



BETWEEN THE PAGES

A Publication of the Friends of the Allen Public Library

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www.allenfriends.org

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Allen Public Library
300 N. Allen Dr.
Allen, TX 75013
214-509-4900

Greetings Friends!

Tommy's Coming Home!

By now you have probably heard that the statue of the little boy reading, which the Friends bought in 2003 at an estate sale, was defaced in the month of May, and then stolen completely in June. The Allen American, the Dallas Morning News, Channel 8 news and Channel 5 news have covered the story. Thanks to our publicist and Friend Tom Keener, the pieces were recovered at a recycling yard in Dallas, and the sellers have been identified. Still, our library is without a much loved piece of interactive art, where many of you or your children have sat reading books of their own. But not for long!

Thanks to the generous patrons of the library, the Friends raised over \$3000 at an Ice Cream Social fundraiser! Folks came in to enjoy Blue Bell ice cream, donated by Market Street of Watters Creek, and were greeted by Friends members and several sweet dogs from the Texas Therapy Dogs Association. **Thank You** to all of you who donated to this very special cause! With additional donations we have met our goal of \$3,700 to buy a new bronze replica of "Tommy"; however, we are still collecting donations for the additional security cameras to protect our public art. There is a donation box across from the information desk in the library, or you can mail a donation to the library; be sure to write "Statue Fund" in the "for" blank.

If you were at Watters Creek on June 24th you would have seen Bella's truck from the movie *Twilight* parked in front of the Borders store downstairs. A few of the Friends were there to collect a five-dollar donation from anyone who wanted to have their picture taken with the truck. Folks (mostly young females) waited in line up to 45 minutes to have their picture taken sitting in the famous truck! At the end of the long night the Friends collected over \$1000 and split the proceeds with PediPlace, a charity designated by the truck's owner. The \$500+ for the Friends was designated to the Statue Fund to help replace Tommy.

Now, the year is half over and the Friends have been as productive as ever and are now busy planning several programs for the remainder of the year. You can keep up with us on our website at www.allenfriends.org, on Facebook under Allen Friends, or keep your membership current and continue to receive your newsletter. We have increased our membership by over 100 in the last year and now number over 500 Friends of the Library.

Our goal is even more new members, however, and we will bring back the popular "Friends Swim Free" in July and August. Every new and renewing member will receive two free swim passes for the Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium, along with the usual ten overdue library fine waivers. What a great way to support the fine programs the Friends offer at the Allen Public Library!

If the dog days of summer are still dragging you down, then grab your kids or some friends and come on over to the library to chill out with a free surf movie every Tuesday night in July! Or on July 26th at 1 p.m. come hear genealogist Lloyd Bockstruck discuss genealogical trends and methodologies. Or join us again for the Russian Program on July 29th at 7 p.m., featuring the Allen Civic Ballet followed by a musical trio from SMU. Then on August 13th show up prepared to swing with The Texas Gypsies, onstage at 7 p.m. Each of these programs is funded in part by the Friends of the Library Bach to Books program, and is described more fully on the "pullout" section of this newsletter.

Thank You for Being a Friend!

Ann Livingston

President, Friends of the Allen Public Library



Jane Bennett, Lifetime Friend



Sandy Wittsche (author of this article), Jane Bennett, Regina Taylor and Friends Board President Ann

One of my first meetings with Jane Bennett occurred in the spring of 2000 at a local McDonalds restaurant. On her way in, Jane twisted her ankle. To some, that may have been a sign to turn around and go home, but Jane took it all in stride and iced it down as we discussed the Friends of the Allen Public Library. As we brainstormed a variety of ideas, our excitement for the Friends grew. By the end of the meeting, we were both committed to the challenge of implementing new programs and growing those already in place. Jane, an experienced leader, volunteered to take on the office of president. I agreed to serve as vice-president.

During this time, Jane co-chaired a group that played a key role in the passage of the City of Allen bond that resulted in the library we enjoy today.

To create a wider recognition and understanding of the Allen Public Library, Jane has done everything from marching in parades (sometimes in costume and even performing complex book cart drill team maneuvers!), to hosting authors, securing national exhibits, presenting to other Friends groups, attending city council meetings, partnering with local organizations and schools, and speaking to Allen civic groups.

