



MASON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of the Library

225 2nd SE, Mason City, IA 50401
641-421-3668 www.mcpl.org

2011

Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9AM – 8PM
Friday – Saturday: 9AM – 5PM
Sunday: closed

“Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open.”
-Laura Bush

New Library Features New Material

A large Opening Day collection of books and media was part of the grand opening of the remodeled Mason City Public Library in October. Library Director Mary Markwalter said, "We had some funds earmarked to purchase an extensive collection of new books and media for the library opening." Over 2000 new books as well as a large number of audio books and Play Away books (audio books pre-loaded on portable players) were purchased for the opening. Markwalter said about 40 percent of the new books were for children and young adults, and the adult books were about an even split between fiction and non-fiction. In addition, a number of unique books, including a photo book called "Untamed", were purchased from a new book source.

In addition to books and media, the library also purchased several new subscription databases which are available on the library website (www.mpcl.org). One new database, *Footnote.com*, allows you to research your family genealogy, and the *Hobbies and Crafts Reference Center* includes patterns and craft ideas for projects ranging from model building to stamping to needlecrafts and more. These databases join other databases on the library website including *Novel List Plus*, the *Home Improvement Reference Center*, the *Testing & Education Reference Center*, and more. Markwalter said these databases require a fee, but the library has purchased subscriptions so patrons can enter their library card numbers and gain access to a wealth of information at any time.

Additional new library books and media will be added throughout 2011, both on standard orders and by request. Markwalter encouraged library users to request the books they want, as the library wants to make sure they offer the materials North lowans are interested in. "We appreciate suggestions and requests, for both material and programming. We want you to tell us what you want!" Markwalter said.

Cheryl Winter, New Board Addition

I am Cheryl Winter, new member of the Friends of the Library Board. I grew up in Rochester, Minnesota and moved to Mason City in 1980. I taught GED classes at NIACC, worked in the County Attorney office, and was a social worker at the Department of Human Services for over 24 years. I retired last year. I have four grown children and 5 wonderful grandchildren. I have always loved reading and sharing that love with my family, so the library is an important part of our busy lives.

Interview with Nancy Pearson

Have you stopped at **Bestsellers Coffee Cafe??**
Well, try to make it your resolution to do so early in 2011!! Nancy Pearson, owner and chief cook has lived in Mason City all of her life, along with her family. She knows what we like to eat! She worked at different jobs throughout her life but her real love is baking those delicious rolls, muffins, cookies that we all like so much. She will be having another cooler installed soon so there can be MORE cool desserts for us. Other future plans are regular changes in the menu so we won't get bored with her choices. One present change is the dropping of the breakfast menu due to poor attendance (She couldn't open until 9:30 am) Nancy says some of the Library's former taboos had to be overcome for the success of her shop. Do you know what they are??
Well, remember don't TALK in the library because someone is studying: AND don't eat or drink in the library!! Once she convinced people those items were ok in the Commons, they were fine with it

Nancy hopes to do more catering in the future, maybe in the Mason City Room.
I recommend her cupcake for a REAL treat!

-Shirley Smith

Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.

-Lady Bird Johnson

<p>Member of ... <i>Friends of the Library</i> 2011</p> <p>With this payment you will secure membership through December 31, 2011.</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>Please cut this section off as a record of your membership and as a receipt for your tax deductible contribution. Thank you for your support!</p> <p>Invite a friend to join.</p>	<p>Your contribution of \$5 or more will help support 2011 programs and activities of the MCPL!</p> <p>NAME: _____</p> <p>New Member: _____ Renewing Member: _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____</p> <p>PHONE: _____</p> <p>AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION: _____ DATE: _____</p> <p>EMAIL: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial support only <input type="checkbox"/> Financial / Volunteer support</p> <p>Please mail or drop off at 225 Second St. SE, Mason City, IA 50401. THANK YOU! All contributions are tax deductible.</p>
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Friends of the Library Volunteer Opportunities

The Friends of the Library, a non-profit advocacy organization that supports library programs, has several opportunities for volunteers.

Phone Call Coordinator - If you enjoy talking on the phone, the Friends could use your help in contacting members to volunteer for committees and specific tasks. The Phone Call Coordinator will receive a list of member names and phone numbers and will be responsible for calling these members for volunteer opportunities which arise through the year. This is an ongoing position.

