

## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the *Friends of the Rochester Public Library* was on Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in the Auditorium.

Gail Harris summarized the contributions that Friends have made to the library, both through our bookstore and elsewhere.



Audrey Betcher added her thanks for all our contributions of time and energy.



Karen Krueger introduced new and old members of the Board.



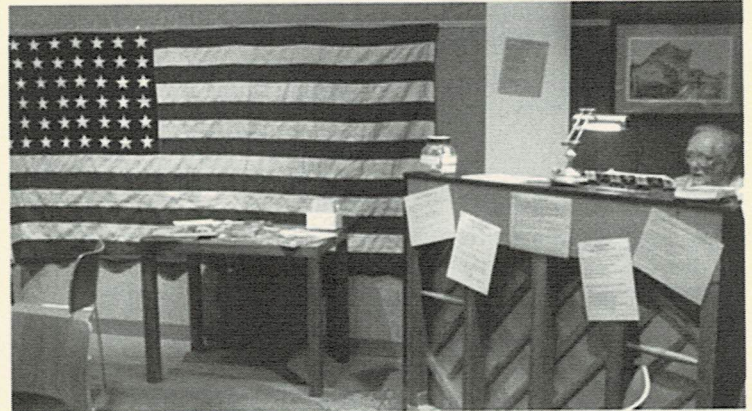
Bill and Adrienne McConahey gave a serious/hilarious account of what life was like on the "home front" in the 1940s.




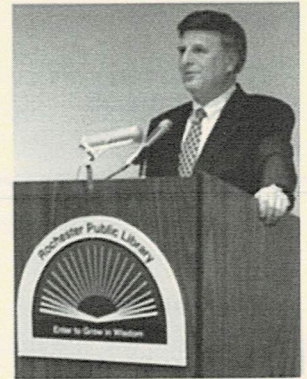
Karen Krueger and Al Dollerschell became "book worms" as they read some wormy poetry. A good time was had by all!



## Author Bob Greene's Visit




The *Friends of the Library* hosted a reception for Bob Greene on February 18<sup>th</sup>. There was a "Canteen" in Meeting Room B with Coffee, Juice and Cake with live music from the '40s. Bob told us about his experiences in North Platte, Nebraska. He answered questions and autographed books after his talk. 



## Journey Back in Time

Some *Friends of the Library* took over the Family Funfest on February 28<sup>th</sup> to show children and their families what was going on on the home front in the early 1940s. They played with home-made toys and examined such obsolete



technology as rotary dial phones and manual typewriters as well as many household gadgets. We had live piano music like "Comin' In On a Wing and a Prayer". 



## From the Director



Did you see the article in the April Senior Scene, a special promotional section of the Post-Bulletin, entitled "Library Card can be your Passport" on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>? The article provided an overview of some of the services in which seniors may be interested. Here are the highlights:

**Computer classes** - There is even an "Internet for Seniors" class. See facing page.

**Heritage Quest** - a database that is great for genealogy research. The library also has a class periodically on using the Internet for genealogy research. Reference staff can help you with the database and let you know when the next class will be. (285-8002)

**Book groups** - The library has many book groups going and is starting a couple more. Some of the current groups include Minnesota Authors, Plain Readers, Books into Film. Contact the Readers Services desk for more information. (285-8006)

**Homebound services** - If a person has barriers in getting to the library, volunteers can deliver materials to your home once a month. This can even be used in a temporary situation. Perhaps if you are recovering from surgery, you could have the service for several months. Readers Services is the contact. (285-8019)

**Internet services** - If you don't have a computer at home, you can use the Internet access at the library. With your library card, you can have at least an hour per day (sometimes 90 minutes if no one is waiting).

**Bookmobile** - The bookmobile makes between 60 and 70 stops every two weeks. There may be a stop near you!

**Varied Collection** - The library has more than books. We have DVD, videos, described videos, audio books on tape and CD, music on tape and CD, and large print books.

**Workstation for people with low vision** - The library has a workstation on the second floor to assist people with low vision. Special software is loaded on the computer to either Zoom the text very large on the screen or even read a written page.

As always, we are glad to help you anytime in the library, on the phone or even via email or virtually using our 24 hour/7 day per week online reference. (See Ask Us on our Research section of our web page: [www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org))

Please ask us ANYTHING!

Audrey Betcher

## Friends' Bookstore News

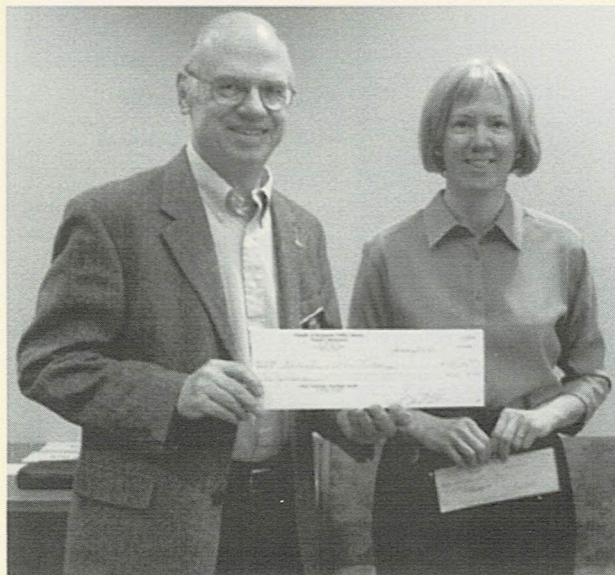
We had great fun with February's Rochester Reads events. The rich history associated with this year's books brought memories for some and enlightenment for others. At the *Friends' Bookstore*, it also brought new customers, lively discussions, and increased sales. Special thanks go to Waldenbooks for providing us with books to sell and helping with the Bob Greene events.

