It has been a remarkable year for the Friends and our mission to support and promote the UWM Libraries. A Friends’ task force, led by board member Marianne Lubar, helped raise the private financial support needed for the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons project to move forward this fall. This exciting renovation, designed by the award-winning Kubala Washatko Architects, Inc., will transform the Golda Meir Library’s west wing first floor into an attractive, flexible, and technology-rich learning space, truly enhancing student success.

Other Friends’ successes included a fall trip to Chicago for a special curator-led tour of “Maps: Finding Our Place in the World.” This wonderful exhibit at the Field Museum showcased three maps owned by the American Geographical Society Library along with many other cartographic treasures from around the globe. We also visited the Newberry Library where a fourth AGS Library map was on view.

In February, the Friends presented our second annual book signing/cooking demonstration. Milwaukee author Paul Salsini spoke about his book, The Cielo: A Novel of Wartime Tuscany, and chef-instructors Elissa Franke and Simmetta Palazio offered a demonstration of Tuscan cooking, as well as delicious samples. And in May, we co-sponsored the Holzheimer “Maps and America” lecture as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the AGS Library’s move to Milwaukee. More than 150 people attended this event, which received some very nice coverage in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

Financially, we have done well too. Our cash balance increased, and we were again able to help support many of the Libraries’ excellent programs, including the Morris Fromkin Memorial Lecture, Revisiting Our Past local history lecture, and UWM’s Academic Adventurers series. We also contributed funding for staff development.

As has been the case for the last five years, our fall and spring used book sales each raised more than $6,000 for the acquisition of new materials for the UWM Libraries. I want to thank Board members Deborah Conia and Nancy Laskin for organizing the sales, and all the Friends members who volunteered to staff them.

This spring we initiated a campaign to recruit new members, with a focus on our campus neighbors, and designed a handsome new membership brochure. And we have expanded the ways to join or renew: we now offer easy e-payment via our website at www.libraryfriends.uwm.edu.

The coming months promise to be busy ones for the Libraries and the Friends. We will be planning new programs and events and promoting the new Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. The Board welcomes your involvement in the organization, as well as your support. If you would like to become involved with the Friends, please contact me or the Libraries Development Director, Susan Modder (414-229-3293).

Thank you.

Pat Van Alyea
Pat2344@sbcglobal.net

Friends Support New Learning Commons

Thanks to the efforts of the Friends Board members who worked together on the Library Renovation Task Force, construction of the new Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons will move forward as envisioned, with the first phase of the project slated to begin late this fall. The Task Force, which surpassed its fundraising goal, included Marianne Lubar (Chair), Betty Bostrom, Larry Compton, Suzy Ettinger, Sarah Kimball, Bob Meldman, George Mosher, Jill Pelisek, Bob Pietrykowski, and Pat Van Alyea.

The entire Friends Board contributed to the renovation fund raising campaign. For more information about the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, visit www.uwm.edu/Libraries/renovation/.

Artist’s rendering of main desk in Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. Copyright: The Kubala Washatko Architects, Inc.
In support of the 30th anniversary of the American Geographical Society Library’s transfer from New York City to Milwaukee, the Friends co-sponsored one of the celebratory events, the Holzheimer “Maps and America” lecture, as their annual summer program. A standing-room-only crowd heard speakers Alistair Pearson, University of Portsmouth (UK) and Michael Heffernan, University of Nottingham (UK) present “Ordering the South: The Mapping of Hispanic America by the American Geographical Society.”

Pearson and Heffernan discussed the history of the Society and how that bore upon the creation of the 1.1 million Hispanic America map, a monumental undertaking and one of the greatest achievements in twentieth century cartography. The difficulties facing the map makers were many, not the least their dependence on a number of conflicting and often inaccurate earlier maps. The AGS map took over twenty years to create and when it was completed in 1945, it instantly became the standard until systematic aerial photography and advanced compilation technology gradually eradicated the uncertainties inherent in the earlier techniques.

