



P.O. Box 7103
Reno, NV 89510-7103
(775) 324-5522

*"I cannot live
without books"*
-Thomas Jefferson

While we continue our search for a newsletter editor, we've decided that it's more important simply to communicate with our some 1,200 members than it is to fret about what form our communication takes. With that in mind, we offer this "new look" substitute for the one you know, and hope you'll agree that you *should* know what we've included.

-- Len Crocker, president

Check it Out

Volume 18, Number 1 Friends of Washoe County Library Winter 2010

"We'll find a way to get it done" was the message to the **Board of Library Trustees** when *Friends* President *Len Crocker* spoke during a Trustees planning session at mid month. The downtown session also drew Vice President *Lucina Moses*, Secretary *Linda Sanderson*, and Treasurer *Lois Crocker*, who all took a lunch break after a morning Executive Committee meeting, then collected fellow Board member and former Library Director *Martha Gould* to descend en masse upon the Trustees. *Gould* addressed little thought-of costs associated with closures and drew close attention from the decision-makers.

Strong public support of the Library has enabled the *Friends* to allocate an unexpected \$87,000 distribution back into a System that badly needs it.

"We expected that the economic turndown would end a string of several years during which we've been able to reinvest \$100,000 or more back into the Library," *Friends* President *Len Crocker* said, "and it did.

"But just as it happened a few years back when the public approved a tax override for construction of the most recent new branches, that public has said an overwhelming 'yes' to the Library."

Book sales, although a little below some earlier years, have been robust and donations of barely-read books for the *Friends* to offer for resale have been astounding.

Plus, the brief **001 Campaign** designed to raise funds for Library use as needed closed as planned on December 31 with a final tally of \$16,155.

Thank you, Library lovers!

The Friends Board has adopted its new regimen of two year terms for the organization's Directors, in a move to assure what its Vice President calls "corporate identity." The change was one of several voted during the *Friends'* general membership meeting in November, along with a move from a July 1-June 30 fiscal officer term
(continued on page two)

(continued from page one) to one of a calendar year.

And while the general membership had chosen the officer panel as well as the Board itself, new Directors now elect those officers during their January meeting each year.

With inception of this year, Board members determined by lot which would serve initially for one year and which for two years. Each year afterward, all Director terms will be for two years, as half the Board is retained and half is eligible for reelection.

As a result of the January ballot/drawing, President *Len Crocker* has begun a new two year term on the Board, as have Vice President *Lucina Moses*, Treasurer *Lois Crocker*, and Directors *Martha Gould* and *Kathy McLaughlin*.

The current one year panel comprises Secretary *Linda Sanderson*, plus Directors *Mary Jones*, *Terry Kirschenheiter*, *Vivian "Chickie" Roberts* and *Betty Watts*.

In Memoriam gifts recall loved ones and aid the Library, as well. Recent donations to that fund include: *Jana Dunn* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Thomas & Ruth Avansino* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Toni M. Whited* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Sylvia F. Bennett* – in memory of *Jennifer A. Bennett*; *Dorothy Hudig* – in memory of *Catherine "Katie" Baker*; *Sandra Coltharp* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Jerry & Lynn Ballard* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Marlene Kae Williamson* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *NDOT Accounting* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Rodger & Peggy Lakey* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Eric V. March* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Gary A. Seymour* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Jeffrey D. & Paula J. Schmitz* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Zoe Ann Gerhart* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Margaret Larsen* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Timothy J. & Susan Mueller* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Virginia Ann Vollmer* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Dorothy Goldsworthy* – in memory of *Jack J. Bialik*; *Freda Kurtz* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Brian K. Bialik* – in memory of *Jack J. Bialik*.

The Tribute Fund is another way to remember individuals or to mark special occasions. The following contributions have been made recently: *Tim & Gwen Holmen* in remembrance of *Loyal and Mary Ann Holmen*; *Dianne & David Varnon* – in memory of *Catherine "Katie" Baker*; *Dianne & David Varnon* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Alisa D. McWilliams* – to celebrate the birthdays of *Tyler Olson*, *Marlee Holsclaw*, and *Merryn Anderson*; *Mona Fleischmann* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*; *Sally Jeffers* – in memory of *Jeffry Paul Dunn*.