Financial Auditor - The Friends would like a volunteer with experience in finance or accounting to review the financial records of the group. This volunteer would review the financial records from the past 2 years, ending this June, and certify that they are correct. This would be a one-time volunteer opportunity.

A NEW YEAR

Have you made your New Year's Resolutions?

Here's a few suggestions:

1. Become a Friend if you aren't already or pay your dues if you have forgotten.
2. Tell someone else about becoming a member, better yet, invite them.
3. Eat, drink, and socialize at Bookseller's in the commons area. You'll be glad you did. Try those cupcakes!
4. Check- out a book, DVD, and/or an audio book.... Or how bout all 3.
5. Say "thanks for a job well done" to our Director, Mary Markwalter, and ALL of the staff.
6. Pre-order your geraniums. THINK SPRING!
7. Keep tuned in to upcoming events at the Library for all ages.
(Possible "old time cartoon movie night in March)

"It's funny that we think of libraries as quiet demure places where we are shushed by dusty, bun-balancing, bespectacled women. The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy and community. Librarians have stood up to the Patriot Act, sat down with noisy toddlers and reached out to illiterate adults. Libraries can never be shushed."

- Comedian and author Paula Poundstone, national spokesperson for Friends of Libraries U.S.A. (FOLUSA)

TIDBITS FROM YESTERYEAR (or not)

1957,

Friend of Libraries entertained for Children's National Book Week. Mr. Frederick F. Manfred, an Iowa born author, was the speaker.

1948

From June to May of 1949, discussion, committees, and plans were made to purchase a Bookmobile. By Nov. 1949, 13,000 books had been distributed.

1948

Dues were raised to 50 cents! Makes the current minimum of \$5.00 an equal extraordinary value!!

More from the "olden days" next time.

Caroyne Braastad, President

Medicine for the soul.

- Inscription over the door of the Library
at Thebes

LET'S MAKE MASON CITY A GERANIUM CITY IN 2011 PRE-ORDER YOUR GERANIUMS.

Avoid the Saturday rush and the possibility of not having your desired color(s). We are taking **prepaid** pre-orders in addition to the one day sale to be held at Southbridge Mall on Saturday, April 30th. Preorder forms are available at the Library's Main Desk... Preorders will be available for pick up -in the Mason City room on Thursday, April 28th, 12-5pm prior to our Saturday sale. A minimum of 5 geraniums will be required on pre-orders

QUESTION ON DONATIONS:

The Membership fee to the Friends of the Library is considered a "donation" for tax purposes. We are a 501 c (3) organization. Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30th. We produce two newsletters annually... one in early spring and one in early fall. Our fiscal year does not impact when your donation can be used for your tax deductions. Your deductions would apply during the **calendar** year you donate. Our minimum donation is \$5.00, however, we are forever grateful to those of you who are so generous by donating far more. The majority of our receipts go directly back to the library in the form of program support and purchase of equipment. We are in the process of evaluating our role with the Library. With the opening of the coffee shop, we will no longer be responsible for the Meet and Greet receptions. We are interested in receiving ideas and suggestions to consider.

Do you know someone who is not receiving our newsletter? To remain an active member of Friends, we must receive a donation at least once every three years. We received numerous returns of our Fall Newsletter and emails because of incorrect addresses. If you know of anyone who did not receive their newsletter, please have them contact us with their correct address.

We can be contacted by leaving a note at the main desk of the library or by emailing smidgeg2@gmail.com. Again, a big thank you for your donations and support of library programs.

Please take a look
At the new **Book Nook**.
Dr. Seuss would be proud
And he'd say it out loud,
"If you have books to give 'way
Bring them today.
Then take one to keep.
Leave some money.
It's cheap."
And the good you will do?
Help the Library--
That's who!

Linda Coddington

The only true equalisers in the world are books; the only treasure-house open to all comers is a library; the only wealth which will not decay is knowledge; the only jewel which you can carry beyond the grave is wisdom.

- J. A. Langford

The **Book Nook** re-sale shop is located in the Commons area and is open Monday through Thursday 9 am to 8 pm and Friday and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. Gently read books are available for all ages and interests. Help yourself and leave a donation (of any size). If you have books you would like to recycle, bring them to the Book Nook. (Receipts for tax purposes are available from the staff at the Commons desk.) All of your donations will help support our library.



Spring Will Come

The patio may be closed, but hot coffee, conversation, and lots of great books (to borrow OR buy) are available in the Commons

