

the Limited edition

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library • Bismarck, ND



The Library
Foundation, Inc.
Since 1975

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Ed Klecker: Library a Positive Reflection of Community

Recently Ed Klecker held the door of the Library open for two women and a dozen little children who were leaving the Library. "They were all happy," he recalled.

It may have been a déjà vu moment for Ed, who remembers group trips to the library. "I went to St. Leo's School in Minot. I have fond memories of the nuns leading us to the Library like little ducklings. Everything in the Children's Library was brown, except the children's librarian had blue-gray hair.

"Even in first and second grade, I was astounded that all the books were free. That library was very unlike the environment we have here, but they instilled a love of reading in many," says Ed, who now brings his grandson, Jack, to Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. "It's a great environment for kids. If they have a good reading background, they'll do well in life."

Ed served as the North Dakota Director of Institutions during his career. The State Library was one of his responsibilities. Through his work he met Tom Jones and Mary Jane Schmaltz from the Bismarck Library, which led him to long-term Library leadership.

Ed has freely given back to the Library by volunteering. He has



Ed Klecker and Jack

served as President of the Friends of the Library, the Library Board of Directors and The Library Foundation, Inc. He has been on the Foundation Board since 2006, serving as president for two years. He has also done book reviews for KFYZ Radio and City Magazine, and actively supports Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

"Libraries are such a positive reflection of the community. They give access to computers, audio books, large print books, newspapers and a lot more, and there is no fee!" says Ed.

Ed and his wife Sheila both enjoy reading. Ed reads titles checked out of the Library, as well as books downloaded to his Nook. "My philosophy is some books are 'candy bar books' from favorite authors with reoccurring characters, so when you open up the book, it's like biting into your favorite candy bar," he says.



Tom at a recent event.

My First Library Memory

Tom Mayer Remembers Bismarck as a Small Town

Tom Mayer's 50 years of volunteerism on behalf of Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library is documented in a 1963 photo of Tom and others, moving books from the old Carnegie Library to the present location. No one knows how many books he and other Jaycees moved that day, but the new Library opened with 100,000 books.

Tom grew up in Bismarck and remembers his fascination with books about sailing ships, King Arthur, and other faraway topics, which he found in the lower level of the Carnegie Library. "We walked or rode bike everywhere. Bismarck was a small town and it seemed like you knew everyone," Tom recalls.

"I've always had a love of books and enjoy being around books. At Notre Dame, I worked in the law school library and that's where I studied."

After attending law school at Notre Dame and

becoming an attorney, Tom moved back to his hometown. Ironically, he found himself back at the old Carnegie Library, which the city had converted for other uses. "I was in that lower level for municipal court cases," he says. After almost 20 years with a law firm, he spent 15 years with the Attorney General's office.

Through all that time Tom has been active, first serving on the Library Board of Directors, and then the Library Foundation Board. Since the 1990s, he's been president, vice president and secretary of the Foundation, and served on several campaigns and committees. As one of the longest serving board members, Tom's role as the keeper of Library history has taken on more significance.

A frequent visitor to the Library, both for meetings and to select books, Tom says, "I enjoy reading in retirement." He is currently reading a series by C.J. Sansom.



Tom in 1963.

Book Mark

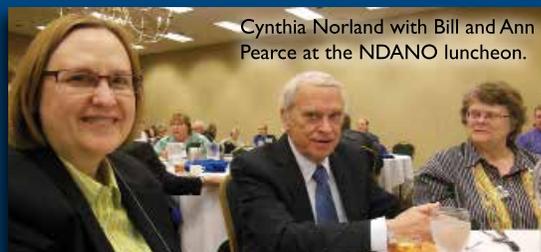
Foundation Receives Grants

Target has donated \$2,000 to The Library Foundation, Inc. The grant will assist Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library with the 2014 Summer Reading Program. In 2013 a total of 671 grade school children signed up for the Summer Reading Program, with 231 children reading 500 minutes or more during the 8-week program.

