

FOLIO

Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma

Newsletter Vol. XXXIV, No. 1—Spring 2013
www.okfriends.net

Strengthening libraries in Oklahoma through Friends of Libraries

SUCCESS. . . WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE!

A Message from the President



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Excitement is building! The Oklahoma Library Association (OLA) Spring Conference, April 3-5, and FOLIO's Annual Meeting on April 5, are right around the corner. Both are being held at the Ardmore Convention Center.

FOLIO sent a letter to all Friends groups, libraries, and FOLIO members in February to remind you to mark your calendar with the dates. If you are attending, be sure to drop by the FOLIO "Information and Supplies" table to say "hi" and to sign up for our drawing for some great prizes. The drawing will be held during the FOLIO Annual Meeting on Friday, April 5. **You do not have to be present to win!!** If you are a FOLIO member, you will be given a special "35" badge to wear during the conference (see below).

A great FOLIO program is planned for 10:00-11:15 a.m., April 5—"Success. . .with Friends Like These!" Representatives from four different Friends organizations-- Claremore, Elgin, Mannford, and Mustang--will discuss their successes through an informal panel presentation. They will discuss *Beginning a New Friends Group; Building Membership; Successful Fundraising; and Reviving a Friends Group*. Time has been planned for you to share your successes and your difficulties. Handouts will be available, and attendees will be the first to receive a copy of FOLIO's newly-updated booklet, *The Numbers Game: A Guide to Building Membership*.

One-day registration for April 5 for the FOLIO meeting and lunch is \$50. This includes the FOLIO/OLA Legislative Luncheon from 11:30-1:15 and the FOLIO Annual Membership Meeting. The FOLIO awards for *Scholarships, Best Friends, and Hall of Fame* will be presented at the luncheon. OLA has invited Vicki White-Rankin, OLA legislative liaison, to update attendees on current legislative matters vital to libraries.

Happy Birthday, FOLIO!!

The **FOLIO Annual Membership Meeting** will be held at 1:30 on April 5. We encourage all FOLIO members to attend. *Founded in 1978, FOLIO is proud to have been assisting libraries and Friends groups for 35 years, so we hope you will . . . come to celebrate with us!*

FOLIO--We are Friends helping Friends!

Sharon Douthitt, President

DID YOU KNOW????? FOLIO has awarded a total of forty-four **Seed Grants** to Friends of Library groups since 1999 as a result of a generous matching grant from the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation of Tulsa. Twelve Seed Grants were awarded from 1993-1998 making a total of 56 Friends groups who have received financial assistance from FOLIO.



Okie Poet to be Honored in Stroud

Stroud will be the next site for an Oklahoma Literary Landmark. The late poet Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel (1918-2007) will be honored Sunday, April 28 during National Poetry Month. The dedication will be held at 2:30 p.m. at Stroud Public Schools, C. B. Wright Auditorium.



Wilma McDaniel was born near Stroud to Benjamin and Anna McDaniel. Her father was a sharecropper and her mother was a homemaker. Wilma attended schools in Lincoln and Creek counties until the effects of the Great Depression and Dust Bowl led her family to migrate to California in 1936. She

became known as the "Okie Poet" in the Central Valley of California. Over fifty chapbooks of her poetry have been published and her writing is frequently included in anthologies of literature of working-class people. Her Oklahoma roots remained strong and she has many poems about her early life in Oklahoma and her love for her home state.

The Stroud Public Library is co-sponsoring the Literary Landmark Dedication and will be the site for the bronze plaque. Partners to date include Oklahoma State University Library, Back40 Publishing, Friends of Oklahoma Center for the Book, Village Books Press, and Tom and Leslie Hubbell.

Literary Landmarks is a national program which was founded in 1986 by former Friends of Libraries U.S.A. president Frederick G. Ruffner to encourage the dedication of historic literary sites. Sites honor a deceased literary figure, author, or his or her work. To date, more than 120 Literary Landmarks have been dedicated across the country.

Oklahoma has ten Literary Landmark sites: Woody Guthrie, Okemah; Ralph Ellison Library, Oklahoma City; Lynn Riggs, Claremore Public Library; Angie Debo, Marshall City Hall and OSU Library, Stillwater; John Berryman, McAlester Public Library; Sequoyah's Cabin, near Sallisaw; Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore; John Joseph Mathews, Osage Tribal Museum, Pawhuska; and Woodrow Wilson Rawls, Tahlequah Public Library.

