

FALL IS HERE AGAIN, AND THAT MEANS BOOKS SANDWICHED IN AND BOOK SALE TIME!

BOOK SALE - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

The annual book sale will be from 9:00 to 5:00 on October 2. Loyal Friends have been bringing in books all year, and a dedicated corps of workers have been sorting and boxing for months. If you still have books to contribute, please bring them in NOW! Here's what can, and cannot, be used:

Hardcover books and paperbacks - fiction and non-fiction of all kinds (except textbooks). Children's books, cook books, books on sports and crafts are especially popular.

Magazines - Please NO National Geographics. We already have hundreds, and only a few sell. Also, don't bring weeklies, news magazines or professional journals.

Phonograph records - All are good.

Boxes - Many more are still needed. They should be good sturdy ones, not too large to lift when full of books! Beer and soda trays are not strong enough.

Many workers will be needed during sale week, for all sorts of chores:

Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 29, 30: Setting up tables, putting up signs, bringing boxes of books from upstairs and arranging on tables. There is plenty of work for those who cannot lift boxes as well as for those with strong muscles.

Friday, from 10:00 to 4:00 will be pre-sale day for volunteers who have worked at least sixteen hours during the year, and for the library staff.

Saturday - Sales people and cashiers are needed, for two or four hour shifts. Then, starting at 4:00 o'clock, clean-up.

We have to dismantle and put away signs and equipment, take down tables, consolidate unsold books to be trucked away by City Mission.

Please help in any way you can. It's great fun and the best show in town!

Books Sandwiched In

Our fall program will officially get underway Monday, September 13, with the first of the season's Books Sandwiched In programs. Katie Rich and Adele Brown, coordinators of the autumn series, have announced a six-session program which is described on Page 2. Save it, and come!

All sessions are in the McChesney room, starting at noon. If the session will run over an hour there will be a break around one o'clock for those who must leave. You are invited to bring a sandwich. Beverages will be available.

Whether you have read the books, are thinking about it, or don't have time for them, you can't fail to enjoy the program.

Another Good Doorstep Year

The Doorstep Project completed its 15th summer of reading and lending books to children on their own doorsteps in the Hamilton Hill area. This is the Friends' largest budgeted project, and is funded entirely by us. Three times a week, for eight weeks during the summer, Nancy Gifford and either Serena Butch or Janet Lindsley, all children's librarians, have been pushing their carts of paper-backs up and down the streets, stopping frequently to read stories and lend books to the children. Each week, they have attracted an average of 390 children, and loaned an average of 293 books (about half of which are returned the following week).

This year, for the first time, teen volunteers accompanied the librarians two days a week. They were Joan Bristol, Jennifer Ott, Sascha Strelka and Jered Stamm. They have made it possible to extend the routes some, and to help gather the children and discourage bothersome dogs.

COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Sept. 13: FATE OF THE EARTH, by Jonathan Schell.

This best seller, originally published as three essays in the "New Yorker", portrays the prospect of annihilation of the human race in the event of nuclear war. Our reviewer, Professor William B. Martin, Jr., of Union College's chemistry department, is incoming president of Schenectady World Federalists.

Sept. 20: OLD GLORY, AN AMERICAN VOYAGE, by Jonathan Reban.

A vivid and insightful picture of middle America as observed by this British author during a trip down the Mississippi in a small boat, with frequent stops along the way. Kjersti Board, who will review it for us, as a native of Sweden is a well qualified objective observer of American life.

Sept. 27: BRONX PRIMITIVE, by Kate Simon.

The author relates what it was like to grow up in an immigrant neighborhood in the period between world wars. The reviewer, Sallie Hume, is a social worker and professor at Schenectady County Community College.

Oct. 4: THOMAS HARDY, by Michael Millgate.

This new Hardy biography stresses Hardy-the-novelist, with particular emphasis on the imaginative transformation of autobiographical material into emotionally charged fiction. Our reviewer, Robert Alan Donovan, is Professor of English and Chairman of the English Department at SUNYA. He is a specialist in Victorian literature and in the English novel.

Oct. 11: Library closed for Columbus Day.

Oct. 18: THE MOSQUITO COAST, by Paul Theroux.

This is a bizarre but compelling story of a family seeking refuge from the follies of contemporary American life in the jungle of Honduras, told by the oldest of the four children. Our reviewer, Ruth MacD. Stevenson, is a professor of English at Union College

Oct. 25: DINNER AT THE HOMESICK RESTAURANT, by Anne Tyler.

This is the author's ninth, and possibly best, novel. It will be reviewed knowingly by Nancy Thornton, an area business woman who teaches adult education courses in creative writing at Union and St. Rose and conducts numerous courses at GE and other area businesses.

Nov. 1: ME AGAIN by Stevie Smith and JOURNALS OF SYLVIA PLATH.

Stevie Smith and Sylvia Plath were both 20th century writers of fiction and poetry, Smith a Briton and Plath an American. The Smith book is a selected anthology of her work, while the Plath book is an edited version of her journals. These two very competent authors will be reviewed by our own very competent former Thomas Lamont Professor of Ancient and Modern Literature, Carl Niemeyer. He needs no introduction to most Friends, having reviewed many books for BSI and given numerous lecture series on literature at Central Library.

Teen Volunteers

The library has been fortunate this summer in having the services of a number of teen-age volunteers. Several of them were referred to the library by the Summer Teen Program of the Human Services Planning Council. They have been doing a wide variety of general jobs such as sorting, filing and mending, and some do specialized work such as photography, art and projector operation.

The summer volunteers at Central Library included David Arthur, Diana Bauer, Philip Erikson, Colin Garrison, Walter Jewell and Jeff Linkinhoker. Debbie Gordon and Jeff Somers have worked at Scotia Branch.

In addition to the summer volunteers, Shannon Bala, Kathy Fitzmaurice and Shari Laurance volunteer year-round, at Mont Pleasant, Duane and Central, respectively.

We are especially thankful to four of these volunteers who have put in a considerable number of hours: Colin Garrison, 52; Walter Jewell, 43; Kathy Fitzmaurice and Debbie Gordon, 30 each.

In addition to these teen volunteers, four others have helped with the Door-step Project which is covered in a separate story.

Summer Reading Club

Adults are not the only ones who may have more time to read in the summer, and the SRC is the library's program to give the habit to elementary school children. It was started with visits to every elementary school in the county to generate interest. This was successful to the tune of 134 members at Central plus nearly 500 more at all of the branches. Each child signs a "contract" to read a specified number of books (one signed up for 100 - and made it!).

Although the Summer Reading Club is a brand new idea for the whole library system, has been so successful they hope to continue it in future years.

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- * Marty Wallender, President *
- * Katie Rich, 1st Vice-president *
- * Jill Titus, 2nd Vice-president *
- * Mary Dunham, Recording-Secretary *
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- * Richard Sills, Editor, NEWSLETTER *
- * Bertha Kriegler, Circulation, NEWSLETTER *
- * * * * *

RIF = Reading Is Fundamental

SCPL wants everyone to become a book worm, and everyone includes, naturally, handicapped children and pre-schoolers. RIF is the program for this, and a grant from the Friends helps make it possible. The \$250 we contribute is tripled by the Federal Government. During the summer, RIF programs have been run at Cloverpatch Camp in Glenville (United Cerebral Palsy Association) by Lois Foight Hodges and by Dianne McDougall, children's librarians, assisted by Janet Lindsley from the library and volunteer Arma Rollier from the Friends.

