are reviews of Science Fiction, Romance, Fantasy, Children's Books, Young Adult and Non-Fiction.

This is a volunteer position, and all you have to do is read the book and write the review. We'll do all the formatting on our end and put it on the blog for you! This is a great opportunity for high school students to hone their writing skills, as well as add some community service volunteer hours to those college applications.

If you'd like more information or to join our team, e-mail Cathie Armstrong at [c.h.armstrong@me.com](mailto:c.h.armstrong@me.com).

### Stay Connected!

#### Friends' Blog

[www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com](http://www.friends4rpl.wordpress.com)

#### RPL Blog

[www.rochpublibrary.wordpress.com](http://www.rochpublibrary.wordpress.com)

#### Friends on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendRochPubLibrary>

#### Paige Turner on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Paige-Turner/>

# From the Director

Audrey Betcher, Library Director



What's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the words "Strategic Planning"? A dusty binder on a book shelf? Something you do every few years and then forget about? The Library Board is embarking on a process to set direction and rewrite its strategic plan. Honestly I am very excited about it.

We are using the book *Strategic Planning for Results* by Sandra Nelson and published by the Public Library Association to guide us in the process. We are convening members of our community (Community Planning Committee) to define a vision for the community and tell us how the library best fits into that vision. We are doing this for several reasons:

- Excellence is defined locally. It results when library services match community needs, interests, and priorities.
- Excellence is possible for libraries of all sizes. It rests more on commitment than on unlimited resources.
- Excellence is a moving target. What got us here today won't get us into the future. Excellence must be continually maintained.

The Friends and Foundation are participating in the planning process by having representatives on both the Ad Hoc Planning Committee and the Community Planning Committee. The Library Board expects to have the plan complete by the end of they year.

This won't be a strategic plan that becomes dusty on a shelf; I can guarantee that!

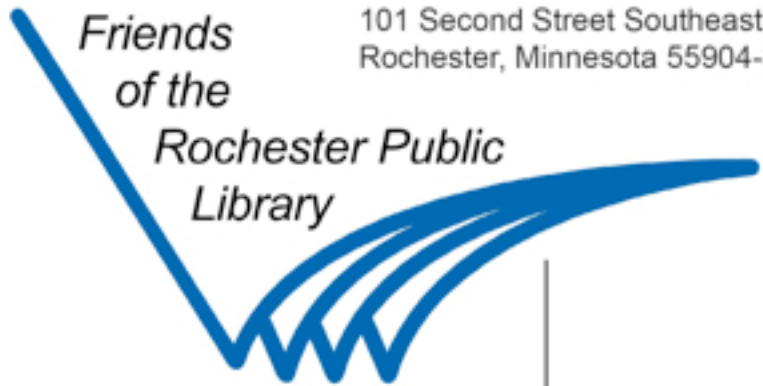
## Express Check-out Volunteers

*Kim Dahl, RPL Circulation Dept.*

This summer the library has been very lucky to have some wonderful young volunteers helping patrons to use the new Express Check-out machines. These machines are located in two convenient locations, flanking the Public Service Desk. Beyond checking out materials, volunteers show patrons the many other things these machines can do, including checking for available holds, emailing or printing a list of all materials checked out and the due dates,

paying fines and renewing materials. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers for taking time out of their summer to show patrons how to spend less time waiting in line and more time enjoying the library.





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**Friends' Bookstore Hours**

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays**  
10:00 am - 7:00 pm

**Tuesdays and Fridays**  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Saturdays**  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm (Summer)  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm (Winter)

**Sundays**  
Closed (Summer)  
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm (Winter)

Are you still receiving your newsletter via the postal service? Help us save postage and paper by sending your e-mail address to [nanlibrary@charter.net](mailto:nanlibrary@charter.net). Thanks to all who have already selected this option!