

the Limited edition

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library • Bismarck, ND



The Library
Foundation, Inc.
Since 1975

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Children's Library Reaches Age Five

Five years ago as summer began, sounds of construction filled the Library. The Children's Library remodeling project was underway. Children were ushered to temporary quarters in the lower level to find books or attend programs.

Today, the bright remodeled space draws hundreds of children to Summer Reading Program events. Children track the minutes they read on special reading logs and have an array of events to attend, such as EatPlayGrow, Miss Sparkles Day Camps, Family Movie Days and previews of Shade Tree Players shows.



Alean Olson at a 2013 Summer Reading event.

"We're pleased with the Children's Library Project, especially when we see all the young people making use of the space," says Erik

Sakariassen, who co-chaired the campaign, which kicked off with a news conference in October 2007.

The campaign was inspired by the vision of providing a special learning space for children of the 21st century.



Miss Sparkles helps Hannah Hintz choose a book.

The committee hoped to raise the funds in about a year, but that was before the Great Recession of 2008 arrived. Instead, hardy committee members knocked on doors for four years. In the end, \$667,000 was raised in gifts and pledges.

Sakariassen adds, "We're grateful to the Bismarck community. People caught the vision and gave generously. Today, less than 1 percent of the pledges are outstanding. That's unprecedented."

Children's librarian Traci Juhala notes use of the Children's Library has increased substantially. "Just as Bismarck was about to hit a major growth spurt, the Library Foundation had the foresight to update and enhance the children's area," she said. "I can't count the number of people who have exclaimed over our beautiful space—visitors and local residents alike."

To learn more about children's events, check out www.bismarcklibrary.org.

Foundation Elects Officers and Directors

The Library Foundation, Inc., held its annual election in April. Cynthia Norland was elected president. She has been on the Library Foundation Board of Directors since 2011 and served as vice president and chair of the Legacy Committee. In addition, Dick Weber was elected vice president and Kathleen Nordquist, secretary. Bill Pearce was reelected treasurer. Mike LaLonde is the past president.

Two new directors were elected. They are Liz Lucas, who is completing six years on the Library Board of Directors, and Jesse Sailer, a client advisor for Bremer Investment Management & Trust. Sue Sorlie retired from the board after six years of service.

Kujawa Named Library Director

Christine Kujawa became the new director of Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library on May 1.

A native of Grand Forks, Christine holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Champaign Urbana (UIUC), and a Master's of Management from the University of Mary. While living in Grand Forks, she worked at the Grand Forks Public Library and the Thormodsgard Law Library at UND. She was Head of Circulation Services at Bismarck Public Library for 10 years, becoming the Assistant Director in 2013.

Christine has also served as the System Librarian for the Central Dakota Library Network and taught an online class in Library Marketing Management for UIUC

for several years. In 2012, she was named "Librarian of the Year" by the N.D. Library Association. She was the 2013 recipient of the Gordon M. Conable Award, a national award recognizing a demonstrated commitment to intellectual freedom."

Michael Schaff, who sits on the Library and the Foundation boards said of Christine's appointment, "The Library has had decades of consistent leadership under Tom Jones and Mary Jane Schmalz. With Christine's demonstrated leadership and passion for the Library, I believe she will provide the same continuity and move the Library forward into the future."

Mary Jane Schmalz, who has served as library director since April 2013, plans to retire June 30.



Cynthia Norland



Christine Kujawa, right, with Mary Jane Schmalz and Tom Jones

Book Mark

Grants

The Library Foundation has received grants from three area organizations this year.

- **Basin Electric Power Cooperative** made two grants since the last newsletter was published, a \$1,000 for event sponsorship and a \$5,000 unrestricted grant.
- **Fredrikson & Byron Foundation** gave the Library Foundation a \$2,000 unrestricted grant.
- **Midcontinent Communications** provided a \$1,000 grant that was forwarded to the Library for a large-format printer.

Many thanks to these special friends of the Library Foundation and Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.



Dean Dietsmann presented a check from Midcontinent Communications at the May meeting of the Library Foundation Board. Pictured with Dean are Cynthia Norland, Christine Kujawa and Gayle Schuck.

My First Library Memory

Books, Reading, Service Part of Sakariassen's Tradition

Erik Sakariassen recalls a kindergarten field trip to Bismarck's old Carnegie Library as his earliest library experience. "When the new Veteran's Memorial Library opened in 1963," he says, "our family made a habit of going there evenings to check out books. Our parents always read to us. I specifically remember my father reading *Treasure Island*."

You might say reading is in the Sakariassen blood. In 1920, Erik's grandfather opened a confectionery in Mandan, The Palace of Sweets, selling candy, ice cream, and magazines. The business eventually evolved into Saks News, a wholesale distributor of newspapers, magazines and paperback books that today serves retail customers throughout North Dakota and northern Minnesota.

