FOL annual meeting slated Nov. 20

All members are encouraged to attend the Friends’ annual meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 pm in the Old Worthington Library Meeting Room, 820 High St.

In addition to a short business meeting and the election of new Board members, several presentations are included on the agenda.

Sheila E. Vetter Volunteer Recognition Award

This year, the second annual Sheila E. Vetter Award, which honors an exceptional Worthington Libraries young adult and adult volunteer, will go to Northwest Library young adult volunteer Ksenia Lanin and Old Worthington Library adult volunteer Janet Sprag.

Both will receive a $200 U.S. savings bond.

“Ohio’s 88 Gems”

Don’t miss this fun and fascinating pro-

gram highlighting Ohio’s 88 county courthouses. Interesting facts about their construction and occupancy and details of their unique histories will be presented by John Bendekovic, a professor emeritus at The Ohio State University and former feature writer.

2002-2003

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* new to the Friends Board of Directors

Friends start fund

Last month, the Friends donated $10,000 to establish the Worthington Libraries Endowment Fund at the Columbus Foundation.

The newly created fund will be developed to serve as a future revenue source for the Library, helping sustain it in times of economic uncertainty and creating a base for future growth.

The library’s board of trustees began investigating alternative fundraising methods early last year, soon after library funding was cut by the state legislature.

It became clear that an endowment fund would be the most effective way for the Library to achieve its fundraising goals.

Newsletter gets 30-year makeover

Happy anniversary! This year marks the 30th anniversary of Worthington’s Friends of the Library group, the first of its kind in Franklin County.

To celebrate three decades of contributing to the success of Worthington Libraries your newsletter has a new look.

Content will incorporate the Friends information you need to know with fun facts and features that help you get to know the people behind the scenes, both in the Friends and in your libraries.
Super summer reading

Worthington Libraries’ popular summer reading programs, sponsored this year by the Friends and the Worthington Mall, make June through August a very busy time. This past summer was extra busy. When the crowds thinned, staff discovered that record numbers of patrons had blown away already impressive sign-up and completion numbers!

Special programs featuring juggling, magic and puppets entertained over 3,000 children. More than 5,700 signed up for Land of Read-A-Lot and 56 percent read for 12 hours to complete the program.

Over 4,000 titles were read by young adult summer readers. Completion rates for Readers of the Round Table were up more than 60 percent from last year.

(Above) Kids loved Super Summer Science! (At right) Teens learned how to make hemp jewelry at Old Worthington Library.

Medieval Mystery solved

It was a mystery for the Middle Ages. Whodunnit? The knight with the bow and arrow in the gatehouse (Caribou Coffee)? The pirate with the knife in the armory (Gap)?

This year’s Volunteer Thank You party, Medieval Mystery at the Mall, was a great success. Sponsored by the Friends and the Worthington Mall, over 50 of the library’s teen volunteers attended the event, which was based on the board game, Clue. [It was the apothecary with the mace in the bakery (Cheryl’s Cookies)].

Friends Funds

Your membership $$$
at work making our libraries
fun and educational!

Over 50 of the library’s teen volunteers attended this year’s Volunteer Thank You party, “Medieval Mystery at the Mall.” Based on the popular board game, Clue, Volunteers raced around the Worthington Mall trying to solve the mystery with the help of library staffers.

April 1865: The Month That Saved America by Jay Winik (2001)

In this thoroughly engaging chronicle of the Civil War’s waning days, Winik demonstrates that the very fate of the United States rested on the decisions of a few key players during this pivotal month.

From Lee’s surrender at Appomattox to the fall of Richmond; from Lincoln’s assassination to the death of John Wilkes Booth, April 1865 describes a month like no other in American history. A must read for history enthusiasts.

Faking It by Jennifer Crusie (2002)

It’s not your mother’s romance novel! Crusie whips up a froth of a story with many mystery elements—an aspiring painter who wants to get rid of the forgeries she painted as a girl and a trying-to-reform con man determined to get back the money his financial manager embezzled at the behest of an old girlfriend.

