

Friends Forecast

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Hello, fellow friends!

Let me introduce myself. My name is Marcia K. Semerau (I use my middle initial because I have a sister-in-law with the exact same name). I began working at the Duluth Public Library in 1973 when I was a senior in high school (I'll let you figure out how old I am). I worked in circulation, interlibrary loan, periodicals, youth services, the branches, technical services, and fiction/media. I retired from the Library 2 1/2 years ago after having spent just over 41 amazing years in that environment. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there and my co-workers were the absolute best! My plans were to spend time volunteering for the things that mean a lot to me - church and the Library in particular. Two months into my retirement Diane Carlson from the book sale crew invited me to join her for coffee and a biscotti. She asked me if I'd consider chairing the annual book sale and I said, "Yes." That position led me to serve on the Friends of the Duluth Public Library Board. And, two years later, I'm the Board President. I thank you for this opportunity.

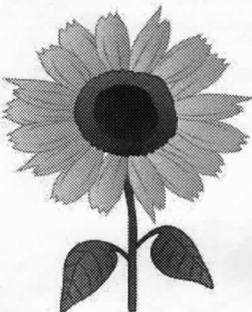
I recently attended the "Refresh and Revitalize Your Friends Group" workshop sponsored by MN Association of Library Friends (MALF), our state organization. And by the time this newsletter is in your hands, I will have sat in on several MALF sessions at the Minnesota Library Association annual conference. I'll share information from those programs in the next newsletter.


**Marcia K. Semerau, President
Friends of the Duluth Public Library**

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GIVE TO THE MAX DAY 2016!

This is where awesomeness happens. GiveMN links generous people like you with organizations working to make Minnesota a better place. Consider donating to the Friends of the Public Library! Become a Friend of the DPL today and help provide resources, literary materials, and programs for people of all ages and walks of life! The main goals of this organization are to maintain an association of persons interested in the Duluth Public Library; to focus public attention in a positive manner on library services, facilities, and needs; to support and cooperate with the Library in developing library services, facilities, activities, and programs for the community; and to raise funds through special events. All donations are tax deductible.



 *"Like" us on Facebook! Friends of the Duluth Public Library*

CARLA'S CORNER SEPTEMBER 2016



Thanks to you and other members of the Friends, the Duluth Public Library has a new logo and a fresh, fun look in our posters and new website.

Last year the Friends partnered with Swim Creative on a branding project for the library. The Friends provided the funding and Swim matched it with an equal amount of pro bono work. Swim did research, conducted community surveys, and came up with recommendations for how we can do a better job of connecting with people and sharing what the library has to offer.

If you've been in the library recently you have seen the new look of our publicity posters and handouts. The redesigned website launched at the end of September. Along with being easier to navigate the new website is more responsive, which means it senses whether you are on a desktop computer or mobile device and adjusts its display to fit the size of your screen. While the website looks different, the address stayed the same: www.duluthlibrary.org.

As library services change and community expectations evolve, it's more important than ever for the Duluth Public Library to let people know about all of the services we provide. This branding project helps us do that in a clear, consistent and (we hope) compelling way. On behalf of the library staff and everyone who uses the library, thank you for supporting the Friends and making this branding project possible!



**DULUTH
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Library Donations

This past summer, the Friends of the Library donated \$20,000 to the Duluth Public Library. The Friends of the Library also decided to give an additional \$10,000 this Fall, bringing the total amount given to \$30,000 for the year.

These funds are used to fund programs such as the Kaleidoscope series, a series of free summer entertainment programs for children, as well as other resources such as e-readers and free downloadable music and other important programs at the Duluth Public Library.



Please Join us
**Littlest Holiday
Book Sale**

Mount Royal Library

Tuesday, December 6
10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 7
10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, December 8
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

2016 ANNUAL BOOK SALE RECAP


Setup (in 4 areas) took 25 volunteers putting in 189 hours over 6 days to get ready for the sale. That doesn't include 50 weeks when sorting through donations and Library withdrawals to save all those treasures people will take home is done by a group of volunteers who are at the Library at least one day a week. Those numbers don't include the help we received from the City's Properties and Facilities maintenance staff who put up most of the shelving units. This includes a dozen regulars doing multiple shifts and Optum staff joining us one afternoon. Setup means putting up shelves and tables, moving and unpacking all of the boxes of materials to the various rooms (over 13,300 items in the green room alone), labeling subject areas, "hanging" signs, preparing cashier stations, and so much more.

The sale went from June 6 to 9. We were open 29.5 hours during those 4 days. It took 70 people (membership, cashiers, shelvers, security, floaters) putting in 462 hours to host this successful event. 27 of the 70 volunteers did multiple shifts and 1/4 of the 27 did 3-6 shifts. Things that don't sell from the conference and green rooms and garage are moved to shelves along one wall of the green room and in the hallway outside the green room and are labeled free. People are welcome to take as many as they like and if they can make a donation to the free cart it is much appreciated; these donations average over \$100 a month. Materials from the gold room are set aside for the green room or priced lower for next year's sale. This year we partnered with several organizations after the sale and let them take unsold materials - Minnesota Military Museum Library, Friends of the Two Harbors Public Library and American Association of University Women Hibbing.

It takes less time to take things down than to put them up. 7 people put in 47 hours in 2 days. Most of the volunteers were there every day shifting books out of the green room to empty space on the shelves in the hallway. In a week's time the shelves in the green room were clear.

Thank you everyone! Our hard work helped us raise \$21,702 for the Friends of the Duluth Public Library. Those funds will help the Library purchase materials, provide services and sponsor programs. Special thanks to the staff at the Library for their willingness to work with us as we disrupt their routines for this annual event; and, to Roseann, Duluth Public Library Librarian, for all of her help. Again, thank you everyone for all of your many hours and hard work.

Marcia Semerau, Chair for the book sale



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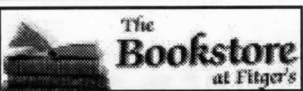
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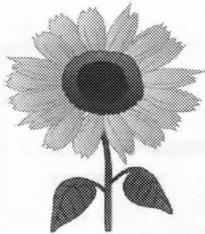
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Thank you for your support!



Stay in touch with friends