



# Friends

of the Wichita Public Library

# Among Friends

Spring 2015

## Welcome to Summer



Cynthia Berner  
Director of  
Libraries

Welcome to summer – the busiest season of the year for the Wichita Public Library! By the time you read this, our libraries will be full of activity as our Baby Bookworms, Kids Read and Teens Read summer learning programs will bring hundreds of

families to our libraries each day. These families know that regular reading is important to school readiness and student success and that the library is a great place to support those activities.

But these programs are not the only

exciting things happening in our libraries this summer.

- Nearly 250 teens are gaining workplace skills through their participation in our summer teen volunteer program.
- Students are gaining extra hours of college credit by using public computing services to participate in online and distance learning classes.
- Individuals looking forward to summer vacations are planning their trips using resources from the Library's travel collections.
- "Do it yourselfers" are finding ideas and instructions for their home

improvement projects through the Library's design and home repair collections.

- Car enthusiasts are using the Library's extensive collection of motor manuals to tune-up their engines and to guide restoration of their classic vehicles.

Meanwhile, work completing construction documents for a proposed new Central Advanced Learning Library continues as does remodeling work to add more meeting spaces at the Evergreen branch library.

Friends of the Library funding and advocacy makes many of our Library programs, services and enhancements possible. We appreciate your support!

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a busy time for the Friends of the Wichita Public Library!! Our spring book sale was held in March with more people attending and more books being sold than in the past. An equally important success was the number of new volunteers we had helping each day. During National Volunteer Week, which also happened to be National Library Week, we honored those who volunteer in the library community.

As you can see, we are all about the volunteers. Friends is an all-volunteer group that supports the library through advocacy, education and financial support. Money donated to the Library enhances collections and supports programs. In 2014 alone, an additional \$97,000 worth of donated items from the Friends was added to the Library collection. We always welcome new volunteers to help us to provide

continued support for libraries in this community.

At the state level, the Wichita Friends group recently hosted a meeting of Friends of Kansas Libraries (FoKL) at Westlink Library. Library representatives from across the state gathered to discuss this year's FoKL grants and awards. Two local Friends members, Sally Hayes and Judy Burgess, sit on the FoKL Board. More information about FoKL membership can be found at <http://www.fokl.net>.

During the past year, our Library lost two very special volunteers. Longtime Friends' Used Book Store volunteer, Elizabeth Servis, and longtime volunteer and Friends' Used Bookstore manager Barbara Melzer passed away - they will be remembered for their service and the impact they had on the library community. Thank you to two outstanding women.

-Judy Burgess

## Mark your calendars

### Friends of the Wichita Public Library BOOK SALES 2015

#### June 6

Riverfest Paperback Sale  
Central Library Patio

#### July 29-30

Summer Sale-  
Hardback Fiction  
Central Auditorium, 3rd floor

#### September 23-26

Annual Fall Sale  
Central Auditorium, 3rd floor

#### December 3-4

Holiday Sale  
Central Auditorium, 3rd floor



## A Strategy for Forward Progress!

The Friends of the Wichita Public Library recently held a strategic planning session. Simply put, strategic planning determines where an organization is going over the next year or more and how it's going to get there.

This plan was developed with involvement and guidance from the Board of Directors and the Public Library Director at a 4 hour retreat held in March. With a fresh perspective on its mission, understanding what it does well, and the environment in which it operates, The Friends of the Wichita Public Library will pursue the following strategic direction:

Grow to the maximum 18 member board allowed in the by-laws. As the Friends organization has grown to over 1200 members, responsibilities and tasks have increased. A diverse board with diverse skills will make a stronger organization.

The Friends enjoys a strong financial foundation. Good planning now will ensure that we continue to operate with sound fiduciary principles and structure.

Because we have grown and taken on new responsibilities, we need to assess how we operate within our committee structure. Evaluation of current needs for new committees will make a stronger organizational structure. (FWPL)

FWPL will create a process to increase public awareness of the mission and how we impact the library system.

