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Summer 2002

Among Friends Summer 2002 Vol 3 No 1

Friends of the Bethel University Library

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Among Friends

Friends of the Library

Volume 3 • Number 1 • Summer 2002

Table of Contents

Page 1

- My Friends are Your Friends

Page 2

- Altruism and Philanthropy Forgotten

Page 3

- Altruism and Philanthropy Forgotten
- “But Can You Get a Job?”

Page 4

- Homecoming Popularity Grows
 - President’s Letter

Page 5

- Make a Difference
- President’s Letter

Page 6

- News & Notes

Let us know what you think of our new “Circle of Friends” Library Newsletter design at cracar@bethel.edu

My Friends are Your Friends and Your Friends are My Friends

The Friends are helping Bethel students meet some of my old friends. No, not those alumni you see tottering around the halls during events like Homecoming – though the FBCL events do attract all generations.

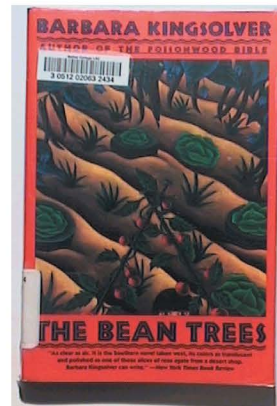
I’m talking about my friends that sit on my bookshelves. Friends like Robertson Davies, who first made my acquaintance through his book What’s Bred in the Bone. Or like Clyde Edgerton. My friend Clyde captivated me with Walking Across Egypt. Some of my friends I brought with me to college, like Jon Hassler. There are friends I met in college, like Chaim Potok. My Name is Asher Lev was required reading, but The Chosen, The Promise, and Davita’s Harp I was self-compelled to read.

Most of these friends were made after college. Barbara Kingsolver, Wallace Stegner and Bill Bryson are among these friends.

College students seem like an unlikely group to read for pleasure. After all, An Introduction to Molecular

Biology, Abnormal Psychology, Twentieth Century Economic Thought, and Marketing Strategies 101 take up an enormous amount of a student’s time. Still, with books like Bean Trees, Crossing to Safety, and Lost Continent on the library shelves, students cannot help but make

some new friends. Isn’t it nice that Friends can help friends meet new friends? It all seems so friendly. ●



Altruism and Philanthropy Forgotten

Letters have been flooding into the *Among Friends* suite of offices, pleading with us to release another edition. The tone of these letters has shocked us to the core. Our belief that our members were joining the Friends of the Library for altruistic



and philanthropic reasons was shattered. It turns out that large numbers of you have only joined so that you can receive the newsletter you now hold in your hands. Therefore, our editorial board has determined that this issue must explore the many

Friends of the Bethel College Library is an alliance of people dedicated to improving the resources of the library. *Among Friends* is published twice a year.

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Secretary: Donna Barnett
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St. Paul, MN 55112

facets of the Friends of the Library, in the hopes that many of you will not only take a more active role, but will encourage others to join as well.

While some of our members have been sitting at home, anxiously awaiting their next issue of *Among Friends*, the FBCL Board has been hosting events at an astonishing pace. Why, since our last issue, a mere 15 months ago, four events of note were held at the Bethel College Library.

February 16, 2001 was the 2nd Annual Winter Reading Extravaganza. Nancy

Larson Olen started the night off with a reading from her biography of Virginia M. Ohlson, nurse extraordinaire. She was followed by Joey Horstman reading from his book of essays and short stories, *Praise, Anxiety & Other Symptoms of Grace*. After a short break for the regularly scheduled fabulous desserts, Tom Johnson read from his poetry, published in a variety of literary publications. Who would have thought a business guy would write poetry? Finally, Carl Rasmussen showed slides from his recent trip to Turkey, and led us in the footsteps of the Apostle

Paul. (You can view his photos at www.holylandphotos.org). It was a great evening, though not as life changing as the 1st Reading Extravaganza (which got me taking folic acid).

Before the Board could even catch its collective breath, they were busy hosting Art people. On April 20, 2001 the BCL was taken over by artist types, talking about life and art. Karen Berg-Johnson, Kirk Freeman, Dale Johnson, George Robinson, and Wayne Roosa, were our distinguished panel. Again, desserts were a featured part of the evening.



Portable's Long Shadow by Dale Johnson

After these two events, the librarians were so busy spending Friends' money, they didn't look up from their book catalogs until just in time to plan the Homecoming Event. Bethel Around the World ...

and Back Again was the theme for the Saturday morning meeting. Vince Peters, Associate Dean of Off-Campus Programs, provided an overview of what Bethel is seek-

ing to accomplish by giving students a taste of the world. Jim Reynhout showed slides and spoke about his class trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos. Naomi Ludeman-Smith shared about the ministry of Bethel in Ukraine. Student perspectives for these two divergent trips were given by Jocelyn Jensen (Galapagos) and Kevin Osell (Ukraine). If you haven't had the opportunity to be impressed by a Bethel student lately, it's because you missed this event. The whole event was topped off by an impressive display of materials on world cultures purchased with funds donated by Friends. Bibles in over 30 languages were a highlight of the collection.