Put them in Columbus’ own German Village with the artist’s very eccentric family, the old girlfriend’s new boyfriend and the con man’s father for a sexy, enjoyable read!

Peter Loon by Van Reid (2002)

When Peter’s father dies, his mother sends him off to find his uncle. Peter, 17, has never heard of an uncle, but sets out alone into the Maine woods. After all, how many people can there be in the world?

One of the first he encounters is the eccentric preacher and bookseller Parson Leach, who walks among both the Great Priests and the humble settlers of post-Revolutionary War Maine. A rich tapestry of character, romance and adventure. A must read! The Sands of Time by Michael Hoeye (2001)

When a shabby old chipmunk enters his watchmaker’s shop, Hermux Tan-tamoq doesn’t realize he’s embarking on an adventure.

For 40 years, the chipmunk, who claims to be a friend of Hermux’s late father, has been searching for the lost city of cats—though most people think the beasts never existed. There are other mice who have their own reasons for finding the lost city first, and some who hope it will never be found. A delightful adventure!
FOL member does double-duty as Library staffer

After over 20 years as a Worthington Libraries employee, there are few Library-related questions Eileen Kobe can’t answer; the same goes double for Friends-related questions.

Eileen’s dedication and decisiveness have made her invaluable to the Friends, where you can find her at book sales or behind the gift counter at Old Worthington Library.

The Friends isn’t the only organization fortunate to have Eileen as a volunteer. She volunteers at the Worthington Historical Society’s gift shop and during special events. She also helps out a few hours a week at her church in their—

you guessed it!—library.

Through the years Eileen has held a number of positions at the Library. She started her Worthington Libraries career in 1970, while the Library was at 752 High Street. She worked in the circulation department and at the information desk.

When the Library moved in the late ’70s, she worked in the audiovisual department and periodicals.

In 1989, Eileen left the Library for a decade to work full-time as office manager for Delta Theta Phi, a professional law fraternity. She worked there with her husband, Bob, a former assistant attorney general.

Eileen Kobee then and now. One of the Friends’ most dependable volunteers, Eileen, who also works part-time for Worthington Libraries, can be found at the gift counter in Old Worthington Library once a week, and at nearly every book sale.

She’s watched Worthington Libraries change in so many ways—from its tremendous growth to the demise of the card catalog. But there’s one thing that has remained the same, the staff.

“The staff now is as good as the staff was on my very first day,” she said. “Everyone I’ve ever worked with has loved being here.”

Who could be a Friends member and library employee and not include reading as a hobby? Not Eileen. She enjoys Regency romances, particularly Marion Chesney’s, and mysteries—M.C. Beaton and her Agatha Raisin series is a favorite.

Eileen says she also likes to watch PBS and TV detective shows like Law & Order.

It just keeps getting better—Market Day 2002

Thank you to all members who came to Market Day and supported the Friends by shopping for books on Saturday, Sept. 21 or took advantage of presale privileges (and braved the rain) the evening before.

This year’s sale netted approximately $4,000 for Worthington Libraries!

Thanks especially to the following Friends who volunteered their time before, during and after the sale. Without their hard work sorting, transporting, loading and unloading books;

setting up book tables and keeping them stocked; and taking money and bagging purchases, the event would not have been nearly as successful: Jennifer Best, Irene Candy, Ellen Carter, Ronald Cline, Myra Colflesh, Nancy Evans, Marj Fenton,