Plan now to attend the celebration in Stroud on Sunday, April 28 at 2:30 p.m. honoring Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel, the Okie Poet.

United for Libraries Awards

Giving public recognition to an individual, family or corporate body that has made a major gift to your library will generate publicity that can encourage others gifts as well.

United for Libraries' Major Benefactor Citation comes with a plaque for the library and a plaque for the donor. These plaques, along with a library celebration and a press release from your library, can let your community know that gifts to the library are truly appreciated and make a real difference.

Major Benefactor Citation recipients are featured on the United for Libraries website, and a press release about each recipient is issued through ALA.

Applicants are asked to include documentation describing the nature of the library's relationship with the benefactor, why the gift is considered major, and any publicity generated as a result of the gift.

To apply for the citation, visit www.ala.org/united and click on "Awards & Grants." For more information, call 800-545-2433, ext. 2161, or email united@ala.org

Friends in Poteau Raise Funds to Furnish New Building

Exciting and wonderful things are happening for library supporters in Poteau. And the Friends have been right in the thick of things. A new library building, triple the size of the current one will open in May 2013, replacing the Buckley Library which moved to its current location in 1969. Funds for the new building came from the City of Poteau through various donations to the city. One of the largest contributors was the Lynch family and the building will be known as the Patrick Lynch Public Library. Patrick Lynch was a beloved second grade teacher in Poteau who died tragically in a car accident in October 2006.

The Friends of Buckley Library were asked to raise the funds for the furnishings and equipment inside the library. Through various fundraisers and generous donations they have raised \$350,000 to date. The largest annual fundraiser—La Fiesta—will be held in September. This event raised around \$13,000 last fall.



The Friends held the Inaugural St. Paddy's Day 5K & Little Leprechaun Dash on March 9. This event was a huge success with 150 registered runners/walkers. Each finisher received a custom medal featuring a rendering of the new library. The Tulsa Life Flight crew brought their helicopter for participants and spectators to tour. This event will definitely be an annual event for the group. They are already planning to add a 10K to increase profits. About \$1200 was raised.



The recent 2nd Annual Chocolate Decadence party featured delicious delights from local culinary artists and raised approximately \$900. After each dessert was judged, the public spent the evening sampling these decadent desserts. Yummm!

Friends President Glenda Wise says, "We feel that we have three good fundraisers that appeal to all types of people and give everyone the opportunity to take ownership in the library. The Friends have been able to help choose furnishings and equipment for the new library. We can't wait to unveil the selections to the public in May."

FOLIO's Endowment Fund— Growing with the Times

Why does FOLIO need an endowment fund? What does FOLIO do with an endowment fund? How does it grow?

In 2008, the FOLIO Board voted to establish an Endowment Fund with Oklahoma City Community Foundation (OCCF). The purpose was to provide a stable financial base for the future and to provide funds to make scholarship monies available for support staff in Oklahoma libraries. We started by raising \$12,000 from Friends and friends, libraries, clubs, and citizens. We have received matching funds from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund and OCCF. The funds have been invested and our fund is now valued at more than \$55,000.

Since 2009, the scholarship awards have increased from \$250 to \$500. The goal is to keep increasing the amount of the scholarships—and to keep growing better qualified librarians for the state of Oklahoma.



Kirkpatrick has agreed to another matching grant for FOLIO in 2013. The challenge is for FOLIO to raise \$6000. Kirkpatrick will then match it with \$2000, resulting in more growth for the endowment. We're off to a good start with \$1500 raised at this point.

YOU can help by making a donation to the FOLIO Endowment Fund. You can mail a check payable to FOLIO. Send it to Gerry Hendon, FOLIO Treasurer, 1743 East 60 St., Tulsa, OK 74105. Designate it for the Endowment Fund. Or, if you prefer, you can send it directly to OCCF to their secure online giving service through PayPal, using an American Express, Discover, MasterCard or Visa credit card. To make an online gift, please visit www.occf.org/onlinegiving.

Want more facts about FOLIO? Check out our website at www.okfriends.net.

Or visit the website www.GiveSmartOKC.org. You'll find a complete profile of FOLIO, complete with information about history, strategic plan, awards, financial data and more.



Help us make the FOLIO Endowment grow and grow.

