

## From the Director



I want to share two pieces of good news with you and make a request. A little background first. The library wrote a grant recently to the Rochester Area Foundation requesting funding for the *Rochester Reading Champions* program which

builds tutoring capacity for at-risk children and adult readers living in Olmsted County. Research suggests that approximately 17 percent of the population has dyslexia and early identification is critical. Using census data for Olmsted County we realized that nearly 5000 people can be presumed to have dyslexia and the local Reading Center only has the ability to serve approximately 252. Community partners were identified—Rochester Public Library (RPL), The Reading Center/Dyslexia Institute of Minnesota (non-profit), Olmsted County Adult Detention Center, and Boys & Girls Club of Rochester—and collaborated to design an inclusive, free and sustainable tutoring program centered on one-on-one instruction.

Through *Rochester Reading Champions*, volunteers will be trained by The Reading Center in the proven Orton-Gillingham Method (O-G Method). Following the intensive course work and practicum, 12 volunteers will offer 45 minutes of twice a week tutoring per student at RPL, the Adult Detention Center and Boys & Girls Club to at-risk children and adult readers.

With core elements of growth and sustainability, programming for *Rochester Reading Champions* adds 8-10 volunteers annually. We believe that this sustainable program can be a model for libraries across the country.

2014: funding has been secured through grant and foundation funding including \$17,000 from The Rochester Area Foundation, \$1,000 each from the Jim and Judy Sloan Fund, Charles and Barbara Withers Fund and The Van DeNorth-Knight Family, totaling \$20,000.

2015: The Rochester Area Foundation awarded another \$15,000 grant to support basic and advance O-G Method trainings and practicums during the second year.

2016: The Rochester Area Foundation awarded \$7,000 for the final year of the grant.

The grant was the first piece of good news which then drove the need to request that the City Council agree to unfreeze and fund, mid-year, a Reference position that has been on hold since 2010. This required a number of meetings as the city doesn't generally like to unfreeze positions mid-year. The second piece of good news is that the city did agree to renew the position and it is now posted. The plan is to have someone onboard by early July. The person will be responsible for running the library portion of the program.

This brings me to my request to you. As was noted above, the tutors will be mostly volunteers that will be trained to work with children and/or adults. You have always been our great strength. Not only do you understand the importance of literacy, but you care about the success of our community. If you are intrigued by this concept, if you would like more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact Gail Harris.

It is an exciting time as we build new partnerships to help struggling readers. Thank you for everything you do for us.

Audrey Betcher, Library Director

## President's Column



### Friends 2014 Annual Meeting

On a terrible, icy day, Monday, Friends of the Rochester Public Library annual meeting to order and gave special thanks to Dunn Brothers, who donated the sandwiches and coffee for the pre-meeting lunch. She also thanked the meeting committee who provided the rest of the lunch and the table decorations.

### Meeting Notes:

- \* 2013 Minutes Approved
- \* Financial Report placed on file
- \* Nominations presented and approved for: Phyllis Hambricht and Lathika Nair as co-Vice Presidents
- \* Iris Fried as Secretary
- \* David Anderson as Treasurer
- \* Kay Eberman and Phillip Nordquist were installed as New Board Members
- \* Phyllis Hambricht and Bruce Witts re-elected for a three year term
- \* Membership
- \* Retiring member Julie Taylor thanked

Our speaker was Sarah Joynt, the Young Adult librarian. She talked about the new TeenScape section of the library and offered tours after the meeting. She also gave a delightful talk about Terrific Teen Read for Adults.



Sarah asked us to remember how amazing our teen years were. No one today, she said, can forget one pimply, heartbroken, or adventurous moment thanks to the abundance of excellent teen fiction available today. Sarah then went on to review young-adult books owned by the Rochester Public Library.



The New Year got off to a great start with the History Hullabaloo on January 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The Friends

always participate with this activity by helping with registration and providing snacks and drinks. We had a great crowd of students this year. Thanks go to board members Kay Aune, Shirley Edmonson, Phyllis Hambricht, and Barbara Eakins.

The Annual Meeting was a great success even though the weather was not co-operating – sub zero temperatures. Over 50 brave souls made it to the meeting. Thanks to all who helped, especially to those who provide the lunch and the homemade cookies. We welcomed new board members and said good-bye to Julie Taylor who was leaving the board.

Close after the Annual Meeting was the Winter Fest Sale. As usual the sale was a great success, lots of people, lots of money and lots of laughter. Thanks to Chair of the book sales Bruce Witts and his team of sellers, we brought in about \$4000 for the Library. Our next sale is in June for **Rochester Fest**.



Barbara Eakins, Friends' President

## Upcoming Author Visits:

### Dr. Amit Sood



Dr. Amit Sood is an expert on stress management. He wrote the book *The Mayo Clinic Guide to Stress Free Living*. Dr. Sood will be talking about how to manage stress in the Library Auditorium on Thursday, May 22, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. His book on stress will be available for purchase at his

presentation.

We hope that many of you will attend both of these presentations, which are sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### Mr. Mike Resman

Mr. Michael Resman, the second author sponsored by the Friends, will be presenting on Wednesday, June 4 in the Library Auditorium at 7:00 PM. Mr. Resman wrote the book *Asylums, Treatment Centers, and Genetic Jails: A History of State Hospitals, Early Psychiatric Treatment, and Mental Health in Minnesota*. During his presentation, Mr. Resman will be speaking about the history of the State Hospital that closed in Rochester in the early 1980s. He is also the author of *The Mailmen of Elmwood*.



