

Friends of the Library Watertown, South Dakota

September 2014

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President's Message

By Erland Carlson

I would like to thank all those who have made 2014 another successful year, our Friends members, and non-members alike.

Our Friends Members' diverse talents were again freely given by our members, and have allowed great things to happen this year.

We had another successful 'Gently Used' Book Sale fundraiser. Vital funds were raised for the benefit of library enjoyment including very generous donations of matching funds from Modern Woodmen and Thrivent.

We sponsored programs to inform our community of local issues. The Summer Reading program for Camp Chance helped give children an appreciation for books, and for some their first experience with library benefits.

So far this year, we were able to give \$5,700 to the Library to foster library programs and to make our already wonderful library an even better hub for our community.

I would encourage everyone to let your friends and neighbors know of the wonderful things that the Friends group does for our Library and encourage them to join. Let's see if we can increase our membership this year. And, thank you all for another year of generous sharing of your time, talents, and resources for the Friends of the Library. May the year 2015 be the best one yet!



**Please return the
enclosed envelope
with your renewal.
Thanks for your
continued support!**



FOL Used Book Sale a Success

By Myron Retzer

The 2014 Used Book Sale was held April 25-28th at the Watertown Mall. Over 14,000 used books and 1,100 CDs, LPs, DVDs, and magazines were donated. Forty-seven Friends donated 662 hours to make this another successful sale. Gross receipts from the sale totaled \$5,812. Supplemental funds were generously given by Thrivent in the amount of \$300 and \$1,400 from Modern Woodmen of America. Expenses totaled \$511. Net income to supplement our library was \$7,001. Best sale ever! Over the past eight years, (2007-2014) the FOL Used Book Sale has raised over \$41,800 in support of the Watertown Regional Library.

FOL Program Committee, by Judy Noll

"March Madness" was the first program sponsored this year. Bob Swanhorst of the SD Humanities Speakers Bureau presented a program on "The Lakota Nations Influence on SD Basketball". In celebration of Earth Day, Chad Foust, environmental instructor at LATI, presented a program on current Environmental Technology.

Plans are underway for a very special "Happy 125th Birthday, South Dakota!" on Sunday, November 2. John Timm, aka Governor Mellette, will return to Watertown for this special birthday celebration.

In the meantime, the program committee asks that all FOL members bring input and ideas regarding future programming to the annual meeting in October. At that time, a decision will be made regarding whether or not to continue with programs.

Program committee members include Colleen Lindberg, Bev Moore, Jane Miner, Arlene Allwardt, Shelly Alvine, Mary Redlin, Sandy Giovannettone, and Judy Noll.

Summer Outreach Program, by Penny Mack

The Friends of the Watertown Regional Library Outreach Reading Program met with 46 first graders from "Camp Chance," on Tuesday, July 8th. The children and their counselors met in the Community Room of the library at 1:00 P.M. A welcome and short introduction were presented by Dee Dee, the Children's Librarian. Each child completed a library tour which was directed by Penny Mack, with the help of Myron Retzer and Doug Mack. They were also entertained with a story time narrated by members of the FOL. Each child received a bookmark and two free books with a label stating "A gift for you from the Friends of the Watertown Regional Library". Freshly made popcorn and a juice box were enjoyed by the children and their counselors. The children had a fun and informative time learning about the many resources available at the Watertown Regional Library. This is our main purpose of the Friends of the Library Outreach Reading Program.

The committee members who helped with the Outreach Reading Program included: Donna Hill and her 2 grand-daughters, Lori and Myron Retzer, Lorraine Rittman, Sandy Carlson and Doug and Penny Mack.

Notes from Mike Mullin

First and foremost, we have a wonderful group of people this year who volunteered many hours. Several Friends help with book processing. One volunteer comes in regularly and makes sure that books are in the correct order on the shelves; she could use some help. Then there were the Friends who helped with special programs. A big thank you to all!

A number of things happened this year and others are planned for next year that Friends may like to know about. The Friends made wonderful donations again this year, and some major changes in library processes are coming in 2015. The Friends Executive Board, at their July 16th meeting, approved two "wish list" purchases. The first was the purchase of four iPads for use in the children's area. Included in the purchase are covers that will protect them from damage if they are dropped and security cables similar to what you may have seen in stores with electronic equipment out for the public to try. The iPads will be set up so children can use them for educational games. They have been ordered and should be out for use soon.

The second FOL gift is an 80 inch smart TV in the Community Room. This need became apparent as library staff offered classes on iPads and Android tablets and connected their devices to the existing TV so many people could see. People even half way back in the room could not read what was being displayed on the small TV in the room. When the new TV was installed, the existing TV, a gift from AARP, was moved into the children's story time room and the story time TV was suspended from an I-beam on the east side of the building. The plan is to connect that TV and the one on the donor wall to a central computer and use them for continuing updates about the library and the Friends.

Planning for 2015 includes a new library automation system and streaming movies. With the new automation system some functions that people have asked for are on the 'desired' list. Out of town patrons want to pay fees online. The ability to see the availability of an ebook, digital audio book or streaming movie is another criteria, as well as check out without leaving the library catalog. And people want to select how they are notified when there is a book waiting for them or if they have a late book.

Thank you for your continuing library support through being a member of the Friends of the Watertown Regional Library. You are invaluable!

Mike Mullin, Director of Watertown Regional Library.

*FOL Gift of 4 iPads in
the children's area of
Library*



*FOL Gift of new 80 inch
Smart TV installed in
Community Room*

ANNUAL MEETING 2014

The annual meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held on October 26, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP by October 21, 2014 to Bev Moore at 886-9706 or by email at friendswat@yahoo.com. We would appreciate contributions of desserts also!

PROGRAM SERIES FEATURING GOV. MELLETTE

FOL Lecture series concludes this year with a program featuring Gov. Mellette telling about South Dakota becoming a state in 1889. The program will be at the Library on November 2, 2014 at 2:00. Come join us for a celebration of cake and coffee.

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2014

Save the date for the Friends of the Library Christmas party on December 7, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library. Join us for some fun.

USED BOOK SALE 2015

Our next used book sale will be during National Library Week (April 12-18, 2015). More information and exact dates will be announced later. Don't forget to start saving your book donations!

Please return the enclosed envelope with your renewal to keep us up to date. Please mark on the envelope how you would like to help the FOL this year. Thanks for your continued support!

Friends of Watertown Regional Library
PO Box 792
Watertown, SD 57201
Email: friendswat@yahoo.com