

FOOTNOTES

A newsletter for the Friends of the Multnomah County Library



Great buys can be found at the Friends' Library Store Clearance Sale, September 15 through September 17. Come early for best selection.

A Successful Annual Meeting, New Board Members and Upcoming Events

By Stephanie Vardavas

Where to begin? So much has happened (and is happening!) since the last time I wrote.

On May 25th we welcomed bestselling author Whitney Otto as our guest speaker at the Annual Meeting. She was delightful, funny, and charming. On a serious note, we also said goodbye to our former President Greg Simon, who was leaving the Friends Board of Directors due to our term limits. Greg has done so much for the Friends over the years and even though he is now off the Board, we are not letting him off the hook that easily! He remains active in library advocacy efforts, which are even more vital during this upcoming year as the next library levy election approaches. Also at the Annual Meeting we elected seven terrific new members to the Friends' Board. I welcome all the new energy and enthusiasm they offer, and



Exiting board member Greg Simon talking with new Sorting Room Manager Angie Surmon (left) and new board member Hillary Ayliffe.

we are already putting them to work! I'd like to extend special thanks and recognition to the Nominating Committee, chaired by Carol Ramsey, who did an amazing job identifying

Continue on page 2

News from the Friends' Library Store

The Friends of the Library are pleased to announce that the Friends' Library Store will be reopening in October of 2005. The store will have a new look with a merchandise mix of used books from the FOL sorting room and moderately-priced gifts, which celebrate reading, writing and creativity that will appeal to book lovers.

The store will serve as another venue (other than the highly successful Spring and Fall Book Sales) for the vast book donations we receive. We are currently looking for volunteers who would like to donate time working in the Friends' Library Store. Please call Babs at 503.988.6762.



In order to make room for all the used books and new merchandise, we are holding a huge Clearance Sale September 15th through September 17th with most items reduced 50%. **Sale hours:** Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Come early for best selection.



From the President continued from page 1

and recruiting these new Board members. You'll be getting to know the new Board members in the pages of this newsletter and through their efforts in connection with the Book Sale, the Friends' Store, and our various other projects.

Speaking of the Friends' Library Store, I am very pleased to announce the hiring of a new Store Manager, **Babs Adamski**. At this writing Babs has been on duty for less than a week, so it's a bit premature to try to pin down a date for the store's grand reopening, but we'll keep you posted.

I mentioned the L-word (actually the L-phrase, "library levy") above, and I'm sure that like most of us, your reaction was, "Oh NO! It can't be time for that already!" The answer is: almost. We anticipate that the next levy will appear on the ballot in November 2006. That sounds like a long time off but it will be here before we know it. The Friends will be taking our customary position of leadership in advocating for continuing strong support for the Library by the taxpayers of Multnomah County. This is our mission, our most important role in the community. Please think about what you individually would like to do to join in, information you would like to have, etc., and call the Friends office or send us an email at foladmin@europa.com to let us know what you're thinking.

Watch this space for updates ... and thanks again for being such good Friends.

Friends of Multnomah County Library

The Friends of Multnomah County Library is a non-profit community organization dedicated to supporting the Multnomah County Library. We accomplish this principally by promoting public involvement in the Library and by raising money through membership fees, the Friends' Library Store, and the sale of used books.

Board of Directors:

Stephanie Vardavas, President; Amy Fuller, Vice-President; Debby Simone, Secretary; Tami Parr, Treasurer; Bryan Aptekar, Hillary Ayliffe, Ginny Benware, Carly Brown, Janet Christ, Robin Denberg, Diane Gutman, Paul Haulbrook, Nancy Lee, Kate McDonald, Tami Parr, Ann Pearson, Carol Ramsay, Carla Rathbun, Mei-Ling Shiroishi, Kevin Thomas and LisaMary Wichowski-Hill

Staff: Babs Adamski, Sara Lindgren, and Angie Surmon

Library Liaison: Penny Hummel

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Send news and comments to *Footnotes* at FOL, 522 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 1103, Portland, OR 97204 or call the Friends at 503.224.9176, fax at 503.223-4386 or e-mail: foladmin@europa.com or visit www.friends-library.org.

