

## Accomplishments 2008

**Annual High School Poet Laureate Contest** - This contest is sponsored in partnership with the Guilford County Schools Media Specialists. Poems by the winning poets were published in a booklet. Poets will read their poems a special reception at Central Library on May 2. Winning poets will also participate in a workshop with poet Pat Mora. Dr. Marilyn Miller and Grimsley High School Media Specialist Kate Cummings were in charge of this year's contest.

**Booklovers Shop** - Celebrating a 10th anniversary the Booklovers Shop had a very good year. The May 2008 book sale raised \$2750.25 and the November 2008 book sale brought in \$3298.50. Also, the shop received a donation of 1400 DVD's which were sold online for \$900. Volunteers in the shop were honored during Volunteer Appreciation Week.

**Library Advocacy Committee** - This committee consists of 11 members from the Friends Board and Board of Trustees, and is chaired by Willie Taylor. The committee sponsored a Tea in September for elected officials and administrative staff. They also sponsored a luncheon in conjunction with High Point Public Library for the Guilford County Delegation and a luncheon for Greensboro City Council and Guilford County Commissioners. They also sent birthday cards to all elected officials, provided reports to City Council and County Commissioners and organized speakers for the "Take it to Raleigh" forum. Members attended City Council's district forums. The committee also developed a plan that is being implemented for "Action Groups" at Central and all Branch Libraries. Also, they sponsored an Advocacy Workshop for Greensboro Library Board of Trustees, Advocacy Committee, and Branch Coordinating Council. The committee also developed an advocacy "Video Postcard."

**Annual Meeting Committee** - This committee organized the 2008 Annual Membership Meeting at the Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch and the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting.

**Literary Laurel** - The 2008 Literary Laurel Award was presented to Doris Betts.

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**NC Public Libraries Spring Workshop** - The Friends of the Greensboro Public Library hosted the Regional North Carolina Friends of the Library spring workshop and conducted advocacy training on March 28. Two members of the Advocacy Committee have been selected to represent North Carolina in a national advocacy event in Washington D.C., May, 2009.

**Communications Committee** - This committee sent out quarterly e-newsletters and news releases on an as-needed basis.

**Membership Committee** - This committee decided to concentrate on former members who had not renewed in recent years. A letter was sent to 534 people in July, 2008 and another was sent in December to 308 people. Our current membership is 230.

**Program Committee** - Whitney Vanderwerff served as the liaison to the library's program committee. This committee sponsored the 2008 One City, One Book, the 2008 Poetry GSO, the LifeVerse project and the 2009 Poetry GSO. Over a dozen programs with local authors were sponsored by the Friends.

**One City, One Book** - Over 5,000 people participated in the 2008 One City, One Book which featured *The Pleasure Was Mine*, a novel by Asheville author Tommy Hays. There were over 25 programs and events associated with this project and at least 50 book discussions throughout the city.

**Poetry GSO** - 1200 people attended a reading by Nikki Giovanni at the Carolina Theater in April 2008.

**Poetry GSO** - We formed a partnership with Art Beat to sponsor the city's first city-wide El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) event in Center City Park on May 2, 2009.

**LifeVerse** - This project takes poetry programs to older adults and has been presented in over 15 nursing homes, retirement centers, the Greensboro Senior Center and other Senior Resources of Guilford sites. About 500 people have participated in the 45 programs presented by poets and community volunteers.

**Weekly Story Times** - Friends' funds sponsored weekly story times at all library locations, as well as emergent literacy workshops for parents and caregivers.

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