



FoKL Point

Fall 2009

Friends of Kansas Libraries, Inc.

Volume 26, Issue 5

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FoKL Board meets at Haysville Library on October 16

Many members of the Executive Board of the Friends of Kansas Libraries traveled to Haysville on October 16 for a daylong session. They discussed everything from Facebook to grants to the KLA Conference. They also reviewed nominations for incoming FoKL Board members and they chatted about Paula Poundstone's upcoming appearance in Emporia. In addition, the group enjoyed a tour of the new Haysville Library, given by Marion Renner.



Friends of Kansas Libraries

Friends of Kansas Libraries is a statewide organization of groups and individual members committed to helping libraries meet the needs and expectations of their communities. It can provide start-up grants to communities establishing new friends groups or having unique program needs and provides technical assistance to local groups upon request. FoKL Point is the official publication of Friends of Kansas Libraries.

For further information or to submit articles to FoKL Point, contact:

*FoKL
Hutchinson Public Library
901 N Main St
Hutchinson, KS 67501*



FOKL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

November 20	Exec. Committee – via OPAL
December 18	Exec. Committee – via OPAL
January 15	Board meeting – via OPAL
February 19	Exec. Committee – via OPAL

Friends of Kansas Libraries Board Members

For additional information about starting a Friends group or revitalizing your existing Friends group, get in touch with your regional trustee by contacting your Regional Library System or e-mail the trustee directly. Your trustee can visit your group or help answer your questions.

Officers:

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Kansas Library Express delivers across the state By Carolyn Little

Kansas Library Express delivers library materials to 226 libraries across Kansas. This interlibrary courier service carried more than 120,000 items in the first three months of the service. With daily weekday service to 35 libraries, three-day per week service to another 165 libraries and indirect service to the remaining 26, the courier network brings materials rapidly where they are needed.

The statewide courier service receives support from the State Library of Kansas and from the regional library systems. It came into being through cooperation and advocacy efforts of the Kansas library community. The service is contracted through Henry Industries and is managed through the Northeast Kansas Library System office in Lawrence. Comments from libraries on the service are enthusiastic. "The courier has been really efficient." "We love everything about it and it does seem we are sending out more ill (interlibrary loan) books than before - but that is great!"

Learn more at kslibexpress.mykansalibrary.org

Norton Friends, hard at work and play By Clarice Howard

Friends of Norton Public Library have recently been engaged in several activities. One of the newest sponsored activities is the "Chess Club." The group composed of ten grade school children meets from 4-5 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. The teacher is a teen chess advocate. The group met in the last six weeks and will practice their skills until January when they will resume their chess studies.

The Friends are also sponsoring "Jammin' at the Library" on the third Thursday of every month from 6:30-8 p.m. Acoustic musicians and listeners gather to share talent and music!

The US 36 Garage Sale found Norton Friends represented with a book sale. Although a large amount was not gathered, books found new homes and the treasury found new money! The group is newly "reorganized" and will conduct a membership drive next year.

Friends of WPL sells 50,000 books

By Gail Fisher

We made over \$7,000 and sold about 50,000 books. Our pricing was .25 for mass market paperback, \$1.00 for hardback and .50 for all other books. We ran our sale starting with a Friends Preview sale Tuesday evening from 5:30 to 8:30. The sale continued Wednesday through Saturday. We were open late on Thursday evening until 7, which worked out well.

Saturday, was our most impressive day! We sold the most books that day and had the largest number of customers. We made that day Bargain Day, and advertised it extensively as such. We sold all books, six for \$1. In the past, we sold them a bag for \$1, but this change seemed to work much better. We had news coverage from two of the three local networks.

The most interesting thing we did during the sale was to close the bookstore. We moved every book out, put the entire old inventory in the sale, moved all the shelves, dusted, did deep cleaning, shampooed the carpets and replaced all books in the store with completely new stock. We were closed for a full week, but we did not lose any revenue from the sales at the bookstore. And it is clean now!

One piece of advice I can give all of those in charge of book sales is to post rules, and to announce them at the beginning of the sale before letting anyone in.

My suggestions would be that you consider these rules for your sale. If customers break these rules, it is cause for removal at the discretion of the Friends.

1. No hoarding books
2. No unacceptable behavior (at the Friends' discretion). This is very important, as a matter of liability.
3. Patrons are asked to keep the aisles clear.

It is good to be clear about your expectations of customers' behavior. When you have written notices, it gives you credibility in a court of law should there be any unfortunate incidents.

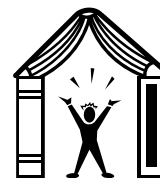
We also engaged the volunteer services of soldiers from McConnell Air Force Base for the first time. We had 15 candidates from their leadership school come help us for two or three hours. They moved a mountain of books from the basement to the third floor auditorium. They are a great resource since our

average volunteer is older and not as physically fit as our soldiers! We also made this a media event, and got picked up by one of the local news stations.

We had lots of books left over. We only had two groups take advantage of free books for their organization during clean up. We gave many children's and large print books to Andover Public Library. I have determined that this should be a separate committee as part of our future book sale efforts.