There was enough going on that we wouldn't have even needed to provide food, but of course we did.

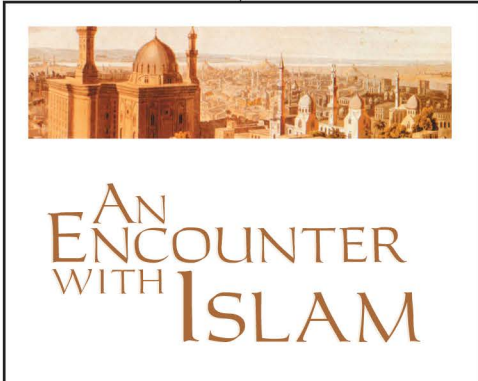
Wrapping up a year of events at the library was a night of importance in light of a year of events in the world. On March 1, 2002 the FBCL hosted an evening de-

voted to understanding Islam. Karen Ciske, Bob Weaver and Margie Koch shared experiences from encounters in Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Tunisia and Malaysia. Doug Magnuson, a Bethel alumnus living in Cairo,

Egypt, shared his thoughts via a videotaped interview. This Encounters with Islam program gave us all a better perspective on the things we have in common with our Muslim

neighbors around the world.

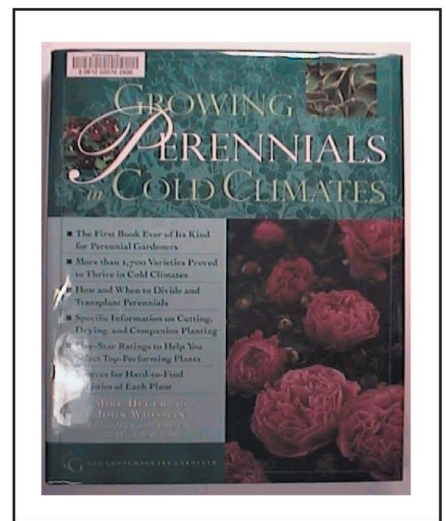
So, that's what you missed if you stayed at home, staring morosely at your mailbox. You could have had fabulous desserts, won amazing door prizes, mingled with almost celebrities and improved your mind. Don't miss your next opportunity – Homecoming 2002. ●



“But Can You Get a Job?”

Parents have long bemoaned the fact that fancy liberal arts graduates don't know how to survive in the real world. The Ivory Tower Syndrome is familiar to many of us who struggled to find meaningful work when we had no real skills. Well, fear no more. The Bethel College Library has gone practical, thanks to gifts from the Friends. Oh,

if only some of these books had been available to me as a student! Chilton's Auto Repair Manual could have made me really popular with the boys back then. So could've Betty Crocker's New Cookbook. And how nice to have learned something practical in college - something like Growing Perennials in Cold Climates is sure to teach. Now that I'm a homeowner, I regret that the New Fix-it-Yourself Manual wasn't required reading.



Maybe it's not too late for self-improvement. I think the next time I'm visiting the old alma mater, I'll go in and check out Fitness for Dummies. Yes, folks, all these are now on the shelves thanks to gifts from our Friends. ●

Homecoming Popularity Grows

The Friends of the Bethel College Library Homecoming Event has been such a smash the past three years that it seems everyone wants in on the idea. Several classes have scheduled reunions for the very same weekend, and now I hear they are even going to be having a football game that day. Well, that's fine, but we all know that the focus of the day will be on the FBCL event, held in the actual Bethel College Library. None of those other groups can say that, can they? They won't be having our famous fabulous food,

either. Oh well, as long as people are coming from all over the country to attend the 4th Annual Friends Homecoming, they might as well have something to do in the afternoon. Our theme this year is "Face to Face with the Changing Library: A Fair to Remember." We will have a fair set up in the library with many booths to visit. Learn about what's new while taking a look at the old. We will have pictures from the old campus library at one of the booths. Our librarians look forward to showing off their new technology and acquisitions. Find out what being a Friend of the Library is all about. What fair would be com-

plete without free stuff and food? We will feature both, though we probably will not serve cheese curds or alligator on a stick. Then again – who knows? Put September 28 on your calendar and make your travel arrangements before word gets out to the general public. By then it may be too late. We'll start at 10 a.m. and finish at 11:30. Bring a friend or two – they'll be glad you did. If you can get them to drive and park, you'll be glad you did, too! ●

Dear Friends,

It has been my privilege to serve as your president this year. I continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of your financial giving and your enthusiastic support of the work of the Friends of the Bethel Library. This year the Friends have purchased a wide variety of exciting volumes with your donations—everything from Bibles to travel books—not otherwise afforded

in the library budget.

