

☞ The Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library ☞

Annual Report (1 May 2005 - 30 April 2006)

From the President (Patsy Saylor)

The Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library is an association of persons whose purpose is to promote the full use of the Library and to keep the community informed concerning the aims, functions, and needs of the Library. This is Article II, Section 1 of our Constitution and Bylaws and this year the Friends truly fulfilled this purpose. Another year of record setting book sales, including new Friends Only Presales, a redesigned and well-utilized WEB page, lectures, concerts, movies and children's programs filled the calendar. The Friends teamed with the Library Foundation to promote a One Book, One Community program and to help launch the 9300 Books campaign. The coming year promises to be as rich. Thank you, members, for your contributions and your support.

Bookworms (Margie Pfaff)

Our total net intake for book sales for the calendar year 2005, which includes four sales: February, May, August and November was \$40,706.89. The number of boxes of books we packed for each sale: February - 368, May - 353, August - 503, November - 473, for a total of 1697. This does not include any of the items like CDs, audio books, recordings, videos, or cassettes. It should be noted that this is the first year for the Friday evening Friends only sales. We used a total of 164 volunteers at our sales - plus a few who dropped in on set-up morning who never got on the official list. Some of these volunteers worked for as little as one hour, but the vast majority was with us for three or more hours. That is an amazing number of hours to be given by a very loyal and large number of volunteers. It is clear that, without this group, it would not be possible to have any book sales at all. Thank you. Thank you.

Books Sandwiched In (Martha O'Hara Conway)

The 2005-2006 reading year featured fantastic discussion of the following noteworthy works of fiction and nonfiction (in alphabetical order):

- Bel Canto by Ann Patchett
- Birdsong by Sebastian Faulks
- Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story by Timothy B. Tyson (with the author as our discussion leader)
- The Bookseller of Kabul by Asne Seierstad
- Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War by Tony Horwitz
- The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair ... by Erik Larson
- Don't Let's Go To the Dogs Tonight: An African Childhood by Alexandra Fuller
- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury (in recognition of Banned Books Week)
- The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History by John M. Barry
- Interpreter of Maladies [stories] by Jhumpa Lahiri
- Lindbergh by A. Scott Berg
- The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner

Children's Corner (Karin Michel Children's Services Librarian)

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends organization this year, the Children's Division of the Chapel Hill Public Library was able to offer a total of 24 wonderful children's programs including a variety of talented performers and a series of Children's Movie Matinees.

Friends'-sponsored performances during the summer of 2005 included family concerts with local musician Jimmy Magoo, West-African storytelling with Fred Motley, an acrobatic show by Liang-She, and a live-bird show with Birdman Dave. During the spring of 2006, these shows were followed by family concerts with the award-winning duo Two of a Kind and New Orleans native Johnette Downing, and a wonderful demonstration on "The Fun of Physics" with Duke University professors Henry Greenside and Bill McNairy. A total of 693 children attended these eight programs during the year.

Friends' support also made it possible for us to continue our Children's Movie Matinee series and add a Teen Movie Night series during the summer months. 16 movies based on popular books were shown this year, including "Winnie the Pooh," "The Swiss Family Robinson", "The Rescuers", and "Shrek". A total of 901 children, teens, and parents attended these movie programs at the library. Another wonderful series of movies is planned for the upcoming 2006 Summer Reading Program at the library!

We are so thankful for all the wonderful programs the Friends make possible at the library! We look forward to another great year of activities and partnership with our Friends!

Hospitality (Eleanor Engel)

The Hospitality Committee served refreshments at the nine Meet-The-Author Teas. We also served refreshments at four of the Library Foundation's One Book, One Community programs. We greatly appreciate the donation of the tea and coffee by Starbucks. The lovely centerpieces on the tea table each month are the artistry of Bitty Holton. Committee members are: Martha Boren, Jane Bulton and Sarah West Campbell.

Meet-The-Author Teas (Melissa Cain and Eunice Brock)

It was another successful year (the 38th!) for our Meet-The-Author Tea series. The authors who so graciously shared their books with us this year were Moreton Neal - *Remembering Bill Neal: Favorite Recipes from a Life in Cooking*, Elizabeth Ryan - *Orange County Trio*, Pat Skilling Kellerman - *Starting Over: Reinventing Life After 60*, Lawrence Naumoff - *A Southern Tragedy in Crimson and Yellow*, Michael Malone - *The Killing Club*, Marcie Cohen Ferris - *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South*, Marjorie Hudson - *Searching for Virginia Dare*, Sarah Shaber - *Tar Heel Dead: Tales of Mystery and Mayhem from North Carolina*, Louis Ruben, Jr. - *Where the Southern Cross the Yellow Dog*. This year we sadly said thank you and goodbye to Melissa Cain and welcome to Eunice Brock as our new Meet-the-Author Tea hostess.

Membership (Kari Winter)

The Friends started out our year with 507 members and ended it with 612. A significant number of new members were brought in by the Friday members only book sales. Each month that had a book sale had double digit new membership, while the other months normally had numbers in the single digits. We had a total of 133 new members for the fiscal year. April brought in 1 new member 22 renewals for a total of 625.

