

Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries

spring 2016

WELCOME TO NEW FRIENDS!

- Carol Argiro
- Kate & Jason Bartalon
- Jeff Bernardi
- Aaron & Erin Brown
- Matt Butler
- Mary Chang
- Gayle Ely
- Bryan & Anne Fouss
- Anthony & Corinne Konecny
- Kayla & TJ Luttrell
- Sarah Min
- Alan & Susan Moran
- Loretta Platt
- Frances Ridenour
- Lori Scoby
- Philip Stichter
- Andra & Richard Trippel
- Kari Valcourt
- Linda Wilkinson

UPCOMING BOOK SALE

Old Worthington Library

- Thursday, May 19
(members-only)
7-9 pm
- Friday, May 20
9 am-6 pm
- Saturday, May 21
9 am-5 pm
- Sunday, May 22
1-4 pm

SERIES GOING STRONG

Worthington Libraries' Hear & Now series, which the Friends have been proud to sponsor since 2011, continues this summer and fall (see inside). A slate of terrific authors offers something for every reader—some fiction and nonfiction, some pen historical works while others favor contemporary. Ticket pricing, including Friends member discounts, will be announced in the next few weeks. In the meantime, save the dates and we'll see you at the McConnell Arts Center, 777 Evening Street!

KAREN HARPER

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 at 7 PM

When choosing settings for her books, Karen Harper goes with places she loves. While that is often England, it is also in her own backyard, specifically the Midwest.

Harper is the prolific author of contemporary and historical fiction. A former college and high school English teacher, her books include *Broken Bonds*, *Fall from Pride*, *Dark Crossings*, *The Queen's Governess* and *The Last Boleyn*.

Smart, strong-willed women feature prominently in her works, which include a mystery series featuring Queen Elizabeth I. Her new novel, *The Royal Nanny*, will be published on June 21.



J. RYAN STRADAL

THURSDAY, JULY 28 at 7 PM

When it came time for Minnesota native J. Ryan Stradal to write his first novel, he started with what he knew: he based characters—including the protagonist, culinary prodigy turned chef Eva Thorvald—on people he's known, he set the bulk of the story in his home state, he even included recipes from a volume associated with his great-grandmother's Lutheran church.

After its release, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* was as hot as the habaneros Eva cultivated as an elementary school student. It made a number of 2015's best-of lists and was a *New York Times* bestseller.



VISIT THE LIBRARY S'MORE!

Plan to register the whole family for the 2016 Summer Reading Club on May 31!



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Happy Spring!

It's truly an honor to be serving a second year as president of the Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries. The past 15 months have been a time to reexamine our role as the Friends, to update our brand—check out the new logo on the front page!—and to further commit to our mission to **increase** awareness of library services and programs; **inspire** community involvement in Friends Foundation activities; **provide** funding to support the library's mission; and **advocate** for strong public library funding.

Perhaps most important is our role as ambassadors for Worthington Libraries. As you will read in this newsletter, our goal is to connect with the community through the Friends' support of the annual Community Breakfast, the acclaimed Hear & Now author series and the Summer Reading Club. We develop relationships with other community partners such as the McConnell Arts Center, Fresh Thyme Farmer's Market and First Financial Bank and support the literacy efforts of nearly 20 mission-driven organizations.

While membership in other groups might offer free parking, admission passes and thank-you premiums, your membership in the Friends Foundation provides something far greater than a tchotchke could ever offer: the unique opportunity to support an amazing library integral to our great community. Let's keep the Friends strong in 2016—and let's hit 300 members!

See you at the Library!



**LORI
OVERMYER**

FIRST-EVER EVENT IS HUGE SUCCESS!

On November 7, 2015, the Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries presented the first-ever Books and Breads fundraiser at Old Worthington Library.

More than 120 guests joined us to sample some of Ohio's best craft brews and food from area eating



There were not only a number of high quality, Ohio craft beers to sample at last fall's Books and Breads event, if attendees had questions about what they were quaffing, they could just ask the brewery reps!

establishments. In addition to the money received from people who joined the Friends just to attend the event, we raised \$2,000 in net proceeds to support the programs of our wonderful Worthington Libraries.

The Friends Foundation wishes to recognize all those who contributed to our success:

- Donnie Austin
- Monica Baughman
- CaJohns Fiery Foods
- Columbus Brewing Company
- Dewey's Pizza
- Fresh Thyme Farmers Market
- The Hills Market, Worthington
- House Wine
- Kroger, Shops at Worthington Place
- Natalie's Coal-Fired Pizza
- Rhinegeist Brewery
- Rockmill Brewery
- Trader Joe's, Dublin
- Seventh Son Brewing Co.
- The Whitney House
- Worthington Pizza Primo
- The Worthington Inn
- Zaffig Brewing Company

MISSION-BASED DONATIONS HELP

As part of its mission, the Friends Foundation explores every opportunity to help people of all ages and circumstances enjoy the transformative power of books. In the last 18 months, we have expanded our collaborations through the donation of more than 30,000 books to community organizations in need.

