



WINDOWS

E-News & Views
from Friends of the Selby Public Library

Sarasota, March 1, 2010

The Fundraising Gala "Cocktails by the Book" was definitely "One for the Books"



Phyllis Werber, Friends Board Member & Event Chair is pictured left next to (L-R) Board members Charlotte Ryan, President Jeanne Brown, Nina Belott, Barbara Geldbart, and Sue Brady. (Photo by Aimee Chouinard)

FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends,

Here we are already well into the 21st century but, despite the amazing technological changes and challenges today, I still feel stuck in the 1990's. Fortunately, Selby Library is striving to make this year a "perfect 2010".

The Friends began the year with a successful "Cocktails by the Book" fundraising gala in January: over 160 attendees danced, wined and dined in the beautifully decorated Library. "Ohs" and "ahs" echoed throughout the evening and guests encouraged the Friends to do it again next year.

Check the Library's monthly calendars at the information desk. The Friends sponsor many favorite events including Books & Coffee, the popular John

Goodman musical programs, philosophical conversations at the Socrates Café, chats with authors, lectures, audiovisual presentations and an array of youth activities.

“Paint the Town Read”, a celebration of book clubs and reading, is scheduled for March 6th. Members of all book clubs in Sarasota County from 11:00 AM through 3:00 PM can meet authors, nosh, enjoy theatrical presentations, engage in conversations with other members and swap books. There will be a membership table where all will be encouraged to join up and take advantage of becoming a Selby Friend Member and take advantage of the 10% discount on Bookstore purchases provided to all Selby Friends Members. Everyone can also enjoy the one-day sale in the Friends Bookstore in celebration of the event.

Our Bookstore is fabulous—great bargains in every category and open seven days a week where donations of “once-loved books” are always welcome for re-sale. We offer free courier service if you have cartons of books to be picked up. **For information please call 861-1140 or email us at selbyfriends@comcast.net.**

Two new Friends ventures are in the final planning stages. Our Speakers Bureau will be available for meetings of civic organizations, and we will have books for sale at the Sarasota Farmers’ Market on select Saturdays. Visit the Friends website www.selbylibraryfriends.org for updates about the Friends, Bookstore sales, and what is happening at the Library.

Thank you, all Friends Members, for your membership donations, book donations and support. Meanwhile, drop into our Bookstore and say “hello”. You are always welcome.

Jeanne Brown
Jeanne Brown, President



ONE DAY BOOK SALE! March 6th in the Selby Friends Bookstore



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BOOK SALE! RARE/COLLECTIBLE & OTHER SELECT GENRES
March 23rd in the Selby Friends Bookstore & Jack J. Geldbart Auditorium

FROM the desk of LIZ NOLAN, LIBRARY MANAGER:

We are in the midst of an exciting project to refresh and refashion the Selby Library. Staff and architects are currently in the design planning stage and once the design is completed the remaining project timeline will be determined.

We look forward to brightening up the place with new paint and carpet and other lovely things. Over the last eleven years, Selby's staff has been reduced by 50%, so we'll move the furniture, shelving, and computers into more logical spaces to make

things better for customers and staff alike. Just as importantly, we will see improved energy efficiency thanks to an upgrade of the air-conditioning and lighting systems.

The main source of funding for the renovation comes from Sarasota County's One Cent Sales Tax Program. However, the project's budget will cover only basic improvements. For enhancements such as an expansion of the Children's Library, the creation of a dynamic new Teen Center and the construction of a grand new Friends of the Library Bookstore, the Library team must look to the community for support.

Due to the nature of the project, it has been proposed to close the Library for two or more months to expedite the renovation and to use existing resources most effectively. Closing the Library would also provide significant cost savings. If that action is chosen, there would be further discussion about opening a modest storefront service point. An alternative to closing would be to continue operations with some areas having restricted access, but this course of action would increase the length and expense of the project. County Administration and the Board of County Commissioners will all be consulted before a final decision is made.

Friends of the Selby Public Library are actively engaged as partners in the Library renovation project. They are working with Library staff to consider potential donors and plan the communication strategy that will follow. These fundraising activities will continue for the duration of the project and beyond.

The role of the public library is changing into that of a dynamic community anchor, providing for educational and cultural enrichment and also supporting the skills required for everyday life. Healthy, thriving communities recognize that while everyone may not be a library user, a vibrant public library brings value to the place where people live, work, and play.

With your help in making the vision a reality, the Selby Library team can make an even greater contribution to the community through their efforts to help build strong children, teens, and families, to promote literacy for living through lifelong learning, and to encourage participation in community conversations through civic engagement. With your help, we can help a good library become a great library.

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FOR DONATIONS, INFORMATION, PROGRAMS, & MORE UPDATES visit
www.selbylibraryfriends.org

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