It took hundreds of volunteer hours to pull off this successful sale alone. When one considers the amount of books we had to sell this year, and the added adventure of restocking and cleaning our bookstore, it amazes me how dedicated our volunteers are. None of this is possible without them.

Build a better library
with Friends



Friends of
Kansas Libraries

Join or renew your Friends of Kansas
Library membership today by filling out the
[membership form](#). The mailing address is:

FoKL
Hutchinson Public Library
901 N Main St
Hutchinson, KS 67501

Library legislative work to do

By Sue Blechl

Friends of the Library groups can be most valuable in working with their libraries to promote issues in the legislature that benefit libraries. Since one role of a Friends organization is advocacy, Friends should be actively communicating with legislators about the needs of the library. Kansas librarians and supporters have been successful in a number of positive initiatives, including exempting Friends groups from paying state sales tax on book sales and other fundraising projects. This has resulted in more money available to directly support library services.

Here is a summary of the plans for this year's legislative effort. We hope you participate.

From Roger Carswell, Chair of the Kansas Library Association Governmental Affairs Committee:

At a recent Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) meeting, it was decided not to hold a traditional Legislative Day this year. This is due partly to logistical problems with the Statehouse renovation, the banning of receptions and similar events in the Statehouse this year, and the relocation of the State Library outside the Statehouse proper for the next 2-3 years.

This does not mean that there will be no advocacy efforts. We are encouraging you to invite your local legislators in to a library in their home districts during the week of Nov. 16, and talk to them there about library is-

sues. (Of course, if the suggested week will not work, feel free to schedule the event at a better time). We will supply libraries with materials to help plan such an event, and in many cases the regional library systems can help coordinate these events.

We will also be sending out an alert when dates of budget hearings affecting libraries are held (usually we only have a few days' notice), and encourage those who can attend to do so.

There will also be a "Virtual Legislative Day," on which library supporters will be asked to send an e-mail message to their legislators.

Recognize excellence with a FoKL award or apply for a grant

Do you have a special Friend who is a real winner? How can you recognize that wonderful volunteer who always gives so much time and energy helping make your library a wonderful community asset? Nominate him or her for the Kansas Friends Awards given by the Friends of Kansas Libraries. The individual award is \$50 to the Friends group of his or her choice, and a recognition certificate.

Does your Friends Group make your library stand out? Nominate them for a Kansas Friends Group Award. Four group awards will be given based on the service population of the library. The winners will receive a \$100 cash award, and a framed award certificate.

What about that special project that your group has been talking about but never quite got off the ground due to financial constraints? Apply for a FoKL Challenge Grant and you might be well on your way! Forms and complete details are available on the website at www.fokl.net. Questions?

Please email garnettlibrary@yahoo.com or call Andrea (785) 448-3388.

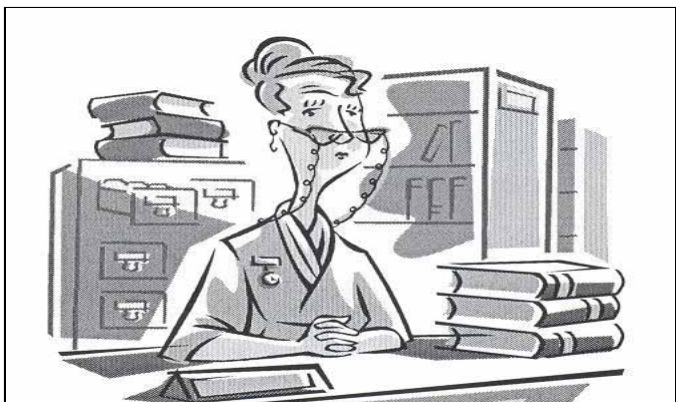


More grant news...

In partnership with Nordstrom, the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), has awarded 10 grants for \$500 each to match \$1,000 raised by selected Friends of the Library groups, women's groups and libraries for purchasing Books for Babies kits from ALTAFF.

A total of 2,075 English kits and 225 Spanish kits will be distributed to parents of newborns through these grants. For a list of the winners [click here](#).

Ask Freeda B. Frank...



by Sue Blechl, Director, Emporia Public Library

Dear Freeda,

Our Friends group has been exceptionally helpful the last few years. It worked hard to get a bond issue passed for a new library and raised extra dollars for furnishings. We are so proud of our Friends. Is there any way FoKL can help to recognize these awesome efforts?

Signed,

Trustees thanking our lucky stars

Dear Trustees,

Your timing is great. You can nominate your Friends group (or an individual) for a FoKL award. We love to honor the organizations and volunteers who help to make our libraries great. A nomination costs you nothing, but shows your appreciation. Only Friends groups that are FoKL members are eligible to receive awards, so you might want to make sure your group's dues have been paid for the 2009-2010 membership year. More information on FoKL dues and awards can be found at www.fokl.net.

Dear Freeda,

Help! We have tons of books for our next book sale. We will need lots of buyers to get rid of them all. How can we get the word out to regional dealers about our great bargains?

Signed,

Overflowing with book donations

Dear Overflowing,

One way to attract dealers is to make sure your sale is listed on www.booksalefinder.com.