A terrific new website has been created for the ***Friends*** by volunteers *Andrew Zeiser* and *John Andrews*, who gave us www.washoelibraryfriends.org as their contribution to our non-profit's new and independent status. No longer may we be found on line merely as part of the **Washoe County Library's** website, but we now stand alone as well -- and filled with helpful information.

And remember, if you can't access us from home, every Library in the Washoe County system has internet computers available to all. *(there's more on page three)*

Page two

We move around for meetings of the *Friends* Board of Directors, to help us keep in touch with the people and facilities in our branches and to allow Library staff easier access to Board members. The sessions are open to the general membership and run between 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Booked for the remainder of this year are: February 3 – Northwest Library; March 3 – the FWCL Office at 1301 Cordone Ave., Suite 210; April 7 – Sierra View Library; May 5 – South Valleys Library; June 2 – Sparks Library; July 7 – FWCL Office; August 4 – Northwest Library; September 1 – the Friends booksort site, 125 Gentry Way; October 6 – Sierra View Library; November 3 – Northwest Library for the annual meeting of the general membership; and December 1 – a closed planning meeting at the FWCL Office.

Incline Village Librarian Amy Levy has received the Community Leader in Supporting Diversity Award on behalf of the Library, and the Most Committed to the Education and Youth Development Team Mission Award as an individual from the **Parasol Tahoe Foundation**. The Library was recognized for its services, which include providing access to an Americans With Disabilities Act-approved computer station; an English as a Second Language collection for English language learners; a bilingual Spanish/English children's collection; an extensive Spanish language collection that includes children's books, adult books, audio books and movies; a Braille book collection; fiction and non-fiction books in large type; family programs; and a senior memoir-writing program.

Levy's citation was for her collaborative work with representatives from agencies that focus on education and youth services.

Second Century Endowment figures stand now in excess of \$500,000 and calendar 2009 interest on investments, added to \$87,000 **from book sales, Secondhand Prose** receipts and other sources enabled the *Friends* to reinvest more than \$100,000 again in the **Washoe County Library System** in a time of true financial stress.

Contributions to the fund designed to help guarantee the Library's future should be addressed to the Endowment at: Friends of Washoe County Library, P. O. Box 7103, Reno, NV 89510.

Information is available by telephone at 775-747-0777 or on line at marthagould@att.net.

Secondhand Prose in the **Northwest Reno Library** had another good year despite the economic downturn, benefiting from "significant quantities of donations." Despite shorter Library hours and the resulting loss of potential sales time for the book shop and gift store, **Prose** turned sales in excess of \$17,500.

Meanwhile, 41 volunteers contributed 3,090 hours of service, 2,179 of which were registered with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

In the "back room," after sorting incoming materials, we sent 364 bins of books via Library Courier to our book processing facility on Gentry Way for processing and sale. We also expanded our collection of classic and children's (*continued on page four*)

Friends

of Washoe County Library *Affiliate United Way*
P. O. Box 7103 *of Northern Nevada*
Reno, NV *& the Sierra*
89510-7103

Nonprofit org.
U.S. postage paid
Reno, NV
Permit No. 794

Phone 775-324-5522

friends1208@att.net

Address Service Requested

(continued from page three) movies to include newer films on DVD format, along with our audio books on CD and tape. To cap the season, our traditional Holiday Open House was the most successful ever.

Our Booksale sorters/sellers, some 60 strong, contributed an amazing 9,047 hours last year. Many of them turn out only for the book sales, but others work as they can during the year to process books at the Gentry Way facility. Master Sorters use their experience and rating to provide instruction and answer questions from the newer folks.

Volunteers are asked to complete a two hour training session, then work as they are able, according to Steering Committee chief *Betty Watts*.

Administration racked up some notable volunteer hours of its own, as a handful and a half of background workers staffed the 1301 Cordone Avenue office daily to process postal service and electronic mail, respond to telephone calls, and form the base for a group that processes new and renewing memberships on a weekly basis. Since we started tracking last April, we logged more than 635 duty hours in the office by the end of '09.