Editor: Bryan Aptekar

Design: Jeanne E. Galick



Friendly at the Farmers Markets

Starting with the August 7th Hillsdale Farmers Market, the Membership Committee is bringing Friends of the Library membership information to Multnomah County citizens as they shop for seasonal produce and flowers at our county's wonderful neighborhood markets. In addition to Hillsdale, current plans include summer and fall appearances at Farmers Market booths in Gresham, Hollywood, downtown Portland and Alberta. This outreach goal is to increase membership, advocate in support of our fine library system and to

Continue on page 7

From the Editor

Greetings all. I want to introduce you to a set of new series that we want to start in *Footnotes*. First, a series that begins with this issue is the **Our Library Does That!** series, which features a program or service that our library offers. We begin this series with an article reprinted courtesy of both *The Oregonian* and the author.

During Whitney Otto's amusing storytelling at our Annual Meeting this year, she told of how she had visited various Pageturners groups, when one of her books was the selection of the month. A thought occurred to me about how each branch, and each group of Pageturners (the Friends-sponsored reading clubs) has its own character. I got to thinking that this would be a great series of articles.

We also are aware of the wealth of interesting and talented people that chose to join us in supporting the library. So beginning next issue, we're going to alter our Volunteer Spotlight to a Member Spotlight segment. We might rotate back and forth between these, allowing us to continue highlighting people like you who contribute to the library, or the Friends in some significant way.

I need your help!

Are you a regular at your monthly Pageturners? Do you visit your library so often that the staff know you by name? Have you been helping out at your branch, or with the Friends? If so—what do you think about writing about it or being interviewed? This newsletter, and the organization, is run by volunteers (with a few cherished and dedicated staff), so all the help we can get is appreciated. If you have an interest in contributing to *Footnotes*, by authoring articles on any of these topics, I'd love to hear from you—just drop me an e-mail if you'd like to test your hand at writing. I'm at barbaloot@comcast.net

— Bryan Aptekar



Babs Adamski, FOL Store Manager

Welcome Babs, the New Friends' Library Store Manager

Babs Adamski is happy to be the new manager of the Friends' Library Store.

Babs started her career as a bookseller more than twenty years ago at a chain store in her hometown of Roseburg, Oregon.

After studying early childhood development and elementary education at Umpqua Community College and Oregon State University, Babs realized her heart was really in the book trade. Upon moving to Portland in 1988 she started working at Powell's City of Books where she continued until August of 2000. After Powell's, Babs worked at OHSU in a variety of administrative and fiscal positions, most recently in the Center for Ethics in Healthcare. The last year has been spent being an active member of the School and Community Reuse Action Project's (SCRAP) board in the role of treasurer.

In addition to biking down Alameda Ridge to get to the Albina Branch library, Babs' favorite pastimes include swimming, cooking and teaching art at her neighborhood elementary school.

Babs' reading list of late includes *A Walk Towards Oregon* by Alvin Josephy

Continue on page 8

Our Library Does That!

Dogs Lend an Ear

By: Lee Williams

With Permission of *The Oregonian*

What makes a good listener? Most would say patience and attentiveness. But how about fluffy ears and a flea bath? "When we first started the program here, we weren't booking every time slot," says Andrea Milano, youth librarian and co-coordinator of the Read to the Dogs program at the Hollywood branch of the Multnomah County Library. "Now it fills up quickly, and we have a lot of repeat readers. In fact, there are kids who've read to the dogs two years ago and now their younger siblings come in."

Young readers shy about reading out loud in a standard classroom setting, and kids just wanting to improve their reading skills, sign up at the Hollywood branch Tuesdays and Saturdays to enlist the aid of four-legged listeners. The dogs are willing reading pals, trained by the Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital, and the program has grown into one of the library's most popular. Spaces fill up fast, and school-agers line up, books under paws to wait their own half-hour turn in the Quiet Room with mild-mannered pooches, such as golden retriever Lisa, that provide a nonjudgmental (and pettable) audience. That Read to the Dogs has taken off pleases Natalie Shilling, who introduced the idea to Portland libraries four years ago after reading about a similar program in Utah.

"I saw the article and thought ...We can do that here!" recalls Shilling, librarian at the Gresham branch. Read to the Dogs is now offered in 10 county branches with a variety of days and sign-up times available. "I know how important that connection is between reader and dog, and to have a nonthreatening and gentle place to speak publicly," says Shilling, adding that when she was younger, "I was a great silent reader but I was terrified to speak in front of a class."

"Reading has just really caught her this year," says Yvett Owings, who brought her daughter, 8-year-old Sophie, to read to Lisa on a recent Saturday. "And anything that can help that is great." "I love animals!" says the third-grader, who plans to take up veterinary medicine.

Though this is the Owings' first time with the program, Sophie's actually had a bit of practice before, reading to her two beagles at home. "But sometimes they fall asleep," Sophie says.

