Hello Friends Members,

This past week the Friends held our annual meeting. I hope many of you were able to attend. If you were not able to attend, please look on page 5 of this newsletter to see the names of our award recipients, pictures from our memorial presentation and other important information.

As the school year winds down and we look forward to summer, please note all the fun and exciting things happening at our library! Also, save the date; November 14th we will hold the 2nd Annual Allen Book Festival. The committee is busy planning the event, screening authors and working on some new features including a short story contest. We will keep you updated on all the details as they become available.

Please look inside the newsletter to see all the fun and exciting things we have to offer in the next two months. The board and library staff have been working hard to offer a wide variety of movies, programs and events. I hope each of you will attend at least one!

As always, I hope to see you at the Library!

Susan Jackson
Kenneth Mark Hoover

Combining mystery, dark fantasy, and 19th century western landscape with clever prose, Kenneth Mark Hooper creates brilliant novels. His *Haxan* was published by CZP/Harper Collins in 2014, followed by *Quaternity* this year.

Meet Kenneth and learn more about his unique stories and characters at 7:30 pm Thursday, May 14, at the library.

Born in deep Louisiana sugar-cane country but growing up in South Texas, Kenneth Mark Hoover now lives in Allen.  Sixty of his stories and articles have appeared in various print and online magazines including *Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine*, *Fantastic Stories*, and *Strange Horizons*.

Set in the rugged New Mexico Territory in 1874, *Haxan* comprises both gritty drama and mordant humor.  Kenneth notes, “I would like the library audience to understand what the Old West was truly like, opposed to what we’ve been spoon-fed from Hollywood, and the inherent challenges a writer faces to bring that reality to the page without the usual tropes and clichés, and how it ultimately transforms you.”

In addition to writing, Kenneth’s other passions include chess, amateur astronomy, Shotokan karate and politics. Listening to varying music genres such as Tchaikovsky to Rob Zombie, he is also an opera fan. He has worked as a surveyor, educator and salesman, but his first love is, and always will be, writing.

After the program, Kenneth’s books will be available for purchase and signing.

All Bach to Books performances are sponsored by the Friends of the Allen Public Library and the City of Allen. All Bach to Books presentations are free and open to the public, and most are available on Channel 16 and on youtube. For more information about any Bach to Books performances, please call 214-509-4911.

“Community liaison” is the Friends version of a hospitality chair. The liaison’s biggest responsibility is hosting two staff luncheons per year, one in August and one in February. The events are in the budget and there is a decent list of volunteers who contribute to each event. In December, the liaison collects and arranges trays of cookies for the staff and others who support the library. This is an important position but a great role to take on if one can’t commit to volunteering more frequently with the Friends. It is also a voting position on our board, which is a great opportunity to influence the events and activities the Friends support! Please contact Dana Jean at jeandanam@me.com if you are interested.
J. Erik Jonsson

The late Texas Instruments’s co-founder and former Dallas Mayor J. Erik Jonsson exemplified leadership in all endeavors. His legacy also includes the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport, Dallas Public Library, Dallas’ first “Goals For Dallas” initiative, Dallas City Hall and hospitals and universities throughout Texas. Both friends and colleagues referred to this industry giant, civic leader and philanthropist as “Mr. J.”

SMU Professor Emeritus Darwin Payne will discuss his recent book, No Small Dreams: J. Erik Jonsson—Texas Visionary, at 7:30 pm Thursday, May 21, at the library.

Vision and listening skills are the first requirements for leadership, and Jonsson possessed both qualities. Pursuing dreams requires overcoming obstacles and setbacks, and he experienced his share. Failure strengthened his resiliency.

With his leadership skills evident at TI, Jonsson insisted on an egalitarian lunchroom with no separate executive quarters. He stood in the lunch line with the machinists, engineers and custodians alike. In this manner, he learned of the challenges that all employees faced and listened to their suggestions for improvement.