Invitation to All Friends Groups



FOLIO maintains an archive which is presently located in the office of the Oklahoma Library Association. FOLIO is now extending an invitation for all Friends groups in the state to submit material to be included in this archive. Archival material is essential for maintaining historical records of the activities of FOLIO and local Friends of the Library groups in Oklahoma.

Material submitted should be copies of your documents and photographs and should consist of whatever local Friends groups deem to be relevant: news items, fundraising efforts, programs, Friends community activities—anything a local group considers historically significant. Initially, material submitted will become the property of FOLIO, unless otherwise agreed in advance; local groups should ensure that their original is retained.

Materials not utilized may, at the discretion of FOLIO, be returned, destroyed, or recycled, if appropriate. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed. All archival material to be submitted should be sent to:

FOLIO Archives
% Jon Douthitt
P. O. Box 835
Claremore, OK 74018



This statewide invitation may create archival storage problems—what a great problem for us to have! Let's preserve our Friends' history.

Celebrate!!

National Library Week is April 13-18.

Be creative! Have a party. Plan a program. Read to a child. Read a book. Create a display. Have a book discussion. Thank a teacher for teaching you to read. Thank a librarian for making all those wonderful books available. Visit a bookstore and support authors. Visit all the libraries in your city or town. Thank them all!

Most important—Tell your legislator how important libraries are to you and to all of us.

Did you Know??

FOLIO's Hall of Fame plaque is displayed in the Foyer of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries in Oklahoma City. Engraved on the plaque are the names of the distinguished and notable library supporters who gave of themselves to establish FOLIO and make it a successful organization. Established in 2000, this list honors them for their contributions, ideas, and diligence.

FOLIO HALL OF FAME FOR OUTSTANDING AND DEDICATED SERVICE

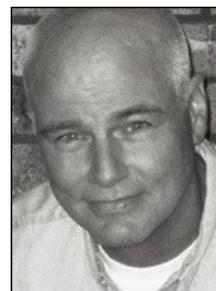
Lee Brawner	2001	Carol McReynolds	2006
Thordis Helland	2001	Joe McReynolds	2006
Gail Miller	2001	Ernestine Clark	2007
Lillian Born Norberg	2001	Tom Terry	2007
Marilyn Vesely	2001	Betty Hardin	2008
Beverly Dieterlen	2002	Cletta Kinnear	2008
Bruce Stone	2002	Clare Delaney	2009
Irene Wickham	2002	Oliver Delaney	2009
Bob Segal	2003	Michael Wallis	2010
Pat Segal	2003	Tom Haines	2010
Julia Brady Ratliff	2004	Karen Neurohr	2010
John Harkey	2005	Gerry Hendon	2011
Mary Harkey	2005	Pat Weaver-Meyers	2012
Mary Lu Atkinson	2005		

Rose State College FOL Re-Organizes

Last fall, Rose State College Library reorganized their Friends of the Library@RSC. The few previous charter members kicked off a membership drive in October with a social get-together. Carl Sennhenn, Oklahoma Poet Laureate 2001-02 and RSC adjunct professor, entertained the guests with readings of his own poetry.

In February FOL@RSC co-sponsored a book sale with the student Library Club, so both groups were able to benefit from the profits. Several members toured the Oklahoma City National Memorial Archives with the student club. The Archives collects, labels, and stores items related to the tragedy.

Tim Tharp, RSC professor, will speak at an April program. Tim won the 2007 YA Oklahoma Book Award for his novel, *Knights of the Hill Country*. Another recent novel, *The Spectacular Now*, has been made into a motion picture and previewed at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. He will be speaking about writing and his experiences at the Sundance Festival.



FOL@RSC grew from 5 members to 17 in just a few short months. We are thrilled to have our own Rose State writers and poets join us and help promote the organization. In upcoming meetings and discussions, members will set goals to help with needs of the library. The organization promises to be active and visible on the college campus.

Books You Love

A Favorite Program of the Friends of Will Rogers Library

Carol Willett, Program Committee Chair for Friends of the Will Rogers Library

The Friends of Will Rogers Library in Claremore recently enjoyed one of the most successful and well received programs we've ever hosted. The program, "Books You Love," featured five well-known community personalities talking to our audience about books they'd found to be especially meaningful, memorable or impactful. Our guests included Claremore's mayor; a local attorney and former state senator; the director of our area CASA program; a superintendent of schools in northeast Oklahoma; and the wife of Rogers State University's president, whom we like to call the First Lady of RSU.

