



FOOTNOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS
OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY

Celebrating our 30th year! 1972-2002



Give Twice This Holiday Season

Choose the Friends' Library Store for your holiday gift buying and your purchases will support Multnomah County Library programs,

- 2003 Book Lover's Desk Calendar and a new wall calendar by local artist Deborah Dewit Marchant
- Whimsical lamps



Store volunteers Ann Savitt and Mary Ann Seth-Wish. Left and right—examples of the Friends' Library Store bounty.

materials and services. Readers and writers on your list will enjoy receiving distinctive book-related gifts found only at our store, located just inside the front door of Central Library. Friends members receive 10% off all purchases.

- Large selection of unusual bookends
- Recreated vintage toys based on well-loved characters from children's books
- Leather journals of various sizes
- Hand-blown glass pens and pen sets with high quality ink
- "Strange Bedfellows" pillows, each with an author's face
- Book lights
- "Born to Read" t-shirts and rompers
- Music boxes, ties, puzzles, totes and jewelry
- And our own Multnomah County Library bookbags, cards and shirts

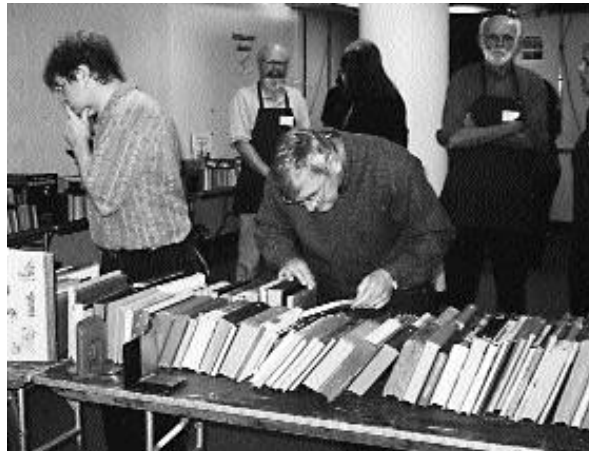
2002 Book Sale Best of the Century!

Thank you to our many Friends and to hungry book buyers who made this the best book sale yet. Lately, we have been fortunate to say that every year. Sales in 2002 clawed their way over the \$90,000 mark, with a final count of \$90,007, up from last year's tally of \$76,000. The number of people who came to the sale also grew, from 4200 to 4500 this year.

We were fortunate once again to have the advertising support of *The Oregonian* and the moving support of Dennis Moving and Storage. They hooked a truck up to our new (to us) twenty-eight foot trailer and moved things along quite nicely. We had several thoughtful companies (Tazo Tea, Nature's, Trader Joe's, Safeway, QFC, Starbucks) who donated a range of products to keep our over 100 volunteers revved up and moving forward. We also have a great committee with new ideas that keep improving the sale. The 2002 book sale committee members are: Carol Clifton, Amy Fuller, Martha Hoskins, Adair Law, Sara Lindgren, Anne McFall, Jackie

Olson, and Greg Simon.

We have the book sorting skills of our Book Room Manager Anne McFall in addition to the skills of her many volunteers. It was through the hard work of Anne and these volunteers that we were able to bring 1200 boxes of books to the sale. We also have the skills of the Friends of the Library Office manager, Sara Lindgren, who calmly keeps us all moving forward.



Browsers in the Antiquarian Room.

that you've been such a good Friend to me. I know you'll be an equally strong Friend to Amy Fuller, Chair of the Book Sale for 2003. Friends, I salute and ask that you keep on reading!

Adair Law

Book Sale Chair 2002

From the President's Desk

Library lovers and all of Multnomah County had a lot to celebrate after the election on November 5. With a voter turnout of 66%, or 241,239 people, the library levy received 58.02% of the vote. That's good news for library users, as current hours at Central and neighborhood libraries will be maintained, and lost Monday hours at our four busiest branches and at Central will be restored. Special library services for children, as well as for adults and seniors, will be continued, and there will be resources to purchase additional books, magazines and other materials.

The levy would not have passed were it not for the activities of committed individuals who displayed lawn signs, worked on phone banks, and volunteered in many other ways to bring out the vote.

Our library adds value to our community . . . it enriches the lives of our citizens, and plays a major role in the cultural and educational environment of Multnomah County. We can't take

that for granted! Effective advocacy must be a continuous effort. The Board of the Friends of the Library is working with The Library Foundation Board of Directors and the Library Advisory Board to ensure that advocacy becomes an ongoing activity.

Each of us as Friends can help this effort. Be sure everyone in your family has a library card, and neighbors and friends as well. Encourage others in your circle to become a member of the Friends of the Library. (Numbers do count, especially in advocacy efforts!) Take advantage of the many activities offered through the library, and tell others about them.