One of Jane's true strengths is creating partnerships with other community groups that result in lasting programs. One example is Recycle-A-Book Day, a recycling and charitable initiative that partners with the PTAs and students in Allen schools. To date, over 50,000 books have been distributed to agencies in need.

Having just completed its third successful year, ALLEN Reads is the most recent program Jane has initiated. ALLEN Reads is a "one book" project for the Allen community. It is unique in one-book programs in that related books are chosen as companions to the main book to communicate similar themes to younger readers. Many months of related activities are planned for readers to enjoy, including performances and speakers at the library, discussion groups, and author visits to Allen schools. Thousands of Allen residents have participated in the ALLEN Reads program. (*See ALLEN Reads article on this page.*)

You might think Jane spends all of her time at the Allen Public Library, but surprisingly she also has a paying job and



Numbers Surprise Everyone!

Wow—the 2009-10 ALLEN Reads program was reported to have included over 13,000 participants in our last newsletter. For point of comparison, 2007-08 had about 10,000 participants; and 2008-09 about 12,500. The numbers are all in now, and the past year's total is close to **20,000** who participated and enjoyed reading, talking, listening and learning. We could hardly believe that. It is so exciting to realize our community's interest and enthusiasm for **ALLEN Reads!!** How are we ever going to grow the program more in 2010-11?!

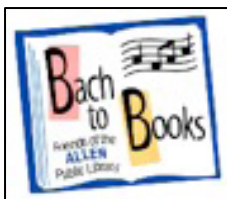
We feel the best way, as always, is to start with a great book. The main book has been chosen, and you're going to love it. The companion books are still under discussion. Kick-off will be in the fall – watch the September/October newsletter for information on that.

In a book club or group that reads/talks together? Sign up at the library information desk to be an **ALLEN Reads** group during one of your discussions. We'll have a "goodie bag" for your group with gifts, information and discussion questions ready for January or February 2011. If you want a discussion leader to come for that meeting, we can provide that, too.

Now it's time to start planning activities and events for 2010-11 and YOU can help. You can go on the website or Facebook and contact us that way; drop a note off at the library at the Information Desk (just say it's for **ALLEN Reads**); or e-mail Jane Bennett, chairman of **ALLEN Reads**, jane@jrbennett.net. Think about volunteering at an event; helping plan the children's day or the movie month; or working on the brochure, writing about the author and helping to develop discussion questions. If any of those things interest you, please get in touch.

serves as the Chair of the Public Art Committee for the City of Allen. She also enjoys spending time with her husband, Ross; traveling to Baltimore to visit her son, Zak; and planning a summer wedding for daughter, Allie.

Jane's role in the Friends has evolved throughout the last ten years, but her unwavering commitment and passion towards the Allen Public Library remains as strong as the day we met. She is not only this year's Lifetime Friend, but a true Friend for life!

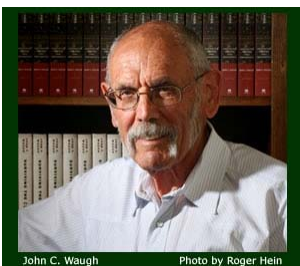


Bach to Books Presents

Civil War Historian

Civil War historian John Waugh will discuss his book *On the Brink of Civil War: The Compromise of 1850 and How It Changed the Course of American History*, **7 pm, Thursday, August 19**. Sponsored by Bach to Books and the Readable History Book Club, this program is free.

A former bureau chief for the *Christian Science Monitor*, Waugh received the American Bar Association's 1972 Silver Gavel Award for the best national reporting. From 1973-1976, he served as a media specialist for Vice President Nelson Rockefeller. His first book, *The Class of 1846*, won the New York Civil War Round Table's Fletcher Pratt Literary Award for the best non-fiction book of 1994.