Newsletter (Margery Thompson)

We continue to use Tri-Printer in Chapel Hill with great satisfaction and the printer, R. B. Hull, gives good service. As our membership grows, additional copies add to printing costs, so his price control is very helpful.

Publicity (Rodger S. Harris)

Publicity for Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library non-musical programs is sent to 30 media outlets. Publicity for musical programs is sent to three additional media outlets. These outlets include TV stations, radio stations, newspapers, and magazines. Publicity is released for each Book Sale, Meet-the-Author Tea, Sunday Series Concert, and Sunday Series Lecture. The media outlets to which the publicity releases are sent are located in Orange, Chatham, Durham, and Wake counties. All announcements also are sent to the

Director of the Chapel Hill Public Library and to Martha Conway so these individuals know what has been distributed publicly. They also may use the announcements to inform Library staff members who are asked about upcoming programs and to enter information on the Friends of the Chapel Hill Public Library Web site. Every publicity notice includes an announcement section and an additional-story-material section. Each media contact can then decide how much information they wish to use for their coverage of the event. The Friends of the Library programs are well attended by both members and non-members so it is believed the effort to distribute announcements is reaching the people who are interested in the type of program offered by the Friends.

Sunday Series: Speakers (Kathy Harris)

Beginning in September 2005 and ending in May 2006, Friends of the Library members, as well as members of the general public, enjoyed spending Sunday afternoons with interesting speakers and topics. Professor Henry Greenside, in three separate non-technical lectures, talked about Albert Einstein's three great scientific papers of 1905. He pointed out why they are still vital and important 100 years after they were published. *Eye to Eye with Einstein* was a 21st century appreciation of Einstein's science. Jock Lauterer told us fascinating stories, accompanied by a slide presentation, about the elderly populations of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. His program focused on his experiences while running two community newspapers in that region. In preparation for the Opera Company of North Carolina's Memorial Hall presentation of the Opera Salome, Robert Galbraith spoke about why so many people all over the world love opera. Galbraith's enthusiastic talk, *Why Opera Matters*, was highlighted when a professional Metropolitan Opera singer, sang to our audience in the Chapel Hill Public Library meeting room! The next month, Dr. Brian Gilliam presented a talk specifically about the opera Salome. He played excerpts from the Opera and told us what to listen for and watch for in the upcoming Salome production.

Sunday Series: Concerts (Margery Thompson)

Two concerts were given this year. On September 18 we hosted the Carolina Clarinet Quartet and on April 9 a jazz concert by the Marie Vanderbeck Trio.

Sunday Series: Movies (Talmadge Neece)

We are maintaining a library of classic movie DVD's and run a film when there are vacancies in the Friends Sunday afternoon schedule of musical groups or other live programs. This does serve a good purpose in keeping our Friends schedule full. During this season, we have run four films. The attendance has not been encouraging - no more than ten for any one performance. While there is evidence that there is an audience for classic films, especially those that are based on classic novels, perhaps we need a different approach to finding this audience.

Reading the Constitution (Talmadge Neece)

This program, instituted this past fall, was designed to reach an adult audience with interest in becoming truly conversant with our unique Constitution: how we got it, and how it is being interpreted and applied by the Supreme Court. We were blessed to secure the support and knowledge of two eminent retired members of the faculty of the UNC Law School who have been our lecturers. We owe a great deal of thanks for the high level of scholarship and broad knowledge of our Constitution that has been provided by Professors Bill Murphy and Dan Pollitt.

We have conducted seven sessions on the first and third Saturday morning at ten. These two-hour sessions have been well attended. We started with over 60 participants and with the arrival of spring; we have lost some to weekend gardening or other such, but have maintained an attendance of over 30. This level of participation has clearly demonstrated there is a real need being met by this program.

We have suspended the series for the summer due to the schedule of our two professors. We have asked for input from the participants as to whether and how we should proceed. Presently, we have indications of strong support for this to be continued in the fall. We also have the continued participation of our professors available.

Our work to date covered a brief history of the Constitutional Convention, the securing of the addition of the Bill of Rights, and a survey of just what adding the Bill of Rights provided in protection for our individual rights. There is much more that would be sound to study. Presently, the indication is to explore specific provisions of the Constitution and how they are interpreted and applied by the Supreme Court. We would do this by having each session focus on a particular case, either one under consideration by the Supreme Court or a recent decision with specific impact.

Input from the Friends would be welcome as we consider just how to proceed.

From the Treasurer (Pat Carpenter)

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| Assets April 30, 2005 | \$75,354.44 |
| INCOME | |
| MEMBERSHIP | \$14,466.00 |
| BOOK SALES | \$41,523.54 |
| INTEREST | \$ 155.23 |
| ADULT PROGRAMS | \$ 188.00 |
| GIFTS | \$12,247.79 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$68,580.56 |
| EXPENSE | |
| GIFTS TO LIBRARY | \$36,945.00 |
| FRIENDS BOOKSHELF | \$ 6,301.12 |
| CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS | \$ 2,400.00 |
| ADULT PROGRAMS | \$ 1,131.92 |
| BOOK CLUB | \$ 304.18 |
| OPERATING EXPENSE | \$11,526.57 |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | \$58,608.79 |
| Assets April 30, 2006 | \$85,326.21 |