### 2014 Friends Board of Directors

**Back Row:** Delip Cotter, Eugenia Dragomir-Daescu, Cathie Armstrong, Pat Siljensberg, Bruce Witts, Dave Anderson, Iris Fried, Patt Mann, Phyllis Hambright, Lathika Nair, and President Barbara Eakins.

**Front Row:** Kay Eberman, Twila Winter, Harriet Hodgson, and Kay Aune.

**Not pictured:** Elizabeth Ritman, Shirley Edmonson, and Mary Barrett



## Friends' Donations By the Numbers

Each year, the Library tallies up all of the numbers that relate to the value created by Friends' Volunteers. Here are the numbers for 2013:

### Volunteer Hours:

- \* 344 Volunteers
- \* 18,052 Hours Donated

### Cash Raised:

- \* Online Sales \$32,376.99
- \* Auditorium Sales \$17,041.04
- \* Bookstore: \$50,000.00

### Donated Materials

\$133,445 was the value of materials donated, processed by sorters, and entered directly into the Library's collection.

## 2013 Bookstore Donation



Library Board President Jan Engberg and Library Director Audrey Betcher

At the March Library Board meeting, Bookstore Manager Mary Barrett presented a check for \$50,000 to the Board President, Jan Engberg, and Library Director, Audrey Betcher. This money represents the Bookstore's earnings for 2013. The Friends' Bookstore's all used to purchase new materials for the Library.

## Bookstore News

In the Friends' Bookstore, all of the books are donated and all of the workers are volunteers. That means that all of the money raised through selling books goes directly to the Library.



The Bookstore saw a drop in sales during January and February due to the awful weather. So the store volunteers got creative.



In February, the store sponsored "Blind Date With a Book." Each person could buy a book for \$1, but the book was wrapped in plain brown paper—so the title was hidden!

Then the store initiated a frequent shoppers punch card. For each purchase made, a number is punched out. After the ninth purchase, the tenth book selected is free. Already over 80 of the punch cards have been redeemed!

If you are a Friend but not a volunteer, do consider volunteering in some capacity. The group of Friends is a lively bunch, and you are sure to enjoy yourself.

### Friends' Bookstore Hours

Summer Hours begin after May 26,  
Memorial Day.

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 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:  | 10 am-1 pm |
| Sunday:    | Closed     |

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to lead a nationally-recognized exercise program. Bone Builders (developed by Tufts University) is a nationally recognized osteoporosis prevention and reversal exercise program for men and women of all ages.

Positive effects of regular light exercise can lead to increased bone density and increased muscle strength, decreased risk of heart disease, improved flexibility, improved mobility, enlightened mood, and better balance which decreases the likelihood of falls.

Bone Builders (a free class) is facilitated nationally by the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). The class focuses on facilitating civic and community opportunities for the population 55 years old and older.

Locally RSVP is sponsored by Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Winona. RSVP has partnered with the Library's Wellness Corner to bring Bone Builders to Rochester.



If you are interested in leading a Bone Builders Class, or if you would like information in participating in a Builders Class when they begin, contact Guthrie Capossella at 507.287.2047. You can also contact her via e-mail at [gcaposella@ccwinona.org](mailto:gcaposella@ccwinona.org).

## Have you been to a sale lately?

At the April 12 2nd Saturday Sale, the Bookstore had a BOGO (buy one, get one free) sale. Below is a stack of books that were purchased at the sale for \$31.43!



## Upcoming Events

### Bookstore Garage Sale

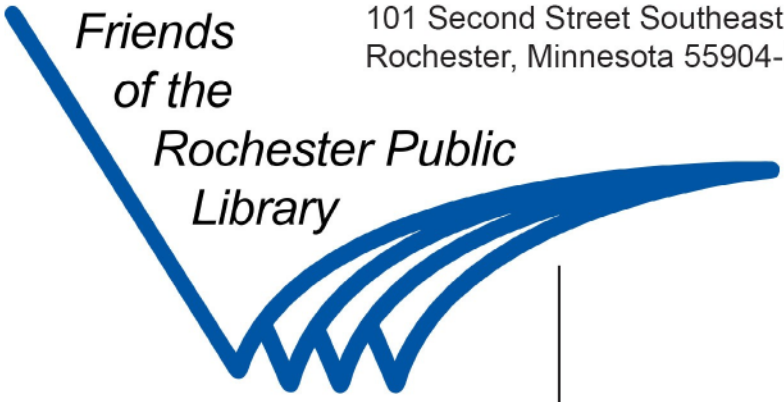
On Saturday, May 10, Rochester is going to hold its City-Wide garage sale for the SE and SW quadrants of the city. The Friends' Bookstore is going to participate in the garage sale and, weather permitting, the 2nd Saturday Sale will be held outside.

### Button Contest

At the RochesterFest Auditorium Sale, the Friends will be soliciting designs for the fall button sale. This year, an additional category for teenagers will be added to the three categories from last year. In addition to the age-group winners, the judges will choose an overall winning design. The button winners will be announced at the Friends' Fall Auditorium sale; Friends will be wearing copies of the winning buttons at the sale. The buttons will also be available for sale in the Friends' Bookstore.



Winning designs from 2013.



Friends  
of the

Rochester Public  
Library

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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.



**RochesterFest 2014 Book Sale  
Rochester Public Library Auditorium**

Preview Sale June 23 – 5:00 to 7:00  
Tuesday, June 24 – 9:30 – 7:00  
Wednesday, June 25 – 9:30 – 7:00  
Thursday, June 26 – 9:30 – 6:00

**You may make your purchase using cash,  
checks, and debit/credit cards.**