During the coming school year additional programs will be conducted at the Schenectady Girls Club, the Latimer Tutorial Program at Carver Community Center and four day-care centers: Christ Church, La Flore, Parker and Refreshing Springs.

This program could use one or two more Friend volunteers. They would help distribute books to the children, keep records, etc. Call Naomi Bristol, 374-0447 if you can help.

Play Reading Again This Year

Have you ever wanted to be in a play, but felt you did not have the talent? Ever wanted to know what goes on behind the scenes?

Then come and enjoy reading plays with Irma Hamilton in the Blue Room at Central Library at 3:00 o'clock on alternate Tuesdays, starting October 19.

Just come and enjoy the unfolding of a play as we sit in a circle and read aloud to each other. It's informal fun with no demands, participation in theatre without being judged. You do not have to be a "pro". Sessions usually last about 1½ hours.

Irma Hamilton has been involved in theatre for 40 years - legitimate stage, dinner theatre, TV and radio, children's theatre and directing.

Young Adult Series - A Festival of Music

The Friends helped provide this Wednesday evening summer music series for young adults by underwriting the cost of the film "Rock Show", presented July 14. Subsequent programs included other films and a live musical performance.

State Aid for Library Building
Rehabilitation

Bills that would make state aid available for library construction and renovation were introduced in the New York State Senate and Assembly this year. The Friends of SCPL, through their corresponding secretary, Fred Tromel, and several members, urged various legislators to vote for these bills. In letters to them, especially to Senator Farley, one of the sponsors, and to Assemblyman Wemple, we spelled out in some detail the needs for improvements to various buildings in our library system. Both these gentlemen replied in personal letters assuring us of their familiarity with and support of our aims.

The bills were referred to the Senate Finance Committee and the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, neither of which reported them out. So, we'll try again next year.

Ride, Anyone?

Starting this month, the Red Cross Bus will be available to transport elderly, handicapped and/or low income patrons to the Central Library on Thursdays and to the Friends' Monday noon programs which begin September 13.

The service is free, but donations are accepted. If you need transportation, or know of someone who does, please call Melanie Foeller on 895-2178 a few days in advance.

Membership Report

Our membership chairman, Margaret Dickson, reports a total of 739 members at mid-August. This is slightly more than last year in August, but a lot less than the 851 we reached in February. If you have overlooked paying your dues this year, won't you help Margaret out by sending in your renewal?

We have two new members since the June Newsletter: Nancy Rhodes and Dr. H. K. Cheon. If you have friends who are not Friends, why don't you ask them to join?

A Note and a Gift from Rufus

"From 1930 to 1966 I conducted school glee clubs, church choirs, radio programs and the Schenectady Choral Society. It seemed as though I was always choosing music. In this process I acquired many single reference study copies. Just how many I didn't realize until recently when I started to get them together from all the places I had kept them.

"Being retired now, I no longer have use for them, but it would have broken my heart to just throw them out. And so I was delighted when Margaret Foley said 'Yes, the library would like them'. They are all there now - about 1250 single reference copies for anyone to study. They are almost entirely for mixed chorus. There is sacred, secular and Christmas music. I hope many people will enjoy using them, and I am very grateful to our library for making them available to the public."

Rufus A. Wheeler

And we are all grateful to you, Rufus.

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library
Liberty and Clinton Streets
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305

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TABLE TALKS TO START NOVEMBER 8

Coordinators Dorothy Settle and Mildred Maras have arranged a series of five Table Talks, all on interesting and timely topics. As always, bring your sandwich, if you want to, and come for interesting talks and discussions starting at noon on successive Mondays. The complete program is given on Page 2.

HOPE FOR THE RESERVE SYSTEM

As most regular library patrons know well, alas, increased costs coupled with decreasing budgets necessitated that the reserve system for books and other materials be dropped. This loss has been keenly felt by our most loyal library patrons.

Because this has been such a cause of unhappiness to so many people, considerable study has been made of possible ways to restore this service. It is clear that the only way this can be done is with considerable help from the Friends. If sufficient volunteer help can be obtained, it may be possible.

This is a meticulous job which, once started, must be carried out with great accuracy and dependability. Every day, all returned books must be checked against the file of reserve cards, and the reserved books placed in a special holding area and the patron notified. It has been estimated that this task will require about thirty hours per week. This, in turn, would require a group of volunteers willing to commit themselves to a regularly scheduled time period, each one putting in two, three or four hours each week. The work can be done during the day or evening.

Naomi Bristol, Coordinator of Volunteers for the library, would oversee the recruiting and scheduling for this activity. She may be reached at Central Library on 382-3500.

Members of the Friends have done so many fine things for the library, it is hoped that there will be enough of them willing to undertake this most important service. Won't YOU please help?

FRIENDS OF SCPL BOOK SALE

Another successful book sale on Oct. 2 netted \$5,650, a very welcome sum which will be used solely to purchase books and materials for the Schenectady County branch libraries. Beautiful weather, loyal customers and a goodly supply of well-sorted books combined to assure a satisfying day.

Everything proceeded like clockwork, thanks to our conscientious workers, many with several years' experience, who knew exactly how to perform their particular tasks: throughout the year of sorting and boxing, during the set-up work early in the week, and of course the work on sale day. Friends of the Library are great people!

We must also go beyond our membership in the matter of thank-yous:

to Price Chopper for their generous donation of donuts, coffee and tea,

to the following organizations for lending their tables; First Reformed Church, Scotia Reformed Church, Unitarian Church, YMCA and YWCA,

to the Schenectady Public Works Service for the loan of barricades,

to the City Mission for trucking away the leftover books,

to the County Engineering and Public Works Department for a truck and team of men to transport the tables to and from the library.

With all these willing workers, of course we had a successful sale.

FILM SERIES: WORK IN AMERICAN LIFE

A series of films and discussions on Thursdays at 7 P.M. is underway at Central Library. Part of the funding is provided by the Friends of SCPL. Since the series started Oct. 14, we were not able to announce all of them in the Newsletter.

However, the final two are still to come, and do not depend on the preceding films. These are Coping with Unemployment - Parts 1 and 2. Part 1 will be Nov. 18, and a date will be announced for Part 2.

COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR FALL
TABLE TALKSNOV. 8: ARE PRIVATE COLLEGES AN ENDANGERED SPECIES?

Speaker: Dr. Wright L. Lassiter, Jr.

Dr. Lassiter, President of Schenectady County Community College for the past two years, has extensive experience in both teaching and administrative posts in the field of education and business administration. He will discuss the role of private colleges in the total spectrum of higher education from the standpoint of diversity and access.

NOV. 15: IS LEBANON CHRISTIAN OR MOSLEM?

Speaker: The Rev. David P. Risseeuw

Unlike other Arab countries, Lebanon is about half Christian, and its political representation is tied to the sizes of the various religious groups as they were 50 years ago. Mr. Risseeuw will discuss how this contributes to their problems. Mr. Risseeuw is Associate Staff Minister at the First Reformed Church in Schenectady.

NOV. 22: IS THERE HOPE FOR MEXICO?