+ David Carrigan
+ Ellen Carter
+ Mike & Jean Columbo
+ Cindy Crane
+ Tom & Penny Dietrich
+ Chuck Gibson
+ Paul & Marie Goslow
+ Noel & Janet Guitry
+ Alan Hand
+ Shari Heinrich
+ David Herwitz
+ Deborah Hunter
+ Bill & Lisa Knox
+ Marilyn Kready
+ Barbara Lake
+ Jane Landwehr & Bryan Saums
+ Virginia LeDonne
+ Tim & Dawn Mack
+ Dawn Malone
+ Laurie & Jim McAuley
+ Johanna Meara
+ Betty Menear
+ Matthew Moore
+ Charles Moulton
+ Barbara & Bill Mullan
+ Susan Musick
+ Judy Neale
+ Marty Neely
+ David Rankey
+ Dan Rich
+ Todd & Eileen Rittenhouse
+ Susan Roscigno
+ Aimee Schory
+ Carol Schlea
+ Robert Tibbetts
+ Nancy Triffon
+ Anita Vlcekh
+ Yvonne Welsh
+ Nick Wolf
+ Sue Zorb
Former FOL leader dies

On Aug. 24, the Friends of Worthington Libraries lost a valued member. Beverly Seigel, one of the first presidents the Friends membership elected after reorganizing in 1991, died from diabetes-related complications. She was 72.

Friends president Carol Verny worked with Beverly as the fledgling library support group was gathering momentum in the early ’90s, and was immediately impressed by her finesse and intuition.

“My first memory of Beverly Seigel was watching her singlehandedly run a Worthington Friends meeting. It was obvious how much she cared about the Worthington Library and how important the Friends organization was to her. She knew instinctively how effective the Friends could be in their support of the library, and she was tireless in her efforts to make the organization successful.”

“She was truly an inspiration and the organizing force behind the Friends.” —Carol Verny

Carol said in the Friends’ early days, when there were always questions like, “What are we going to do and how will we do it?”, Beverly always found an answer.

“She was truly an inspiration and the organizing force behind the Friends. We will miss her energy, enthusiasm and commitment to doing things well.”

Friends of Worthington Libraries
820 High Street
Worthington OH 43085

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Fun Facts

Anniversary of the discovery of King Tut’s tomb: Nov. 4, 1922. English archaeologist Howard Carter discovered this rare, intact tomb more than 3,000 years after Tutankhamen’s death.

World Kindness Day: Nov. 13.

Phileas Fogg wins his wager: On Dec. 21, 1872, Fogg won his bet, traversing the world in 79 days, 23 hours, 59 minutes and 59 seconds after starting his trip in Jules Verne’s Around the World in 80 Days.

Birth anniversaries: 170 years - Louisa May Alcott, Nov. 29, 1832; 135 years - Marie Curie: Nov. 7, 1867; 80 years - Charles Schulz, Nov. 26, 1922


Anniversary of the development of Scotch tape: Jan. 31, 1928

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Friends members hear about these events first!

Project will preserve city's rich history

Friends members who attended the Nov. 28 annual meeting were introduced to an exciting project Worthington Libraries are currently involved in, Worthington Memory—an online library of the community’s historic photos and objects.

What is the Worthington Memory?
Worthington Libraries are partnering with the Worthington Historical Society to build the Worthington Memory Web site.

The goals of this collaborative project are to collect and preserve local history materials through the creation of a digital library, providing greater access to and enhanced public awareness of Worthington’s rich history.

The time to do this in Ohio couldn’t be better, as both the state and Worthington are preparing to celebrate their bicentennials next year.

What’s included in the Worthington Memory?
Worthington Memory activities include digital imaging (scanning) of historic documents and photographs, creation of a searchable online index to local 19th and 20th century newspapers, collection of oral histories and virtual tours of historic houses and museums.

Remote access to materials via the Internet will make heavily used, non-circulating archive and library materials more accessible while reducing the amount of physical handling they would normally endure.

—see Worthington Memory, inside page

Spring book sale scheduled May 11!

Vacations, al fresco lunches, between innings at your children's softball or soccer games—there are plenty of reasons why you shouldn't miss the next Friends book sale!

Make May 11 your day to gather summer reading material! The sale is scheduled from 9 am-5 pm in Old Worthington Library’s Meeting Room, 820 High St.