- **10,758 books** to Goodwill Industries (Franklin and Delaware counties)
- **9,774 books** to Pickaway, Richland and Marion correctional facilities
- **2,997 books** to Worthington elementary and middle schools
- **2,886 books** to Columbus South High School's "Bulldogs Read" initiative
- **897 books** to Worthington Resource Pantry
- **651 books** to Hilliard and Dublin elementary schools' English for Speakers of Other Languages
- **650 books** to Avondale Elementary School's (Columbus) free, pop-up store
- **649 books** to Villa Angela Nursing Home
- **528 books** to Friends of Art for Community Enrichment/Urban Strings Program
- **327 books** to Feed My Sheep Pantry (Mineral, Ohio)
- **276 books** to Sutter Park Head Start Program
- **269 books** to East Columbus Elementary School reading readiness program
- **162 books** to Reeb Avenue Center/Mid-Ohio Foodbank Roots Café
- **134 books** to daycare centers in the Worthington School District
- **117 books** to Salem Elementary School's Books for Birthdays
- **78 books** to Korean Church of Columbus
- **52 books** to Little Free Library at McCord Park

YOU'RE IN FOR A FRIEND-LY FALL!

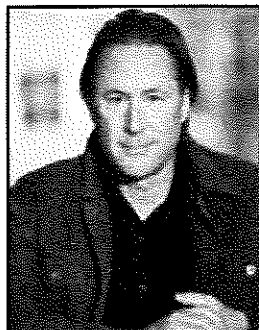
Hampton Sides is best-known for gripping nonfiction adventure stories. His most recent history, *In the Kingdom of Ice*, describes the Arctic voyage of the U.S.S. Jeannette in the late 1800s.

Sides is also the author of the *Ghost Soldiers*, which recounts a daring rescue mission of World War II POWs; *Blood and Thunder*, a chronicle of the life and times of frontiersman Kit Carson; and *Hellhound On His Trail*, about the murder of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the international manhunt for his assassin.

HAMPTON SIDES

THURSDAY,
SEPT. 22
at 7 PM

McConnell
Arts Center,
777 Evening Street



Sipping in the stacks is back!

This fall, the Friends Foundation will again host Books and Brews, an after-hours fundraiser featuring tastings from some of Ohio's best craft breweries. There will also be a wine option for those who prefer grapes to grains!



and FUN!

More details, including ticket prices, will be announced later this summer.

BOOKS AND BREWS II

FRIDAY,
NOV. 4
at 7 PM

Old Worthington
Library
820 High Street

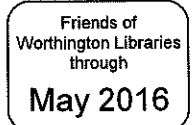
Forget about the (impending) election and join us for live music, food, a silent auction, literary beer trivia

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES COMING!

Many of our organization's membership procedures haven't changed in over a decade, and the Friends Board has been busy evaluating them. It's important that you feel confident in your decision to support the Friends Foundation and that doing so is convenient and worthwhile. The Board has been decided that a few updates are in order to better reflect changes in technology and the way Worthington Libraries serves patrons.

In addition to a brand-new logo (don't miss it on the front page!), in the coming months you'll be seeing a new membership brochure that you can share with friends and family, a new series of membership renewal materials and new member levels and benefits designed to maximize your contribution to the Friends Foundation.

- As a first step, because the vast majority of Friends members no longer use their physical library card to check out or renew books, as of May 2016, you will no longer automatically receive a renewal sticker (see example at right) for your card. If you would like one, however, we'll be happy to oblige.
- The benefits of membership at the Masterpiece (\$100) level will be replaced with something that more directly supports your involvement as a Friend.
- Soon you will be able to join and/or renew your membership using a credit card.



You'll be hearing about more innovative ideas in the future, as we strive to engage our current Friends and add new ones! Thank you for your patience and, as always, if you have questions or would like to offer feedback or suggestions, please don't hesitate to email Lori Overmyer, lovermyer573@att.net, or call her at 614-301-4492.

Friends Foundation of Worthington Libraries
820 High Street
Worthington OH 43085

2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lori Overmyer	president
Gari Aber	vice president
Susan Jacobs	treasurer
Gretchen Northrup	secretary
Lisa Abrams	
Carol Bishop	
Marilyn Carter	
Connie Kobalka	
Dawn Malone	
Dr. Sara Sukalich	