Speaker: Dr. James Wessman

With unemployment, inflation and foreign debt among the world's highest, Mexico obviously has problems. What are they doing and what can they do to overcome them? Dr. Wessman, Associate Professor in the Department of Puerto Rican, Latin American and Caribbean Studies at SUNYA was teaching in Mexico this summer, at the time of the latest devaluation, observing (and feeling) the crises first hand. He is thus well qualified to discuss these problems, which are important to the U.S. also.

NOV. 29: ARE FAMILY COURTS IN TUNE WITH THE TIMES?

Speaker: Judge Howard Levine

Family problems today are not all the same as they were when our Family Law was first written. Changes have been made in the law recently, but do they go far enough? Judge Levine is eminently qualified to discuss this question and what might be done about it. Although he is now Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, State of New York, he was previously Family Court Judge in Schenectady for ten years, and is a member of a special commission studying the Family Court Act.

DEC. 6: IS TV A HELP OR A HINDRANCE IN PROMOTING WORLD UNDERSTANDING?

Speaker: Peg Breen

Peg Breen is co-anchor and co-producer of Inside Albany, the prize winning weekly summary and analysis of state politics and government which is seen statewide on all nine public television stations. She is also a regular contributor to TIME Magazine, has taught a course at Russell Sage on "Politics and the Media", and done political analyses for WNET - TV in New York City.

A TAX BREAK FOR VOLUNTEERS

In the legislative session just finished were two bills intended to aid and encourage volunteer work by allowing itemized deductions for five percent of the value of such work if at least 100 hours is contributed in a year. The Senate bill, S. 8096-A, of which our Sen. Farley was a sponsor, was passed, but the Assembly bill, A-10058-A was not reported out of committee.

Because of the five percent limit, the actual tax reduction would be negligible, but the basic principle is important, and it would be a start. In addition, by requiring the served organizations to keep records of volunteer work, many volunteers could use their experience to help them to secure paying jobs.

If you believe these bills should be passed, write your legislators to that effect, and ask candidates where they stand. The bills will likely be re-introduced, and stand a good chance of passing if enough interest is shown.

THE BUS

In the last Newsletter we mentioned that the Red Cross Bus is available to transport patrons who need, or would be helped by, a ride to the Central Library on Thursdays, and to the Friends' Monday noon programs.

Unless enough use of this service is made, especially on Mondays, we may lose it to some other organization that might appear to have a greater need. Therefore, we would like to encourage those who want this service to continue to make use of it. Call Melanie Foeller on 895-2178 a few days in advance (by Thursday evening for Monday transportation).

VOLUNTEERS TO BE RECOGNIZED

Volunteers are very special people in the library. To be sure everybody knows who these wonderful people are, new identification badges will soon be ready for them to wear. The badge, magenta on pink, will also serve as a pass to the restricted areas of the library. We are most thankful to Mrs. Joy Vrooman for designing the striking volunteer identification.

LIBRARY USER SURVEY

The library staff have begun to analyze the data from the Library User Survey taken last June. Findings, while still tentative, indicate that over 56% of those polled use the Central Library for research purposes. Also, many of the users of the central library look upon that facility as their branch library. It is the only facility that they use and it is close to their home or job.

Not surprisingly, the branches tend to draw their patrons from the surrounding area. For instance, at Wingate, of the 77 people polled, 50 live in the town of Rotterdam and 22 live in the Bellevue section of the city. Only five of the 77 live in other areas.

When asked about library hours, respondents at the branches recommended more morning hours and Saturday hours in the summer. At Central, the recommendation was for more evening hours and Saturday hours in the summer.

The data is still being compiled. When this task has been completed the library will attempt to develop a profile of library users, including reasons they use the library, frequency of use, their places of residence, priorities on services and their recommendations for improvements.

A GIFT FROM THE ROTARY CLUB

The Schenectady Rotary Club Foundation has given the Friends of SCPL \$1,000.00 to be used towards purchasing a micro-computer for the library. This is the first contribution for this purpose, and several more like it will be required before there is enough to purchase a suitable computer. Nevertheless, both the library and the Friends are most appreciative to the Rotary Club for this start towards a worthwhile addition to the library. The need for a computer will no doubt grow as budget limitations continue.

NATIONAL EDUCATION/CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEKS

Central Library will celebrate both of these Weeks with a variety of events on Saturday, Nov. 20. The Friends plan to participate with a table exhibiting photos and posters depicting some of their activities.

There will be tours of the library and other events emphasizing the educational role of the library in the lives of people of all ages.

Two very special programs will include a performance by professional storyteller Laura Simms at 1:00 P.M. in the McChesney Room. Miss Simms, with the aid of musician Steven Gorn, will share some of the stories she has learned during her world-wide travels.

Then at 3:00 P.M. Wayne Harvey, from the Schenectady Historical Society will present a slide program on early Schenectady architecture.



VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

Audio-Visual Department needs two volunteers - one to repair headphones, which may involve soldering, and another to listen to cassettes to determine sound quality (not content quality).

Technical Services Department needs someone who can make simple repairs on picture frames, such as replacing wires and backing, etc.

Circulation Department has a variety of needs for clerical work such as filing, typing, shelving, checking shelf-lists, etc.

SCPL offers a pleasant working environment, a friendly, courteous staff, and training and experience for volunteers.

If you think you can do any of these jobs, can donate three or four hours a week, and would like to help, please call Mrs. Naomi Bristol, Coordinator of Volunteers, on 382-3532 or 382-3500.

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TO ALL FRIENDS, PATRONS AND STAFF OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY AND FRUITFUL NEW YEAR

With the new year comes a new series of Monday noon programs. This year we will try a slight variation on the recent past: instead of SCIENCE ROUND THE TABLE on Thursdays, overlapping BOOKS SANDWICHED IN, it will be moved to Mondays. This will necessitate a bit shorter BSI series, in order to get everything fitted in, including another BSI series, and a TABLE TALKS series, before we stop for the summer. If you haven't been attending SCIENCE ROUND THE TABLE, this is a good year to try it out. Let us know how you like this schedule. The complete program for both of the winter series is given on page 2 of this NEWSLETTER.

THE NEW BUDGET

After many hours of hard work, the Board of Trustees reached agreement with the county manager on a budget for 1983 and the County Board of Representatives approved it at the end of October. The new budget comes quite close to the Library's requested one, which is a credit to the Trustees.

The two budget categories of most interest to the Friends are those for Personnel Services and for Books. Under Personnel Services, the final budget is about 4% below the requested one, which represents a reduction of one librarian, one principal library clerk, and one office machine operator. These reductions are in addition to others made in prior years, and are one reason volunteer help and other assistance by Friends is even more important.

In the Books category, the final budget is 10% below the requested figure, but it is the same as it was in 1982. Because of inflation, this probably means somewhat fewer books, but it is not a catastrophe.

How do we compare with other libraries? Ronald Dixon, past president of the Board of Trustees, has studied this question in considerable detail. He points out that, to be meaningful, it is necessary to compare our library with others that are similarly funded and serve similar population sizes. He has selected ten libraries in New York State which serve populations between 100,000 and 200,000 (vs. 150,000 for ours), which are mostly tax-supported, and four of which are central libraries.

