

# the **Limited** edition

Bismarck Library Foundation • Bismarck, ND



Bismarck Library  
Foundation, Inc.

Since 1975

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Donors**

7 **Teen HQ**



Members of the Great Books Discussion Group meet to discuss their monthly selection.

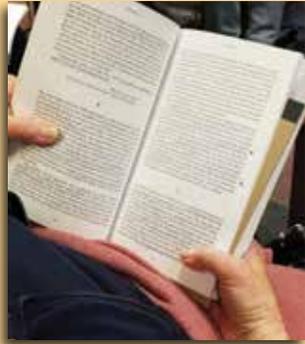
## **Book Clubs add an element of community to reading**

**B**ook clubs at the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library offer patrons a way to step outside their reading comfort zone, learn about other people's opinions, and broaden their reading repertoire. Some of the Library's current books clubs include the Mystery Book Club, the Great Books Discussion Group, and the Reader's Voice Book Club. The Reader's Voice Book Club is one of the most popular. Started by two library patrons in 2004, the group read their 100th book in 2017 and shows no signs of slowing down.

Sarah Matthews, Head of Adult Programming, says book clubs help to bring people together. She says, "I think they connect us and it is a way to talk about topics that may be uncomfortable in regular conversation but in the context of a book discussion we can share opinions and stories in a different way. You also get to know people in a different way by sharing reactions to situations or topics brought up in books. Everyone is so busy these days. It is nice to slow down, delve into a book, and then have a meaningful conversation about

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One book club member highlights the text so she remembers key elements of the book.



The Library has several Reader's Voice Book Club selections.

## Book Clubs *Cont. from page 1*

the book. It is also a very nice social interaction and a time to have a civil discussion.”

Some book clubs only meet during the fall, winter, and spring, but the Mystery Book Club continues throughout the summer, with only December off. Book Club Meetings typically last about an hour and participants number on average from 10-15 people.

Online book clubs are also available and are a great way to sample new and unfamiliar authors and books. Each week day you receive a five-minute portion of a book in a genre of your choice. By the end of the week, you'll have read two to three chapters. If you like one of the books, you can stop by the library and pick up a copy. New books are featured every week or two weeks.

Sarah suggests that if you are starting out with a book club that you find something that lines up with your interest. If you are interested in mysteries, check out the Mystery Book Club, or if you're interested in more literary topics, the Great Books Discussion Group might be for you. You can even get a group of friends together and start your own book club.

Sarah says, “People can be challenged to read things they maybe wouldn't typically pick up. I hear people say that a lot – ‘This isn't something I would normally read but it pushed me out of my comfort zone and I'm glad I read it.’ People also can hopefully learn from other people's experiences, both in the book and from

the people discussing the book.”

Besides the Library's own book clubs, there are also patron-lead book clubs that use Library meeting rooms. If you would like to start your own club, the Library has Book Club Kits available for checkout. There are 24 titles available and you get about 10 copies of the book, along with a folder of questions to inspire your discussion.

One Mystery Book Club participant is Lael Hoerauf. When asked about the club, Lael said, “The most interesting part about the Mystery Book Club is that we concentrate on the author and not a particular book. Many mystery authors write series around a particular protagonist and often they may have more than one series in their repertoire. This way we can choose a book from the many offerings of the author. Through her research, Sarah has uncovered some very interesting tidbits about these authors' lives and we are better able to understand their characters' behaviors and idiosyncrasies.”

Tonya Fehr is a member of the Reader's Voice Book Club. She said, “It's been really rewarding to expand my reading horizon. If I didn't attend book club I would tend to stick to one or two genres. I've really enjoyed shifting my reading habits and reading books that have introduced me to new subjects, new authors, new genres. I've always felt that books increase knowledge and the appreciation of the world

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# Bookmark

## Thank you to the American Society of Radiologic Technologists

The American Society of Radiologic Technologists has granted \$2,000 to the Library to be used to purchase adult and children's books about radiology. The ASRT has a National Library Partnership grant program that supplies books, bookmarks, bookplates, and display materials in an effort to promote radiological information to the public.

## Goodbye, Cameo

Cameo Skager has resigned her position as Executive Director of the Bismarck Library Foundation. Cameo spent four years helping the Foundation raise the money necessary to help the Library enhance collections and facilities. Cameo says a highlight was participating in the capital campaign effort to fund the new Teen Center and seeing the results! Thank you, Cameo, for your time and talents. You will be missed.

