

Library Letter

Friends of the Gulf Gate Library, Inc.

Vol. 29 No. 1

January 20, 2010

A Note from the Friends President

Happy New Year to you! In the New Year, may you have good health and happiness.

The Friends of Gulf Gate Library are looking forward to a wonderful year with lots of great programs and activities. Everyone is welcome to become a member of our Reading Discussion Group. The reading selections and dates of our discussions can be found on a flyer in the Friends Bookstore. The Asolo Players will be returning to our library on January 12 at 2:00 pm. It is a popular performance, so come early to get a good seat. March 31 at 2:00, Charlotte Trautwein with the Earlye Musicke Consort will be here to entertain us. Mark these dates on your calendar. Many of our programs are enhanced by monetary contributions from the Friends. Our funds come from your membership dues and the proceeds from the Friends Bookstore. It is time to join or renew your membership in the Friends for 2010.



Deanie Erb

This past year the Friends were able to contribute \$1500 for Art Workshops for over 650 children, ages preschoolers right up to and including teenagers. It was a big success. The Friends also bought two display cases for the Youth Department and the Reference Area. We also gave our library manager a substantial amount of money to add to our library's book collection.

On December 8, we had a good turnout of Friends for the 2009 Annual Friends Meeting. The members of the board were introduced. John Feagan, the Board Treasurer,

Greetings from the Head Librarian

I want to wish a Happy New Year to all the members of the Friends of Gulf Gate Library. I look forward to working with Deanie and the rest of the board of the Friends of Gulf Gate Library in the coming year to make Gulf Gate the best and friendliest library in Sarasota County. I will also make sure that the Friends of Gulf Gate Library are informed of all matters pertaining to the future of our library as, hopefully, 2010 will be an eventful year.

One change that I want to make sure you are aware of was recently made and impacts not only Gulf Gate Library but all the libraries in Sarasota County. Gulf Gate Library, along with all the other libraries in Sarasota County, continues to be a busy place but we want to be even busier and, to that end, some changes have been made in our lending policies. The Board of County Commissioners approved changes in our library card policy to better serve our non-resident visitors, Snow Birds, who make up a considerable proportion of visitors to Sarasota County Libraries this time of year.

Nonresidents will now be able to pay \$15 for a three-month card, and \$25 for a six-month card. A non-resident yearly card will still be available for \$40. Now all your friends who are with us for only a few months out of the year can enjoy all the services we have to offer here at the library. Be sure and spread the word.

Again, I wish all of you a happy, and prosperous New Year.

Jim

President's Note (continued)

gave a financial report; Cindy Taylor, our Membership Chairman, reported that the Friends membership has increased; and Gulf Gate Library's Manager, Jim Mitchell, gave a promising report on the building of our new Gulf Gate Library. After some refreshments, Andrea Ginsky and Laurie Bates gave an illustrated presentation of Sarasota County's new technology. WOW! The presentation was very impressive and informative. Sarasota County has come a long way in technology. Thank you Andrea and Laurie for showing us all the many useful ways we can use our computers.

I want to welcome our new Board of Directors members, Helen Beggun and Bob Goodell. They will bring talent and knowledge to our active Board. In addition to volunteering in the library, Helen is actively involved in the Humane Society and Bob has spent many years volunteering at the Florida House.

Gulf Gate Library is a great place to visit and spend quality time. Many of the library patrons come on a regular basis to participate in the various activities and programs, to read our variety of publications, to select or reserve books from our extensive collection, and visit the Friends bookstore. Everyone is welcome at Gulf Gate Library.

Happy Reading,

Deanie Erb

President, Friends of Gulf Gate Library



Friends Holiday Party

The Friends of Gulf Gate Library had their annual Holiday Party for the staff and volunteers on December 18. What a feast! There was punch, many different kinds of hors d'oeuvres, Robert's meat balls, Paxton's eggplant parmesan, and Beth and Laurie's cookies. It was a chance for volunteers to meet other volunteers who perhaps work on different days or in different departments and share in the holiday spirit with one another. In spite of the windy, rainy weather, there was a good turnout and everyone had a good time. Marlene Goodman and Sidney Hawkey did a wonderful job preparing for our holiday party.