Schenectady is (based on 1980 figures) just a shade below the average of these ten in total budget per capita, about 13% high in personnel budget (probably due to the number of long service employees), but our book budget per capita is only 35% of the average of our peers. Our circulation rate is about 15% higher than the average, and total cost per book circulated about 26% below, indicating a well run library. For these reasons, Schenectady's library is highly regarded by librarians and library trustees throughout the state.

We just thought you'd like to know, as if you didn't already, that you are supporting a first class organization.

SNOW GO

Since we do live in the North Country, like it or not, there are a few realities of life that we must plan on. One of these is snow, which occasionally does occur, and once in a while even interrupts our well planned order of things.

If such an event should occur on a Monday of a BSI or Science Round the Table, or a Tuesday of Great Decisions (yes, even in March it's remotely possible), or any other day there is something scheduled at the library, here's how you can tell whether you should put on your boots, or stay home with a book:

If (according to the radio) the Schenectady City schools are closed, the meeting will be cancelled. If you don't listen to the radio, or if you are in doubt, call the library, 382-3500. If they don't answer, assume they're closed, and you can stay home with your book.

THE RESERVE PROGRAM

As reported in the last issue as a hope, the much lamented Reserve Program is scheduled to be revived, beginning January 3, thanks to the generosity of just enough volunteers to (it is thought) make it viable. While the charge for reserving a book will be one dollar, quite a bit more than it was, this is still less than half what it formerly cost. Such, we hope, is the power of volunteer help.

While the requisite number of volunteers responded to the call, we still don't have the necessary pool of back-ups. See the ad for volunteers elsewhere in this issue.

COMPLETE BOOKS SANDWICHED IN PROGRAM

Coordinator: Marie Shore

Jan. 10: GROWING UP, by Russell Baker

This memoir shows a less known side of the whimsical New York Times columnist - his early years with his poverty-stricken widowed mother during the Depression and World War II. Our reviewer, Prof. Emeritus Frank Lindsay, needs no introduction to regular BSI attendees, having reviewed a number of books for us. He is also known to many others as an announcer on WMHT.

³¹
Jan. 17: MONSIGNOR QUIXOTE, by Graham Greene

This is the amiable side of Greene, in a gentle, undramatic, but charming modern-day fable, loosely paralleling the Cervantes classic. Our reviewer, Frank Gado, Professor of English, has been on the faculty at Union College since 1963.

Jan. 24: THE TORCH IN MY EAR, by Elias Canetti

This second installment of Canetti's memoirs is an assemblage of memories and musings covering, in part, his life as a young man in Vienna. Here he wrote his novel AUTO-DA-FE and took part in the experience which led to his life-long study resulting in the Nobel Prize winning CROWDS AND POWER. It is reviewed by our own Fred Tromel, who spent his student years at the same time, place, and university as Canetti.

¹⁷
Jan. 31: BECH IS BACK, by John Updike

This latest in the series of novels based on Henry Bech, Updike's prototypical writer, has been called brilliant fiction, and great fun. We will see whether our reviewer, Prof. Stephen Hirsch, Head of the English Division at the College of St. Rose, agrees.

COMPLETE SCIENCE ROUND THE TABLE PROGRAM

Coordinators: Harold Plumley, Ted Goble

Feb. 7: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS

One of the new developments is NMR, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. NMR can be used to produce cross-section images of soft tissues, and also to make chemical analyses at the cellular level. The speaker will be Dr. Rowland W. Redington, Manager of the Medical Diagnostics Systems Program at the GE Research and Development Center.

Feb. 14: SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS ARE FOR EVERYONE

You may not be aware of the amount of satellite communication you already are using. Our speaker, Richard L. Frey, Communications Engineer at the GE Research and Development Center, will tell us about these and new and interesting uses of satellite communications.

Feb. 28: A LIGHTNING DETECTION SYSTEM FOR THE PUBLIC

You may think you don't need to be told there is a lightning storm going on. However, here is a device that will tell you about lightning miles away, and whether it is approaching, is severe, etc. The speaker will be Dr. Richard E. Orville, Professor of Meteorology at SUNYA.

Mar. 7: THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF ANESTHESIA

Although our speaker, Dr. Derek Sayers, is Chief, Department of Anesthesia at the Albany V.A. Hospital, we don't think he'll put you to sleep. He will give us some interesting and possibly useful information on this important branch of medicine.

OUR INDEFATIGABLE PROFESSORS

For at least the sixth year, and probably more, our two former Thomas Lamont Professors of Ancient and Modern Literature (at Union College) have accepted appointments to lecture us in the McChesney Room on Friday mornings at 10:30. This year the "Literary Series" will focus on two British authors of the Victorian period.

On February 18, 25 and 31, Prof. Harold Blodgett will give a series titled "Remembering Browning".

On March 11, 18 and 25, Prof. Carl Niemeyer will lecture on "Thomas Hardy: The Last English Novelist".

If you haven't heard them before, come hear what you have been missing.

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THE JAIL LIBRARY

For a number of years the Friends have supported, and staffed with volunteers, a general library in the Schenectady County jail. All went well until, several months ago, the library was selected as the location of an exercise machine. The exercising inmates could not resist the temptation of all those books, which began disappearing, forcing us to discontinue the service.

The Jail Library Committee (Bertha Kriegler and Fred Tromel) are now happy to report that, through help from the Mohawk Valley Library Association, the Jail Library is again operating. The solution was a special library cart, having 18 feet of shelf space. This mini-bookmobile is wheeled into the library room Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and kept safely locked up at other times.

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since the last report in September, our membership list has grown by more than 100 names. Margaret Dickson, Membership Chairman, reports that this total includes the following new names, to all of whom we extend warm greetings and thanks for joining us:

Jane Buccì	Mary Anne Leonard
Carol Burns	Liese Mahler
Chris Calloway	Joseph & Mildred Maras
Patricia M. Dumas	David & Cay Raycroft
M.S. Foeller	Catherine W. Shorey
R. D. Heldenfels	Jeanne Sutch
Sallie Loring Hume	Virginia D. Walters
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Machesney	

GREAT DECISIONS TO START

Once again, the Friends are joining with other public spirited community groups in co-sponsoring, with the United World Federalists, a new Great Decisions series. As for the '82 series, there will be two groups running concurrently. One will be in the McChesney Room for eight Tuesdays, starting March 8, noon to 1:30 (bring a sandwich), with Katie Rich and Pearl Lichtenstein as discussion leaders. The second group will be Wednesday evenings, 7:30 to 9:00, at the Jewish Community Center on Balltown Road. Discussion leaders will be announced.

The Great Decisions '83 topics:

1. U.S. - SOVIET RELATIONS
The Arms Race and Coexistence
2. LEBANON
Shattered State in the Middle East
3. TRADE & UNEMPLOYMENT
Global Bread-and-Butter Issues
4. AFRICA'S ECONOMIC SQUEEZE
Poverty, Hunger and Refugees
5. NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION
Who's Next to get the Bomb?
6. SOUTHEAST ASIA
ASEAN and its Communist neighbors
7. INTER-AMERICAN SECURITY
Lessons from the South Atlantic
8. WEST GERMANY AND THE U.S.
What's Wrong with the Alliance?

The books are still \$6 each, and will be available some time in January. For more information, see the next Newsletter, or call Dorothy Settle on 399-1598.