MDU Resources Foundation recently gave The Library Foundation, Inc. a \$4,000 grant. The funds will be used to meet the Foundation's mission of enriching publicly funded services by raising private funds to enhance collections, resources and facilities at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

Schaff Appointed to Library Board

Michael Schaff has been appointed to the Library Board of Directors. He also serves as the Library's representative to the Foundation's



Cynthia Norland with Bill and Ann Pearce at the NDANO luncheon.

Board of Directors. He was president of the Library Foundation in 2007 and 2008.

Pearce Receives Leadership Award

Bill Pearce was the 2013 recipient of the N.D. Association of Nonprofit Organizations Walt Odegaard Leadership Award. Bill was recognized for helping to establish the Library Foundation in 1976 and his work as an officer since then, in addition to other community involvement.

Former Officer Passes

Clifford Keller passed away Nov. 26, 2013, at Bismarck. Cliff served on the Foundation Board of Directors from 2002 until 2013. He was secretary of the board for six years. "We will miss Cliff. He was a dedicated and active board member," said Foundation President Mike LaLonde.

Director Publishes eBook

Gayle Schuck, development director for The Library Foundation, published an eBook this fall. "By the Banks of Cottonwood Creek" is a work of fiction set in rural North Dakota in 2001. It is available at Amazon at <http://tinyurl.com/k7out2k> or at www.barnesandnoble.com.

Round, Round, I Get Around



KeliAnn Trowbridge &
Vickie Schmidt

When the Burleigh County Bookmobile arrives at Manning School southeast of Bismarck, children pour out of the schoolhouse door and up the steps of the library-on-wheels.

The young patrons know what they want. "Look! I've been waiting for this book!" says Justin Chase, waving a book, the fourth in a series he's reading. The children buzz like bees, selecting books in which they are interested. And then it's time for the Bookmobile to move on.

All afternoon it shakes, rattles and rolls along gravel roads and two-lane highways bringing books and DVDs for all ages. "We see a lot of the same people every month and we get to know our patrons," says KeliAnn Trowbridge, lead Bookmobile librarian since 2011. Each month the Bookmobile stops at over 60 places. When the Bookmobile backs out of its garage at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, it's loaded with enticing titles.



Sister Ruth Karabensh and Sister Gemma Peters



Justin Chase with his schoolmates in the Bookmobile

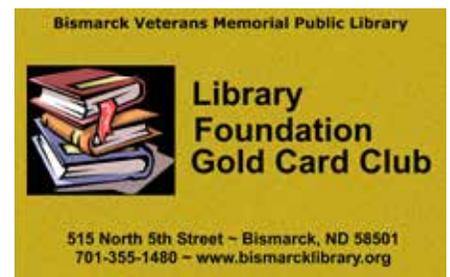
The other staff member is Vickie Schmidt, who has served on the rolling library for 14 years.

"Vickie has a keen awareness of patron's interests," says KeliAnn. "Like other Library services, we're constantly changing to meet patrons' needs. We try to have books, audio books and DVDs that people like." Recently the Bookmobile began providing e-readers for book clubs at two assisted living centers. "The fonts can be enlarged, so they are easier to read. We load the same books on each e-reader."

Near the end of this day, the Bookmobile stops at Annunciation Priory where Sister Gemma Peters is waiting to return a bag of books. After just a few minutes, she leaves with a load of new selections for herself and other residents. "We really appreciate the Bookmobile. We pass the books around and we all read them," she says.

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.





Nostalgic Newsletter Offers Insight

EDITOR'S NOTE: A newsletter published almost 70 years ago by Bismarck Public Library surfaced this year, giving an eyewitness view of a different era. One note: the Library can no longer use discarded magazines.