Under Jonsson’s leadership, Texas Instruments rose exponentially from an obscure company along Lemmon Avenue in Dallas to a highly-recognized international corporation. Jonsson could have easily retired at this point in his life, but his outstanding leadership skills were sorely needed during the darkest hour of Dallas’ history. The days after the Kennedy assassination, he became Mayor of Dallas, and through his leadership, a grand design for the Dallas area began.

Both as mayor and a TI officer, bribes and payola were no longer part of the game. Police salaries were increased so they would not be vulnerable to bribes. If officials in other countries wanted a “cut”, TI’s business went elsewhere. Jonsson kept Governor John Connally and President Lyndon Johnson apprised of what was required to keep this country at the forefront of technology.

Jonsson was also the first Dallas mayor to initiate a sincere dialogue between black and white members of the community in a forum known as “Block Partnership.” This resulted in improved bus service, streets, libraries and parks in Dallas’ southern sector.

Johnny Appleseed

Learn more about John Chapman, the frontier nurseryman who became the basis for folk legend Johnny Appleseed, at 7:30 pm Thursday, June 11, at the Allen Public Library. Johnny Appleseed biographer Howard Means recently discussed his book Johnny Appleseed: The Man, the Myth, the American Story on a National Public Radio interview.

The Allen Garden Club and Friends of the Allen Public Library planted a tree at Bethany Lakes Park in memory of John Chapman, in hopes that future generations will call it the Johnny Appleseed tree. Since apple trees do not grow well in Texas because of the torrid summers, an oak tree was planted.

Although Johnny Appleseed is an iconic American hero, few know John Chapman. Howard Means will explore the facts behind John Chapman and the Johnny Appleseed mythology. It is the tale of two men—one real and one invented—the period in which they lived, how they have been used in our national story, and what they symbolize.

Howard Means was senior writer for Washingtonian magazine from 1977-1982 and senior editor from 1989-2000. At the Washingtonian, he won three William Allen White Medals for feature writing. Among his earlier books are the first biography of Colin Powell, a selection of the History Book Club; Money & Power: The History of Business, a companion piece to the CNBC documentary of the same names and co-authored with David Grubin; and The Avenger Takes His Place: Andrew Johnson and the 45 Days That Changed the Nation, also a featured selection of the History Book Club. He is now at work on a look back at the Kent State shootings on May 4, 1970.

Bach to Books

“John Chapman comes alive here, and it is a thrilling experience to escape the decades of myth.”
— Ken Burns

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How to Write Your Life Story

Everyone has a story to tell! Learn How to Write Your Life Story with Dr. Jerry Lincecum, Dr. Peggy Redshaw and Twice Upon a Time Storytellers Gene and Peggy Helmick-Richardson at 7:30 pm, Thursday, June 18, at the library. Using their book How to Write Your Life Story, Dr. Peggy Redshaw and Dr. Jerry Lincecum will illustrate and teach techniques for creating personal stories that can be shared in writing or orally. Gene and Peggy Helmick-Richardson will demonstrate and discuss storytelling techniques for relaying your story.

Dr. Jerry Lincecum, Professor Emeritus of English at Austin College, has been awarded the Silver Certificate of Merit by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Miss Ima Hogg Historical Achievement Award for Outstanding Research on Texas History.

A biology professor at Austin College, Dr. Peggy Redshaw was a contributing author to 2001: A Texas Folklore Odyssey, How cloth was dyed during the Civil War in Washington County, Texas, and co-authored with Dr. Lincecum Science on the Texas Frontier, and Gideon Lincecum’s Sword: Civil War Letters from the Texas Home Front.

Dr. Redshaw and Dr. Lincecum’s book on the pioneer naturalist Gideon Lincecum, Science on the Texas Frontier: Observations of Dr. Gideon Lincecum, has been reviewed by several academic journals both in history and in the sciences.

Gene and Peggy Helmick-Richardson formed Twice Upon a Time Storytellers in 1999 and have been on the state’s Touring Artists Roster for 12 years. This tandem team blends degrees in science and journalism, professional experience in living history museums and writing, and respect for creativity, cultural diversity, and social justice to educate, entertain and empower both children and adults with their tales.