John C. Waugh

Photo by Roger Hein

Diane Kirk, a member of the Readable History Book Club declares, "we read a book about the reputations of Presidents of the United States, we talked about the burden on the Pre-Civil War presidents who tried to deal with the momentum of events moving toward that eventuality. History has been kind to Lincoln, whose administration dealt with the reality of the Civil War, and harsh on those who were enmeshed in the events that set up the dynamics of that conflict. Last year we talked about wanting to spend some more time discussing the difficulties facing those Pre-Civil War presidents, but there just was not time enough. Discussing John Waugh's *On the Brink of Civil War* would give us exactly that opportunity to consider in more detail that Antebellum era of history."

Raised in Arizona, Waugh now lives in North Texas. A graduate of the University of Arizona with a major in journalism, Waugh completed graduate work in history and political science at UCLA and St. Johns College. He is married to Kathleen Dianne Lively, a social work administrator and a Texan. They have two children, Daniel, a lawyer in Providence, Rhode Island, and Eliza, a writer in Austin, Texas, and four grandchildren.

Russian Dance and Music at Library

Bach to Books celebrates the majesty and fun of Russian dance and music, **7 p.m., Thursday, July 29**. Stefanie Best, Artistic Director of the Allen Civic Ballet states, "With the exception of the Russian Winter Festival held in Dallas, I am not aware of any recent programs that have both classical and folk music and dance from Russia." The Allen Civic Ballet will perform several variations from *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Don Quixote*.

"Ballet may have originated in the French Court, but the Russians were responsible for shaping ballet into the art form we know today. The classics that we still enjoy, *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*, etc., all sprang from the artistic environment in Imperial Russia. Nobody contributed more to the art of ballet than the Russians," declares Stefanie Best. "Russian composers produced a copious amount of classical music masterpieces. Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Stravinsky, Shostakovich, et al, have dominated the world of classical music in the last 100 years."

After a brief intermission, a trio comprised of cellist Martin Guerra, violinist Bethany Wildes and pianist David Yi from Southern Methodist University will perform Russian classical and folk musical selections.

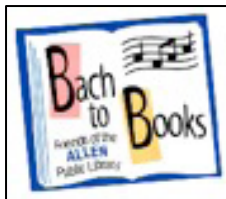
Born in Portland, Maine, violinist Bethany Wildes studied at the Baltimore School for the Arts in the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. A graduate with a Master in Music degree from SMU, Bethany has been a member of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra and played a concert tour in Mexico City. She regularly performs with the Meadows Wind Ensemble.

A native of Houston, cellist Martin Guerra has been a member of the Texas Music Educators Association All-State Orchestra for two years, finishing fourth in Texas. He received scholarships from the Children's Foundation for the Arts, American Festival for the Arts and the Interlochen Center for the Arts. Recently, he participated with Viva Vivaldi Music Festival in Mexico City and he studies with Andres Diaz at SMU Meadows School of the Arts.

Pianist David Yi is a senior at SMU, majoring in Piano Performance. In 2006, he won first place in the Dallas Music Teachers Association piano competition. A native of Korea, David has provided pianist accompaniment for the prestigious Meadows Chorale.



Genealogist Lloyd Bockstruck



Genealogist Lloyd Bockstruck will discuss genealogical trends and methodologies at Allen Public Library at **1 pm, Monday, July 26**, 300 N. Allen Dr. Sponsored by the Friends of the Allen Public Library's Bach to Books Cultural Art Series and the Allen Senior Genealogy Club, this event is free and no reservations are required.

"After a deathbed request from my mother to place a marker on her father's grave, I pursued genealogy. A U.S. Army veteran, my grandfather died from injuries sustained in World War I. Unfortunately, my mother did not know where he was buried. The Dallas Public Library's Genealogy section taught me how to research death and burial records which eventually led me to his grave site. That discovery inspired me to continue to learn more about my ancestors, a quest that ultimately led me as far back as the Holy Roman Empire.

"Genealogy is the study of family ancestries or histories and can lead to discovering fascinating stories. For some, genealogy helps honor ancestors, and for others, it provides a historical context to build your own story.

Both proved true for me.



