

OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4, No. 1

Winter 1990

SPRING COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED

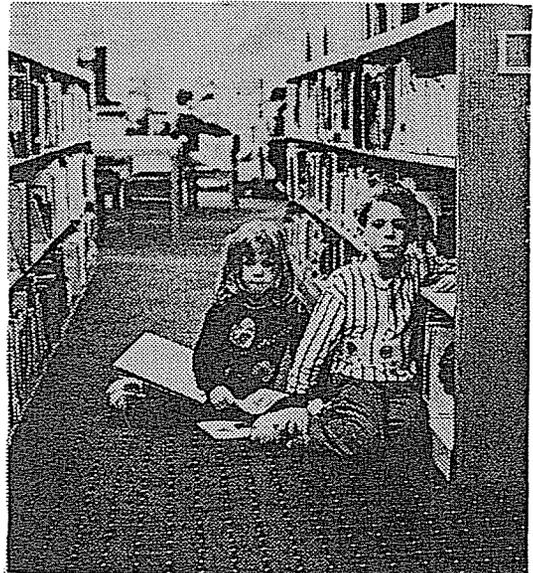
A variety of programs is offered to the community during the library's spring season. Programs are made possible by local business and professional people who support the library by underwriting the costs. Program listings include the names of these people; we call them our LIBRARY PARTNERS.

All programs are free and open to the public without registration on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Burgundy on a Barge with Steve Donn begins at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10. This slide travelog features France's Burgundy countryside, beautiful both from the water and the air. Barging and ballooning this remarkable portion of the country offers scenery and quiet that cannot be duplicated with conventional modern travel. According to Donn, "you hope the clock will stop for you never satisfy your desire for more and more." Donn is the perfect host for this kind of show. He has traveled extensively and has been around the world twice. His trips have included visits to countries and areas that are no longer accessible to American tourists. Travelog buffs will remember Donn from his presentations at the Oak Lawn Library on China, Yugoslavia and Alaska. Library Partner is **Lenscrafters**.

Rides Through the English Countryside with Mary Goulding will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, and continue for six Thursdays. This series will take us to castles and palaces, gardens and cities, moors and villages. Come early for these. There was standing room only when Mary Goulding took us on five "Walkabout London" sessions last year. LIBRARY PARTNERS are **Oak Lawn Trust and Savings Bank, Standard Bank, Oak Lawn Hilton and Conference Center, Friends of the Library, Dr. Floyd Woods and Pat's Hobbies and Crafts**.

(continued next column)



Anne and Tom Knightly love to find easy reading books on the lower shelves and read them right away. Their mother, Barb, brings them to the library on a regular basis.

Loving Trust is a seminar on estate planning scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29. Speakers for the presentation are Mitchell J. Overgaard, attorney, and Lois Anthonisen, certified financial planner. According to Overgaard and Anthonisen, those who attend will learn the evils of probate and how to avoid them, why a will does not avoid probate, how to avoid conservatorship, how to reduce estate tax and maintain control and privacy of your estate. Overgaard is a partner in the law firm of Overgaard, Davis and Moore which is in the general practice of civil law. Among the firm's areas of concentration are estate

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Library Holiday Closing

The library will be closed Sunday, March 31 in observance of the Easter holiday.

planning and estate administration. Anthonisen has been in the financial business since 1970. She is listed in Who's Who of American Women. She frequently speaks on asset allocation and several areas of financial planning for individuals, industry professionals, corporate executives and retired persons. Library Partner is **Lenscrafters**.

The Grande Dames by Stephen Birmingham is the basis for a "Book Revue" by Beverly Yusim at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6. You will learn how a group of powerful women ruled American Society from the 1900's until World War II. Yusim makes the book and its characters come alive. Library Partner is **Friends of the Library**.

Mama Mia, a slide tour of Italy, will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12. The travelog begins in Milan and takes the audience down Italy's "boot" with stops including Venice, Florence, Capri and Rome. Slides and narration will be given by Mary Nelson, library public relations officer. Library Partner is **Hawkinson Ford**.

For those who are thinking about retiring, the program Lump Sum Distribution: What Are Your Choices? will be enlightening. Pamela Woodward, a representative of Dean Witter Reynolds, will bring you information about pensions and retirement choices at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20. Handouts will be distributed. Library Partner is **Oak Lawn National Bank**.

If It's Tuesday..., a trip to the Continent via slides, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26. You've probably heard about whirlwind tours-- this is it. You will see some of the sights of Holland, Germany, Bavarian Alps, Austria, Vienna, Lichtenstein, Switzerland, France and Belgium. Presenter is Mary Nelson. Library Partner is **Fox College**.

