I am delighted to report that the Friends have enjoyed another successful year! The Friends increased both their healthy cash balance in 2003-2004 and their total assets, while continuing to support the UWM Libraries and their programs, such as the Holzheimer Maps and America lecture series and Book FOR[u]MS. The Friends also offered a program of our own, in conjunction with our annual meeting, “Four Voices: UWM Writers Read From Their Recent Work.” Our co-sponsorship of the Libraries’ Golda Meir commemoration in December included a special drawing for a New York theater package (special thanks to Board member Robert Meldman for putting the package together). We again provided support for Libraries staff to attend workshops and conferences that enhance their professional development.

The Friends accomplished a great deal during the past year. Significant steps were taken toward increasing support of the Libraries. We met with a fundraising consultant, who is assisting the Libraries in preparing for the UWM comprehensive capital campaign. We also developed the idea of a Legacy Society, an extension of the Friends, as a way to provide ongoing major support for the Libraries. We entered the third year of the Inside Inscriptions fundraising program, whereby bookplates with the names of honorees are placed inside new books for the UWM Libraries; this program has raised over $1,600 so far. We underwrote the Libraries 2003 Outstanding Staff Awards and contributed to the efforts to preserve the WTMJ-TV News Film Collection.

In October and April we held successful book sales on behalf of the Library. And at the recent Friends Annual meeting, held May 20, the Friends re-elected Vice-President Patricia Van Alyea and Board members John Koethe and Donn Haglund, and elected Deborah Gardner Conta as Secretary and Scott Enk, Suzy Ettinger, and Gwenn Plunkett to the Board; we appreciate their participation.

The coming year offers many challenges and opportunities. Among the latter is the chance to work with UWM’s new chancellor, Carlos Santiago, who has already stressed the importance of the Libraries within the UWM community. In this time of tightened budgets, increased support by the Friends is integral to maintaining the UWM Libraries’ excellence. The Board welcomes your involvement in the organization, as well as your support. If you would like to become involved with the Friends, contact me or one of the other Board members. Thank you for your support.

Bruce Fetter

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Friends’ annual business meeting and program took place on May 20. Outgoing board members Lois Blinkhorn, Timothy Sheehan, and Albert Adelman were honored with emeritus status and a certificate of appreciation, presented by Friends’ president Bruce Fetter.

For the Friends’ annual program, four UWM writers read from their recent works: John Koethe, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and a former Milwaukee poet laureate, offered new poetry; Sheila Roberts, Professor of English, read a new short story, “An Execution Postponed;” Marilyn Taylor, Adjunct Assistant Professor of English and current Milwaukee poet laureate, recited poems from her new book Subject to Change; and Gordon Weaver, Adjunct Professor of English, read from his new book Last Stands.
FORMER BOARD MEMBER PUBLISHES BOOK

Emeritus Friends Board member Albert “Ollie” Adelman has published a memoir All Things Are Possible, in which he shares his guidelines for achievement and writes that anyone can live a happier, more prosperous life using his simple concepts.

Adelman, a local business and civic leader, says he learned the basic principles of accomplishment as a college athlete (he was an All-American quarterback at Northwestern).

Employing his philosophy of courage, persistence, creativity and desire, Adelman transformed his father’s small Milwaukee laundry into the largest family laundry and dry-cleaners in the U.S. He convinced Frank Lloyd Wright to design his family’s house. And as a civic leader, he was invited to dinner at the White House, was granted a personal visit by Pope John XXIII, and became the National Chair of the United Jewish Appeal.

All Things Are Possible is available at all Schwartz bookstores and the Borders bookstore in Fox Point.

FRIENDS’ DRAWING WINNER ANNOUNCED

Michael Cleary, a new Friend of the Golda Meir Library, won the drawing for a New York Theater package, offered by the Friends in conjunction with the Libraries’ Golda Meir 25th anniversary commemorative event in December.

The package—donated by Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren S.C., Attorneys at Law, Smith Travel Services, and A B Data—included two tickets to the acclaimed Broadway production of Golda’s Balcony and a back stage visit with its star, Tovah Feldshuh; round-trip airline tickets to New York City; and overnight accommodations.

Because Mr. Cleary and his wife were unable to use the theater tickets, a second drawing was held at the Friends Annual meeting. Steven Powers won the tickets and reported that he and his guest “were amazed by the play. [Tovah Feldshuh’s] performance, and the chance to talk with her.”

The December 10th commemoration, co-sponsored by the Friends, included a keynote address by the Director of the Golda Meir Memorial Association in Israel, Meron Medzini, as well as an introduction from Israeli Consul General Moshe Ram and a video created by UWM lecturer Linda Mistele. An exhibit Behold Golda!, curated by Mistele, accompanied the event. Dr. Medzini’s keynote address may be accessed at http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/arch/digital/uwmmiss21/index.htm.

MILWAUKEE’S IRISH HERITAGE FEATURED

"Irish Milwaukee" was the subject of the UWM Libraries Archives’ third Revisiting Our Past local history lecture, sponsored in part by the Friends of the Library. Martin Hintz, author of Irish Milwaukee, recently published by Arcadia Press, presented the talk on August 12.

Using images from area archives, Hintz described early Milwaukee and the arrival of immigrants, contributions that the Irish made to the city, the disaster that befell the community with the sinking of the Lady Elgin, and prominent individuals in the community, including those with UWM ties.

His talk ended with an account of the establishment of Milwaukee Irish Fest, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary next year. Hintz is currently working on a book that will mark that event.

BOOK SALES PROFITS UP 50%

Last year’s Friends’ used book sales raised more than $9,300, up 50% from the previous year’s proceeds. A new and popular addition to the event—the “teaser” table in the entrance lobby—helped boost interest. Thanks to all the Friends who volunteered their time, and especially to the Friends’ Programs Committee.