2009 Friends of the Gulf Gate Library Board

President: Deanie Erb
Vice-President: Dorothy Ann Nathan
Secretary: Kay Karioth
Treasurer: John Feagan

2009 Committees

Bookstore: Deanie Erb & Lois Altman
Gulf Gate Community Association: Larry Anderson
Members Liaison & Special Events:
Marlene Goodman, Anne Balekdjian & Sydney Hawkey
Newsletter: Bruce Burke
Memberships & Tributes: Cindy Taylor & Gretchen Cudini
Legal Adviser: John Feagan
Outreach: Helen Ploss
Publicity: Bill Kupper
New Building Planning: Phil Reiss
Alliance: Kay Karioth & Deanie Erb

Publisher

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Ph. 941-861-1230
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Gulf Gate Library Manager
Jim Mitchell
jmitchell@scgov.net

Sarasota County Library System
On-line Services
Suncat.co.sarasota.fl.us

Sarasota County Librarian
Sarabeth Kalajian
Ph: 941-861-9842
Email: skalajian@scgov.net
Web Site: www.scgov.net

Gulf Gate Library's Special Volunteers

All of Gulf Gate Library's volunteers are special, but I would like to recognize three volunteers and their hard work and dedication which they generously give to GGL.

Helen Carroll

In 1982, Helen joined the Gulf Gate Library volunteers. The library was located in a small storefront in the Gulf Gate Village; their neighbor was Leggetts Drug Store which was also the Village Post Office. In 1983 the present Gulf Gate Library was opened on Curtiss Avenue. Helen says, "We have gone from the card catalogue to a computer system, including all aspects of our service. It has been a wonderful experience volunteering, working with so many lovely people, and making so many friends at Gulf Gate Library. I recommend it."

**Pat Haupt**

Pat and her husband came to Sarasota in 1978 from Ohio. Pat received a BS in Education from Ohio State University. Although she was primarily a minister's wife, she taught music in Kettering, Ohio, and fourth grade in a private school in Springfield. In



Sarasota, Pat played violin in the West Coast Symphony and other local orchestras. She was fond of sailing her Sunfish sailboat and was a Luffing Lassie at the Sarasota Squadron. Pat continues to work at the Circulation Desk at Gulf Gate Library where she began in 1984.

Pat says, "The Gulf Gate Library is a mission to the community. I cherish the friendships I've made with staff members, other volunteers and patrons through the years."

Ann Rennie

In December 2008, Ann retired after having worked steadily for many years. When her husband



was in the library, he saw information about the volunteer program and brought an application home for her. Ann completed the application and called the library and spoke with Linda, the volunteer coordinator. She made an appointment with her and then went through a training session. Ann works many hours every week for the benefit of our library. Ann says, "I have never had so much fun and I look forward to coming to the library to work. The employees are all very helpful and pleasant. I thank Gulf Gate Library for making me feel that I am useful again."

Fall Turnout in the Youth Department

The fall saw the start of the Gulf Gate Art Club which meets monthly and is sponsored by the Friends. A different art media is explored each month with separate sessions for preschoolers, elementary age children, middle and high school age children. In September, the children explored yarn art; in October, they turned their hands to 3 dimensional paper art and made costumes. In November, the children were introduced to Native American art and games. For December, the children used stencils and stamps to create cards and wrapping paper. In January, the club will try their hands at collage with the oldest using stone to make mosaics. This program has reached over 330 children so far and will continue through April.

During the summer, the teens got together to publish a teen literary magazine which they named "Slap". They put in a lot of work and creative energy throughout the fall. They ran contests to get a title as well as the cover artwork for the magazine. They solicited poetry, short stories and essays, as well as artwork which they published with the help of the Friends.



We started our third cycle of Baby Rhyme and Sign this fall and will finish it just after the New Year. BeeBo, the signing bear, has been a popular attraction with our youngest patrons. Almost 1000 people have been introduced to elementary sign language with this program purchased for the library by the Friends. The program meets on Tuesday mornings and consists of songs, books and social time for the children and parents.