Are you a writer? Do you want to write? You will want to attend the three-session workshop Writing as a Job and on the Job. Part II, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, March 2, 9 and 16. Barbara Schaaf, author and teacher, who presented Part I last March will conduct the workshops. Those who attended the first sessions can return to continue with their endeavors under Barbara's tutelage. Others who are interested are encouraged to attend. They will find a qualified instructor and a wonderful sharing process within the group. Library Partner is **Oak Lawn Trust and Savings Bank**.

Underwater Photo Series: Hawaii, Cocos Island and the Red Sea is another series that will be presented in March. Frank Slonina, certified diver and photographer, will show and narrate his slides at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, March 5, 12 and 19. He uses a special lens for many of his slides which show the intricacies of underwater plant, coral and sea life. Library Partner is **Dr. Floyd Woods, Optometrist**.

Rule Britannia, a travelog of England, Scotland and Wales, is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, Mar. 7. If there is a "classic" tour of Great Britain, this is probably it. London, Bath, York, Edinburgh, towns in Wales that defy spelling and pronunciation, Coventry and much more. Come along with Mary Nelson, program presenter, and enjoy the trip. Library Partner is **Oak Lawn Trust and Savings Bank**

Poland: Past and Present is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 4. Joseph Hapak will present this slide lecture which gives a historical, cultural and scenic view of Poland. He took the slides on three trips to Poland between 1972 and 1986. He is a professor at Moraine Valley Community College with a PhD in history from the University of Kansas where his dissertation was "Recruiting a Polish Army in the United States, 1917-1919." Library Partner is **Oak Lawn National Bank**.

Francine Smolucha, also a professor at Moraine Valley Community College, will bring Development of a Creative Imagination to the library at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 11. She will show slides from one of her studies that indicate how creativity changes with age. She has been a frequent speaker in the area, particularly with her knowledge of parapsychology, extrasensory perception and psychic phenomena. Library Partner is **Pat's Hobbies and Crafts**.

The program season will close with a Read Aloud from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 17. This will be in the middle of **National Library Week** as was our "Night of a Thousand Stars" in 1990. Essentially, the Read Aloud will be the same kind of program. Community leaders and library supporters will

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be asked to participate by reading aloud from their favorite books or other reading material. More than 50 persons demonstrated their love of reading last year and most indicated that it was a worthwhile and exhilarating experience--one that they would like to do again. Others who were spectators have said they would like to participate. We should have a great climax to our program season.

YOUTH SERVICES

A booklet listing all of the winter and spring programs is available in the Youth Services Department. Details relating to time and day of each activity are included. Pick up a copy for information about Preschool Storyhour, Toddler Time, Kids Gazette, After School Storyhour and all special events.

Youth Services staff is busy making arrangements for an Apple II GS computer which will be installed soon for the public use. Furniture and book shelves may be in a new location when the equipment is put in place.

Giveaways: Several posters, pamphlets, stick-on letters and activity sheets will be given to Oak Lawn teachers and parents on request. Those who are interested are invited to look over the collection in Youth Services.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUS TRIP FOR SPRING

Mark the date now for a trip with the Friends to see **Les Miserables**, the musical, in a matinee performance on Wednesday, April 17, at the Auditorium Theatre. Tickets are priced at \$45 for members and \$47 for others. In-person registration dates will be announced. Price includes round-trip bus transportation and reserved seats.

FRIENDS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

If you like to read, like to share your reactions to what you read and like to share good company, you probably belong with the Friends in one or both of the book discussion group sponsored by this active group. Book discussions are lively,

(continued next column)

educational, interesting and enjoyable. To round out this package and make it perfect--it doesn't cost anything!!!

The afternoon group meets at 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday:

- Jan. 9 Pigeon Feathers by John Updike
- Jan. 23 Nancy by Elizabeth Enright
- Feb. 13 Early Marriage by Conrad Richter
- Feb. 27 The Apartment by William Trevor
- Mar. 13 The Heyday of the Blood by Dorothy Canfield Fisher
- Mar. 27 Seize the Day by Saul Bellow
- Apr. 10 The Wish by Evelyn Waugh
- Apr. 24 Roman Fever by Edith Wharton
- May 8 Children on Their Birthdays by Truman Capote
- May 22 Party

The evening group meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday:

- Jan. 10 Young Lonigan by James T. Farrell
- Jan. 24 MAPP and LUCIA by E. F. Benson
- Feb. 14 The Golden Warrior by Hope Muntz
- Feb. 28 Customs of the Country by Edith Wharton
- Mar. 14 Fools of Fortune by William Trevor
- Mar. 28 Bonfire of the Vanities by Tom Wolfe
- Apr. 11 The Searchers by Alan LeMay
- Apr. 25 Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
- May 9 The Man from Next Door by Honor Tracy
- May 23 The Reiners by William Faulkner

For more details, contact Kathy Gaynes, discussion coordinator, 424-4494.