The idea for this program was sparked when a member of our group brought to the attention of the program committee an out-of-state newspaper featuring photographs of local citizens of all ages holding favorite books. I remembered that years ago, as a high school librarian, I had planned a large window display for Valentine's Day called Books You Love. Red and pink hearts had enclosed photos of assorted students and teachers with the titles of books that were special to them. The enthusiasm and curiosity generated by that display had surprised me. I learned then that, just as we're curious to know what movies and music are most popular, we have a natural interest in what others are reading. With those thoughts in mind, our program committee started planning a "Books You Love" event for our public library.



We began by generating a list of potential presenters. We sought people who were well known in our community, who were committed to the importance of reading, and who would be comfortable speaking to a group. After choosing five good candidates, members of our committee contacted the individuals personally. We asked that each presenter choose a book from any time in his or her life that was especially important or meaningful. We did not use the phrase, "favorite book," because so many people love multiple books and feel that a favorite is impossible to choose. We didn't require that the presenters reveal their choices in advance and it was especially fun on the evening of the program to learn what their chosen titles were! Each presenter was told he or she would have five to ten minutes to reveal or present the book in any way he or she desired and to entertain a few questions or comments from the audience when the presentation was concluded. Our guest speakers were naturals talking about books, and our membership and audience raved about what a fun evening it

was. We could not have been more pleased with the results!

What really made this program such a success was not what we did, but what was offered by our five Claremore luminaries who thought seriously about the books they chose and spoke sincerely and candidly about what was significant to them from the books. Our mayor, a former police chief, talked about the novels and nonfiction of Joseph Wambaugh, telling us he felt an identity with the policeman/author, although the problems of Los Angeles cops in the novels seem somewhat different from the municipal concerns of Claremore. Our CASA director, who has a passion for the children for whom she works, told of reading [A Tree Grows in Brooklyn](#) as a young girl from a hardworking family and learning lessons and sensitivities that she would carry forward in her life. Our former school superintendent and our former state senator chose biographies of presidents and discussed how the examples of Lincoln and LBJ had influenced their leadership styles. Finally RSU's First Lady, who is herself a successful figure in the realm of finance, selected the autobiography of Katharine Graham and revealed that she read it with a growing awareness of how difficult it had once been for women to overcome their insecurities and step into a position of influence in a male dominated world. I think what we all loved was that each presenter was willing to speak from the heart and share a little of his or her inner self with us.



This was not a difficult program to coordinate. Our hospitality committee stepped up to the plate and enlisted a little extra help in providing refreshments for a larger than usual audience. A simple program, listing the presenters in their order of appearance was handed out at the door. Since none of the presenters chose to use any equipment, no special set up was required. We arranged the chairs and set up the podium, and we were ready to go. As is our custom, we gave a small gift of appreciation to each presenter.



We've had many requests to repeat this program and even to make it an annual event. We're contemplating our roster of presenters for next year!

THE AUDIENCE HAS SPOKEN

AND THE WINNERS ARE ...



Sixteen contestants entertained the crowd with acts as diverse as ballet, ukelele, guitar, saxophone, drums, piano, comedy, and song. And members of the cast of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* presented a preview of their upcoming Eufaula Community Theater musical. Local favorite Janiece Vest brought her own brand of vocals to entertain the crowd as Master of Ceremonies. It was all for the benefit of the library and their efforts brought in \$1,648 for the summer reading program.

This was the second annual **Eufaula's Got Talent** sponsored by the Friends of Eufaula Memorial Library (FEML). The success of last year's program resulted in the expansion of this year's event. This year's competition had two categories: a youth category for contestants 18 and younger and an adult category. Prizes were awarded in each division. First prize was \$150, second prize was \$100, and third prize was \$75.



FEML president Mona Hatfield with the youth category winners: 3rd prize Hannah Bernhardt; 2nd prize Aryn Holybee; and 1st prize Kenedee Rittenhouse



Adult category winners Katie and Austin Stevens

Winners were determined by a vote of the audience. Each voting ticket included a youth ballot and an adult ballot that audience members cast for their favorite performer in each division. The audience was very supportive of all of the contestants and when it came time to cast their votes, the decisions were not easy.

Friends of Eufaula Memorial Library thanks everyone for their support of this event and invites everyone to next year's **Eufaula's Got Talent**.