In particular, I wish to acknowledge the work of all the library staff that has volunteered their time to carry out the myriad of details surrounding the "putting on" of every Friends event. I know that you will want to join with me in thanking the library staff the next time that you see them for all that they contribute so generously to the Friends. Among many other important details, it was no small feat to provide five

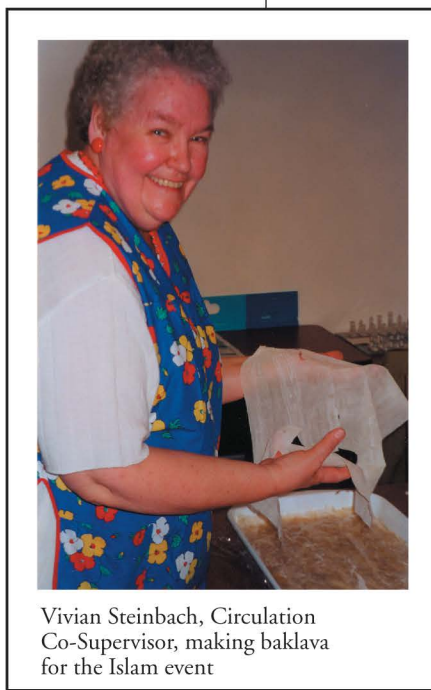
pans of homemade baklava at our March 2002 event, "Encounter with

Islam"!

Over the past year and a half, the Friends have developed three themes around which to highlight not only the books purchased with your donations, but also the life of the mind at Bethel.

- Topical Theme: "Art in April" (2001) and "Encounter With Islam" (2002)
- Readings: Faculty present from their scholarly works (2000-02).
- Homecoming: Annual event

Dear Friends continued page 5



Vivian Steinbach, Circulation Co-Supervisor, making baklava for the Islam event

Help "Make a Difference" in the Library

Be a Friend of the Bethel College Library for the 2001-2002

Renewing Member

New Member

Name _____

Street _____ Apt. _____

I live in the Twin Cities Area and would like to have circulation privileges at the College Library.

No, please do not list my name and membership level in Friends materials.

This year* I would like to direct my membership gift to:

Buy books only

50% books and 50% equipment/furnishings

All equipment/furnishings

*Membership year is September-August

For each \$25.00 donation, you may have a bookplate placed in a new book.

Payroll deduction is available for Bethel Employees

Check here if you would like us to send you a form for payroll deduction.

Payment Options

Check payable to Bethel College

Mail to: Bethel College Library

3900 Bethel Drive

St. Paul, MN 55112

Visa

MasterCard

Acct # _____

Exp. Date _____

Amt. Charged _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Billing Address:

Street _____

Please visit the library website: library.bethel.edu

—Dear Friends
continued from page 4

All of these events have provided a stimulating evening for participants and audience alike. It is our goal that these events will be an anticipated date on the social and academic calendar of Friends and the broader Bethel community. As always, if you have ideas for future events and, better yet, if you want to participate in the planning, please contact the Friends

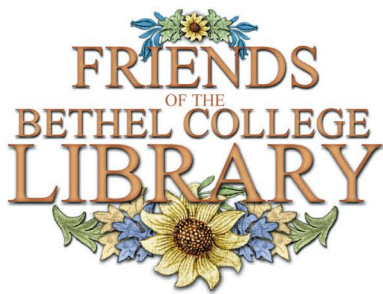
at <http://library.bethel.edu> and click on Friends, or call 651-638-6224.

Your gifts not only benefit current students, but those yet to come. Please consider how you might financially invest toward enriching our library's resources.

In your service,

—Diana L. Magnuson

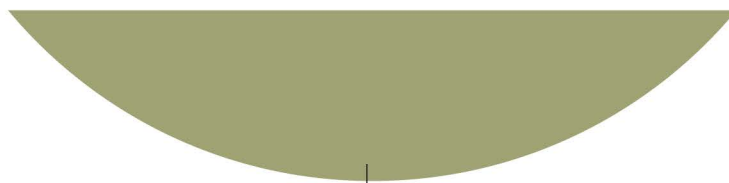
With great sadness, we report that Ralph Steinbach, husband of Vivien Steinbach, library circulation co-supervisor, and father of Kenneth Steinbach, associate professor of art, passed away on Thursday, May 9th. Vivien, who has a long tradition of supporting the Friends, continues her generosity by requesting that all memorials be given to the Friends of the Bethel College Library.



3900 Bethel Drive
St. Paul, MN 55112-6999
Address Service Requested

Save the Date!

Bethel Homecoming
September 28th, 2002
(see page 4)



Times have changed. Why, when I was a student no food or drink was allowed in the library. Now, the Bethel College Library has tried for a trial period its very own Coffee Shop. FBCL have actually had a part in this – some of their money has gone to buy a magnetic board and words to stimulate creativity while the coffee is stimulating metabolism. The Coffee Shop is located on the first floor of the library.

Times have changed. When I was a student we all did our work in the evenings so we could get to bed early and get a good night's sleep before getting up for our

JavaScript



Café

devotions and nutritious breakfast before our morning classes. Now it seems students stay up all night doing papers and studying. In light of this change, Bethel and the other CLIC libraries are testing out a new reference service that will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Times have changed. The FBCL used to always be begging someone to become our Board Secretary. No more. Donna Barnett has agreed to be our new Secretary. So it's too late for the rest of you. (But it's not too late to have your reference questions answered.

See above.) ●