* * * * *

New York Libraries -
The Knowplace for Knowbodies

You would probably never guess, but this was the theme for this year's New York Library Association Conference, the 89th. For the First time in many years it was held in Albany, October 20-24. This proximity made it easier for more of our librarians to attend at least part of it, even if only for a day. Funds provided by the Friends made it possible for nine librarians to be there. Even a casual look at the very full program shows that there was something there for everybody.

* * * * *

FLASH

The play reading group, under Irma Hamilton, was to have finished its season, but found itself in the middle of Eugene O'Neill's "Ah, Wilderness!". That would not do, they decided, so scheduled two more sessions to complete the reading: Jan. 11 and 25, at 3:00 P.M. in the Blue Room. Newcomers are welcome.

* * * * *

* Friends of SCPL *

* Marty Wallender, President *

* Katie Rich, 1st Vice-President *

* Jill Titus, 2nd Vice-President *

* Mary Dunham, Recording Secretary *

* Fred Tromel, Corresponding Secretary *

* Audrey Weidler, Treasurer *

* Richard Sills, Editor, NEWSLETTER *

* Bertha Kriegler, Circ. NEWSLETTER *

* * * * *

BOOK SALE POST SCRIPT

The story in the last Newsletter about the Book Sale was written by Marjorie Woods, for which the Editor is appreciative. This is a poor excuse for his having neglected to add to all the thank-yous handed out by Marjorie one great THANK-YOU to the most important worker of the lot, without whom we don't know how we could have had the sale - Chairman MARJORIE WOODS.

There is no rest for the righteous, either. At Marjorie's request, the board has already set the date for the 1983 Book Sale, which will be Saturday, October 1. It's not too early to start bringing in books, either.

* * * * *

HELP WANTED

Central Library has need for volunteer help in the following areas:

Audio-Visual Department needs an ANNOUNCER to record the written audio cassette catalog on cassette tape, to make it usable by visually handicapped patrons.

Audio-Visual Department also needs an AIDE to classify sheet music and prepare the collection for circulation.

Reference Department needs volunteers to check lists in the card catalog, to inventory small collections, and to check for misfiling and chronological order errors in the Information File of clippings. Some clippings may need mending.

Circulation Department needs substitutes or back-ups for the scheduled volunteers on the Reserve Program.

Switchboard Area needs a TYPIST, who would also do some clerical work. Speed is not important.

The Director needs a mathematically inclined person to aid in tabulating the user survey questionnaires and arriving at conclusions.

ALL VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE TRAINING AND SUPERVISION. If you can spend 3 or 4 hours a week, or serve as a substitute, please call Naomi Bristol, Coordinator of Volunteers, 382-3500

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library
 Liberty and Clinton Streets
 Schenectady, N.Y. 12305

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NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

"Libraries Are for Everyone"

This not only is, or should be, a true and obvious statement, but it also happens to be the theme for this year's National Library Week, April 18-22. Since our deadline nearly two months earlier, it just isn't possible to report all of the events that are or will be planned and occurring that week. As always, the library will have flyers and calendars available well ahead of time. For now, we can give a preliminary schedule:

Monday - 12:00

Books Sandwiched In (see page 2 for details)

Monday - 7:30

Curtis Harnack, author and Director of Yaddo, former Fulbright lecturer in Iran, will speak in the McChesney Room.

Monday and Tuesday - 10:00, 11:00, 1:30

Pre-school Story Hours, a regular occurrence. In children's room, registration required.

Wednesday - 12:00

Slide program RED CHINA, by Alice Tepper
Slide program ASPECTS OF SPAIN Adele Brown

Wednesday - 3:45

Puppet show, THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE STORIES - and MORE, for 6-11 year olds. No registration required.

Thursday - 6:00

The FRIENDS Annual Dinner Meeting (page 3)

Friday - 3:45

After school special CREATE - - A MOVIE. Be a film maker and help create a real movie complete with sound track. For 6-11 year olds. For registration, call the children's room, 382-3540. In the McChesney Room.

Saturday - 2:00

Francine Pascal, author of "My First Love and Other Disasters" (YA) and "Hanging Out with Cici" (Children's) will talk about writing and her books. There will also be a Dutch Treat dinner that evening at the Van Dyck. For reservations, call Libby White at the library, 382-3510.

The Curtis Harnack and Francine Pascal programs are being paid for by The Friends

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

Whether by chance or design, it seems that NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK coincides with NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK.

In celebration of the former, the Voluntary Action Committee and the Human Services Planning Council are sponsoring a program to be held Thursday morning, April 21 in the McChesney Room. Coffee and registration is at 9:00 and the program starts at 9:30.

Dr. Rudy Nydegger, psychologist at Union College, and an active volunteer himself, will give a presentation and lead a discussion on Creative Problem Solving and Crisis Management for the volunteer.

As participation will be limited to 150 persons, volunteers interested in attending should reserve a place by calling Naomi Bristol, 382-3500 or Chris Capobianco at HSPC, 372-3395.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Governor Cuomo's proposed budget for Fiscal 1983 provides for no increase in library funds. Since inflation is not over, this means a reduction in library materials everywhere.

The 1983 REGENTS OMNIBUS BILL A3100/S2902 is the reasoned result of planning and cooperation of representatives of all library interests throughout New York State. This bill should be passed this month in order to continue present levels of aid.

You are therefore asked to write to:

Hon. James Tedisco
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

Hon. Edward C. Sullivan, Chair
Library Sub-Committee
New York State Assembly
Albany, NY 12248

Hon. Hugh T. Farley, Chair
Library Sub-Committee
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

STAFF APPRECIATION PARTY

On Thursday morning, Jan. 27, The Friends held the second annual morning coffee party in the staff lounge to show their deep appreciation to all the staff of the library for their continuing loyalty and hard work during these difficult times. About 80 people came, and seemed to enjoy themselves, consuming delectables provided by Board members and engaging in bright conversations.

Dorothea Brown, Bertha Kriegler, Mildred Parkinson, Ann Stamm, Marty Wallender and Audrey Weidler were active in the kitchen and other areas.

COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR TABLE TALKS

COORDINATORS: Chrys Fenimore
Agnes Jackson

COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR BOOKS SANDWICHED-IN

COORDINATOR: Harry Langworthy

March 14: POLITICS OF ACID RAIN

Speaker - Dr. Volker A. Mohnen

As Director (since 1975) of SUNYA's Atmospheric Science Research Center, and a physicist, meteorologist, professor and consultant to government and industry, Dr. Mohnen is eminently qualified to tell us about this increasingly important subject. Having been educated in Germany, he can give us an international view of the problem.

March 21: A VIEW OF HOW THE LESS DEVELOPED AND MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE COPING WITH TODAY'S ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Speaker - Lawrence A. Shore

As Manager - Business Development and Planning Operation in General Electric's International Apparatus and Engineering Services Operations, here in Schenectady, and with several years' experience in this business in London, Mr. Shore can give us a "front lines" report on how it is out there in the real world.

March 28: CEYLON YESTERDAY, SRI LANKA TODAY

Speaker - Dr. Marion Grimes

After a busy career as college teacher, Marine Corps major, NY State Education Department official and parent, Dr. Grimes went to Sri Lanka last year as Schenectady's Community Ambassador. With the aid of excellent slides, she will tell us all about it.