Erik's father led the company when Erik was young. "I have vivid memories related to books. We always had paperbacks around the house, but they never had covers. We read comic books like crazy. They didn't have covers either. The covers went back to the publishers for credit on unsold returns."

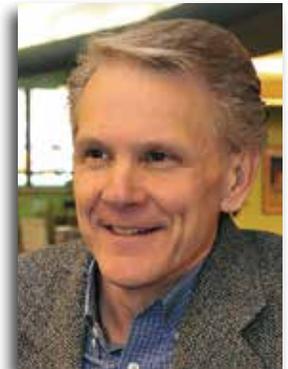
That reading tradition continued as Erik's children were growing up. "Amy and I read to our kids until they were 13 years old. Parents sometimes think reading aloud to kids will stifle them from reading on their

own, but really it broadens their experience."

A strong proponent of reading and literacy, Erik has taught English as a second language and has chaired the North Dakota Center for the Book. In 1995, he was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries, where as chairman, he headed a steering committee that developed "Library Vision 2004" and crafted legislation to solve communication and governance issues among North Dakota libraries.

Erik served on the Bismarck Public Library Board of Directors for six years. He's been on the Foundation Board since 1999, where he served as president and continues to guide the Finance Committee. He also co-chaired the Children's Library campaign, which began in 2007.

Of all his volunteer work on behalf of literacy, he says, "I'm most proud of the Children's Library project. When children love reading, that's the best thing of all."



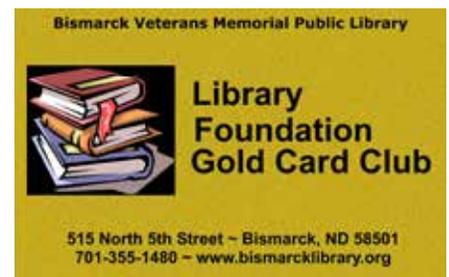
Erik Sakariassen

"The greatest gift is a passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites, it gives you knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind. It is a moral illumination."

~ Elizabeth Hardwick

Join the Gold Card Club today!
www.bismarcklibrary.org and click on "Support the Library" icon.

Membership in the Gold Card Club provides a unique gold library card and invitations to The Library Foundation events. Membership is \$250 per year, with a 3-year membership requirement. When applying for membership, please include your date of birth for verification to produce your card. Only one person's name may be included on the card.



So You can do THAT at the Library?

The past winter and spring were especially long and dreary, but on April 11, the Library Foundation found a way to beat the blues with “Spring Break at the Library.” It was an evening with an attitude and a sub-theme of “You can do THAT at the Library?”

Surfer music, beach decor, lawn chairs and casual dress encouraged about 100 attendees to forget the chilly weather outside and have fun, fun, fun. Guests sampled fine wines and locally brewed Buffalo Commons beer. Snacks included pizza, popcorn and imported chocolates. In addition, Library staff displayed some of the unique online services available, such as AncestryLibraryEdition and Consumer Reports. Rose, the reading therapy dog, was also on hand.

The highlight of the evening was a vexing game of trivia with the Wild Trivia Tour, which was back by popular demand. Dozens of people formed teams to answer the mind-stumping questions posed by Scott Wild.



The event helped raise over \$5,800 for Teen Services. The money has been added to a special fund set aside for a future upgrade to the teen area of the Library.

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- Support the Library Foundation
- Receive a Ben Franklin magnet
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Membership dues:
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To become a member,
send in the form on Page 7
with your donation.

Who's Who

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The Limited Edition is published twice annually by The Library Foundation, Inc. This newsletter

is mailed to all donors and others concerned about the continued growth and enhancement of Library services. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please call Gayle Schuck at (701) 355-1494.

Donors Honored with New Wall and Kiosk

A splashy new Donor Wall and a state-of-the art Donor Kiosk now honors donors at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. A new Donor Kiosk was installed in April that includes the names of donors to campaigns, clubs and who made special gifts and memorial gifts.



The kiosk replaces two donor walls previously located by the front door. One wall recognized Building Campaign donors from the late 1980s. The other listed contributors to the Endowment since 2001. Those names are now listed on the kiosk, along with members of the Library Foundation's Gold Card Club, Ben Franklin 100 Club, donors to the Children's Campaign and other categories. Searches can be made by name or by type of gift.

In mid-May, the new Donor Wall was erected to the right of the Children's Library entrance. The bright wall features Ric Sprynczynatyk's historic renderings of the old Carnegie Library, the small modern library built in the 1960s, and today's Library.

The 850 donors listed on the new wall have made cumulative gifts of \$5,000 or more. That list will be reviewed annually and the wall will be updated to reflect new donations.

Since 1976, gifts forwarded to the Library add up to over \$1.1 million. Another \$1.16 million has been placed in the Endowment.

Along with year-end tax deductible donations, some of the most beneficial categories of giving include memorials and honor gifts made on behalf of others. Bequeaths designated during estate planning have been the single largest source of help in recent years.