NEWS LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

December 1944



CHRISTMAS



*"The earth has donned her Christmas gown,
All buttoned snugly up and down;
With ruffles and tucks from top to toe,
Made of the slowly drifting snow.
Tall Christmas trees bedeck her hair,
While flocks of snowbirds nestle there.
The fleecy clouds like crystal lace
Form a filmy veil across her face,
And over all the stars look down
Like twinkling jewels in her crown."*

This charming Christmas poem, written by Laura Sanderson, who lived for many years in Bismarck, appeared in *Prairie Wings* several years ago. In this little magazine, official organ of the North Dakota Poetry Society, you may find other poems by friends or neighbors. *Prairie Schooner*, a quarterly published by the University of Nebraska and known as the "literary talent scout of the midlands," is another magazine of regional interest worthy of your attention.

This Christmas, when many families are separated, the fellowship of reading must be a source of real satisfaction to many of you. That this fellowship is a tie that lasts across the years and the miles has been

demonstrated to us at the Library again and again in the last three years. Requests for books recommended to relatives or friends by servicemen are everyday occurrences.

Books are among the most cherished and lasting of gifts and for that last-minute purchase nothing could be more suitable. A book can be the most personal or the most impersonal choice, depending upon the selection made. The library staff will be happy to suggest titles for anybody or everybody on your list.

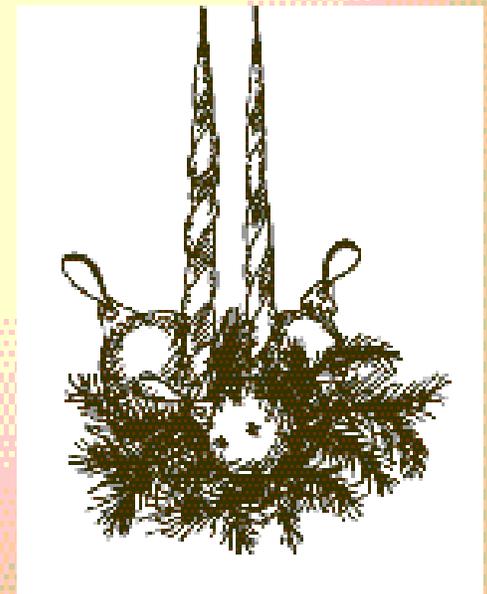
And while you are in the spirit of giving, may we ask you to remember the Library before you discard your magazines. Recent copies of *Life*, *National Geographic*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Reader's Digest*, *Look* and *Good Housekeeping* are urgently needed for our hospital service.

One can well imagine that this year the Christmas angels droop their wings in sorrow, yet this Christmas above all others, it seems important that we show a bright face to the world. It is our way of saying

that we go on dreaming, hoping, praying, working for a world of peace and good will.

This is the time to sing with Whittier:
*"Blow bugles of battle the marches of peace!
East, west, north and south let the
long quarrel cease;
Sing the song of great joy that the
angels began,
Sing the glory to God and good will to man!"*

It is in this spirit that the library staff wishes you all "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."



The Bismarck Library Foundation Donors

The Bismarck Library Foundation Board of Directors
gratefully acknowledges gifts from the following supporters
April 1, 2013, through October 31, 2013

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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 Benefit from Gifts to Foundation

As the year draws to a close, please consider making a gift to The Library Foundation, Inc. Your gifts help provide the community with high quality library services. The Foundation is an IRS 501 (c) (3) for tax purposes. Gifts may be made to the Foundation in three categories:

UNRESTRICTED GIFTS

An unrestricted gift enables the Foundation to focus on its mission to raise private funds to enhance collections, resources and facilities at Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library.

SPECIAL GIFTS

Many people make special gifts to the Foundation in honor or in memory of a loved one. These gifts are forwarded to the Library for their designated purpose.

ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Gifts to the Foundation's Endowment Fund help provide a long-term income stream for the Library. There are special tax benefits available for gifts to the Endowment Fund.