At the Friends Annual Business Meeting, which preceded the lecture, the Friends re-elected Pat Van Alyea as President, and Deborah Costa as Secretary. Suzy Ettinger and Gwen Plunkett were re-elected to four-year terms on the Board. Anthony Asmuth and Denise Elfe were elected to four-year terms on the Board.

Outgoing Board members Donna Haglund and John Koethe were honored with certificates of appreciation and thanked for their service. They each received emeritus status on the Board for 2008-09.

In what is becoming a popular tradition, the Friends sponsored a themed author appearance and cooking demonstration in February, this year featuring Tuscany. Local writer Paul Salsini spoke about his book *The Cielo: A Novel of Wartime Tuscany*, and chef-instructors Elissa Franke and Simonetta Palazio offered a demonstration of Tuscan cooking.

Salsini, a reporter and editor at *The Milwaukee Journal* for 37 years, shared the background to his novel and stories of his travels in the region. Franke and Palazio, instructors at the Tuscan cooking school Tatti a Tavola, prepared a meal that included a mortadella appetizer, prosciutto and béchamel lasagna, and gelato with citrus sauce. After the cooking demonstration, audience members sampled the delicious fare and Salsini signed copies of his book.

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**Fall 2008 Used Book Sale**

The dates for the Friends used book sale this fall are Sept. 22-24. On Monday, Sept. 22, the sale is open to UWM students, faculty, and staff only, from noon to 6 p.m. On Tuesday, Sept. 23 and Wednesday, Sept. 24, the sale is open to the public, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Nancy Laskin, Friends Book Sale volunteer coordinator, at 414-273-6727.

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**Friends Board at the Annual Business Meeting**

Friends Board members at the May 30, 2008 Annual Business Meeting:

Standing, from left, are Deborah Costa, Marianne Labar, Betty Bostrom, Gwen Plunkett, Robert Meldman, Ewa Barczyk (Libraries Director), Sarah Kimball, E.J. Bramder, George Mosher, and Bruce Fetter. Sitting, from left, are Nancy Laskin, Patricia Van Alyea, Beverly Perlson, and Suzy Ettinger.

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**Tuscany in the Libraries**

Chiefs Elissa Franke (left) and Simone Palazio.
Argentine printmaker, painter, and book artist Mirta Kupfermich will lecture at the Golda Meir Library Monday, Sept. 15 on her experience as a Jewish Latin American artist, and Tuesday, Sept. 16 on her artist’s books. These are the first lectures underwritten by The Louis P. and Ethel S. Setlick Fund for the Study of Jewish Society and Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The fund was established in fall 2007 by Friends Executive Board member Robert Moldnar, his wife Sandra, and Michael and Reena Hais, in memory of Sandra and Reena’s parents. The Setlick Fund underwrote the inaugural acquisition for the new collection (in conjunction with an additional donation by Robert and Sandra and support from the UWM Libraries and the UWM Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies): Borges and the Kaballah: Paths to the Word.

Kupfermich’s work, paired with that of Milwaukee artist Shirah Apple, will be on view in the Zelazo Center’s Mary L. Nohl Galleries in September. The opening reception for “Women of the Book: Mirta Kupfermich and Shirah Apple” is Sunday, September 14, from 2-5 p.m. The exhibit runs through October 19.

Kupfermich’s lectures will be held in Special Collections, fourth floor, Golda Meir Library building, and both will begin at 7 p.m. The presentations are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Max Yela at 414-229-4345 or maxyela@uwm.edu.

The Friends, along with the Map Society of Wisconsin, sponsored a bus tour to Chicago on November 30 last year to visit the spectacular exhibition “Maps: Finding Our Place in the World” at the Field Museum. Among the cartographic treasures from around the globe on view were three maps loaned by the American Geographical Society Library: Venetian mapmaker Giovanni Leardo’s 1452 Mappa mundi; a c. 1910 hand-drawn map of the Belcher Islands, by Wettalltak, a Hudson Bay Inuit; and Matthew Fontaine Maury’s 1851 whale distribution chart.