# Take a look around

**By Cameo Skager**  
Executive Director, Bismarck Library Foundation

As I prepared to pack up my belongings and head out the door, moving on to another job and another adventure, I took some time to reflect on my days spent helping the Library Foundation. I worked with many wonderful people at the Library and I always knew that the efforts of the Foundation were supporting a worthy place – a necessary and needed place that provides for our community and its people.

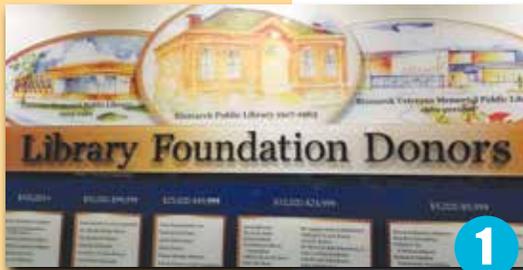
Over the years, the Foundation has been able to help the Library improve its facilities,

expand its services, and grow its resources and collections. Helping to provide the funding for the Teen Center was one of the great things that happened during my tenure at the Foundation. What an impressive thing for the Library – having a place for area teens to hang out, where they feel comfortable and welcome, where they can focus, grow and explore.

Something I did on one of my last days at the Foundation was take a

walk through the Library and really look around. The Library is full of expected items and unexpected treasures as well. Next time you stop by, make sure you take a look around. Here are some items you might want to check out (library pun 😊).

- 1.) Our sign that thanks the Library Foundation Donors – a dedicated group of people who see the value and inspiration that the Library offers.
- 2.) A look at the history of our Library building.
- 3.) Your suggestions matter – our Suggestion Box, located by the copier.



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- 4.) Need some games for Family Game Night? More than 100 games are available.



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- 5.) Forecast is for a winter storm! Come pick up a DVD Binge Box and chill with some great movies.
- 6.) Art is available for checkout from the Library. You can brighten your home or office with new art every two months.
- 7.) The holidays are the time to try out some new recipes. There are stacks of cookbooks available!
- 8.) Need to boost your music collection? Get some new tunes for free with your Library card.
- 9.) Don't forget to stop at the Gifted Bean for some coffee and cheer to warm your tummy and your soul.
- 10.) Tuesday movie nights are a thing at the Library. We have a wide range of flicks for your viewing pleasure.
- 11.) If you want to really take a trip into the past – check this book out!

All you have to do is look around to see the value of our Library. I'm so glad I was able to be a small part of helping it move forward and flourish.

*continued on page 4*

## Take a look around *Cont. from page 3*

I would like to thank the Library staff and the Board of Directors of the Library Foundation for making my time here worthwhile and appreciated. AND a big thank you to Kristi, the Library Foundation's Administrative and Financial Assistant. She is a wonderful office mate, and a smart, efficient, creative, and speedy worker. She

knows about the Foundation's business and cares about our donors and the Library staff. I will miss seeing her every week.

*Farewell all. I'll be sure to stop by once in a while to say hi – and I'll definitely take a look around.*



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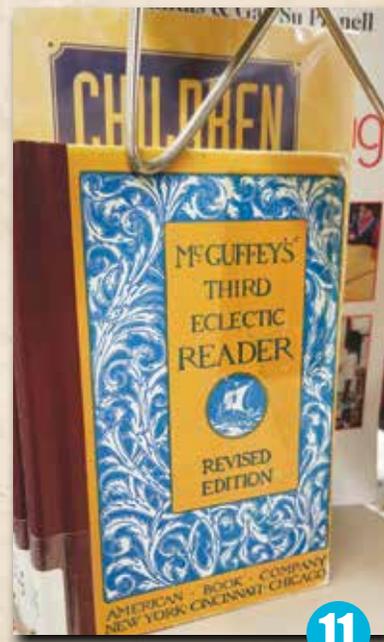
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is published twice  
per year by the  
Bismarck Library  
Foundation, Inc. This

newsletter is mailed or emailed to all donors and others interested in the continued growth and enhancement of Library services. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please email the Foundation at [libraryfoundation@bismarcklibrary.org](mailto:libraryfoundation@bismarcklibrary.org) or call 355-1494.

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If you would prefer to have your  
newsletter emailed to you, please  
send your email address to  
[ksimenson@bismarcklibrary.org](mailto:ksimenson@bismarcklibrary.org)

# North Dakota Tax Credit offers benefits to donors

Are you looking for a way to save on your annual income tax bill? Consider giving a donation to the Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc.'s Endowment Fund and benefiting from the North Dakota Tax Credit.