Advocacy is why the Friends were formed over 30 years ago. Nurturing, protecting, caring, promoting . . . that's what friendship is all about. That's what advocacy is all about, too. All of us as Friends are also advocates. Please keep spreading the word about the value offered to our community by Multnomah County Library!

—*Judy Kearney*

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 an annual used-book sale.

Board of Directors

Mary Beth Allen, Darren Beatty, Jo Burch, Boz Eppley (Secretary), Karen Fujimoto, Amy Fuller, Judy Kearney (President), Adair Law (Vice President), Nancy Lee (Treasurer), Sarah Lockhart, Carol Ramsey, Tim Shields, Greg Simon, Joanne Skirving, David Roy, Karl Souza, Stephanie Vardavas, David Yamashita

Staff

Sherry Alicki, Alicia Davis, Sara Lindgren, Anne McFall

Footnotes

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Send news and comments to Footnotes at FOL, 522 SW 5th Ave., Suite 1103, Portland, OR 97204, or call the Friends at 503-224-9176, fax at 503-223-4386, or email foladmin@europa.com

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Judy Kearney, Adair Law, Sara Lindgren, David Roy, Greg Simon

More Than A Decade of Extraordinary Service

By Greg Simon

As many of you may already know, Ginnie Cooper has been hired to direct the library system in Brooklyn, New York, and will be resigning from her position here in Portland and Gresham in mid-December. When thinking of how hard it is going to be for me to say goodbye to the only Director of the Multnomah County Library who ever sneaked up behind me in the check-out line at Central, I also have to think of how difficult it is going to be for Ginnie to say goodbye to the Board of County Commissioners, to her closely-knit executive team, the over six hundred employees who work for the library, and the countless citizens who have served with her as volunteers for the branch libraries, the Library Board, the Library Foundation, and the Friends.



Library Director Ginnie Cooper and Book Sale Chair Adair Law.

Every working day of the last decade of her life, Ginnie has made the MCL her single point of focus and resolution. The only way I can make sense of her departure is to credit the library system that is pursuing her with the intelligence to recognize that it is in no way a coincidence that the emergence of the MCL as a first-class American library happened during the years Ginnie was in charge.

I don't suppose anyone could have guessed at the time Ginnie was hired twelve years ago how successful she would be in awakening the sleepy giant she had inherited, picking it up by its ears, grooming its aging buildings and rearming it with the most modern library inventions, and putting it back down to run for the residents of the county at peak efficiency. That she has been able to do this within the framework of an ever-shrinking amount of property tax capital, at a time when other worthy institutions are being strangled for lack of funding, is nothing short of a miracle.

Those of who know Ginnie should allow ourselves a certain amount of personal regret at her departure, but certainly no remorse. Our library system is in fabulous condition; it is the envy of all but a few other systems in the country. When other librarians want to learn how to modernize or become more efficient, they come to Multnomah County for answers. Never before has MCL been able to offer so many services, or such a wide variety of circulating materials. And the value of its continuing existence to the community has just been reaffirmed by the overwhelming passage of a new five-year operating levy.

All in all, I think I'd say that the person who will succeed Ginnie as Director is lucky, to say the least. But he or she should be forewarned about this: it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to make us forget Ginnie Cooper, one of the finest librarians Multnomah County has ever been blessed with. Brooklyn's persistent pursuit of her is a confirmation of what many of us have been saying for quite some time: we've been given more than an extraordinary decade of achievement and dedication by our Director of Library Services, and for that we should be grateful.

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**Don't forget the
Portland area's
first annual
community-wide
book discussion!**

**Everybody Reads
A Lesson Before Dying
by Ernest J. Gaines**

January-February 2003

Tis the Season!

by David Roy, Membership Chair

What better way to celebrate the upcoming holiday season than by giving the gift of a Friends membership to someone you know? Perhaps it is a family member who has

One of your own FOL board members, Stephanie Vardavas, is offering you yet another reason to participate: everyone who purchases a gift membership before the end of the year will be entered into a drawing to win a chance



mentioned joining the Friends, or a co-worker who uses the Library often, or a friend who is known in your circle as a voracious reader. Your gift membership will be something that will last for an entire year.

Even better, a gift membership benefits so many: the recipient, the Friends, and, ultimately, everyone in Multnomah County who uses the Library.

The more members we have, the better we can serve and support our excellent library system. Also, consider the fact that each membership you purchase for someone else benefits you as a tax deduction.

to join Stephanie for a post-holiday shopping spree at the Nike Employee Store in Beaverton. The winner can bring a spouse or domestic partner, along with his or her children, and spend up to \$750 of his or her own money on deeply discounted, top-of-the-line Nike merchandise.

Don't procrastinate! Fill out the gift form that has been included as an insert with this newsletter, and mail it in today. We will be happy to send you an attractive card that you can present to your gift recipient.

Happy Holidays!

