



# Friends of the Golda Meir Library

# Newsletter

No. 9

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee  
[www.uwm.edu/Library/Friends](http://www.uwm.edu/Library/Friends)

Fall 2006

## FROM THE FRIENDS' PRESIDENT

In my first full year as President, I have watched a strong Friends organization **grow** even stronger, fulfilling our mission to heighten community awareness of the Library's resources, **enrich** the Library's collections, and **build** long-term support through development efforts.

Our cash balance remains robust, at the same time that we have supported the UWM Libraries and many of its programs, such as the Archives' annual local history lecture, "Revisiting Our Past" (co-sponsored this year by America's Black Holocaust Museum), and the prestigious annual Holzheimer "Maps and America" lecture (now in its 18th year).

The Friends presented our own terrific program at our Annual Meeting in May, a lecture by Milwaukee Art Museum Director David Gordon titled "Is There a Conflict Between Being Both an Icon and an Art Museum?" Our very popular used book sales became more so during 2005-06, each one breaking the previous sales record. Deborah Conta, chair of the Programs Committee, deserves special thanks for

organizing these events.

The Friends donated \$5,000 to the Libraries' WTMJ-TV News Film Collection preservation project. Several individual Friends Board members were instrumental in securing a large gift and a grant for the Libraries' Special Collections Department. We also met with Lucia Petrie, UWM Vice Chancellor of Development, to discuss the University's plan for the campus comprehensive campaign.

We again provided support for Libraries staff to attend workshops and conferences that enhance their professional development, and we underwrote the Libraries Staff Achievement awards.

The Friends are looking forward to another exciting year, building on our successes and planning new programs and events. 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 one of the other Board members. Thank you.

Patricia Van Alyea

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

"No . . . but maybe yes" was how Milwaukee Art Museum Director David Gordon answered his own question, and the title of his lecture—"Is There a Conflict Between Being Both an Icon and an Art Museum?"—at the Friends of the Golda Meir Library Annual Program on May 17.

Gordon, hired in 2002 to lead the museum, recounted his enraptured first view of the Santiago Calatrava-designed expansion (2001) as he looked down Wisconsin Avenue on the morning of his job interview.

He called the Quadracci Pavilion "a world-class building" and said that it has become a "symbol of hope and aspiration" as well as a powerful sign of "Milwaukee's renaissance."

Some people, he conceded, have criticized the flamboyant addition as merely sculptural, a building that does not

actually hold the Milwaukee Art Museum's collection (it contains a reception hall, temporary exhibition space, auditorium, gift shop, café, and garage).

He said another potential conflict between architecture and nominal function is that the spectacular glass-walled 90-foot-high reception hall is freely accessed by the community and often used for events ancillary to traditional museum offerings.

Gordon defended that policy: "We have a theatrical building; let's have some theater in it."

He thanked the Friends of the Library for the invitation to speak and noted the "great success" of the recent exhibit "The American West, 1871-1874: Photographs from the American Geographical Society Library," a collaboration between the Milwaukee Art Museum and the Libraries.

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*Milwaukee Art Museum Director David Gordon (photo by Alan Magayne-Roshak)*

Last year just over a million visitors passed through the doors of the Golda Meir Library building; the gate-count from fall 2005 surpassed that of the previous fall by 17%. Naturally, we are happy about these numbers. But coupled with nearly annual budget cuts, the increased usage has made it more difficult to expand the UWM Libraries' exceptional collections and maintain our excellent services. Helping to counter these trends, the Friends Board has energetically and enthusiastically continued their strong support of the Libraries.

The Friends donated \$5,000 toward the preservation of our WTMJ-TV News Film Collection, and they underwrote our employee recognition awards (which was greatly appreciated by the staff). The Friends also offered financial support for numerous events, including UWM's Academic Adventurers, the Fromkin Lecture, and the Holzheimer Maps & America Lecture. I want to thank the Board for their contributions to a highly successful year for the UWM Libraries, and I wish

to invite all Friends to the outstanding Friends-supported Library events coming up this year (please see calendar).