Note: Friends of the Library is an independent, not-for-profit chartered organization. Its purpose is to support the library through its fundraising efforts and to provide cultural and educational activities for its members and other interested citizens. The group handles all of its own arrangements for bus trips and other events in order not to interfere with the normal, busy schedule of regular library employees.

"Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read."

--Groucho Marx

COMPUTER CATALOG INSTRUCTION

Instruction for operating the library's computer catalog is available at any time from the staff at the Reader Services desk located on the first floor near the Cook Ave. entrance. Those who are interested in more detailed information or who wish to have more specific instruction are invited to computer classes held at 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the same desk.

Oak Lawn Public Library Non-resident Borrowing Policy

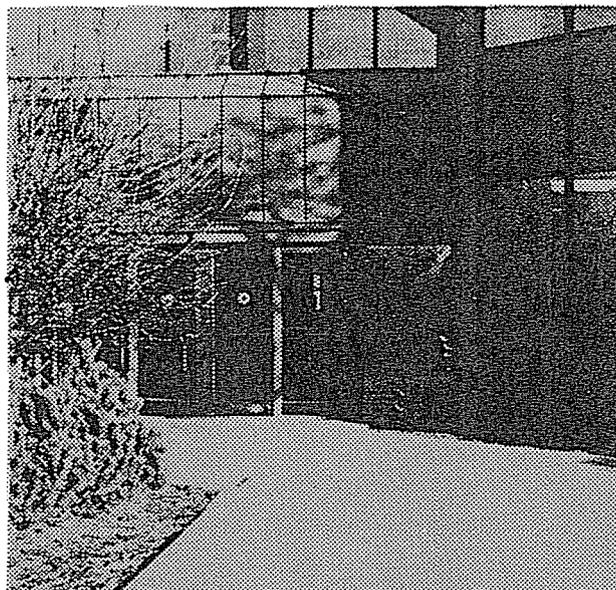
Effective: January 1, 1991
Approved by the Library Board of Trustees
September 18, 1990

The Oak Lawn Public Library is committed to the principles of resource sharing and cooperation between libraries. The Oak Lawn Public Library has resolved that it will participate in Inter-System Reciprocal Borrowing.

At the same time, the Oak Lawn Public Library recognizes that reciprocal borrowing is intended to be used as a supplement to the resources of local libraries. The use of our library by reciprocal borrowers should not reduce access to materials for Oak Lawn patrons significantly.

Therefore, the Oak Lawn Public Library will impose reasonable restrictions on reciprocal access as follows:

1. Non-resident borrowers from other systems will be restricted to three items per person.
2. The use of certain facilities and services shall be limited to Oak Lawn cardholders only: system services, reserves and use of the compact disc collection. Use of the public access microcomputers will be limited to Oak Lawn cardholders and Oak Lawn elementary school students.
3. No audio-visual materials will be sent on Inter-library Loan.



This is the Raymond Avenue entry to the library which is scheduled for remodeling to make it more accessible to the handicapped. A canopy and new automatic controls for the doors are planned.

GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP SPRING SCHEDULE

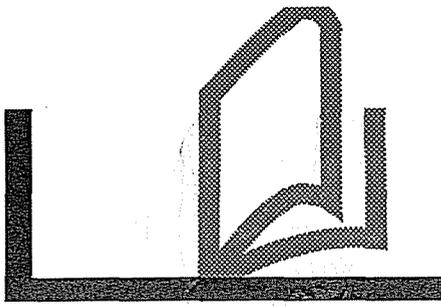
- Jan. 8 Flaubert: A Simple Heart*
Jan. 22 Hume: Of Personal Identity
Feb. 5 Nietzsche: Thus Spoke Zarathustra
Feb. 19 Dante: The Inferno
Mar. 5 Burke: Reflections on the Revolution in France
Mar. 19 Adams: The Education of Henry Adams
Apr. 2 Shakespeare: King Lear*
Apr. 16 Aristotle: On Tragedy
Apr. 30 Plato: The Republic
May 14 Dinner Meeting
* indicates complete work

Editor: Mary Nelson
Production: Rose Franceschini
Peggy Nevins

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OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

October 1991

Community Cooperation

*Message From Evelyn Goltz,
Trustee President*

We have entered the information age, bombarded on all sides by data, demands for more information, changing technology and instant communications. We are confronted by daily computerization that changes the way we write, think, shop, read and do business.