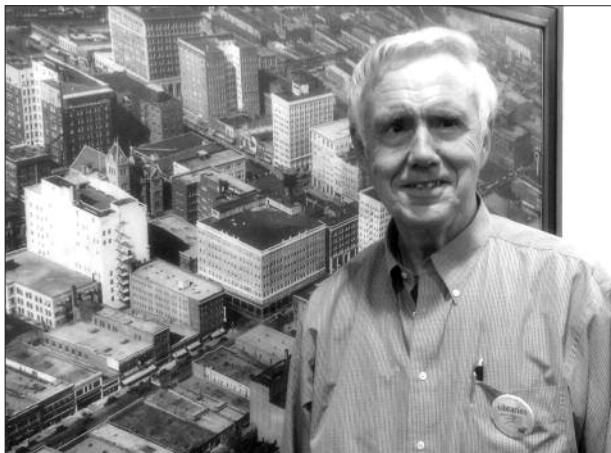
Building a volunteer base to meet the needs of our current and future activities and to include adequate training to fit the mission of the organization is necessary for continued success of programs and operations.

### Corrections

Mike Barushok's phone number was incorrect in the March newsletter. The correct number is 316 308 0239.

The magazine lady is Ellen Bandy not Ellen Bundy as stated in the March newsletter.

## Friend of the Library



*Steve Cloud stands in front of a photograph of downtown Wichita before the current library was built.*

**Steve Cloud**, member of the Friends of the Wichita Public Library board, has done many things and been many places, but it was a blind date that first brought him to Wichita from Missouri. It was the summer of 1972, the movie was "The Cowboy" with John Wayne. Apparently the date went well. That December, they were married.

Having spent nearly a decade teaching social sciences to high school students in a town outside of Kansas City, Steve moved to Wichita with his wife in 1974. After spending the next 31 years at Boeing, Steve and his wife LeAne took full advantage of one of their loves: travelling. They have been on some 25 cruises, taking them all over the world including the Antarctic, the Panama Canal, Alaska, Scandinavia and most recently, Australia and New Zealand.

While living in Missouri, Steve took advantage of the state's impressive caves and become an avid spelunker. Moving to Kansas, Steve had to adjust to the flat land and wind. Here in Kansas, he found the plains a great setting to continue his joy of running. Steve found he had the endurance to run a marathon at the age of 57. That was 15 years ago. His endurance was tested again during our big Spring Book Sale in March where Steve worked 10 days in a row assisting the needs for both the sale and our bookstore at the Central Library.

Steve is a familiar face to volunteers of the Friends' Used Bookstore. He has been a volunteer for seven years and continues to work downstairs in the sorting area each week. In 2011 Steve was selected as the recipient of the Melzer Award, named for former Friends of the Library Used Bookstore Manager Barbara Melzer and given to the library volunteer with the most hours contributed. About a year ago, after urgings from a few board members, Steve joined the Friends board where he is co-chairperson of the Retail Sales Committee. Steve has been working hard to add more Book Sales over the coming year!

If you catch Steve reading, chances are he is deep into a mystery. His favorite authors include Rafael Sabatini, James Oliver Curwood and E. Phillips Oppenheim. His book recommendations: "The Leavenworth Case" by Anna Katherine Green, "Devil in the White City" by Erik Larson, "Count of Monte Cristo". And if the interview was longer, this list would be, too. So next time you see Steve at the library, he'll be happy to recommend you another.

# It takes . . .

## to have a successful Spring Book Sale.

- Over 50 volunteers: Friends members, Friends board members, USD 259 Junior ROTC, McConnell servicemen, book store volunteers and library staff
- 49 tables
- 600 boxes of books
- 25,000 books
- 45 categories of books
- 30 trips on the freight elevator
- 240 hours, two weeks of pre-sale work-Steve Cloud and Mike Barushok
- 25 ½ hours open for customers
- Steps taken-countless



*Book sale - kid section*



*Volunteers are always ready to help.*



*Tables full of books*

## 2015 Spring Book Fair: Your Feedback

Thanks to all who attended the Friends spring book sale and to those who contributed to our "Exit interview." We wanted to know what you heard of the book sale and what you wanted to see at the sales. We also listened to your comments. Thank YOU!

Here's what you told us:

### 1. How did you hear about the sale?

- Signage at the library/branch
- Facebook or Friends website (WichitaLibraryFriends.com)
- Postcard or newspaper ad
- Friends newsletter
- Many said a relative told them, usually their spouse!

### 2. What kind of books to you want to see at sales?

- All kinds of books, especially children's books

### 3. Comments:

- Sale was well organized
- Needs better advertising
- Needs bigger room for more books
- Needs bigger room with shopping carts
- Advertise in the GO section of the paper
- Better signage
- Books displayed at eye level

Thanks again! We are already planning the fall and other book sales!

## April Reading List.....

### What We're Reading

Members of the Friends board have a love for libraries, so it's no surprise we also love books! From mystery to non-fiction to romance, here is a look at what some members of the Friends of the Wichita Public Library are reading this month.