The children have been practicing their reading on Wednesday afternoons with pet therapy dogs courtesy of the Humane Society of Sarasota. The dogs had a busy fall with over 550 children reading to them. This is a low stress way of getting children to read.

Friday mornings see us reading stories and introducing children to their alphabets and the themes of preschool. We do fingerplays to reinforce counting skills, theme oriented activities to burn off energy, and a craft associated with the theme and letter.

Saturdays are seeing a lot of activity in the Youth Department. Aside from the Art Club, we also have been offering movies on Saturdays as well as special programming. We have been making an effort to offer a separate session for the teens and 'tweens. The movies for the younger crowd are G rated, with PG rating for the older crowd; parents are allowed. September we celebrated Mexican Independence Day



with 55 people. In November we had Candy and Snack making for the Holidays where the elementary aged children made candies and decorated cookies while the older children decorated gingerbread houses. December saw the children decorating native pine trees with food and nest building materials for the birds. We even had a Hanukkah Celebration for 61 people. This program was facilitated by the Gan Preschool from Temple Sinai. It featured seasonal food, crafts, songs, and stories as well as the lighting of the Menorah ceremony.

We have started an e-mail list of people interested in Youth programming. If you want to get notice of programs just let us know at mguffanti@scgov.net or give us a call at 861-1241. This is especially helpful as some of our programs require pre-registration.

As you can see fall was busy and we look forward to winter and the new year being filled with more children having fun and using the library.

Friends Bookstore


Because of you and your wonderful support, the Friends Bookstore enjoyed a prosperous 2009. We could not have done so without your generosity and the efforts of our 25-30 bookstore volunteers.

All the items in our Friends Bookstore have been donated by our patrons. They know how hard the volunteers work to organize, price, and sell the books in order to make money to pay for many library programs and activities as well as buy necessary items for our library. Our bookstore volunteers are happy to look for the book or author you want, to recommend a book, and if the book is not in stock, we will take your name and phone number and call you if the book is donated. We are there to help you find a good read.

The Bookstore looks forward to having another White Elephant Sale soon. We always appreciate your donations of household items, toys, small gifts, and jewelry, etc. to make our sale successful. It is a fun time for everyone. Once again, all proceeds from the White Elephant Sale go to Gulf Gate Library.


Bookstore volunteer, Dorothy Zrimsek, brings her beautiful note cards every Tuesday afternoon. The cards are very popular, so come to the Bookstore as soon as possible because the cards sell quickly.

Please continue to donate your books which are in good condition, CDs, DVDs, and magazines. Without your generous donations, there would be no Friends Bookstore.




January 2010 Children's Programs
Gulf Gate Library
7112 Curtiss Ave
Sarasota, FL 34231
PH: 861-5000

The Sarasota Library System will be closed Friday, 1/1/09 in observance of New Year's Day and closed on Monday, 1/18/10 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.



Toddler Rhyme & Sign
For children ages 0 - 24 months
Accompanied by a caregiver
(This is a Lap-Sit Program)
Tuesdays from 10:15 - 11:00 AM

JANUARY 2010 PROGRAMS

- 5 "Birthday"
- 12 "Mealtime" 
- 19 "Bedtime"
- 26 "Bath Time"

Preschool Storytime
For children ages 2- 5 years
Every Friday 10:15 - 11:00AM
Children may be accompanied by a parent or caregiver


JANUARY 2010 PROGRAMS

- 8 "A time for change"
- 15 "B is for Bugs"
- 22 "C is for Colors"
- 29 "D is for Dragon"

YOUR FURRY FRIENDS
Our certified pet therapy dogs will be here every Wednesday from 4:00-5:00 PM, starting 1/6/10

The Read to the Dogs programs are presented in partnership with the Humane Society of Sarasota County and are geared for children ages 5 years and up.
Registration begins at 3:45 PM on the day of the program.
Registration begins at 3:45 PM.

Join Us for a Family Celebration for Russian New Year
Saturday January 16, 2009
From 10:30 to Noon
With Russian tales, activities and food.