Your free listing can attract dealers and shoppers from your area. You can describe any special sales or feature collections of special note. One thing is for sure – it does not hurt to list your sale. You can also check into other sales in your area. You might want to schedule yours at the same time as others, so people will travel to your area for multiple sales. Or you might want to avoid other sale dates, so that you stand out. There is no perfect strategy; your group must decide what's best.

Get your library laughs

By Sue Blechl

Paula Poundstone, national spokesperson for ALTAFF (the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations), will perform in Emporia on Friday, January 15 at 8 p.m. in Albert Taylor Hall in Plumb Hall on the Emporia State University campus.

This is a fundraiser event for the Emporia Arts Council. Tickets are \$30.

The Friends of the Emporia Public Library will sell Paula's books and cds and will receive the proceeds from these items.

Paula's spontaneity and razor-sharp wit have made her one of the most popular panelists on NPR's hilarious weekly news quiz show, *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me*. Paula has had several solo specials on HBO and most recently, BRAVO. She was the first woman to win an ACE (the cable EMMY) for Best Standup Comedy performance and the first woman to be invited to perform at the distinguished White House Correspondents' dinner.



For tickets or information contact the Emporia Arts Council at: 620-343-6473 or info@emporiaksarts.org

For more about ALTAFF:

www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/altaff/index.cfm

For more about Paula:

www.paulapoundstone.com/

The Force was with the book fair

By Gail Fisher

Friends of the Wichita Public Library, in partnership with the Foundation of the Wichita Public Library held its second annual Book Fair at Barnes and Noble in Bradley Fair on Saturday, October 17.

Two of the highlights were the East High jazz band and the state group from the [70th Explorers](#) of Kansas Stormtroopers and the local division of the Mandalorian Mercs. They were a big hit as you can tell by the photos. This group attends charity events to help raise money for libraries or any non-profit. They ring bells for the Salvation Army and help with Toys for Tots and the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, among many other events. It was very cool to have them at our book fair.

We had opera singers, violinists and poetry readings and book talks all to promote [The Big Read](#). We enjoyed all things Edgar Allen Poe. Is that good timing or what?

We raised \$534.06 for new materials, and actually had a donation of 21 books that were on the WPL's Wish List. The donated books' value was \$232.08 for a total of \$768.14. We had lots of fun, and it took very little work on our part besides the scheduling of the program. Giving credit where credit is due, Lea Barnhardt with the Foundation, did a huge amount of the work for us. She is the staff person with the Foundation.

We recommend partnering with others in your community to raise money for your library. This book fair wasn't hard to accomplish and was terrific publicity for Friends and the library both.



Get your groove on...The East High jazz band wowed customers while they shopped.



May the Force be with your book fair...As you can see, Sharon West, member of the Board for the Friends of the Wichita Public Library and Gail Fisher, member of FoKL Executive Board, had a fantastic time. Looks like they have quite the protective detail with them while they work the book fair.



Friends of Kansas Libraries thanks you for your continuing support. Our goal is to have all Friends groups in Kansas be FoKL members! The list below shows Friends groups that are in good standing for the 2009-2010 membership year. If your group is not listed, [click here](#) for our membership form. Send in your dues and join hundreds of groups and individuals in making Kansas libraries strong!

2010 FoKL Libraries, Organizations and Groups

Abilene Free Public Library	Friends of Hays Public Library
Andale District Library	Friends of Haysville Library
Central Kansas Library System	Friends of Hutchinson Public Library
Coffey County Library	Friends of Ida Long Goodman Library
Haysville Community Library	Friends of Independence Public Library
Lane County Library	Friends of Johnson County Library
Manhattan Public Library	Friends of Kingman Library
North Central KS Library System	Friends of Lane County Library
Northeast Kansas Library System	Friends of Lawrence Public Library
Oakley Public Library	Friends of Library District #1
Oskaloosa Public Library	Friends of Library District #2
Oswego Public Library	Friends of Lincoln Carnegie Library
Perry LeCompton Community Library	Friends of Mabee Library (Washburn University)
School Lib Advocacy Group of Wichita	Friends of Manhattan Library Association
Southwest KS Library System	Friends of Morrill Public Library
Stanton County Library	Friends of Newton Public Library
Friends of Abilene Public Library	Friends of Norton Public Library
Friends of Andover Public Lib	Friends of Oakley Library
Friends of Atchison Library	Friends of Osage City Library
Friends of Augusta Public Lib	Friends of Oskaloosa Public Library
Friends of Baldwin City Library	Friends of Overbrook Library
Friends of Bradford Memorial Library	Friends of Park City Library
Friends of Can-Kan Dream Builders	Friends of Pomona Library
Friends of Cheney Public Library	Friends of Topeka & Shawnee Co. Library
Friends of Clay Center Library	Friends of Towanda Public Library
Friends of Douglass Pub Library	Friends of W A Rankin Memorial Library
Friends of Eureka Public Library	Friends of White City Public Library
Friends of Finney Co Public Library	Friends of Wichita Public Library
Friends of Great Bend Public Library	