Joyce is reading **H is for Hawk** by Helen MacDonald

Larry is reading **Gutenberg's Apprentice** by Alix Christie

Vikki Jo is reading **Being Mortal** by Atul Gawande

Liz is reading **Songs of Willow Frost** by Jamie Ford

Janet is reading **A Three Dog Life** by Abigail Thomas

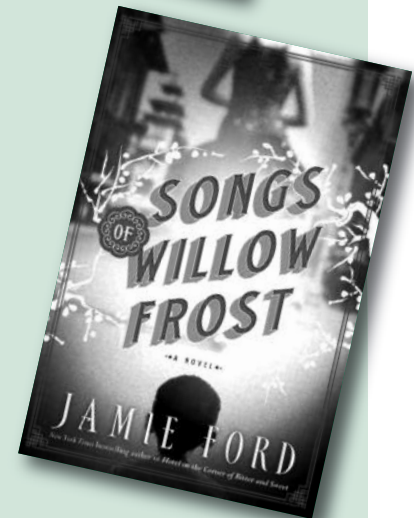
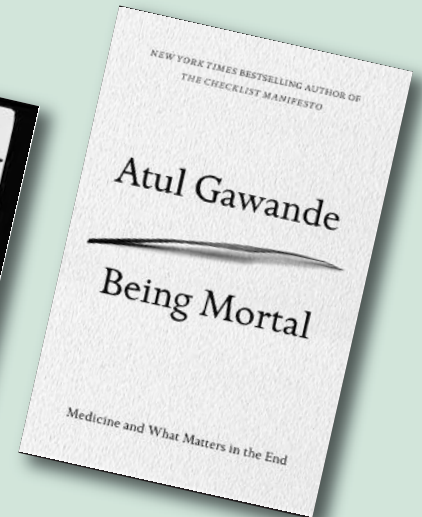
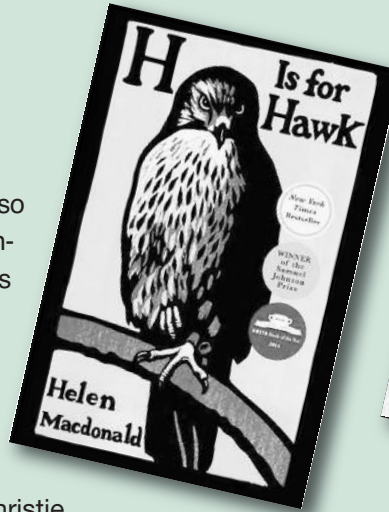
Steve is reading **The Stranger's Gate** by E. Phillips Oppenheim

Mike is reading **Team of Rivals** by Doris Kearns-Godwin

Sharon is reading **Just One Kiss** by Susan Mallery

Stephanie is reading **Leaving Berlin** by Joseph Kanon (an eBook library check-out)

Have you discovered any good books? Share with us what you're reading on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/FriendsoftheWPL](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheWPL)



## New Wireless Printing Service at the Wichita Public Library

This summer the Wichita Public Library will implement a new wireless printing service called Envisionware MobilePrint Service™.

MobilePrint™ can be used from inside the library, from home or other remote locations and can be used from smartphones, tablets or computers.

What does this mean for the customer? Print jobs can be sent any time of day to the nearest Wichita Public Library location and picked up at any service desk at that location during hours of

operation. Print jobs are stored in the job queue for 24 hours from the time they are sent and then deleted if the customer does not come to print them. Customers can print a document without having to wait for a public computer. All that is needed is a library card in good standing or an e-card.

There are three easy ways to use MobilePrint™ to send a print job to a printer at the library; upload a document to the customized weblink, use a mobile printing app such as PrinterOn® for

iOS and Android devices or email documents to the unique email address of the designated branch.

Library staff are excited to have the improved printing service. MobilePrint™ is expected to improve the customer experience of completing quick printing needs without the process of signing up for a public computer station or for those times a customer's home printer is out-of-play and the customer is able to pick up printouts sent to the local branch instead.

## Thanks for Sharing Your Opinion!

We want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone in the community who has helped spread the word about our great library system and to those who've shared our need for a new Central Library. Over just the past few months, we've seen at least four Letters to the Editor sent to the Wichita Eagle in support of our libraries!

You've written great compliments about the Friends of the Wichita Public Library book store and Spring Book Sale. Some have written about the great programs offered at the library while others talk about the importance and benefit of investing in building an improved downtown library for our community.