As Library Trustees we are dedicated to bringing the most sophisticated and up-to-date li-



Evelyn Goltz

brary service to our community. But, we are concerned with cuts in state funding and are alarmed that legislators seem to think that libraries are easy places to cut funds.

In order to have an informed citizenry, to give our young patrons the competitive edge in a highly technological society, it is imperative that we maintain libraries as state-of-the-art institutions. This means books. It means audio visual materials and equipment. It means researchers, and it means that libraries must be adequately funded.

Locally, in the Village of Oak Lawn, the Library Trustees recently demonstrated fiscal re-

sponsibility and a sensitivity to the municipal budget. Following lengthy meetings, careful analysis, sometimes heated debate, we voted to cut \$125,000 from the library budget. It was not an easy decision.

We plan to use money in our building fund for particular items that were included in our operating budget. This means the money set aside for heating equipment, air-conditioning and elevator replacement when needed, is now being used. But, in this community, everyone

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 17, 1991 at 7 p.m.
Living Will Program

October 23, 1991 at 7 p.m.
Census Workshop

November 9, 1991 at 2 p.m.
Retirement Slide Show
Retirement Counseling: Matching Dollars with Dreams

November 18, 1991 at 7 p.m.
Nutrition and Label-reading

November 21, 1991 at 7 p.m.:
College Funding Seminar
College education costs.

November 24 at 2 p.m.
Flute and Piano Concert with
Carlyn Lloyd-Ford and Jon Warfel

House Calls

Oak Lawn residents who are housebound due to illness or physical handicaps can still enjoy reading and can still check out library books.

Mary Lynn Mysz reports that Homebound Services bring books to those who qualify for the service. "This means," she noted, "that everyone has equal access to our library."

For additional information telephone 422-4990 and ask for Reader Services. ☺

At The Helm.....

Mary Lou Lowrey

Mary Lou Lowrey believes that independent consultants can come into an organization with an objective eye. She has demonstrated the truth of her philosophy during the few months since her appointment to Interim Library Director, a position she will maintain until a new Director is hired in early 1992.

A professional librarian, Lowrey is an experienced library consultant. She is also a strong community activist, serving as President of the League of Women Voters in Western Springs where she also serves as President of the Community Center Association.

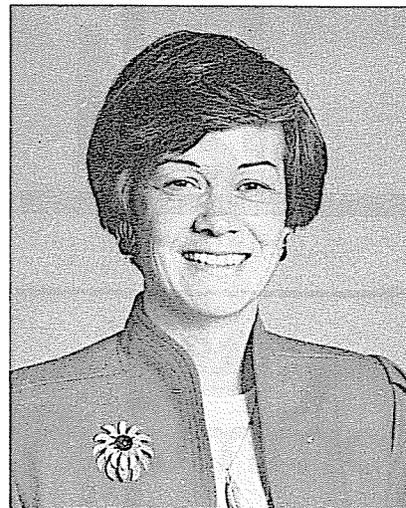
A librarian since 1970 when she earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Denver, Mary Lou Lowrey is concerned with the national decline in book reading. "Fewer books are being circulated by libraries, and more and more we

are becoming a visually oriented society," she commented during a recent interview. She argues that people are mistaken by thinking that information received visually is faster or more accurate.

Strong in her opinions about the library profession, she insists that continuing education and training for professional librarians and staff must be improved. "We live in an information age, the technology is changing all the time, and if staff in libraries do not keep up, they simply will be left behind," said the Interim Director.

The library is well-supported by patrons, the Village, and friends

She has worked at public libraries in Hillside, Triton Community College in River Grove and has been a consultant at the Suburban Library System and



Mary Lou Lowrey

Northlake. Her involvement with Oak Lawn Public Library has been interesting as well as arduous. She has discovered that the library is well supported by patrons, the Village, and the Friends. The latter she describes as "a very active group" who play a significant role by contributing materials to the library.

Mary Lou Lowrey says the staff needs more positive direction and management skill training and she emphasizes the need for an assistant library director. "I think a library this size needs continuity in administration, and an assistant would help provide that," she said.

In addition to her community activity, Mary Lou Lowrey is involved with the Business and Professional Womens' Association in LaGrange, and is heading the Outstanding Working Women of the Year program. She is also a member of Rotary Club and served on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for west Cook County. Her husband, John Lowrey, is a Chicago attorney. ☞

Photographing Peace And Quiet

During September in the library's lower level, Oak Lawn resident Donna M. Jagielski-Miller displayed a photography collection that captured the tranquillity of the region.