Parker Station Band

Performing covers from a wide variety of music genres, from country and blues to pop and rock, Parker Station Band offers an exciting evening of music at 7:30 pm Friday, June 26, at the library. The professional songwriters in the group bring a refreshing variety of original tunes to their programs.

Hailing from Collin County, Parker Station Band has played at the Heard Nature Museum’s Holiday Special and for the New Year’s Eve event at The Opening Bell Café in Dallas. Members have played on Music Row in Nashville alongside country star Chris Young.

Band leader and rocker Sam Moore is one of the three lead singers in the group. He also serves as regional coordinator of the North Texas chapter of Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI).

Possessing a smooth and mellow voice, Tony Vea is musical director and a lead singer for Parker Station. He is also a founding member of the former FM 544 Band and a member of NSAI.

Bringing a fantastic blend of harmonica, guitar and vocals to the band, Michael “The Mudcat” Reames is the former lead singer for Liberation. He once hired a teenager named Steve Vaughn to be his lead guitarist and is most likely the last person to ever make Stevie Ray audition!

Describing herself as Parker Station’s “diva,” Theresa Havens’s dramatically powerful voice and range reminds many people of Ann Wilson from Heart.

Other band members include Chad Ireland on drums and vocals; Shawn Messonnier on guitar, keyboards and vocals; Gordon Whitman on guitar; and Bill Brody on Bass.
April 30 at 6:45 PM was the Friends’ annual meeting. The first order of business was to elect Nila Hill and Sandy Wittsche as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, for a two-year term.

The next item was the dedication of the puppet theater and puppets purchased with the funds given in memoriam of Cindy Robinson. See the picture on Page 8.

And last, we showed our appreciation of those who have given above and beyond for our wonderful library.

Shirley Cusick received the Lifetime Friends Award this year. She has dedicated many hours and years to supporting the Allen Public Library. Unfortunately, Shirley was not able to attend to receive the award. The Children’s department knows her as the person who will not only sew costumes for puppets, but create the puppets themselves. The ESL group, CHAT, knows her as a friend, cookie baker, and warm conversationalist. The public doesn’t know her face, but knows her work - she creates the displays for the Friends of the Library in the gallery cases. And, as an 9-year member of the ALLen Reads Committee, she has shown she’s ready to jump in wherever needed. Each year she creates the book bags and gifts that go to the book club readers. She helps with art displays every year, notably this year with Sara Stahl’s paintings and the Allen High School matchboxes. And she helps with so many other things.

Here are some accolades from people she has worked with at the library:

- ALLen Reads would not be the same without Shirley’s ongoing support, participation, artistic talent, and sense of humor. She is irreplaceable! Jane
- She can be counted on to get the job done. She’s a joy to work with and a very caring person. She contributes so much to the library and to the Friends! Debbie
- Shirley embodies all of the characteristics of a Lifetime Friend. She is very willing to share her talents and time. She is dedicated, resourceful, intelligent, personable, involved, dependable, and caring. Every month she creates wonderful displays for the Friends Library Gallery case to reflect Library events. She did an absolutely fantastic job on the ALLen Reads case this year... She is at the Library so often that some staff consider her staff also. I love working with Shirley. Mary

Alison McCullough received the Volunteer of the Year award. The book sale is vital to the Friends in our efforts to support the high quality programming at our library. It requires time-consuming commitment from a number of volunteers. Leading that group is Alison McCullough. Alison joined our board a few years ago and has revolutionized our book sale. She brings creative thinking and a “go to” spirit to the ongoing book sale. She has increased sales by making sure the shelves are stocked with high quality books and by collecting books at as many events and from as many groups as possible. She’s really done a beautiful job and we are fortunate she shares her time and passion with us! Her participation on our board of directors is invaluable as she brings unique perspective and wonderful ideas to the table. We count on her hard work and we value her friendship!