April 4: THAT MYSTERIOUS HOME COMPUTER

Speaker - James W. Pontius

As a member of The Friends and a long string of other organizations, Jim Pontius is known to many of us. Perhaps less well known is the fact that Jim spent his career at GE as a consultant and manager in automation and data processing (read: computers). Retired since 1978, he now spends a lot of his time at a home computer. It won't seem so mysterious if you come to hear what he has to tell us about it.

April 11: A WAY TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Speaker - Dr. Nabeel A. Khoury

If anyone knows the answer to this puzzle, Professor Khoury should. In addition to teaching and research at SUNYA, he has taught at the American University of Beirut, Beirut University College, and the University of Jordan in Amman.

April 18: THE COLLECTED STORIES OF ISAAC BASHEVIS SINGER

Reviewer - Hester Shapiro

While not a complete collection, the book is a good selection of forty-seven of Singer's surprisingly varied short stories, most previously published. Hester Shapiro reviewed Singer's "Shosha" for us, among others, and for several years has written the column "Book Bound" in the Schenectady Gazette.

April 25: IRONWEED by William Kennedy

Reviewer - Professor Harry Staley

This attention grabbing and thought provoking story by an Albany author is his third book with a 1930s Albany setting. Our reviewer, Professor Staley, of the English Department at SUNYA, will bring additional insights on the book as a college friend of William Kennedy.

May 2: THE PATH TO POWER by Robert Caro

Reviewer - Professor Manfred Jonas

This is a very long, and some say, unsympathetic first volume of a three-part biography of Lyndon Johnson. Dr. Jonas, as a professor of history at Union College, and visiting professor and lecturer at many universities in this country and in Germany, will give us a historian's view of this important biography.

May 9: THE SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION OF AMERICAN MEDICINE by Paul Starr

Reviewer - Professor Robert Baker

This has been called "a solid, provocative history of power in American medicine that leads to some well-based predictions for the future". As a doctor of philosophy, not medicine, and a professional philosopher, Dr. Baker is in a position to give us an unbiased review of this important book.

May 16: FAR FROM DENMARK by Peter Martins

Reviewer - Marjorie Feiner

While not obvious from the title, this is an all business memoir of a New York City Ballet dancer, now choreographer, and his training under Balanchine. Marjorie Feiner, our reviewer, understands these things as a major in drama and fine arts. She is active with the Schenectady Civic Players, and in fact is directing their newest production which opens March 18.

May 23: P. G. WODEHOUSE by Frances Donaldson

Reviewer - Professor Harold Blodgett

This biography of Wodehouse should delight his fans, and serve as a good introduction for those who have not yet been bitten. Dr. Blodgett doesn't need any introduction to either Wodehouse or to us, having reviewed more books than we have space to mention.

ORGANIZATION CHANGES

April brings not only Library Week and Annual Meeting, but also election of new officers and board members. The names proposed by the Nominating Committee are as follows:

Officers

- President -----Marty Wallender
- 1st Vice-President-----Dorothy Settle
- 2nd Vice-President-----Jill Titus
- Recording Secretary-----Mary Dunham
- Corresponding Secretary----Fred Tromel
- Treasurer-----Audrey Weidler

These will all be recognized as incumbents except for Dorothy Settle. Dorothy came on the board last year, was a Table Talk coordinator last fall, and is currently in charge of the Great Decisions series starting in March. Her professional background will make her a good program chairman.

Continuing Board Members

- Bertha Kriegler - 2nd three-year term
- Francis Poulin - 2nd Three-year term
- Katie Rich - to fill Edwin Brown's unexpired two-year term

New Board Members

- Mrs. John (Eleanor) Belniak
- Mr. Thomas P. DeWan
- Mr. Harry W. Langworthy
- Mrs. Joseph T. (Mildred) Maras
- Mrs. Thomas (Gloria) Petterson
- Mrs. J.R. (Marjorie) Woods

ANNUAL MEETING

A highlight of Library Week for all Friends is, of course, our annual meeting. Here are the specifics:

- Place: First Unitarian Society
1221 Wendell Avenue
- Date: Thursday, April 21, 1983
- Time: 6:00 Wine and Cheese
6:30 Dinner - Veal loaf with
7:00 Business Meeting ^{Currant Sauce}
8:00 Address, in Great Hall

"From Plato to Pacman: Censors, Community Rights, and the Public Library" by Dr. Richard S. Halsey, Dean, School of Library and Information Science SUNYA.

- Price: \$7.50 per person
- Reservations: By April 15, to Dorothea Brown (see coupon below).

MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMEBERS

To enable you to know a little bit about the proposed new board members we are including here some thumb-nail biographies:

Eleanor Belniak and her husband returned to their home town in 1976 after he retired from SUNY in Binghamton. Eleanor worked for ten years in the public library in Johnson City.

Tom DeWan has a background as a Major in the Corps of Engineers during WW II and retired last year as an engineering manager in GE's Real Estate and Construction Operation.

Harry Langworthy, a Union College Alumnus, has had an interesting and varied career in both business and education. Most recently he has been a Table Talk coordinator for three years.

Mildred Maras recently retired as a senior school social worker in Schenectady schools. She is on the board or active in a long list of organizations, mostly aimed at helping people. She was a recent Table Talk coordinator.

Gloria Petterson has been active in AAUW, Zion Lutheran Church, Hospice of Schenectady, Schenectady Day Nursery board and as a Junior Great Books Leader.

Marjorie Woods is a former board member, best known for having run our very successful book sales for the last six years. She is also on the Library Board of Trustees, its Long Range Planning Committee, on the board of RID, and has been appointed by the County Planning Department to the "Stop DWI Program".

OUR SPEAKER

Before taking his M.S. and PhD. in Library Science, Dean Halsey took bachelors and masters degrees in music, and for several years was a composer. Eventually the printed word won out, and he has devoted his career to library work since, although drawing on his interest and knowledge of music where appropriate. His many invited lectures and workshops, and his library career, have covered a wide variety of fields touching on library activities. This background should equip him well to put into historical context the issues of censorship that face us today.

Dr. Halsey has been Associate Professor of Library Science at SUNYA since 1973, and Dean since 1980. He is also Executive Director of the Citizens's Library Council of New York State, and he lives in Schenectady.

MAIL TO: Mrs. Stanley M. Brown, 1450 Grenoside Ave., Schenectady, N.Y. 12309

Please reserve _____ places at The Friends of SCPL dinner on Thursday, April 21 at 6 PM

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ at \$7.50 per person made out to The Friends of SCPL

Name _____ Address _____

All members of the Friends are urged to attend the annual dinner. Please reserve early.

FINAL RESERVATION DEADLINE - WITH PAYMENT - Friday, April 15

EZRA JACK KEATS DAY

Ezra Jack Keats, author and illustrator of THE SNOWY DAY and other award-winning children's books, will be the guest of the library on Thursday, May 19 at 7:30 PM. He will also appear at the Schenectady Museum at 3:30 PM that day.

The Schenectady Museum, The Friends of SCPL and Literature Advocacy Pals Society are providing major though partial funding for this special event which will be free to the public. However, contributions from individuals are needed. Joan Gould for the Museum and Lois Foight Hodges for the library have formed a committee to bring Mr. Keats to Schenectady. Contributors of \$10, or more will receive an Ezra Jack Keats Day souvenir snowball, designed by Schenectady artist George Weinheimer.