The N.D. Tax Credit for Charitable Giving is a 40 percent tax credit available to individuals and organizations for qualifying gifts to endowment funds. The maximum credit available is \$10,000 per year for individuals and \$20,000 for couples filing jointly. This is in addition to tax deductions for which you may qualify. In addition, Congress extended the IRA Charitable Rollover until the end of

North Dakota's Best Kept Secret

How the N.D. Tax Credit Works*

\$5,000 Gift to Library Foundation
 – \$2,000 N.D. State Tax Credit
 – \$1,400 Federal Tax Savings
 = \$1,600 Net Cost of Gift

* Figures are meant to be an example. Please consult your tax advisor about how you may benefit from the N.D. Tax Credit.

2013. This incentive allows persons who are at least 70½ to direct an IRA/retirement account distribution to a qualified Endowment Fund.

The Foundation's Endowment Fund was begun in 2001 to ensure private resources for the Library's future needs. The fund stands at \$1.1 million. It provides annual distributions and a reserve for the Library's future use. The Foundation also has several other giving vehicles available, such as annuities and trusts.

ENJOY THE SEASON WITH A FRIEND!

During the holidays, stop by Hotwire Café for an Apple Chai or Peppermint Mocha.

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Gayle Schuck

“Every single human being, once you’ve satisfied your basic needs, should be doing something philanthropic.”

~ Archie Panjabi

Wow! What a Library We Have!

Sometimes you just don’t really, truly appreciate what you’ve got until a comparison is drawn. Last summer, I spent a week in a small Midwest town and learned the library was a couple blocks from where we were staying.

I walked over to visit, passing grand old three-story houses on the cobblestone tree-lined streets. Entering the building, I found an unsmiling librarian staring at me. I took a deep breath and asked a few questions. She answered politely. It wasn’t a Carnegie library, but it was built in the same style and era. The children’s library was downstairs. They had an Internet connection.

Then I checked out the children’s area in the lower level. A dank smell permeated the place. The books were packed tightly into the few shelves. I pulled out a particularly old-looking book. The card in back showed that it had been checked out twice, most recently in 1943. I kid you not.

Then I spied a “National Geographic Kids” magazine, but it was five years old. They

had discontinued the magazine for lack of interest. That seemed odd, because it’s quite popular at our Bismarck Library.

In that little library’s defense, they have an adult and a children’s librarian, they are open every day, they are part of a library network, they have access to the web, and they hold Story Hour. Still, the sense of gloom spoke volumes.

Back in Bismarck, I strolled through the Children’s Library, a place of bright lights, dozens of busy children, laughter, shelves of new books, and recent copies of several children’s magazines. Optimism spills out!

Thank you to Library staff members, who make the Library a very inviting place. Thank you also to our city and county governments for seeing the value in funding the Library. And thank you to the private donors who add all of the extras that make Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library a vibrant part of our community.

The Final
Word.

Give a Gift That Will Benefit the Whole Community

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:

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 - Gold Card Club
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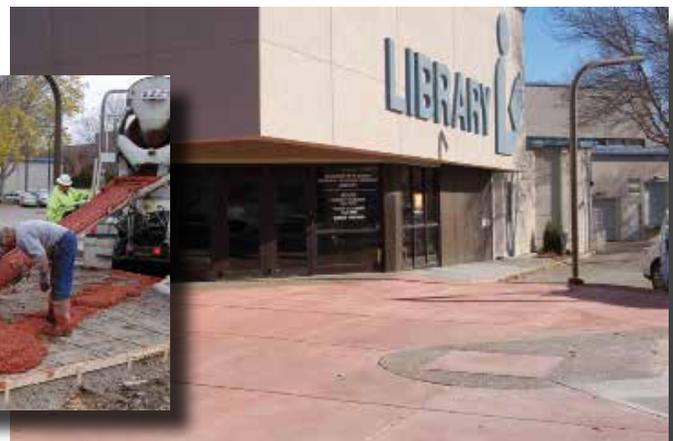


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Library Plaza Completed

The Library's plaza was updated this fall. Workers hurried to complete the project between rain and snow showers. The new plaza will be easier to maintain and should be less slippery during inclement weather.



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Join the Ben Franklin 100 Club

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- Tax deductible



Membership dues: \$100 annual donation

To become a member, send in the form on Page 7 with your donation.