Robin Screen received our Outstanding Friend award. Robin has always been a Supporter of the Friends and Allen Reads. As soon as she retired from being a school librarian two years ago, she became even more active, taking on more responsibilities. When someone is needed to help, she steps in, whether it’s book sales, book bags, or punch and cookies. This year she coordinated author Jordan Sonnenblick’s visit, which she and her husband, Don, personally underwrote. Her sense of humor keeps everyone spirits up. She is a wonderful asset to the library and the Friends.
We had an amazing year for ALlen Reads. Hope you were able to attend the movies, concerts, programs, and author visits. All three books were well-received, the programs enjoyed and well-attended, and some surprise benefits came out them, which is part of the delight of this program. Stay tuned for next year’s book choices!

Below are a few highlights.

**Allen Reads 2014-2015**

Mayor Steve Terrell reads *The Matchbox Diary* to 4th Graders at Evans

Sara Stahl at her art display, depicting her emotional journey of adoption from Russia

A young woman who came to the artist’s reception specifically to meet Sara; she, too, was adopted from Russia as an infant. She brought her own art portfolio to share, as well.

Allen’s Community Theatre did two sessions of Improv with children at the library on Family Celebration Day.

Making Family Trains was another shared activity on Family Celebration Day.

Author Jordan Sonnenblick visited seven Allen schools and also spoke and signed books at the library.

Inspired by *The Matchbox Diary*, the art students at Allen High School created their own matchboxes, each with a special memory. About 80 out of the 700 created were displayed at the library.

An exciting meeting: Christina Baker Kline was at the library when the cast of the play "Orphan Train" came out of rehearsal. They sang for her, she loved it, and we captured the moment! Their performance two days later was moving and powerful.

The Vivaldi concert, coordinated by Lowery Freshman Center’s Ellen Townley, wowed the audience.

Author Christina Baker Kline loved her cake with her photo and book cover on it at the VIP reception. Her talk and book signing that followed were wonderful—over 300 people were there!

**Kids Bored This Summer?**

*Here are just a few library programs!*

**Saturday, June 13, 10-11:30 a.m., Summer Reading Kickoff**

Grab the whole family and enjoy some carnival games, a petting zoo, book giveaways, prizes, and tasty treats!

**Friday, June 19, 6:30-10:30 p.m., Teen Anime Con, Ages 12-18**

This after-hours event features anime viewing, food challenges, trivia, a crazy scavenger hunt, more Pocky than you can stand, and so much more!
June Movies
Escape the Ordinary

June 2 – Hook (1991) PG A Steven Spielberg classic, starring Dustin Hoffman, Robin Williams and Julia Roberts. When Captain Hook kidnaps his children, an adult Peter Pan must return to Neverland and reclaim his youthful spirit in order to challenge his old enemy.

June 9 – Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone (2001) PG, the first film based upon the JK Rowling books, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Richard Harris, and Rupert Grint. Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

June 16 – Jumanji (1995) PG, Starring Robin Williams, Kirsten Dunst and Bonnie Hunt. When two kids find and play a magical board game, they release a man trapped for decades in it and a host of dangers that can only be stopped by finishing the game.

June 23 – Maleficent (2014) PG, Starring Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning and Sharlto Copley. A vengeful fairy is driven to curse an infant princess, only to discover that the child may be the only person who can restore peace to their troubled land.

June 30 – Into the Woods (2014) PG, Starring Anna Kendrick, Chris Pine and Meryl Streep. A witch tasks a childless baker and his wife with procuring magical items from classic fairy tales to reverse the curse put on their family tree.

THE LATE PREHISTORIC OF THE EAST FORK

Over the last 42 years, Wilson “Dub” Crook and Mark Hughston have studied in detail the sites and archeological remains ascribed to the Late Prehistoric period of the East Fork of the Trinity River and its tributaries. This includes the Rowlett Creek basin that traverses Allen.

What they found has proven to be a treasure trove of information about the Native-Americans living in this area. Reporting these discoveries in their new book, The Late Prehistoric of the East Fork, Crook and Hughston will share details of their exhaustive research at 7:30 pm Thursday, June 25, at the library.