This will be an unusual opportunity to meet an artist who has not only won the Caldecott Medal, but whose picture books are beloved by children (and their adults) throughout the world. His books will be available for purchase, and he will be happy to autograph them.

If you should wish to become an Ezra Jack Keats Day sponsor, send your check, payable to Ezra Jack Keats Day to: Claudia White, Treasurer, 1072 Waverly Place, Schenectady, NY 12308. Please include your name, address, telephone number and which of the two programs mentioned above you wish to attend.

DAYTIME COURSES

As part of their Graduate Studies Program, Union College is offering two daytime non-credit courses, at reduced fees, which may be of interest to Friends. They are: THE ACT OF READING, AN INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE, and SELECTED TOPICS IN GEOLOGY. The former will be on ten Thursday ^{afternoons} ~~mornings~~, beginning March 31, and the latter on six Thursday ^{afternoons} ~~mornings~~ beginning April 14. Fee for each is \$25 single, \$35 couple.

If interested, call the Office of Graduate and Continuing Studies, 370-6288, for brochure and application.

WARREN BRIGHTY
VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Warren Brighty volunteered 324.5 hours in 1982 in the Technical Services Department of Central Library.

He retired as manager of Synchronous Motor Design in the General Electric Large Motor and Generator Department, and not long after that came to the library one day to meet his wife, Priscilla, for lunch. She was not quite finished with her volunteer job, so he pitched in to help. He then noticed that the card catalog needed work, so he took on as his own project that of helping to weed it of obsolete cards, and has been hard at work on this ever since.

According to Warren, Technical Services is a good place to work, with pleasant surroundings and friendly people. He says that it is really the people who make volunteering in the library so enjoyable. An added bonus is being able to see new books as they are added to the shelves.

The library is not Warren's only volunteer activity. He is active in the First Reformed Church post-service program, is General Degree Director of the Scottish Rite Masons, and Treasurer for the Literary Volunteers.

We thank you, Warren, and hope you will continue your much needed help.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

Pursuant to the by-laws of The Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library, written notice is hereby given that a vote will be taken at the annual meeting on April 21, 1983, on the adoption of two amendments to the by-laws. The amendments are as follows:

Article V, Section 1: Add the following sentence: "All members of the Board of Directors shall be members of The Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library".

Article VIII, Section 2: Change the board membership limitation from 23 to 25, to agree with Article V, Section 1.

- *****
- FRIENDS OF SCPL
- * Marty Wallender, President
 - * Katie Rich, 1st Vice-President
 - * Jill Titus, 2nd Vice-President
 - * Mary Dunham, Recording Secretary
 - * Fred Tromel, Corresponding Secretary*
 - * Audrey Weidler, Treasurer
 - * Richard Sills, Editor, NEWSLETTER
 - * Bertha Kriegler, Circ. NEWSLETTER
- *****

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library
Liberty and Clinton Streets
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305

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Complete

MARGARET FOLEY RETIRES

To countless Friends and patrons of SCPL, Margaret Foley practically is the library, and starting this month they are finding that it's not quite the same any more. After thirty-two years, more than half of them as Assistant Director and Head of Adult Services, Miss Foley has decided, for personal reasons, to take early retirement.

Margaret Foley came to SCPL in 1951 after four years at Albany Public Library, during which time she also earned an MS in Library Science at SUNYA. Starting as a branch librarian, she became Head of the Circulation Department in 1954, then Assistant Director in 1966. In spite of the work and responsibilities that entails, she has been a familiar figure at the reference desk, spending nine hours each week at that post.

Miss Foley assumed her duties as Assistant Director in the same year that The Friends of SCPL was organized, and the relationship has been a close one ever since. She has been the chief contact and liaison between the library and The Friends, as well as a strong supporter of all of The Friends' programs. Her almost endless patience, tactful guidance and thorough understanding of library operations have been of incalculable value to officers of The Friends. The unwritten rule has always been: When in doubt, ask Margaret Foley.

Miss Foley will continue to live in Latham, in the house she shares with her brother, and so we can hope we will see her at Friends' activities and even be able to make use of her knowledge and experience. Most of all, we wish for her happiness and satisfaction in this new phase of her life. Her friends in The Friends will start her off on this with a party in the McChesney Room on June 10.

ANNUAL BOOK SALE

The Friends' annual used **BOOK SALE** this year will be on Saturday, October 1. Why are we telling you that now? Because Marjorie Woods, Chairman of the Book Sale, needs lots of help in June, July and August - sorting, pricing and boxing books. Each year there seem to be more "better" books to be individually priced.

Then in September comes the time to arrange for publicity: putting out two hundred posters all over the county, arranging for news releases on radio, TV and in all the Capital District newspapers, as well as to all the schools in the area.

A devoted and loyal cadre of experienced volunteers have been working all year, beginning last October, immediately following last year's sale. We always can use new workers, so don't hesitate to volunteer. After a little training in procedures you can come in to work on your own schedule.

To help in specific areas, here are the people to call. They will arrange a time to familiarize you with procedures and get you started:

"Better" books: Dorothea Brown, 393-0370

Non-fiction: Fred Tromel, 374-1322

Fiction: Nell Tromel, 374-1322

Paper-backs: Armer Rollier, 399-0370

Phono-records: Dorothy Mahar, 374-1046

Magazines: Lee Anker - leave note at switchboard

Children's Books: Marty Wallender, 374-4937 or Mary Dunham, 399-9528

There is a job for everyone who can find some time to help. If you work at least 16 hours throughout the year you can go to the pre-sale for volunteers and staff on Friday, Sept. 30. Can YOU help?

ANNUAL REPORT

For the annual meeting, on April 21, an Annual Report was prepared, with reports by various committees, the treasurer, etc. We thought a summary of that report would be interesting for those who were unable to attend the meeting.

Finances

A much condensed summary of the Treasurer's report is given in the box on this page. As you can see, 40% of our total expenditure was for Books. These were all for the branches, using money earned from the annual book sale (see separate story in this issue).

We are proud to be able to point out that Operating Expenses, which were almost entirely for printing and mailing costs, were only 7% of the total.

We also call attention to the fact that the smallest item, Programs by Friends (which are for the public) cost only 5% of the total, although they included some 43 separate well-attended meetings throughout the year.

Outreach

Our largest budget item (the Book Sale is not included in the budget) is the one we call Outreach. By far the largest part of Outreach was for the Doorstep Program. This year we doubled our previous commitment to Doorstep, and in eight summer weeks the two librarians and five volunteer helpers reached a total of 2533 children with their paperbacks and story-telling. It is hard to measure the value of this program, but this year, on Library Education Day, a former doorstep child now in high school approached the volunteer coordinator and offered to be a volunteer himself and give the younger children what he had received years earlier.