Currently our library lacks sufficient computers, outlets, parking at the downtown location and meeting space. Providing these things is not an expense; it's an investment. A study of Florida libraries showed a return of more than \$6 added to the economy per dollar spent. In South Carolina it was a more modest but still respectable \$2.86 per dollar invested. Any wise businessman would invest with such good returns.

Supporting our library to grow with the times and technology is doing a service for business owners and to our community overall.

NATHAN HUFF

WICHITA

### Go to library

Spring break is here. If you are wondering what to do, I have a suggestion: Go to the library.

During a recent visit to Wichita's Central Library, I picked up a program calendar and was impressed with the wide variety of spring break activities planned for area youths. Story programs, puppet shows, craft activities, nature and science sessions provide opportunities for fun and learning.

Wichita is lucky to have a public library that offers these services to area families. Think about how much more will be available when there is a new Central Library with an even larger children's center, a new teen space, and state-of-the-art meeting and programming areas.

VIKKI JO STEWART

WICHITA

*"The library is a small-business owner's best friend"*

*"was impressed with the wide variety of spring break activities planned for area youth"*

*"I am thrilled that when our community talks about our shared priorities, this new library is high on the list"*

Whether you're talking to your friend about the great library programs you attend or you take the time to write a letter to the Eagle, we truly appreciate everything you are doing in support of the valuable resource we have in the Wichita Public Library.

## Volunteer Luncheon

### Friends Honor Volunteers at Botanica

Over 120 library volunteers and others attended a special volunteer appreciation luncheon Thursday, April 16th at Botanica. Friends of the Wichita Public Library President Judy Burgess welcomed luncheon guests including several elected officials: State Senator Oleatha Faust-Goudeau, and from the Wichita City Council James Clendenin, and LaVonta Williams. Judy shared some great accomplishments about our great library volunteers from the past year:

In total 342 individuals volunteered at Wichita Public Library providing 22,378 hours of service with a value of nearly half a million dollars (according to the Independent Sector's value of volunteer service in Kansas) and equal to 11 employees!

Friends President Judy Burgess introduced Aaron Fowler, a musician and current artist coordinator for Arts Partners Wichita, who performed several interactive songs and offered his 'thank you' to library volunteers and staff for all they do to provide services to the Wichita Public Library.

Judy introduced Steve Roberts, Wichita Public Library

Board President, who thanked everyone for believing in the work of the library, sharing their time and talents. He also noted the importance of the various boards: the Library Foundation, Genealogy Society, and the Friends.

Judy introduced Vikki Jo Stewart who serves as Second VP of the Friends Board and is retired from the State Library of Kansas where part of her job was to help form and support Friends' and volunteer programs. Vikki Jo presented a certificate to Gail Fisher for her nomination for the 2014 Friends of Kansas Libraries (FoKL) Individual Award. It is our pride to announce that Gail subsequently received the FoKL award!

Vikki Jo recognized the passing of long time bookstore volunteer Elizabeth Servis and then presented the 2014 Melzer Award to Deborah (Debbie) Roths recognizing her 465 hours of genealogy volunteer service in 2014, noting more than 1300 total hours given!

Judy closed the luncheon recognizing Paul and Margaret Miller who celebrate 25 years of volunteer service and other Melzer Award winners.



**Become a Friend at [www.wichitalibraryfriends.org](http://www.wichitalibraryfriends.org)**

### Stay on top of what we're doing.

Like Friends of the Wichita Public Library on



For up to the minute info, special deals, and to join in our ongoing discussion, be sure to "like" our Friends of the Wichita Public Library Facebook page.

If you are not already a member of the Friends of the Wichita Public Library, we hope you'll join! Pick up a Friends brochure at any Wichita library or go to  
**WICHITALIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG**  
and click on  
**BECOME A FRIEND**

### Bookstore Hours

Monday 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Tuesday-Saturday 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Friends of the Wichita Public Library

Judy Burgess	Sharon Leimkuhl
Steve Cloud	Larry Romine
Gail Fisher	Carolyn Russell
Janet Fowler	Vikki Jo Stewart
Stephanie Huff	Kristian Strom
Liz Kennedy	Joyce Suellentrop
Ken Lee	Marge Zakoura-Vaughan

### FRIENDS OF THE WICHITA PUBLIC LIBRARY Mission Statement

Friends of the Wichita Public Library provides volunteer service and advocacy in support of the Library and its role in our community.