JOIN US FOR FORTY CARROTS P-I-P!
Partners-in-Play (P-I-P), brought to the Gulf Gate Library by Forty Carrots Family Center. The program is for children ages 0 - 5 and their parent or caregiver.
P-I-P will take place from 10:15 - 11:00AM every Thursday in the meeting room. These programs are free; But limited to the first 12 families.

Reminders

Chess Club meets on 1/2/10
There will be no P-I-P on 1/7/10.

The Art Club meets on 1/9/10. It will be an introduction to the collage technique. There are four sessions of different age. Reservations are required.

The movies will be shown this month on 1/23/10 at 12:30 PM "UP"
At 2:30—GI Joe: the Rise of Cobra

There will be a teen craft workshop on 1/16/10 at 10:30 AM. Call to reserve.

Sarasota County Libraries can be found on the Web at: <http://www.sclibs.net>

Book Discussion Group

The Gulf Gate Library Readers meet the first Thursday of every month at 2:00 PM in the library's meeting room. Everyone is invited to attend our discussions.

The following books have been chosen thus far:

- Jan. 7 The Buffalo Soldier by Chris Bohjalian
- Feb. 4 The Widow's War by Sally Gunning
- Mar. 4 The Third Angel by Alice Hoffman
- Apr. 1 Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay
- May 6 Tallgrass by Sandra Dallas
- June 3 Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout
- July 1 America, America by Ethan Canin

The books are available in the Sarasota County Library system. For more information, call Deanie Erb at 922-6304.



Join the Gulf Gate Library Art Club

January 9, 2010
February 13
March 13

10:15 - 11:00 ages 4 to 6 ----
11:15 - 12:45 ages 7 to 10 ----
1:15 - 2:45 ages 7 to 10 ----
3:15 - 4:45 ages 11 to 18

This FREE art club meets every month on Saturday. The students will explore a different art medium each month. The classes will be taught by Michelle Moss of Sheldon Arts. Space is limited. Please call and let us know the name and age of the young artist.
Reserve now.

Gulf Gate Library
7112 Curtiss Ave
Sarasota, FL 34231
941-861-1241

Sponsored by the Friends of Gulf Gate Library

Chuck Loring Workshop

On December 4, 2009, three members of GG Friends Board of Directors, Deanie Erb, Kay Karioth, and Helen Beggun, together with Library Manager, Jim Mitchell, attended a workshop sponsored by the Gulf Coast Community Foundation and the Sarasota County Library System. This dynamic workshop was presented by Chuck Loring, a senior governance consultant for BoardSource, who spoke to the critical activities that boards need to address in order to remain viable in today's turbulent economy. It stressed the importance of leadership and the link between good governance and effective, well-run organizations.



Workshop Leader, Chuck Loring, Jim Mitchell, Kay Karioth, Helen Beggun, and Deanie Erb



Marlene Goodman, Deanie Erb, Andrea Ginsky, and Lauri Bates at the Friends' Annual Meeting

Gulf Gate Library Friends Welcome Two New Members to the Board of Directors

Helen Beggun

Helen Beggun is eager to begin her term on the Board of Directors as Assistant Treasurer and on marketing initiatives with the President of the Board. Helen brings to her new role a lifelong passion for reading and libraries, a career as a manager with the US Environmental Protection Agency, and hands-on experience in establishing the Friends of the Osprey Library. As a member of the Alliance of Friends in Sarasota County, she has worked on collaborative projects with other Friends groups that benefited both individual libraries and the library system overall. One successful program resulted in grants for over 4000 take-home books for the 2009 Summer Reading Program.

In addition to libraries, Helen volunteers with the Humane Society of Sarasota and takes classes to improve her skills in helping shelter dogs become adoptable. Helen says, "Books and pets are a winning combination."

Bob Goodell

Bob Goodell is a Structural Engineer and his work has consisted of the structural design of buildings and bridges in all of the New England states, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Grand Bahamas, and Bermuda. Bob says, "My office designed everything from a public outhouse to a 20-story housing building for the elderly." In 2000, after 43 years of practice, Bob and his wife Georgia retired and moved to Sarasota.

Bob serves on the County Board of Building Code Appeals and volunteers as Master Conservationist at the Florida House. As a member of the Friends Board, Bob hopes to be of assistance during the planning and building of our new Gulf Gate Library since he participated in the design and construction of seven libraries during his professional career.