For over 30 years, Lloyd was manager of the Dallas Public Library's genealogy section. Under his leadership, this section grew from a small collection to an impressive research library. In addition, he has authored seven monographs, including

Virginia's Colonial Soldiers (1988) and *Bounty and Donation Land Grants in British Colonial America* (2007). From 1993-2008, Lloyd wrote the Genealogy column for the *Dallas Morning News*. A graduate of Greenville College, he also has two master's degrees, one in early European history and the other in library.

Richard Henry of the Allen Senior Genealogy Club declares, "Our club is very excited to have Mr. Bockstruck speak at our July meeting. He is admired for his knowledge of genealogy research and we are looking forward to his program."

Bach to Books Presents

The Texas Gypsies

The award-winning The Texas Gypsies, a local Allen band, brings gypsy jazz to the Allen Public Library, **7 pm, Friday, August 13**. Blending Big Band Swing, Jazz, Western Swing, Texas Blues and Rockabilly, they create a unique style. With sounds evocative of the European Jazz movement in the 1930s, The Texas Gypsies' feature guitar, violin bass, drums, keyboards, and horns. Both earthy and sophisticated, their music appeals to a diverse audience.

Sponsored by Bach to Books, this program is made possible with generous assistance from the Texas Commission on the Arts. Free tickets are available at the door and no reservations are accepted, seating limited to 300.

In 2006, The Texas Gypsies were voted best band at the City of Richardson's *Wildflower! Arts and Music Festival*. Band leader Steve Curry declares, "We hope the audience enjoys the fun and also the artistic aspect of the music! We perform an eclectic mix and the audiences always respond to the high energy and enjoy watching us play and listening to something different! Steve is an Allen resident and resides with his wife Joni and their Boxer, Coco.

Dallas Morning News critic Mario Tarradell declares, "A buzz is building for the Swinging Texas Gypsies"... "The CD comes loaded with Charm and Chops!"...

The Texas Gypsies is composed of bandleader Steve Curry, Mike Sizer, John Hewitt, Andrew Griffith and Gordon McLeod.



Support The Library: Leave A Legacy



The Friends of the Allen Public Library Endowment Fund was created to increase the long-term financial strength of the library. It also is a way for you or your family to leave a legacy while supporting one of the premier cultural institutions in North Texas.

As a Friends member, there are several ways that you can participate. The most common is planned giving. This offers you a variety of ways to provide a future basis of support for the Library and, in most cases, receive tax benefits in the process.

For example, you can name the Endowment Fund as a beneficiary of your retirement assets or life insurance policy. Or, you can establish a charitable remainder trust to receive periodic payments during your lifetime and then pass the "remainder" on to the Endowment Fund. There are many more ways, such as gifts of real estate or bequests, to support the Endowment Fund.

For more information, contact a member of the Endowment Fund board. Board members are listed on the Friends Web site www.allen-friends.org.

What's Going On at the Library

Thanks to Friends for Library Incentives

Thank you, dear Friends! The incentive money you give us each year has allowed us to get so many wonderful things that benefit both us and our patrons.

We just purchased a very portable, self-contained tri-fold display that staff can take with them for off-site promotion. It's easy to attach display brochures and other media using Velcro dots, and, as you can see, lets people know who we are even from a distance!



We also bought 2 big realtor-type signs the Children's department can use to alert patrons when programs are full. While this is technically a "negative" message, it means fewer patrons will



unload children and strollers and get all the way into the library before hearing programs are full.

Our Library—Busy Place

The Allen Public Library is a popular place. The summer reading programs have had the highest number of patrons sign up this month ever! The Children's programs are serving 1500 kids and the adults reading program had 200 people sign up. Checkouts are up 50% year to date and the library has had over 100,000 people walk through its doors this year. Who says libraries are becoming obsolete? Hardly; at least not here in Allen, Texas, where folks value literacy, education, and free access to information. And a little music doesn't hurt either!

Volunteer Job Fair

On **Tuesday, July 27, 2:30-4 p.m.** the library will host an information session with representatives from the library, other city departments, and community organizations, who will present information about volunteer opportunities.