Volunteer opportunities abound! Your help is needed to bring books up from our lower level storage room and arrange them on tables by category on Friday morning, May 10. You can also help by collecting money, straightening tables or bagging purchases on May 11. You could return books to the storage room at sales-end. Call Lisa Fuller, 645-2620, ext. 247 to volunteer.
Your membership $$$ at work
making our libraries fun and educational!

Community invited to breakfast during National Library Week

Celebrate National Library Week (April 14-20) with Worthington Libraries during their annual Community Breakfast on April 17!

Grab some breakfast before work or after you see the kids off to school. You’ll be rewarded with a first glimpse of the Worthington Memory Web site—a collaboration with the Worthington Historical Society to collect, preserve and digitize local history materials and make them available to people via the Internet (see related story, front page).

The morning will also include a special recognition for Library volunteers who will have reserved seating for the debut of Worthington Memory.

The event is free, thanks to the Friends, but reservations are requested. Please call Leigh Jones at 645-2620 ext. 240.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April.

A time to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support, all types of libraries—school, public, academic and special—participate.

Date: Wednesday, April 17
Time: 7:30 am
Place: Old Worthington Library

Approximately 250 people attended last year’s Community Breakfast where Worthington Libraries Online (WLO) was debuted. This year, the Worthington Memory project will be featured. At left, Friends members Ginny Ronning and Emma-Jean Cole help distribute WLO materials.

This site will also bring attention to materials that traditionally receive less use because they are in special or private collections, or are very fragile.

In addition, Worthington Memory will bring together private materials, such as letters and family photographs and materials held by different organizations in the community, providing a sense of wholeness and a better understanding of local history for visitors.

As the bicentennial approaches, the community is invited to share their own local history treasures, which will be scanned and included on the Worthington Memory Web site.

When can I see the Worthington Memory Web site?

Although the finished design for the site is currently “under construction,” you can view images and documents included on it by visiting www.worthingtonmemory.org. More are added each day. Make plans to attend April 17’s Community Breakfast at Old Worthington Library, where you’ll see the site’s “official” debut.

How can I contribute to the Worthington Memory project?

Community involvement is a key component, and volunteers are needed to help with the project in various ways. One such activity is basic conservation treatment, such as metal removal, paper flattening and transfer of photographs and documents into chemically stable storage containers. Volunteers will also assist with entering data into the Worthington News Index. Please call Leigh Jones at 645-2620 ext. 240 for more information on volunteering to help build Worthington Memory!

This three-piece 1817 ball invitation is also part of Worthington Memory’s online collection of rare photos and objects. Although the identity of the man pictured on the right is not known, the woman on the left is Mila Thompson.
Program to highlight Chaplin's comic genius

Charlie Chaplin is recognized worldwide as one of the most important and influential figures in the history of motion pictures and perhaps the greatest film comedian to have ever lived.

Don't miss your opportunity for an expert look at one of Hollywood's greatest legends during Funny Bones: Charlie Chaplin's Comic Body Language on March 12 at Northwest Library, 2280 Hard Road.

This terrific program, presented in cooperation with the Worthington Arts Council, will be presented by Dan Kamin, a Pittsburgh native recognized as the world's foremost authority on Charlie Chaplin's performing technique.

Kamin was not only asked to create the physical comedy sequences for the films Chaplin and Benny and Joon, but also trained both Robert Downey Jr. and Johnny Depp for their starring performances.

His book, Charlie Chaplin's One-Man Show, reveals the secrets of Chaplin's comic art and is hailed as a breakthrough work.

Finding inspiration in the great silent comedy films of Chaplin, as well as Buster Keaton, Kamin has performed worldwide for theatres, colleges and symphony orchestras. Kamin will explore the genius of Chaplin through film clips, discussion and demonstrations.

Date: Tuesday, March 12
Time: 7 pm
Place: Northwest Library Meeting Room

Book sale breaks record

Perhaps it was because we hadn't had a book sale since September, perhaps it was the sunny weather or perhaps our selection was better than usual and people were eager to stock up on some winter reading.