Other Outreach programs included:

- . Support for Literacy Volunteers, to provide more tutor-training workshops
- . Providing books and personnel for operating the Jail Library.
- . Reading to visually handicapped patrons
- . Delivering books to shut-ins

Gifts

In monetary terms, the next largest item consisted of gifts to the library. The principal items in this category were:

- . A new, larger video cassette monitor, which will permit classes and groups up to 25 to view cassettes at one time.
- . A starter collection of framed posters, which will be available for home loan.
- . Funds to enable staff members to attend professional conferences (not provided for in the library budget).
- . Book donations in honor of retiring staff members.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES	
Books	\$6,386
Outreach.....	1,932
Gifts	1,540
Programs by SCPL	1,446
Operating expenses	941
Programs by Friends	676
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,921

Volunteer Work

We have stressed our contributions to the library and the community in terms of money, but the contributions in terms of personal service should not be underestimated. All of these activities require, in addition to money, the dedicated work of many many people - way over 100. A study by the Library Board of Trustees estimated the monetary value of the voluntary work of The Friends at well over \$10,000 a year.

It should be recognized that this work is separate from that of the Library volunteers. There are nearly 60 of them, who may or may not be Friends, but in any case their activities are directed by the library staff. The Friends cooperate by running volunteer ads and/or Volunteer of the Month articles in the Newsletter, and in other ways. It's all for the same good cause - just different ways of helping.

BRANCH NEWS

After 40 years as the Quaker Street Station, this smallest affiliate of SCPL is being transformed into the Duaneburg Branch, the sixth branch library in the system. How has this come about?

The Quaker Street Station has for 35 years been housed in a tiny (500 square feet) building owned by the Quaker Street Co-operative Club, a service organization in that village. This club founded the library, and has been a major source of support for it through all these years. Now, however, they have decided they cannot continue on this basis, and have asked the library to move out of their building, which has long been much too small for a library, not to mention other activities for which the club would like to use it.

To help solve this crisis, a citizen of Quaker Street, Francis Crowe, has offered to donate land on Route 7, at the intersection of Bull Road, for a new building. Schenectady County has agreed to spend \$90,000 for a 2000 square foot building and necessary equipment, which, when completed, about the end of this year, will be known as the Duaneburg Branch of SCPL.

With this problem apparently solved, members of the County Board of Representatives and the library staff are stepping up their search for a new location for the Woodlawn Branch. While large enough, (2300 sq. ft.) this branch, located above the Woodlawn Fire Station, is unsatisfactory as a library because of its inaccessibility to so many people, and lack of parking space. Let us hope as good a solution as in Duaneburg can be found for Woodlawn.

RESERVE SERVICE

As we announced in the January Newsletter, the book Reserve Service was reinstated January 3, using mostly volunteer help, and with an increase in the fee to one dollar.

Naomi Bristol, Coordinator of Volunteers, reports that it is working out very well, although the usage is not nearly so great as it had formerly been. This is no doubt in part because of the higher fee, but also, it is felt, because its existence is not so well known. The library plans to make more efforts to advertise the service.

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

As most everyone is aware, we have always taken a break from our Monday noon meetings during the summer, and this year is no exception. They will be back in full swing starting with Books Sandwiched In on September 19.

The books have all been chosen and ordered, and reviewers signed up. We'll give you all the details in the September Newsletter. Just remember to keep your Monday noons open starting September 19.

FANTASY TO REALITY
The People-to-People Index

"If only I could sail a boat!"
"I dream of learning to speak French."
"You mean I could learn to grow herbs?"
"Could I learn to make pierogi?"

For help in any of these areas, all you have to do is to LOOK in the People-to-People Index, located in the Educational and Job Information area of the Central Library. It's a small, black file, but in it you will find over 250 categories to make your fantasy - wish - dream come true. Each listing represents people who are talented, knowledgeable and eager to help you and to share their knowledge.

The topics listed include Acting, Archeology, Bird watching, Clothing Design and Repair, Cooking (Polish), French, Herbs, Real Estate Investment, Sailing, Sign Language, Storytelling, Travel, Violin and more. All represent people who would like to share what they know with others who wish to learn and grow. They are just waiting for your call.

If you have interest you would like to share with others, consider listing your name in the Index. Applications can be found in the brochure rack in the Educational and Job Information Center. They may be left at the switchboard or reference desk.

No one is too old, too young or too shy to try something new. How about it? Be daring, be adventurous - give the People-to-People Index a try, then tell your friends about this rich talent bank. You might find a hidden talent. You might find a new speaker for a group you belong to. You might find a new friend.

For more information about the Index, or to serve on the committee working to publicize it, contact Phyllis Ochs at the library.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Although there is not yet a drive on for an endowment fund, from time to time some thoughtful person does donate money for such a purpose.

This occurred last fall with a gift in memory of Caroline V. Gilbert, formerly of Schenectady, by her grandson, Richard B. Gilbert of Trenton, N.J. The gift was \$1,000, the income from which is to be used to purchase items relating to arts and handicrafts. Caroline Gilbert, when she lived in Schenectady, taught handicrafts to children, and this gift will mean she will continue to do this forever.

This is actually the second gift from the Gilbert family. Caroline's son Richard L. (Richard B's father) previously gave \$1,500 to the library to be used directly for purchasing art and handicraft items.

For convenience to the library, The Friends will administer the new gift along with other similar funds.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome the following new members, who have joined The Friends since our last report in January:

- Mrs. Paul Doigan
Mr/Mrs John A. Humphry
Guido A. Loyola
Kathryn McGary
Mrs. A. Polesny
Dolores H. Slocum
Jean S. Feustel
Kenneth C. Kessler
Mr/Mrs K.N. Mathes
Mrs. Clara W McGuire
S.H. Schroeter
Mr/Mrs K.C. Staley
Robert P. Watson

By May 28, a total of 671 new and renewal memberships had been received, according to Margaret Dickson, Membership Chairman. Since the dues payment are mailed to Audrey Weidler, Treasurer, you may not realize that Margaret sends out those dues notices and the acknowledgements, and maintains the membership list, a big job. She points out that, although the minimum dues payment has not increased at all since The Friends started, 17 years ago, the average contribution is now over \$10. We thank everyone who has so generously increased his contribution to The Friends.

- Friends of SCPL
Marty Wallender, President
Dorothy Settle, 1st Vice-President
Jill Titus, 2nd Vice-President
Mary Dunham, Recording Secretary
Fred Tromel, Corresponding Secretary
Audrey Weidler, Treasurer
Richard Sills, Editor, NEWSLETTER
Eleanor Belniak, Circ. NEWSLETTER

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

Central Library has need for volunteers to help in these positions:

Messenger with car, to deliver flyers, posters, calendars of events etc. to various locations in the area.

Discards Checker, to help reference librarians by checking shelf list to determine number and location of copies in the collection and other information needed for ordering replacements.

Typing and Filing Help, to perform various tasks in Technical Services and Adult Services Departments.

If you think you could do any of these jobs, call Naomi Bristol, Coordinator of Volunteers, 382-3500.

ROSE NOTKE
VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Rose Notke's experience shows how volunteering can sometimes lead to a job, and can even be combined with part-time work at the library. She started her volunteer work in 1972 after giving up a full time job at Traveler's Insurance.

Her volunteer work led to an offer of a part-time job as clerk at the switchboard at Central Library, which she kept until retiring in 1981. At this point she again became a volunteer, both at the library and at St. Clare's Hospital. Once again she was offered a library job, this time manning the switchboard on Saturdays. She still does this, but also continues volunteer work in the switchboard area on other days.

When Rose is not working or volunteering she likes to read mystery stories and European history, to embroider and crochet, and to attend barbershop concerts. She and her husband also take a lot of bus tours.

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library
Liberty and Clinton Streets
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305

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