Their study includes 20 major sites and a larger number of smaller campsites that were discovered within Collin County to the north, to Rockwall County, and down to northwestern Kaufman County in the south.

A distinct culture emerged in this East Fork area that was culturally separate from the Caddo to the east and the Southern Great Plains people to the west. Trade took place between the various cultures, including the Puebloan inhabitants of northern New Mexico.

Two distinct Late Prehistoric phases developed: a first around A.D. 700 to about A.D. 1250, and a second smaller Late Prehistoric phase from after A.D. 1250 until almost A.D. 1600. Both phases are characterized by the use of the bow and arrow, coupled with the manufacture and use of ceramics. In addition, importation of Caddoan ceramics was observed. Aboriginal habitation is not noted after A.D. 1590. Disease, prolonged drought and/or famine are among the proposed reasons for the population’s disappearance from the East Fork region.

Wilson W. “Dub” Crook III recently retired after a distinguished 35-year career as a senior executive with the Exxon Mobil Corporation. Dub has traveled extensively all over the world, starting his archeological adventures as a child with his father, Wilson W. “Bill” Crook, Jr. He hails from ancestors from both Lamar and Collin counties.

Currently a senior partner and part owner of Brazos Gas, an independent oil and gas exploration company in the Dallas area, Mark Hughston is a native of North Dallas and majored in Geology and Anthropology at SMU. Mark hails from pioneer Collin County families that can be traced back before the Civil War.

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Memorial for Tammy Burich

We are continuing to accept donations for a scholarship in 2016 in memory of Tami Burich. If you wish to make a contribution for this memorial, please send your donation payable to: Friends of the Allen Public Library with a notation that it is in memory of Tami and/or Cindy, c/o Allen Public Library, 300 N. Allen Dr., Allen, TX 75013 (or take your check to the Information desk if you prefer). If you prefer an online donation go to our website at www.allenfriends.com, click the “Memorial Gift” button at the bottom of the page, and please be sure to note that it is a memorial gift, and for whom.

After dedicating the puppet theater to the library in memory of Cindy Robinson, several Friends board members, librarians, and Cindy’s husband Billy demonstrate with the puppets. Thanks to all who gave for this, we know Cindy would love it.

THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS
March/April

Timothy A. Adcock
Christina Baker
Bobbie Barnett
LaShawnda Bentrey
Peter Brunone
Ed Bryan
Jenny Campbell
Alyssa Carman
Fraria Chaudlevry
Killiana Chikate
Melissa Cole
Dillon Ray Cope
Birwe Dansala
Susan Day
James & Sherry DeLane
Ayeshia Duru
Gisela Garcia
Uma Govindaraju
Vishal Gupta
Chelsea Harness
Syed Hasan
Nila Hill
Delbert & Beverly Huntsman
Rebecca James
Danielle Jawando
Yan Ping Jiang
Anthony Lovato
Evangeline Lozano
Mary Lund
Mahbub Mahmood
Ryan McClellan
Beverly McDaniel
Denise Mehalko
Casey Moore
Linus Mugo
Latha Nadella
Jamika Neville
Chi Nguyen
Christiana Ofosu
Steve Ogden
Lindsay O’Leary
Blanca Palma
Janke Patel
Mary Pennington
Marie Renfro
John Roach
Francisco Ruiz
Tiffany Salazar
Kris Schnitzios
Dharmesh Shah
Diana Snider
Karyl Snyder
Michael Speas
Ashley Spencer
Shelley Stelmach
Tate Strickland
Laura Stucki
Regina Taylor
Solomon Testatsion
Kay Thompson
Debra Topic
Chris Towne
Tamara Valley
Carol Viezer
Jason Vorderbruggen
Jane Waithaka
Patricia Wang
Katherine D. Watson
Saran Welch
Kathlene & Peter Young
Rhonda Young

To support the Library, support the Friends. Join, volunteer, make a difference.

The Friends of the Allen Public Library is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting the Allen Public Library by providing funds and programs that would not otherwise be possible.