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Advocacy

Kay Karioth and Deanie Erb were part of the Advocacy Team for the Sarasota County Library System Friends' Alliance. Members of the team visited all State Legislators on behalf of the SC Library System prior to the start of the 2010 Legislative Session.

Tributes and Memorials

Remembering K. George Balekdjian

The Gulf Gate Library Friends and staff were deeply saddened by the death of our beloved and dedicated George Balekdjian on October 15, 2009. For many years George was Treasurer of the Friends Board and he gave much time and effort to this position. He will be remembered for his intelligence, friendliness, and his unbridled enthusiasm for life. George will truly be missed. He is survived by his wife Anne who has also given many years of volunteer service to our library. A memorial service was held on November 6 at the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Membership

As of January 12, 2010, we have 432 names on the master Friends list. A report on actual monies received will be put in all Board Members files as soon as Cindy returns.

NOTE: We will need volunteers for a "mailing party" to prepare the membership renewal letter approximately the week of Jan 26th. Thank you in advance for your help.

Gretchen Cudini & Cindy Taylor

Membership Co-Chairs

Upcoming Events

February 3 @ 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Eve Plews of Full Spectrum will discuss "How To Get Past 85" with the help of attitude, nutrition, exercise and diet.

March 31, @ 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Charlotte Trautwein presents "The Early Musicke Consort" A presentation of 1800 & 1900 Century Easter music.

April 7 @ 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Robert Carlson, Ed. D. University of Rochester, Exec. Director of Pierian Spring Academy, Prof. Emeritus Univ. of Vermont, will speak on Afghanistan & Pakistan.

April 29 @ 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Carol Boehmke, volunteer and Friend of Gulf Gate Library, former art teacher will speak on "Gems of Impressionism"

If any reader has a specific subject and feel it would be of interest to others please let me know. Simply leave your request at the Bookstore, Attn. Outreach Director

Become a Friend of Gulf Gate Library

NAME		PHONE	
ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	EMAIL

I would like to join the Friends of the Gulf Gate Library

\$250 Patron

\$100 Underwriter

\$50 Director

\$30 Subscriber

\$15 Member

I would like to volunteer:

Reserve Books

Shelve Books

Mend Books

Adopt-a-shelf

Help in Children's & Youth Area

Other special interest: _____

I would like to make a Memorial or Tribute:

<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of:	NAME
<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of:	NAME
AMOUNT	OCCASION
SEND NOTICE OF TRIBUTE TO:	
ADDRESS	

Please enclose your check with this form and mail to: Friends of Gulf Gate Library, P.O. Box 19017, Sarasota, FL 34276-2017

Note From the Friends Treasurer
Your Support Makes a Difference for Gulf Gate Library

As Treasurer for the Friends of Gulf Gate library, it is my privilege to oversee costs and expenditures associated with the various activities the Friends perform and/or fund for the patrons of Gulf Gate Library. It is also my job to help assure that funds which the Friends raise are expended in a manner that is maximally beneficial to the library and its patrons. Regarding our activities, perhaps not all library patrons realize that the excellent used bookstore inside the library is operated exclusively by the Friends. Judging from the level of sales, it is clear that the bookstore is a very popular benefit for the patrons of the library, and the Friends endeavor to offer quality books, magazines, and other items at very modest prices. The Friends also use money that is raised for a wide range of library activities and needs that are not funded through County budgets. We are proud to be able to fund opportunities for both children and adults, including reading programs and an extensive array of interesting guest speakers. It is also our privilege to make substantial contributions to the library's efforts to maintain the exten-

sive and up to date collections of books and other materials which help Gulf Gate Library to maintain its status as a vital community asset. Needless to say, the Friends are only able to do these things as a result of the financial support we receive from our members and other generous benefactors. I must take the opportunity to offer my very sincere thanks to everyone who supports our activities, and to invite those who have not yet joined to become a member of the Friends of Gulf Gate Library. Thank you all.

John M. Feagan

Library Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed	10 to 8
Thurs, Fri, Sat	10 to 5
Sun	Closed