The group was treated to a special tour led by the exhibition curators. Afterwards, they visited the Newberry Library and its map exhibition, which featured another AGS Library rarity, the Frémont-Smith-Gibbs map of the American West.

I want to thank Friends’ President Pat Van Alyea, the Board of Directors, and the membership at large for their many generous and energetic contributions to the UWM Libraries. I am particularly thankful for the Friends’ exceptional support of the new Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. This past year the Friends also helped underwrite staff development and contributed funds toward the American Geographical Society Library’s celebration of its 30th year at UWM. I wish to invite all Friends to the outstanding upcoming Friends-supported Library events (please see calendar).

Ewa Barczyk
Director of Libraries

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE
GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY

Sept. 15, 2008, 7 p.m. and
Sept. 16, 2008, 7 p.m.
Mirta Kupfermich Lectures
by Argentine printmaker, painter, and
book artist. Supported by The Louis P.
and Ethel S. Setlick Fund. Held in
Special Collections, 4th floor.

Sept. 19, 2008, 3 p.m.
UWM’s Academic Adventurers
UWM Director of Libraries Ewa
Barczyk and AGS Library Curator
Chris Baruth speak about their recent
travels in the Republic of Georgia.
Held in the American Geographical
Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

Oct. 2, 2008, 4:30 p.m.
39th Annual Fromkin Lecture
“Red Networks: Women Writers and
the Broadcast Blacklist,” Carole
Stabile, Director of the Center for
Study of Women in Society,
University of Oregon (and formerly,
Professor, UWM Dept. of English).
Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Oct. 3, 2008, 3 p.m.
UWM’s Academic Adventurers
“A Moving Experience: The Historic
Move of the American Geographical
Society Library 30 Years Ago.”
William Roselle, former Director of
UWM Libraries. Held in the
American Geographical Society
Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

Oct. 7, 2008, 7 p.m.
Ettinger Book Artist Series
Karen Hamer, Chicago book and
installation artist. Held in Special
Collections, 4th floor.

Oct. 24, 2008, 3 p.m.
UWM’s Academic Adventurers
“In Search of Germans, Butterflies
and History in Papua New Guinea,”
Nigel Rothfels, Director of the
Edison Initiative. Held in the
American Geographical Society
Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

Oct. 30, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Geo-Focus: The Edward
Wilkommen Geography and
Geology Lecture Series
“Suburban Gothic: The Crisis in US
Suburbs,” John Rennie Short,
Professor of Public Policy, University
of Maryland. Held in the American
Geographical Society Library, 3rd
floor, east wing.
• Completion of fund raising for the new Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, with construction set to begin late this fall.
• Endowment created by Joseph Pabst for the UWM Libraries LGBT OUTreach History Fund established by the Greater Milwaukee Foundation’s Johnson and Pabst LGBT Humanity Fund.
• Loan of Libraries’ photographs and maps to exhibitions at museums and libraries, including the Chicago Field Museum, the Newberry Library, the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, and the Milwaukee Art Museum.
• Establishment by Robert and Sandra Meldman and Michael and Reena Hais of the Louis P. and Eefael S. Setlack Fund for the Study of Jewish Society and Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean.
• Endowment created by Arthur and Janet Holzheimer for “Maps and America: The Arthur Holzheimer Lecture Series,” which has been supported by the Holzheimers since 1989.
• Celebration of 30th anniversary of AOS library moving to UWM from New York.
• Continued support from the Ettinger Family Foundation for the “Ettinger Book Artist Speaker Series” and for collection acquisitions.
• Survey of campus with libQUAL+ user satisfaction tool, a follow-up to the Libraries’ 2004 survey.
• Sponsorship by Edward Wolkommen of a new fall lecture focusing on geography and geology.

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