The purpose of the tax credit is to give North Dakotans the opportunity to make meaningful gifts to charities and reduce income tax bills. If an individual makes a single gift of at least \$5,000 in one year to a North Dakota nonprofit endowment fund, such as the Bismarck Library Foundation's Endowment

Fund, they receive a 40 percent North Dakota income tax credit, in addition to the Federal income tax deduction for the charitable gift. For some people the net cost of a \$5,000 gift after the tax deduction and tax credit is \$1,600.

*If you have any questions about making a gift to the Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc. Endowment Fund, contact the Foundation office at 701-355-1502 or visit with your accountant.*

## LIKE Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library on Facebook



Find out what's happening at the Library and the Library Foundation. Like us on Facebook at the following pages:

- Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library
- Teen Center at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library
- Miss Sparkles at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library

# Support your community by supporting the Library!

The Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc., offers several different ways to support the Library. All memberships are tax deductible. Use the membership envelope inserted in this newsletter and start your legacy of Library support. To

view our membership perks, visit [bismarcklibrary.org](http://bismarcklibrary.org), click on Support the Library, then Library Foundation. Help the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library remain an amazing place to read, study, learn, and grow!

## The Bismarck Library Foundation, Inc. Donors

The Bismarck Library Foundation Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges  
current members of giving clubs, along with all gifts received from  
June 1, 2018 to November 14, 2018

### Novel Club Members - \$500 Annually

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Dr. Cheryl Huber  
Dr. Nowarat Songsirdej  
Sharon Tschider

### Endowment Gifts Nikki & Wyatt Ferderer

### Memorials to the Endowment Fund

In Memory of John Nicola  
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Robert A. Schulte  
Robert E. Schulte  
In Memory of Carol Jacobson  
Don & Kathy Nordquist  
In Memory of Carolyn Ressler  
Cynthia & Bob Norland  
In Memory of Deanna Berg  
Mary Jo Savageau  
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In Memory of Jill Flynn Smyth  
Janet & George Jury  
Susan Watson  
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In Memory of Mil Jenkinson  
Laura Schmidt-Dockter  
In Memory of Sally Oremland  
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James & Gail Leary  
Donna Maston  
Muriel Peterson  
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Dick Weber  
Friends & Family of Sally  
Oremland

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. If you find an error in our list, please bring it to our attention.

## Honorariums to the Endowment Fund

In Honor of Diane Laub's Birthday  
Kim Reiner

In Honor of Ed Klecker's 80th Birthday  
Bill & Dina Butcher

## Grants

American Society of Radiologic Technologists  
MDU Resources Foundation

## Special Purpose Donations

Maggie & David Anderson  
Orville & Kathleen Eide  
Bea Kaiser

In Memory of Mariann Saylor  
M. Peggy Kaldahl  
Christine Kujawa  
In Memory of Mariann Saylor  
Sue Sorlie

## In-Kind Gifts

Bill & Ann Pearce

the GIFTED Bean coffee house

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COFFEE | TEA | SANDWICHES | GOOD FEELINGS

FACEBOOK | THE GIFTED BEAN

## Teen HQ keeps teens busy

Information from Laura Rysavy  
Teen Programming Coordinator

There has been a flurry of activity in HQ. We are seeing more kids come in to work on homework or hang out with friends. We have a dedicated group of about five gentlemen who come in to play video games each



Teens put together take-home crafting kits for use by Children's Library patrons.

week. We also have two students who receive assistance from the Anne Carlson Center who have been coming in during open hours and partaking in the gaming and crafting that goes on after school. Our Teen Advisory Group put together crafting kits for the Children's Library. All supplies, except for glue and markers, were included in a paper bag so that children and families could take home a craft to do together.



Teens participate in a video game tournament in the Teen HQ.

## Book Clubs *Cont. from page 2*

around us, so for me, reading different types of books has helped to expand that even more."

When asked what she would say to someone considering joining the club, she said, "If you like to read you probably like to spend time with literary-minded people. There's something special about being able to bond over reading a book. Each reader is coming from their own perspective and their own viewpoint. Not only can

you discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* or *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* with people who have different perspectives, but you get to hear what other people liked or didn't like about the book. The adage, 'no two people ever read the same book' is not only true, but it's interesting to experience firsthand."

Sarah says that if people have other ideas for different book clubs she would love to hear them. Plans for

2019 include the possibility of starting a book club off site, at a local bar or coffee shop, and possibly reading short stories.

*For more information about Library Book Clubs, visit the Library's website – [www.bismarcklibrary.org](http://www.bismarcklibrary.org), click Programs and Book Clubs.*



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