It is great fun and for a great cause.

Did you Know??? FOLIO awards four scholarships every year to support staff who are taking college classes to further their education and skills. These scholarships, named for Lillian Born Norberg and Mary Lou Atkinson, have been given since 1992. The amount of the awards has recently been increased to \$500 each.

Locust Grove Friends Plan for New Members, Easter Eggs and Cookie Cookbooks

Locust Grove Friends of the Library capped off a membership drive March 12 when they hosted prospective new members. Refreshments were served during a social time followed by President Betty L. Perkins giving information about the goals of the local group. A short business meeting was held to acquaint prospective members with the scope of activities by FOL.

The LG Friends will join the Locust Grove Chamber of Commerce in its annual Easter Egg Roll March 23. The FOL table will have information about the organization and offer community members a chance to help buy children's books by selecting an egg from the "Easter Tree," made by Sandra Collier, treasurer.

Recipes are still being taken for a Friends of the Library Cookie Cookbook which will be published in May in time for the town's Founder's Day celebration May 11. Recipes can be dropped by the library or emailed to Betty Perkins at bperk@sstelco.com.

Other upcoming events which the group plans include a book signing at the library by a local author and a used-book sale in the fall.

Find FOLIO on Facebook

Log in to your Facebook account and then search for "Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma." You'll find events postings and news articles. Click the "like" icon and you'll receive a notice every time a new article is posted.



Have YOU registered for the OLA conference and FOLIO luncheon and annual meeting? Don't miss it!

Friday, April 5, 2013 Ardmore Convention Center

You can register online at www.oklibs.org/conference. Program, lunch, and FOLIO annual membership meeting—only \$50.

Hint: **DO IT NOW!**

Don't miss the terrific program sponsored by FOLIO at 10:00 a.m. "With Friends Like These. . ." is a winner! You'll learn all sorts of things about Friends and perhaps even get to share your successes and challenges.

Stop by the FOLIO Information and Supplies booth and register for the drawing for some great prizes.

Lawton's "Soulful Story" a Success

Lawton Public Library held its third Soulful Story on Thursday, February 21, 2013. The Soulful Story initiative began with the Oklahoma Tourism Department's efforts to showcase the historical contributions of African Americans across the state. This year Lawton's Soulful Story kept this focus: Mr. Wallace Moore, Sr.'s portrayal of Bass Reeves, a Deputy U.S. Marshall from this area was the highlight of the evening.



These four Buffalo Soldiers provided the posting of the colors (flags) for the Soulful Story event.

In addition to the dramatic portrayal, the Soulful Story event provided attendees the opportunity to partake in fine dining. A barbecue dinner was catered by John & Cooks, a locally owned restaurant.

The Soulful Story committee included members of the library staff, Director Kristin Herr and Mrs. Dory Thomas, as well as library board members Mrs. Patty Newirth and Mrs. Eunice Edison. Other members included Dr. Judy Neale, Cameron University, and community members Mr. Chick Ellis, Mrs. Barbara Ellis, Dr. Cheryl Monts, and Mr. Melvin Spinks.

The Soulful Story event was a great success as evidenced by the program evaluations and was well attended by 139 individuals. All requested that the Lawton Public Library, with the help of the Friends of the Library, sponsor the event again next year.

Variety is Spice of Waurika Book Sale

Waurika's first book sale last October was a great success! They report a profit of approximately \$2,120.00 the day of the event and additional profits prior and during the book sale by selling tickets for a chance to win a new Kindle Fire donated by a member of the Waurika Friends. A local Mason's group donated \$1,000.00 to the Friends on the day of the event.

Local vendors were invited to set up tables to sell items during the book sale. The variety of things happening at the library brought in different groups of people. They plan to make this an annual event.



Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma

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Strengthening
Libraries
In
Oklahoma
through
Friends
of
Libraries**



"Today's readers are tomorrow's leaders"

Mannford's Friends had a logo contest in 2011. This design was the winner. Fred Campbell, husband of the Friends' vice-president, then designed and constructed this magnificent library logo plaque. The finished plaque measures 3 feet 4 inches wide and 20 inches tall; the base is Coram. The back, where "Friends of Mannford Library" can be seen, is etched into 2 inch beveled glass. Attached to front of the base is a 4 inch brass plaque with the words engraved in front of the base.