The photographer developed an interest in putting together the exhibit during a visit to Kentucky where she reports she found peace and quiet. "The only way of bringing that back home was to find similar places close to where I live," explained Donna Miller.

She did, and photographed the forest preserve area in Orland Park, the weeping willows near the Chapel Hill Garden Cemetery and the fountain near the Oak Lawn Park District. ☞

Goltz, cont'd.

cooperates. We live together with a common goal. Our patrons at Oak Lawn Public Library are also our taxpayers, therefore in a cooperative move, we cut our budget. We emerged, however, with a determination that in the next budget session we will receive the full financial allotment. Otherwise, we cannot continue to provide the service that is necessary to keep library patrons fully informed.

Job Search

I am pleased and encouraged by the high caliber of candidates who have emerged as finalists in the national search for a new library director. At press time, we are entering the second stage of interviews and in the near future will be bringing in several candidates. They will visit the library, tour the village, and talk to trustees. It is the goal of trustees to have a new director in place by the first of the year, and to have the job search concluded by October or early November. We are looking for a candidate experienced in all areas of public library administration, finance and excellent public relations skills. We are looking for someone who is committed and will serve our library and our community now, and for many years to come.

Interim Library Director

Mary Lou Lowrey has added a stable force to the library since

Storyhours

Librarians have a mission to provide information, both educational and recreational, and to instill a desire for lifelong learning. They believe this begins in early childhood.

This is why Judith McMahon, Head of Youth Services is so enthusiastic about the program Storyhours. Presented on a regular basis, Storyhours introduce young children to picture books, storytelling, fingerplays, songs, poetry, puppetry and flannel boards. "What we do is provide a social environment that encourages participation in group activities, disciplined behavior as well as respect for others," explained McMahon.

There are programs for toddlers, for preschoolers, and after school. There is also a program for parents and those who care for children. It's a program, says Judith McMahon, that helps parents know when a child is ready to read.

There are also special programs that teach adults the techniques of telling stories to preschool and primary grade students.

Although all the programs are currently full, the library will offer new programs and announce registration dates in newspapers throughout the region. ☞

Trace Your Origins

Library patrons and residents had an opportunity to learn the techniques of conducting a search for their Irish ancestors with help and guidance from genealogy expert Kathleen O'Leary, a reference librarian at Oak Lawn Public Library.

Scheduled in early October, Ms. O'Leary provided information from her own extensive research through the local Family History Libraries operated by the Mormons. A frequent visitor to Ireland, she has conducted considerable genealogy research.

Currently, she serves as newsletter editor of the Chicago Genealogy Society, and has attended many workshops sponsored by the National Archives. Kathleen O'Leary has also co-authored an article about the genealogy holdings of the Oak Lawn Public Library. ☞

she became interim director last May. Her advice and guidance, especially during the recent budget discussion were invaluable, and should be incorporated for future guidelines in budget

matters. Her contributions during a most difficult time have been significant, and all the trustees appreciate her efforts which truly have been beyond the call of duty. ☞

Festival of Stories a Smashing Success

The public reception to story telling was so positive and enthusiastic, the Fall Festival of Stories, sponsored by the Oak Lawn Public Library and the Park District, will be repeated next year. "Probably," noted Judith McMahan, Head of Youth Services, "it will be an annual event."

The turnout of an estimated 350 people on an evening that ended with light rain, was very heartening to library organizers and also to the professional story tellers. "It became necessary to move the production mid-way in the evening to a sheltered pavilion," explained Judith McMahan. That required the set-up of a public address system, and a short delay. "But—everyone stayed, and we don't think we lost even one single person," exclaimed the Head of Youth Services.

During the entire week following the storytelling festival, librarians received positive comments from library patrons. "It was just very enthusiastically received," concluded Mrs. McMahan. ☺

Upcoming Events

Thanks to a supporting vote by Library Trustees, the second annual "Murder by the Book" weekend seminar will be held at the library the first weekend in November.

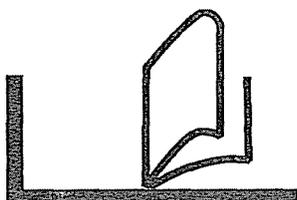
Trustees concurred that the library setting was ideal for the three day seminar conducted by the Southwest Mystery Book Guild. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Susan Baird at 708-422-4990 ☺

Computer Catalog

Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m., free group instruction is provided at the Reader Services Desk so patrons can learn to operate the library's computer catalog.

Beth Kobe reports that these classes are scheduled to acquaint library users with the new computerized card catalog called the CL-CAT. She notes that individual assistance with the Public Access Catalogs (PAC) is available at any time from any desk in the library.

No registration is required for group instruction on Wednesday evenings. ☺



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