It might have been the training, but more likely it was Sophie's lively selections from *Three Stories You Can Read to Your Dog* that kept Lisa enthralled. And the golden retriever even seemed to form the beginnings of a broad smile when Sophie read the line, "...Hey, dog, are you ready for another story?"

For more information on this program call your local branch, or log on to www.multcolib.org, clicking on Events & Classes, then Read to the Dogs.



Meet Our Seven New Board Members

The Friends are pleased to welcome a host of new Board Members. Those of you who joined us for the Annual Meeting in May were able to meet this new crew, as well as join us in saying Thank You to Greg Simon, whose time on the board was complete. We wish Greg the best, and welcome this new crew of energetic and talented members.

Hillary Ayliffe

Hillary is co-owner of Rain-cycle, LLC, a Portland based business specializing in design and construction of rain harvesting systems. She grew up in Australia, where water is scarce and rainwater harvesting is common practice, and hopes to promote the ideal that she was brought up with of water as a precious natural resource.

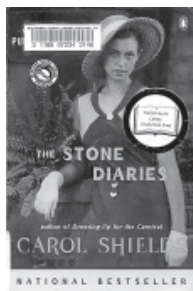
Hillary is a two year resident of Portland, having relocated from Toronto, Canada, where she studied science at University in Waterloo, Ontario, and had a career in commercial real estate.

Hillary loves Portland. Some of her favorite things about Portland are the parks and trails, the farmers markets, the gardens, the rivers, the mountains on the horizon, movie theatres where you can drink beer and eat pizza, and of course, the library. The library is her source of solitude and inspiration, for everything from business resources to recipes. She loves Central for its variety and architecture.

Favorite authors are Margaret Atwood and Carol Shields. Favorite book of all time is Margaret Atwood's *Alias Grace*. She also enjoys accounts of great adventures as well as bibliographies of great adventurers.

Carly Brown

Carly, a new member of the Friends' board, recently started the public administration master's program, concentrating in nonprofit management, at Portland State University. She also works as a conference coordinator



with a local nonprofit. Carly has a BA in American Literature from the University of California, Santa Cruz. In college, she relied on libraries for the many novels she read for her classes and has continued to use the library for even more resources recently. She is happy that she has found a way to give back to libraries and their users by serving on the Friends of the Library board.

Carly lives with her husband, Albert, and cat in the Brooklyn neighborhood of SE Portland. She enjoys summer barbeques, textile crafts, and reading the assortment of books and watching the movies and documentaries that she borrows from the Sellwood-Moreland library. She is currently reading *Who Cooked the Last Supper? The Women's History of the World* by Rosalind Miles.



Robin Denburg

Robin Denburg is a political consultant and has been a campaign manager and community organizer for a variety of candidates, ballot measures, and non-profit organizations. His emphasis has been issues pertaining to education and the environment.

Robin has also been very active with a number of neighborhoods of Portland, helping on a number of local public policy issues.

Robin is excited about being on the Friends of the Library Board because



he is passionate about having a strong library system for all of Multnomah County. "Libraries are where many in the community can strengthen their education, as well as read books they might otherwise not be able to afford. It is a great community resource."

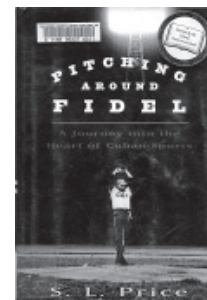
He looks forward to leading the advocacy committee and assisting the effort to renew the upcoming library levy. He is also interested in assisting library patrons in having a strong voice in how the library operates and for library decisions to be as transparent as possible.

Recommended authors include Jack Kerouac, John Irving, and Haruki Murakami.

Paul Haulbrook

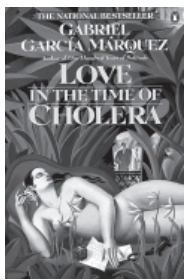
Paul Haulbrook joined the FOL Board in 2005. Paul has been working with Pendleton Woolen Mills since 2002 where he specializes in product logistics and vendor communications. A veteran of the Air Force, he graduated from the University of Nevada in 1996 (Journalism BA) and taught English in Saitama, Japan for two years.

Since moving to Portland in 1999, he has volunteered with the SMART reading program, taught English at the International Refugee Center of Oregon, built houses with Habitat for Humanity, and interned for the City of Portland's Office of International Relations. His claim to fame is serving as team liaison for the Japanese team during its stay in Portland for the 1999 Women's



World Cup. He lives in Southeast Portland with his wife, Jennell, and their two cats, Pepper and Bella.