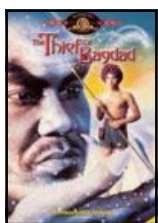
VolunTeens

Applications for fall VolunTeens will be available starting **July 27** at the Volunteer Job Fair, the Information Desk and online, and must be returned by August 6. School-year VolunTeens must be entering 8th-12th grade and are selected based on their application, previous experience and library needs. VolunTeens will be notified of their acceptance by August 20.

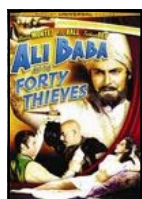
The VolunTeen and Teen Advisory Board are vital to the library's successful summer programs – they register children and teens for the Summer Reading Club, make crafts, read with younger children, present story times and puppet shows, stock the Friends book sale, gather materials for patrons, plan and present programs for other teens, and perform many other useful tasks. To thank them, the library will host an end-of-summer appreciation party, with pizza, prizes and special performer, Magician Jeff Lee. A big THANK YOU to the Friends of the Library for providing \$500 to fund the evening. We're looking forward to a fun time!

Want to keep up with what's going on at the Allen Public Library? Go to their website, click on **Events Calendar**, and you have found a treasure of activities going on at the library. You can even register online for programs and have them added to your personal calendar! All of this and more, at www.cityoffallen.org/departments/library.

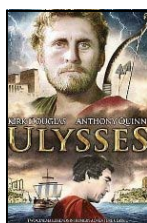
August Series of *A Night At the Movies*—Magic Carpet Ride—Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.



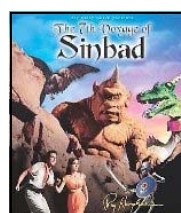
August 3, "Thief of Bagdad" (1940)



August 10, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" (1944)



August 17, "Ulysses" (1954)



August 24, "The 7th Voyage of Sinbad" (1958)



August 31, "Jason and the Argonauts" (1963)



THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS - May/June

Vandana Bains	Anne DeLaRosa	Dena Klevan	Hoang Van Phan	Allison Stark
Jason Baird	Debbie DeSimone	Bonnie Laufer-Beuck	Kara Phillips	Janis Stillings
Mark Baland	Suzy Dibbern	Marianne Lewis	Judy & Tom Ranly	Marie Stirman
Elisebeth Barnette	Beth & Larry Digioia	Laveta & Bill Lobdill	James Richmond	Ann Swain
Nina Barrett	AliceAnne Ebinger	James Longley	Dana Rivero	Carolyn Taylor
Jane & Ross Bennett	Angela Engel	Paris Longley	Dianne Rodasti	Michelle Tobler
Sharyn Best	Gabrielle Evans	Kristie Loveland	Cathy Rogers	Angela Tolman
Susan Bissmeyer	Kirk Evans	Terry Lovett	Maridee Ryan	Hai Tran
D Jeannette Brady	Kirsten Fair	Amanda Lunn	Marcia & Dave Sanchez	Cheryl & Peter Vargas
Nichole Branch	Ayodhya Fernando	Rajesh Mandava	DeAna Schatzman	John Ward
Crystal Bryant	Rosemary Francis	Margaret Marandure	Jo & Russ Schenck	Jeanette West
Barbara Buehler	Lisa Gewax	Achenkunju Mathew	Sejal Vinayagamurthy	Debbie & Scott
Gwen Burno	Engda Girma	Cynthia & Tom Matthews	Britnee Simpson	Whitcomb
Alice Buttner	Marita Graulich	Cathy McClure	Nilangini Sishodia	Trina Wilson
Michelle Caruso	Carol Guffey	Alison McCullough	Ben Skaggs	
Pornsri Chang	Liz Haddad	Lisa McQuiddy	Jack Skaggs	
Frieda & Ted Chyn	Susan Hagen	Phyllis & Skip Mobley	Laura Skaggs	
Michael Contessa	Julie Hlad	Susan Olinger	Sam Skaggs	
Kerry Craven	Rick Hopkins	Vrena Patrick	Sophie Skaggs	
Cindy DeBoer	Stephan Horsthemke	Helen Pendas	Julie Smetzer	
Toni & James Degnan	Dawn Kastning	Julie Pham	Linda Smittle	
Lisa Delafield	Kriste Klepper		Kae Spurgin	

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.