As the snow recedes and the grass greens, please remember us when you're doing that spring cleaning at home! We're always happy to have your unwanted books for the library and store. The many generous donations from people in the Rochester area last year allowed us to save the library more than \$160,000 in replacements and additions to the collection, as well as allowing the *Friends* to present the library a \$40,000 check, the proceeds of the Bookstore, to purchase new materials. Thanks to our many loyal customers and volunteers for making this possible!

Spring always leaves me listless and looking for ways to change my life. If that happens to you, here's an idea— why not volunteer to work in the Bookstore? It's a change of scenery and we're always in need of new people, especially cashiers. No experience necessary! We provide all the training. If you're not already on our roster for the store, won't you consider lending us a few hours a month? You can bring a friend and work in the store together.



Sue McMillan



Dick Hall receiving check from Sue McMillan

## Classes at the Library

Class sizes are limited. Call 285-8002 for more information and/or to pre-register. Classes are 1 hour unless otherwise noted and are held in Meeting Room B.


**Mon Apr 12: Internet** This is a basic Internet class for the beginner. Reference librarians use the internet every day in their jobs and will pass along skills to get you surfing! Practice time is included. 10 to 11:30 am

**Wed Apr 14: Internet for Seniors** This is a basic Internet class for the beginner. Reference librarians use the internet every day in their jobs and will pass along skills to get you surfing! Practice time is included. 9:30 - 11 am

**Tue Apr 20: Magazine & Newspapers on the Computer** How to find full-text articles from hundreds of magazines and newspapers available online through Rochester Public Library. Learn how to search at the library or from your home or office. 1 pm

**Wed Apr 21: Online Catalog** Learn to use the library's catalog to search for your favorite authors, titles and subjects plus other features of the catalog. 12 noon.

**Wed Apr 21: Find A Good Fiction Book @ the Library** Looking for some good books to read? In this class, a readers advisory librarian will teach how to find just the books you're looking for, from bestsellers and book club favorites to mysteries and sci-fi. 7 pm

**Thu Apr 29: Intermediate Internet** Spending a lot of time on the internet and still not finding what you want? A reference librarian will provide search tips and cover various internet search engines. Previous Internet and computer mouse experience is helpful. 12 noon to 1:30 pm. 



## Calling all library users who like ice cream!

Cold Stone Creamery, a unique ice cream "experience," is celebrating its grand opening and benefitting the *Friends of the Library* April 16 from 11 am to 11 pm. Come join the fun and share Cold Stone Creamery's passion for ice cream and children. They will be offering free waffle cones and fifty percent of the store's sales will be donated to Friends of the Library that day.

We are looking for some Friends to be ambassadors at the store for two hour shifts on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We'd like volunteers to show up in costume's of book characters - you come up with your own ideas. We will pass out information on the Friends and 50 cent coupons for the bookstore.

If you are interested in helping on the 16th, please call Karen Krueger (282-6766).

Mark you calendars and come to the grand opening between 11am and 11pm on April 16th at 3780 Marketplace Drive NW (in the shopping center near Target and Home Depot). *Karen Krueger*

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## News from Friends

*Friends of The Rochester Public Library*

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This newsletter is published for members of the *Friends of the Rochester Public Library*. Your comments are appreciated.

# Spring Calendar – 2004



**Sat Apr 10:** Family Funfest Film: Velveteen Rabbit.  
10:30 am in the Auditorium

**Tue Apr 13:** Bedtime Stories: Hooray for Hats. 7 pm  
in the Auditorium

**Wed Apr 14:** iFilm: Carol's Journey. 6 pm in the  
auditorium.

**Fri Apr 16:** Cold Stone Grand Opening

**Sat Apr 17:** Family Funfest Special Program:  
Schiffelly Puppets present The Wonderfully  
Wacky Wizard of Oz: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium

**Sun Apr 18:** Minnesota Author KJ Erickson will  
discuss her career & her published works, The  
Last Witness, The Dead Survivors, & Third  
Person Singular. 2 pm in the Auditorium.

**Tue Apr 20:** Bedtime Stories: Splash! 7 pm in the  
Auditorium

**Tue Apr 20:** Nonfiction at Night Book Club will  
discuss The Professor and the Madman by  
Simon Winchester. 6 pm in Meeting Room A

**Thu Apr 22:** Young Adult Poetry SLAM. 7 pm in the  
Auditorium

**Sat Apr 24:** Family Funfest Film: The Lorax. 10:30



am in the Auditorium

**Tue Apr 27:** Bedtime Stories: Sleepy Time  
Tales. 7  
pm in the Auditorium

**Sat May 1:** Family Funfest Film: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium

**Sat May 8:** Family Funfest Film: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium


**Sat May 15:** Family Funfest Film: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium

**Sat May 22:** Family Funfest Film: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium

**Mon May 24:** Articles for Summer issue of the  
*Friends' Newsletter* due.

**Sat May 29:** Family Funfest Film: 10:30 am in the  
Auditorium

**Tue Jun 1:** Summer issue of the *Friends' Newsletter*  
in the mail!

**Wed Jun 16-Thu Jun 17** Garage Sale. Al  
Dollerschell will be in charge this year, so  
give him a ring at 282-5025 or email him at  
[aldoller@aol.com](mailto:aldoller@aol.com) if you can help. 

**Friends  
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Rochester Public  
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*Thank you for your support*