

Friends of the Albuquerque Public Library
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Between Friends

The Public Library Albuquerque and Bernalillo County

FALL 2017

Greetings from the Board

Fall is on its way – the temperature is dropping and the leaves are turning. As we reach the end of the year, our thoughts turn to the future and assessing the past. I am pleased to tell you that in the past fiscal year, the Friends contributed over \$110,000 to library programming. Thank you for being a member and for shopping with us!

As we approach the holidays, keep in mind our November two-day sale. Remember we sell our like-new books on Saturday and sell our surplus at \$5/bag on Sunday. Hope to see you there on November 11 and 12 – come the 11th to stock up on Christmas presents! Don't forget about the book shop – it is always a great source of like-new books and gifts.

After our big sale, we will be preparing for our Volunteer Christmas Dinner, where we host a dinner for all the volunteers who review, sort, price, move, sell, and move again all the books that bring in our income. It's the only time all year we are together in one place, and is a party the long-term staff have come to love, where we can relax and simply enjoy each other's company.

Another of our year-end activities is membership renewal. You'll be receiving that with this newsletter, so please take a few minutes to return that to us – your membership helps us support our libraries!

Finally, we were so saddened to hear of the tragic events at the Clovis Library. Though no actions can fully heal the hurt, we did send \$1000 from the Friends to the Clovis-Carver Library Legacy Fund. Our hearts go out to the victims' families, and we hope the donation in some way helps the Clovis community to heal.

Thank you for all you do, and a reminder, we do have volunteer opportunities outside managing the flow of books. We are looking for members to help brainstorm and/or plan for our 2019 50th anniversary, we would still love to find a member willing to help us with marketing efforts, and we have various other committees working on building our organization and membership. If you are interested, please contact me at president@friendsforthelibrary.org.



Thank you and have a happy holiday season!

Susan Hurley

president@friendsforthelibrary.org



From the Director

The Public Library is initiating a program with Albuquerque Public Schools to get a Public Library card in every student's hands. We will start with a small pilot that works with 3rd graders in four to eight elementary schools. Superintendent Reedy and the School Board are very excited about this project and are all enthusiastic Library supporters and users. One of the Board members even knew the name of one of the more famous canines involved in our Read to the Dog programs!

The theme of Summer Reading this year was, "Build a Better World." It was a great success with 16,000 participating in the eight week program. We also held over 322 workshops, concerts and other cultural programs in those eight summer weeks, with over 11,000 citizens attending and enjoying them. Last year, the Library presented over 5,000 programs with over 76,000 citizens participating.

Most of Summer Reading and our yearlong programs are only possible with the help of funds raised by the Friends through the sale of all those book donations made to the Library.

Thank you for all that you do for your Public Library!

Dean Smith, Library Director

Christopher Deminsky: Putting Down Roots in a New Town



Christopher Deminsky has been drawn to books since he was a boy in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, birthplace of Georgia O'Keefe. He was encouraged by yearly participation in the local library's Summer Reading Program, where he took a pledge to read a given number of books by summer's end. By 10 or 11, Chris was taken with biographies, working his way through a book series on the U.S. presidents and later, a Napoleonic phase. Since then, he has moved on to enjoy literary fiction such as Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*, which in turn led him to *Moby Dick*, McCarthy's favorite book.

Christopher and his husband moved to Albuquerque from Seattle in 2014. Since theirs is a one-car family, Christopher looked for volunteer opportunities reachable by bike, bus or shanks' mare. After some back and forth with Friends Coordinator Melissa Carlisle, he began working weekly in the Friends Bookshop (plus subbing for others). In addition, he helps with the preparation for the monthly book sales. In the bookshop, Christopher has regular customers and "great conversations," observing that though Albuquerque has its challenges, "people are people."

Although Seattle and Albuquerque are markedly different, Christopher has come to love the Duke City which though "not necessarily as beautiful as Seattle" he finds to be full of friendly, outgoing, and approachable people. He is becoming a musician, developing his skill on the guitar, which he has been playing since the 7th Grade. He performed this year in a Musical Theater Southwest production of "Evita," and also enjoys playing with the Gay Men's Chorus as well as the Zia Singers.

His advice to those Friends considering volunteering: "You should! It's great!"

—Tamara Coombs

Triple Gift Giving

If you've ever been to the November book sale before, nobody has to tell you the sale's like-new book bargains make excellent gifts at incredible prices. But there's always an issue. Your next door neighbor, the one who mowed your grass this summer, loves mysteries, but you're not sure which one to get. Or your spouse is really into football, but owns everything ever printed about the Arizona Cardinals. Well, no problem.

How about buying them a year's membership to the Friends for the Public Library? They'll receive free entry into the book sales, and better yet, ten-percent off all books purchased at the FPL book store. The bookstore sells books published in the last five years, presenting the opportunity to find a recently published mystery or football treasure.

Finally, there's a potential treat for you. If you are up in age and have a fund that obliges you to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), you can ask your financial service (Schwab, Fidelity, or the like) to make out a check to the FPL in your name. If the service does it, 100% of the contribution can be taken off your income tax. Sad to say, if you personally make out the check, not all of it will be tax deductible. Needless to say, speak to your financial representative about the particulars so you can enjoy your own gift come April 15.

— Norma Klein



2017 HOLIDAY BOOK SALE

**Saturday, November 11
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Admission: \$2

Kids and members free
Free to all after 1 p.m.

**Sunday, November 12
Noon – 4 p.m.**

Free Admission

All items \$5-a-bag

Main Library

501 Copper NW

2 hour validated parking is
available kitty-corner to the library

Info: (505) 768-5167 or
www.friendsforthelibrary.org

For the best used book bargains in Albuquerque, don't miss our big two-day sale in November.

Saturday's sale will offer a large selection of "like-new" books in many categories including Art, Southwest, History, Biography, Cooking, Crafts, Children's, Graphic Novels, Gift Books, and much more. We will also feature holiday-themed books and media for both children and adults. Most books are priced at 80-90% off cover price, and music CDs and DVD movies are only \$1 each.

Our semi-annual clearance sale on Sunday will offer all items for just \$5-a-bag. There is no limit, and bags are provided. (Please note that like-new, holiday-themed items, and select media will NOT be available on Sunday.)

Proceeds benefit the Albuquerque and Bernalillo County Public Library

Don't worry, when you have more books than you can carry, we provide a book hold area for your convenience, and when you're ready to check out we provide carry out help free of charge.



**Library Programs funded by
The Friends for the Public
Library**

Summer Reading
Program

Read to
the Dogs