Continuing its strong growth during the 2005-06 year, the Libraries:

- Created a Browsing Collection and a Browsing Area furnished with plants and comfortable furniture (acquired through donations to the Parents Fund);
- Established a laptop computer checkout program for students;
- Doubled the number of images in our digital collection *Greetings from Milwaukee: Selections from the Thomas and Jean Ross Bliffert Postcard Collection* and neared completion of a monumental collection titled "Cities Around the World" with over 5,200 images;
- Collaborated with the Milwaukee Art Museum in an exhibit titled "The American West, 1871-1874: Photographs from the American Geographical Society Library";
- Published two books with non-State funding: the third volume of the Morris

- Fromkin Memorial Lectures and—with some financial assistance from the Friends and publishing help from the School of the Arts—a book on the late acclaimed composer and UWM professor emeritus John Downey;
- Finalized plans for the substantial remodeling of the Library building's West Wing first floor, which will begin later this year;
- Secured several grants and gifts, including a \$25,000 Ettinger Family Foundation grant to support the Book Arts Collection and related programs; \$10,551 gift from Robert C. Brumder to George Brumder German-language Publishing Collection Endowment Fund; \$5,000 preservation assistance grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities to re-house rare atlases; and a \$13,000 grant from the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association to support work on the WTMJ-TV News Film Collection.

Ewa Barczyk  
Interim Director of Libraries

## ANNUAL MEETING CONTINUED

Gordon announced that a second collaborative show, of polar exploration photographs held by the Libraries, will be mounted in Fall 2007.

Also at the program, the Friends held their first silent auction, with proceeds benefiting the UWM Libraries. Among the items offered were Persian paintings, a poster by renowned children's book illustrator Nancy Ekholm Burkert, books, and map reproductions. Donors included Bob and Sandy Meldman, Deborah and Dennis Conta, Tom and Patricia Van Alyea, and Martine Meyer.

At the Friends Annual Business Meeting, which preceded the lecture, the Friends re-elected Patricia Van Alyea as President, and Deborah Gardner Conta, Secretary. Martine Meyer and Stanley Miller II were re-elected to four-year terms on the Board. Sarah Kimball and Jody Steren were elected to four-year terms on the Board.

Outgoing Board members Thomas Bliffert and Governor Martin Schreiber were honored with certificates of appreciation and thanked for their service. They each were given emeritus status on the Board for 2006-07.



### FRIENDS BOARD AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

*Friends Board members at the May 17, 2006 Annual Business Meeting: Standing, from left, are Robert Meldman, Bob Pietrykowski, George Mosher, Bruce Fetter, Nancy Laskin, Donn Haglund, Jody Steren, Sarah Kimball, Gilbert Church, Martine Meyer, Stanley Miller II, Ewa Barczyk, John Koethe, and Betty Bostrom. Sitting, from left, are E.J. Brumder, Marianne Lubar, Patricia Van Alyea, and Deborah Conta.*  
(photo by Alan Magayne-Roshak)

## LIBRARIES RECEIVE ETTINGER FAMILY FOUNDATION GRANT

In December, the Ettinger Family Foundation of Milwaukee awarded a \$25,000 grant to Special Collections, UWM Libraries, to be used for acquisitions and programming in the UWM Book Arts Collection.

The grant will help provide consistent collection development, active programming—including the Ettinger Book Artist Series—and outreach, and increased mentoring of UWM and local book artists. The award will be distributed \$5000 per year over five years.

“We are grateful for this generous gift which will support significant growth in an important collection,” said Max Yela, Head of Special Collections. “The UWM Book Arts Collection not only holds importance for our immediate communities, but also has a strong regional, national, and even international reputation. The Ettinger Foundation award will help us maintain this profile, and assist us in producing programs associated with it.”

The Ettinger Book Artist Series will be inaugurated this fall, and represents a continuation of the successful BOOK FOR[u]Ms Book Artist Series that was founded in 1995. The first presenter in the series is Jeffrey Morin, a nationally recognized book artist and dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at UW-Stevens Point. Morin will offer a free, public lecture on his work, and the meaning of that work to his life and



Structure forming part of Jeffrey Morin's artist's book *Sacred Space* (2003).

career, in the Libraries' Special Collections on Tuesday, September 26, at 7 pm. As part of the Ettinger series, Morin will also offer a free workshop for UWM students.

Morin will also be prominently featured in an exhibition, curated by Max Yela, at the Mary L. Nohl Galleries in UWM's Zelazo Center for the Performing Arts. The exhibition, "Type, Paper, Scissors: The Book as Art Environment," will be on view September 9-October 21, 2006, and will explore how the shape, structure, and materiality of books are employed by artists to convey meaning that is fully integrated with its contents.

