

World Book Night



On Wednesday, April 23, about a dozen Friends of the Rochester Public Library participated in World Book Night for the third year in a row. In order to participate, each volunteer book

giver enrolled, identified his/her top three book picks, and waited for confirmation that they had been chosen as book givers. Each volunteer then picked up twenty copies of the book he/she had chosen, with all books being donated by Barnes and Noble. This year the Friends gathered at the Peace Plaza and, within an hour, gave away over 220 books. Titles included such books as Agatha Christies' *After the Funeral*, Katherine Paterson's *Bridge to Terabithia*, Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, and Ransom Riggs' *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*. Given the wide variety of books the Friends had chosen, people had many books to choose from. Reactions to the idea of a free book ranged from surprise to pleasure, to disbelief, to amazement. Visit <http://www.us.worldbooknight.org/> (the World Book Night web site) if you are interested in being a book giver next year



Don Ryan Kendra Ryan
and Becky Meyerhofer

Amazon Smile

In the past, RPL's website contained a portal that allowed people to click on a hyperlink connecting them to Amazon's web site. There, a portion of each purchase was donated to the Library. For a year or so, that program disappeared but now the program has appeared in a new guise. If you look for the **Amazon Smile** button on the Friends' page at the Library site, you can once again shop at



Amazon and earn money for the Library at the same time. At its peak, the hyperlink from the Library to Amazon was earning the Library about \$1,000 per year. So the next time you are shopping for books or other materials at Amazon, enter through the Library web site!

<http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/supporting/friends/index.html>

Sign Up for Amazon Smile

- Click on the Amazon Smile Icon at the Library website.
- You will be taken to a list of charities, but scroll down. Click "Other"
- Type in "Friends of the Rochester Public Library"
- You will see a list of many public library sites; click on the Rochester link.
- You will get a screen telling you that Amazon will now donate .5% of your purchase to our library.

RochesterFest Book Sale

The Friends' RochesterFest book sale begins this year on Monday, June 23.

- June 23 – 5:00 to 7:00 PM
- June 24 – 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM
- June 25 – 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM
- June 26 – 9:30AM to 6:00 PM



If you are interested in helping at the sale, you will find a sign-up sheet at the cashier's desk in the Friends' Bookstore. The team especially needs help at two times: during set-up (from 1 PM to 5 PM) on Monday June 23,

and after the sale ends on June 26 (from 6 PM to 7 PM).

Be sure to buy your button for RochesterFest in the Friends' Bookstore since the Friends earn a small profit for each button sold there. As part of RochesterFest, the Friends' Bookstore will once again be giving away a free book to anyone wearing a RochesterFest button, and you can get a free book each day!

Celebration of Local Authors

Put Saturday, November 22, 2014, on your calendar now! The Third Annual Author Celebration will be held that day in the Library Auditorium from 2:30 to 4:00 PM. In the past two years, over 25 authors from Southeast Minnesota have attended this round-robin event, allowing interested community members to walk



Richard G. Krom,
Author *First Minnesota*

around and ask questions of individual authors. In the past, the author event has also included a discussion open to attendees. Last year the well-attended discussion topic was "How to get published."

From The Director

In the last newsletter I gave an overview of the Rochester Reading Champions program and let you know that we would be filling a Library Assistant II position that would lead the program for the library. I am happy to tell you that Gail Harris will be starting that position in July. She'll be moving to the Reference Division.

These are Gail's words as she made the announcement to the Friends board:

"This program will combine my love of working with you, our library volunteers (who become tutors) and working on literacy development for under-served communities, my passion."

Although Gail won't be job sharing the Volunteer Coordinator position anymore, the good news is that Marilyn Campbell will take on the Volunteer Coordinator position full-time. Gail and Marilyn will be working together over the next couple months to develop a transition plan. If questions come up, Gail will be within shouting distance. (OK, that may be an exaggeration, but I live with a 12 year old boy, and loud shouting is pretty common in my home.)