The next Friends used book sale will be October 18-20. If you would like to donate books for the sale, please contact Janet Padway at 229-6458. If you would like to volunteer to assist at the book sale, please email Deborah Conta at deborah@dconta.com.

FRIENDS HONOR SECURITY GUARD’S ROLE IN ARRESTS

At their annual meeting, the Friends honored Doug Kirkman, a student library security guard who assisted in the capture of two arsonists at UWM.

Last fall, a number of small fires were being set around the UWM campus, including several in Mitchell Hall.

On December 4, after Doug had asked two disruptive young women to leave the library, he smelled something burning and discovered several burned matches and a half-burned matchbook cover. Doug’s report and thorough description of the young women led to their arrest.

Friends president Bruce Fetter presented Doug with a certificate and $100.
HOLZHEIMER LECTURE

David Rumsey, president of Cartography Associates, director of Luna Imaging Incorporated, and avid map collector, gave the 15th annual Maps & America lecture March 30 in the American Geographical Society Library. The lecture was sponsored by Arthur and Janet Holzheimer and co-sponsored by the Friends of the Golda Meir Library.

Over 150 members of the UWM community and the general public attended Rumsey’s lecture about his project digitizing a portion of his extensive private map collection and the resulting web site. The site, David Rumsey Historical Map Collection at www.davidrumsey.com, contains over 10,000 high-resolution images of maps from his collection. Rumsey’s collection, with more than 150,000 maps, is one of the largest private map collections in the United States.

His web site is free to the public and has received numerous Web awards, and in June 2002, he received an Honors Award from the Special Libraries Association for making his private map collection available to the public via the Internet.

Before the lecture, UWM Provost John Wanat, Libraries Director Ewa Barczyk, and AGSL Curator Chris Baruth presented a gift to the Holzheimers, thanking them for 15 years of sponsoring the lecture series.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I have had the pleasure of working very closely with the officers of the Board of the Friends of the Library during this past year in my role as Interim Director of the UWM Libraries and I have been impressed by the Board’s enthusiasm and generosity in supporting numerous activities in the Libraries. In particular, I wish to thank the Friends for their vigorous support of our Golda Meir commemoration this past December. They also underwrote the Libraries’ employee recognition awards, which was greatly appreciated by the entire staff. The Friends continued their financial support for numerous events—including UWM Academic Adventurers, the Fromkin Lecture, the Book FOR(u)M series, and the Holzheimer Maps & America Lecture—and are doing so again this coming year (please see calendar); I hope you will join us at some of them.

The Libraries continued their strong growth during the 2003-2004 academic year. Highlights included:

• Creation of a digital collection, Milwaukee ‘Neighborhoods: Photos and Maps 1885-1992;

• Securing of National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant for one-year fellow in Archives to assist with preservation and promotion of WTMJ-TV News Film Collection;

• Staff member Christel Maass’ publication of Illuminating the Particular: Photographs of Milwaukee’s Polish South Side, with images drawn from a large photograph collection held by the Libraries;

• Important acquisitions, including a rare copy of Edmund Spenser’s 1633 Dublin publication A View of the State of Ireland, made possible with a donation by Mary Donald; Emeritus Professor of Geography and Friends’ Board member Donn Haglund’s research collection, with its heavy emphasis on the Arctic; and the personal book collection of Milwaukee civic leader Frank “Jack” Pelisek, donated by his widow, Jill G. Pelisek;

• Participation in LibQUAL+, a national user satisfaction survey;

• Securing of National Endowment for the Humanities grant to support a preservation assessment of the American Geographical Society Library’s rare materials collections;

• One-time campus funding of $500,000 for enhancing collections and additional funding for a gathering place/café.

Ewa Barczyk
Interim Director of Libraries

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY

Sept. 28, 2004, 7 p.m.
Book FOR(u)Ms Book Artist Speaker Series
Susan King, book artist, photographer, and proprietor of Paradise Press. Held in Special Collections, 4th floor.

Oct. 15, 2004, 3 p.m.
UWM’s Academic Adventurers
David Buck, Emeritus Professor of History, “Yunan Stories.” Held in the American Geographical Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

Oct. 18-20, 2004
Friends Fall Used Book Sale
Open only to UWM students with valid ID, Oct 18 3-6 p.m. Open to the public, Oct. 19 and Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Oct. 21, 2004, 4:30 p.m.

Oct. 24, 2004, 2 p.m.
The Architecture and Heritage of the Synagogue: From the Old World to the New
Samuel D. Gruber, Director of the Jewish Heritage Research Center, Syracuse, NY. Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Oct. 29, 2004, 2 p.m.
Mordecai Lee, UWM Dept. of Governmental Affairs. Held in Room E281, 2nd floor, east wing.

Nov. 11, 2004, 3:30 p.m.
UWM Authors Recognition Ceremony
Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Nov. 16, 2004, 7 p.m.
Book FOR(u)Ms Book Artist Speaker Series

Dec. 10, 2004, 3 p.m.
UWM’s Academic Adventurers
John Isbell, Geosciences Dept., talks about his experiences in the Arctic. Held in the American Geographical Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.
NEW GATHERING PLACE
An area on the first floor of the Golda Meir Library's East wing has been transformed to create a comfortable gathering place for students, faculty, and community library users. Offering wireless access to the internet, comfortable seating, and a casual atmosphere, the new space will open in late September. The UWM Union will provide café service, featuring a variety of coffee drinks made with Alterra coffees, as well as juices and fresh baked goods.

INSIDE INSCRIPTIONS
Commemorative Bookplates
The Friends of the GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY

For more information, visit http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/Friends

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