The kiosk and wall do not reflect all gifts to the Foundation. Donors who prefer to remain anonymous are not listed. In addition, some gifts made prior to 2001 may not have been brought into the computerized records.

Two Bismarck companies designed the wall and the kiosk. Mann Signs designed and erected the wall. The kiosk was designed by Vision Technology, a technology development company that has developed kiosks in 48 states, primarily for veterans cemeteries.

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The Bismarck Library Foundation Donors
*The Bismarck Library Foundation Board of Directors
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Endowment Gifts
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Eugene & Paula Roach
James & Eileen Mack Rouse
Dan & Mary Jane Schmaltz
Dan & Roxanne Vondrachek

**Memorials to the
Endowment Fund**

In Memory of Alexandra
"Sacha" Boon
Joel R. Boon
In Memory of Darlene Janssen
Bob & Tamie Aberle
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Paul & Patricia Sandness
Andrea Stomberg
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**Spring Event
Sponsorships**

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Buffalo Commons Brewery
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Wild Trivia Tour

Bequest
In Memory of Dr. August,
Doris & Robert Orr
Doris C. Orr Trust

Grants
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Fredrikson & Byron Foundation

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



Gayle Schuck

“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulder of giants.”

~ Sir Isaac Newton

Standing on the Shoulders of Extraordinary People

I’ve been lucky to stand on the shoulders of others has been attributed to many great thinkers, such as Isaac Newton who, fittingly, invented the reflecting telescope.

More recently, Josh Groban introduced a song with these words: “You raise me up so I can stand on mountains, to walk on stormy seas, I am strong when I am on your shoulders, you raise me up to more than I can be.” Groban, who has sold 25 million albums, credits his success to people who helped him along the way. I’ve been lucky to stand on the shoulders of many giants, such as my grownup sisters and sisters-in-law who accepted me into their group from about age 10. And those wonderful gray-haired ladies who led Bible studies when I was in my 20s, and who always took time to talk. They helped me mature as a wife and mother. There were mentors, from college instructors to business leaders and employers, who invested time to help me succeed in my career.

Today, I’m grateful for the Library Foundation directors, who lead by example

when it comes to tackling projects and who give selflessly of their individual talents and resources. Likewise for the Library administration and staff and my office buddy Kristi Simenson. The community support of the Library has touched and inspired me many times. You have raised up the Foundation to be a vital help to the Library.

Working with great people for a great cause makes it hard to retire, but it’s time to play more in the sand along the Missouri River and to work on my next manuscript. (*Secrets of the Dark Closet*, don’t miss it!) My official retirement date is June 30.

Thank you for being extraordinary, for going the extra mile, and for letting me stand on your shoulders for awhile.



Five Ways to Help the Foundation

Gifts to the The Library Foundation, Inc., can be designated for specific purposes. All gifts are tax deductible and deeply appreciated. Designate my gift for:

- Ben Franklin 100 Club
 - Gold Card Club
 - Operating Fund
 - Endowment Fund
 - Honorary or Memorial Gift
- Amount: _____

I’d like to receive obligation-free information about bequests and other planned giving ideas.



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Information About Tax Credits for Endowment Gifts

Now is a good time to consider making a donation to The Library Foundation's Endowment Fund. The \$1.1 million fund is a 501(c)(3) that provides a private source of income for Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

The N.D. Legislature has expanded state charitable income tax credit options so North Dakotans can make gifts to charities and reduce income tax bills. The credit may be carried forward for three years if it cannot all be used in one year.

An individual may receive the credit for a contribution of \$5,000 or more to a qualified North Dakota endowment, such as The Library Foundation, Inc. The tax credit is 40% of the charitable reduction allowed by the IRS, up to a \$10,000 per year per taxpayer or \$20,000 per year per couple filing jointly. For donors in a 28% federal tax bracket, the tax benefits may look like this:

Gift Amount	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Federal tax deduction	- 1,400	- 7,000	- 14,000
N.D. state income tax credit	- 2,000	- 10,000	- 20,000
Net Cost of Gift	\$1,600	\$8,000	\$16,000

C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, estates, limited liability companies and trusts that make gifts to qualified endowments may qualify for a state income tax credit, equal to 40% of the value of the gift, up to a maximum credit of \$10,000 per year.

You may also direct your IRA/retirement account distribution to a qualified endowment fund. The funds coming out of the account won't be taxed. The distributed funds are eligible for the 40% N.D. Income Tax Credit. You must be 70 1/2 or older to use the IRA rollover provision and the maximum which may be withdrawn is \$100,000. The maximum tax credit for IRA contributions is \$25,000 per person or \$50,000 per couple.

Learn more by contacting the Foundation at 701-355-1494. For more specific legal information about charitable tax credits, contact your tax advisor or call the N.D. Tax Department at 701-328-7088 or at www.nd.gov/tax.