Paul loves sports books, especially with an international flavor such as: *The Meaning of Ichiro* by Robert Whiting; *The Ghost of Manila* by Mark Kram; and *Pitching Around Fidel* by S.L. Price. He also enjoys non-fiction books such as *Hokkaido Highway Blues* by Will Ferguson or anything by David Halberstam or Bob Woodward. Dabbling in fiction, he is still trying to start *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd.



Kate McDonald

Kate McDonald joined the FOL Board in 2005. She works for the American Cancer Society as their Metro Market Relationship Man-

ager, planning and implementing Relay for Life events.

Kate lives in Northwest and most often uses the Northwest branch. Favorite authors include Henry Miller, Ivan Turgenev, Jack Kerouac, Mark Strand and Gabriel Garcia Maquez.

In her spare time, Kate enjoys reading, traveling, and knitting.

Mei-Ling Shiroishi

Mei-Ling is retired. She was an elementary school principal in Beaverton School District for 15 years. Before that she was a teacher and school librarian in Oregon, California and upstate New York. She is currently volunteering for the Portland Public Schools in its Clothing Center, training senior volunteers for Metropolitan Family Services, and will teach a class for beginning school counselors at Lewis and Clark in the fall. Mei-Ling believes



that libraries should be the center of a learning community, be it a city, neighborhood or school. She is delighted to have the time to reread old favorites, including the *Earthsea Trilogy* by Ursula LeGuin and *Yellow* by Frank Wu, as well as explore new genres.

LisaMary Wichowski-Hill

LisaMary is a new member of the Board and a newish resident of Portland. In 2004 she followed the Oregon Trail with her husband Kevin and cat Iggy for her husband's job at Portland State University.

LisaMary (mostly) retired from retail in 2001 for graduate work in American History. While completing her coursework she served as Editorial Coordinator for Labor History and as a Docent/Public Historian for the Jane Addams Hull House Museum. Her current projects are centered on cemeteries as indices of cultural change and stability. She also is a photographer working exclusively in black and white.

Although she doesn't have time for much fiction, she found *The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova a fun read. In her serious reading she focuses on ethnic and class history as well as aesthetics.

You can often find LisaMary up the block from her home at the Hillsdale branch, working where there is some human noise.



FOUND

After the FOL Annual Meeting in May, a pair of Prada sunglasses. If these glasses belong to you, please call or leave a message for Sara at 503.224.9176.

*Thank you
for your generous donations!*

- Bryan Aptekar
- Patricia Berg
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- Winifred Greene
- Philip and Rose Marie Hamilton
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- Beatrice Lee
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*In Honor of
Dorothy Hirsch's Birthday
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Among the many people who contributed to the success of the Spring Used Book Sale in Gresham were enthusiastic volunteers, board members, staff and many, many book lovers.

4th Annual Spring Used Book Sale a Big Success

By Anne Pearson, Book Sale Committee Chair



Sara Lindgren (left) and board member Debby Simone welcome book sale shoppers.

This year, the Friends decided to reach out to more of our East County library patrons by expanding the Gresham Spring Used Book Sale. After three successful sales inside the Gresham Regional Library, a larger retail space was found at the Gresham Village Shopping Center near the intersection of SE Burnside and Powell Blvd. The March 30-April 1 sale was a winner, with sales of \$20,000 - up from the \$6000 the Friends made last year during our one-day Gresham Spring Sale. Thanks to the hard work of Membership Committee Chair Carla Rathbun, our volunteers were able to hand out FOL membership information packets and talk about our support of the library.

Over 1000 people came through the door during the two-day sale to browse, shop and find bargains from among the many categories of books. We were able to bring over 20,000 books to this sale due to the larger venue, and we were able to sell a lot more of our donated books than in previous years. The volunteers were ably led by our hard-working Book Sale Committee—thank you!

And a special thank you to all of you who volunteered your time to make the sale so profitable- we couldn't have done it without your help. We hope to see all of you again next spring in Gresham!

National Library Worker's Day 2005

By Connie Christopher

Multnomah County Library
Staff & Program Support Manager

On Tuesday, April 12, as part of National Library Week, Multnomah County Library staff celebrated the second annual National Library Worker's Day in recognition of the hard work, dedication and expertise of library staff.

Each of the 18 library locations sponsored a staff get-together made possible by a generous contribution from The Friends of the Library. Staff at Central Library also recognized Beverly Cleary's birthday at their celebration.

In addition, staff had the opportunity to nominate colleagues for special recognition in the following areas:

- Customer service
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Attitude
- Effectiveness
- Dependability
- Creativity
- Inspirational
- Positive role model

In total, about 100 special recognition nominations were received and shared with all employees on the library intranet.