## LEGACY OF VIRGINIA HAAS

Virginia Haas, President of the Friends of the Golda Meir Library from 1989 to 1993, passed away on February 26, 2006. In addition to her role as President, Haas served as Secretary (1985-87) and Vice-President (1987-89) for the organization, and continued as a Board member until 1996.

Peter Watson-Boone, UWM Libraries Director from 1990 until 2003, said, “I am firmly convinced that the Friends of the Library organization would not have continued to exist if Virginia had not, by sheer hard work and force of personality, picked it up from the floor in the late 80's, and early 90's, setting the stage for the Friends' later expansion. She was always a delight to work with, and her love for the UWM Libraries shone through all her efforts.”

Haas joined UWM's English department as a lecturer in 1975 and retired in 1998 with senior editor emerita status. She was curator of the Libraries' Shakespeare Research Collection and Senior Editor of the Modern Language Association's New Variorum Shakespeare project, under Professor Robert Turner's direction. She co-edited with Turner the 2004 New Variorum edition of *The Winter's Tale*.

In her honor, the Friends of the Golda Meir Library will add a book on Shakespearean studies to the Libraries collection as part of the Friends Inside Inscriptions program.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY

Sept. 26, 2006, 7 p.m.

### **Ettinger Book Artist Series**

Jeffrey Morin, nationally recognized book artist. Inaugural presentation. Held in Special Collections, 4th floor.

Oct. 5, 2006, 4:30 p.m.

### **37th Annual Fromkin Lecture**

“‘Illegal Minds’: Denizenship and the Access of Undocumented Students to Public Higher Education,” Rachel Ida Buff, UWM Dept. of History. Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Oct. 9-11, 2006

### **Friends Fall Used Book Sale**

Open to UWM students only, with valid ID, Oct 9, noon-6 p.m. Open to the public, Oct. 10 and Oct. 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Nov. 10, 2006, 3 p.m.

### **UWM's Academic Adventurers**

“The Goat Dance of Skyros,” Dick Blau, UWM Dept. of Film. Held in the American Geographical Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

Nov. 17, 2006, 3:30 p.m.

### **UWM Authors Recognition**

**Ceremony** With UWM Chancellor Carlos Santiago. Held in Conference Center, 4th floor.

Feb. 16, 2007, 3 p.m.

### **UWM's Academic Adventurers**

Ann Hansen, UWM Dept. of History. Held in the American Geographical Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

April 25, 2007, Reception at 5 p.m.,  
Lecture at 6 p.m.

### **Maps and America: The Arthur Holzheimer Lecture Series**

“200 years of the U.S. Coast Survey,” John Cloud, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Held in the American Geographical Society Library, 3rd floor, east wing.

## NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

The UWM Libraries is embarking on a \$4.9 million renovation of the Golda Meir Library, its first large-scale building project in nearly 20 years. We are offering donors the opportunity to permanently name renovated areas or currently unnamed areas of the Libraries. Please consider contributing to the creation of an outstanding 21st century academic research library.

Possible areas include the East Wing, the West Wing, the Rare Materials Room of the American Geographical Society Library, the fourth floor Conference Center, and the new Learning Commons.

For more information, please contact Susan Modder, UWM Libraries Development Director, at (414) 229-2811.

## INSIDE INSCRIPTIONS



Commemorative Bookplates

*The Friends of the  
GOLDA MEIR  
LIBRARY*

For more information call (414) 229-6202 or visit [www.uwm.edu/Library/Admin/Inscriptionsx3.htm](http://www.uwm.edu/Library/Admin/Inscriptionsx3.htm)

## FRIENDS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

### *Officers*

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*Past President*  
Bruce Fetter

### *Board Members, 2006/07*

Ewa Barczyk (Interim Director of Libraries, ex officio)  
Tom Bliffert (Emeritus)  
Betty Bostrom  
Gilbert Church  
Tyrone Dumas  
Scott Enk  
Suzy Ettinger  
Rick Grobschmidt (Alumni Association rep.)  
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Committee, ex officio)  
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Marianne Lubar (Chair, Nominating Committee)  
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Stanley Miller II (Chair, Communications Committee)  
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Bob Pietrykowski (Alumni Emeritus Board rep.)  
Gwen Plunkett  
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