Please congratulate both of them as they take on new challenges in order *to strengthen community and enrich lives.*

Audrey Betcher,
Library Director



Friends' Bookstore Report

So, the winter was a tough one. We had snow and ice and cold. And we all stayed indoors to keep safe and warm. And that means that not so many folks shopped at the Bookstore during January and February! Fortunately, our sales have recovered in March and April, so we are back on track to make our usual donation to the Library.

Even more important news was announced at the end of May: Pat Stephenson and Mary Barrett have agreed to be co-managers of the Bookstore from January 2015 through January



2018. The two had a brainstorming session to divide up the duties as well as to redesign the Bookstore Committee so that they can be more

actively involved in the workings of the Bookstore. Of course, the two of them didn't limit themselves to only mundane planning. They also designed a new t-shirt as well as a new bumper sticker, and they have plans for some new contests and sales in the Bookstore. Be sure to watch for specific details in the future!

What does it take to be a Bookstore Volunteer? We ask that you agree to work twice each month. Each shift is three hours long, and you could choose from the hours of 10 AM to 1 PM, 1 PM to 4 PM, or 4 PM to 7 PM. You will need to have an hour-long training to introduce to the cash register and the credit card machine. You will work your first shift with the manager, and after that you'll be scheduled with an experienced volunteer until you feel comfortable. Each month, you will receive an e-mail asking you about the shifts for which you would be available during the following month, and you'll have the next month's calendar by the 15th of the current month. If you will be gone on vacation or for the winter, the scheduler can accommodate your specific needs.

And the Bookstore volunteers have fun! Not only do you get to talk books with customers and other volunteers, you will get to know new people, and learn new skills. Just stop in the store and pick up a green form if you are interested in being a volunteer!

Volunteer Appreciation

On Wednesday, April 30, the Library Staff hosted a Friends' Volunteer Appreciation celebration. Following a light supper donated by the Wongs at Dunn Brothers Café, a speaker from the Family Tree Nursery talked to the volunteers about a simple formula for planting pots of



flowers for summer: a Thriller (for drama), a Filler (to make the pot lush), and a Spiller (to flow over the edge of the pot).

She gave examples of the types of flowers that were good bloomers in Minnesota summers, and she had an excellent handout for volunteers to take along as they shopped.

Then the Library staff put on a skit that had folks rolling in the aisles. The staff posed as two groups of librarians from the 1960s – one a group of staid, old-fashioned librarians, and one a group of hip, modern library staff.

Finally, the Library staff showered the volunteers with door prizes. Thanks so much to the Library for their appreciation!



President's Column

Finally, finally spring has sprung. The last time the newsletter was published, it still felt like winter. We have been busy and will be having a busy summer. I have been enjoying filling in at the bookstore and meeting more and more Friends.

On May 12, the Friends' Volunteers hosted a breakfast for Library Staff in celebration of National Library Week. Thanks to the events committee for planning the breakfast of breakfast pizza and sweets.

Upcoming events:

- The bookstore's second Saturday sales.
- RochesterFest sale June 23 through the 26. Volunteers are needed.
- Author talk – Mike Resman on June 4 at 7pm in the Auditorium. He will be talking about the state hospital in Rochester that closed in the 1980s.
- And, don't forget the Celebration of Local Authors on Saturday, November 22.
- Pick up an entry form for the Button Contest. This year, the contest will have an additional category for teens. The winners will be chosen before the Autumn Auditorium Sale, and buttons will be printed before that sale.



Barbara Eakins, Friend's President



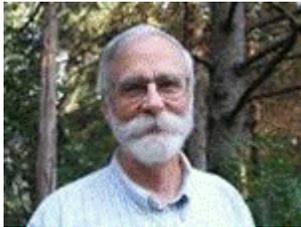
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Mr. Mike Resman

Mr. Michael Resman, an 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 Sate 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*.



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