Kate Houston Mitchoff and Jackie Partch, (both with the School Corps Program), take a second to smile for the camera, as they eat pizza on National Library Worker's Day.

Coming This Fall to the Library: A New Catalog

By Penny Hummel, Multnomah County Library

Did you know that Multnomah County Library has the highest circulation of any library in the United States? In 2003–04, library customers checked out 18.7 million items—that’s 27.7 books for every man, woman and child in Multnomah County!

With that kind of action happening each day for 16 years, it’s understandable that your library’s catalog needs to be replaced. As the last project to be funded by the 1996 bond measure to support library renovations and new technology, the new catalog will go online September 15.

The new catalog will offer many dynamic features, including:

- Simpler and easier ways to find what you need—whether it’s books on a favorite topic, information about changing careers or the latest bestsellers.
- Detailed information about books in the library’s collection. You’ll find cover images, tables of contents, book reviews and more!
- E-mail alerts to remind you ahead of time when your items are due.

Temporary Service Interruptions

To ensure a smooth transition to the new catalog, **all Multnomah County libraries will be closed from Monday, September 12 through Wednesday, September 14.** All book drops will also be closed and the Web site, which is undergoing its own upgrade to accommodate the features of the new catalog, will be unavailable.

During these three days, library staff will be busy bringing the new catalog online and making sure things will be back to normal when the library is open again for business on Thursday, September 15.

Due dates will be adjusted so that no fines accrue during the closure.

Holds will also be affected in the next few weeks, and storytimes, book groups and most other library programs will be on hiatus in September to ensure that staff members are trained and available to assist library customers in becoming familiar with the new technology. To learn more about what’s happening, and how you can help your library transition to the new catalog, visit www.multcolib.org/newcatalog

“The new catalog will greatly expand the possibilities library customers find at the library each day,” says Director of Libraries, Molly Raphael. “Although the data migration will cause some temporary inconveniences, I’m confident that library users of all ages will appreciate the improved access to the library’s collection and resources that it offers.”

Farmers Markets *continued*

make Friends with people who don’t know about us. According to Carla Rathbun, chairwoman of the committee, “We know many in our community love the library for a variety of reasons; join us to find out how you can help the Friends keep a vibrant library system for our community.”

The Multnomah County Library answers the needs of the greater metropolitan Portland community through its 17 library sites. By “hitting the markets,” the FOL Membership Committee wants to learn what makes the Library special to each of you. What is important in a Library? We know that as growth occurs, the dynamic that makes one library site reflect the unique needs of its micro-community should flex to serve those evolving needs. How can we, as Friends members, help the Library successfully continue to meet those needs of serving a diverse, changing community? Let’s talk! Join us at a Farmer’s Market for that discussion.

If you are interested in volunteering, call Sara at 503-224-9176.

Friends of the Library Membership Form

Your support, through annual membership dues, helps the FOL in its advocacy, outreach and stewardship efforts. Your membership benefits our libraries and strengthens our community. Become a Friend, or renew your membership, today.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Most used library branch _____

Membership Levels

- \$30 Individual \$45 Family \$20 Senior (65+) \$40 Senior Family (65+)
 \$75 Supporter \$100 Patron Sustaining (*minimum \$10/month on credit card*)

I would like to pay using (*please check*): check VISA Mastercard

Card number _____ Exp. date _____

Please enclose this form, along with your check (if applicable) and mail to:

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**FALL
BOOK SALE
Oct. 21 - 24**



Babs Adamski *continued*

and *Boards That Love Fundraising* by Robert M. Zimmerman. Interesting as these non-fiction pieces may be, Babs always enjoys her all time favorite novels: *Winter Wheat* by Mildred Walker and *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E. B. White.

With the reopening of the store in early October, Babs is looking forward to working with current and new FOL members and store volunteers. "I'm excited for the opportunity to make use of my experience as a library patron and bookstore veteran in the non-profit setting of the Friends' Library Store. I look forward to working in the beautiful store in this amazing library. I think FOL members and the public will be responsive to the new mix of merchandise which will include used books."



32nd Annual
Fall Used Book Sale
October 21-24

Proceeds from the sale support Multnomah County Library

Over 100,000 books, DVDs, CDs, cassette tapes and videos!

**Members-Only
Night**
Friday, October 21

**Monday, October 24
Discount Day**

1635 NE Sandy Blvd.
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(TriMet #12)

For more information
or if you would like
to volunteer:
503-224-9176
www.friends-library.org