Whatever the reason, last month's book sale was the most profitable quarterly one we've had in recent years, grossing over $1,900.

The Friends Board of Directors decided to give quarterly book sales a try in May 2000.

"There were a few things we wanted our quarterly book sales to accomplish," said Board President Carol Verny, who served as membership chair in 2000. "Most importantly, we wanted to make money for the Library, but we also needed to alleviate our storage problem.

The sales have proved successful on both counts—because there are few overhead costs, we usually net $1,300-$1,800 at each sale and we clear out our storage space at OWL which makes room for more book donations."

Thanks to the following Friends for volunteering their time before, during and after the sale: Irene Candy, Marilyn Carter, Myra Cofflesh, Brenda Doner, Anne Doyle, Merrianne Hackathorn, Pamela Hanson, Rebecca Harty, Kathryn Heywood, Barbara Lemerich, Allyson Lewis, Eileen Kobee, Anne McGorum, John Morse, Bill Northrup, Joann Patton and Carol Verny.

Congratulations to Friends member Pat Radloff, one of four winners in the library's Be Our Valentine contest.

Pat's entry on why she loves her library was randomly selected and earned her a magnetic poetry kit!

New Friends

Welcome and thank you to the following people who've joined our organization since November!

- Mary Bland
- Lisabeth Brown
- Marilyn Chambers
- Christina Clark
- Ronald Cline
- Nancy Evans
- Sonya & Bill Evans
- Clinton Friedley
- Mary & David Greenlee
- Robert Holmes
- Walt & Connie Kobalka
- Florence Laitman
- Eileen Martin
- Roger McVey
- Joan Miller
- Joanne Murchake
- Nellie Molea
- Patricia Music
- Bill Northrup
- William & June Pendell
- Janet Piero
- Gerald Sears
- Wilbur & Lilly Seipel
- Nancy Sheridan
- William Smith
- Lisa Staggenborg
- Paula Vargo
- Kimberly Walling
- Mary Ann & Bob Wynd
Get your reference questions answered, day or night

Worthington Libraries has entered into an exciting, six-month trial with CLEVNET to offer the live Web-based reference service, KnowItNow24x7.

A consortium of 29 Cleveland area libraries, CLEVNET allows the Library to offer real-time reference service 24 hours a day through www.worthingtonlibraries.org. (Click on Ask a Librarian and then on Live Web Reference. Follow the instructions to begin your session.)

Once logged on, you and a librarian engage in a “chat” session that features co-browsing capabilities—you can watch and participate as librarians navigate library-exclusive electronic resources and the Internet to find precise answers to your questions.

This outstanding service isn’t available to everyone. Worthington Libraries is the first library outside of CLEVNET to be given the opportunity to participate, therefore only those in the service district (zip codes 43085, 43081, 43235, 43016, 43065 and 43220) can utilize it.

Service providers will be answering your questions from one of 14 KnowItNow24x7 provider locations. From 9 am-5:30 pm, subject specialists from the Cleveland Public Library and the Cleveland Law Library are available to answer your questions.

On Monday evenings, from 5:30-8:30 pm, your questions will be answered by a Worthington Libraries librarian.

Other evenings will be covered by librarians from CLEVNET. After hours, librarians from the Library Systems & Services Company will respond to all patron questions.

*This outstanding service isn’t available to everyone. As the first library outside CLEVNET invited to participate, only those in the service district can utilize it.*

Reference help can include anything from homework questions to statistics for business presentations to travel and historical information.

Specialists in the subjects of business, law, science, technology and the social sciences (politics, religion, recreation, etc.) will be available from 9 am-5:30 pm Monday through Saturday. Questions regarding these specialties may be asked anytime but may be referred to specialists for next-day response.

A companion site called Homework Now is also available for students. This service is ideal for children and teens doing homework research.

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**Friends of Worthington Libraries**

820 High Street

Worthington OH 43085

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