

# SUU

FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY

## NEWSLETTER

October 2009

Volume 1, No. 1

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY



Welcome to the Friends of the Gerald R. Sherratt Library Newsletter. This Newsletter is being sent to alumni, current students, and individuals who have an interest in keeping the Southern Utah University Library vital now and in the future. The Friends of the Library (FOL) was established to develop and promote

interest in the SUU Library; the core of scholarship at the university.

The Friends of the Library is dedicated to advance the services and collections of the Library through community, emeriti, and alumni outreach and to establish fund raising activities to support the values, principles, and ideals of open access to information and scholarship. Only by recognizing the financial needs of the Library can we secure the future of vital research, instruction, education and access to information for SUU students and the community at large.

Created to highlight the unique values inherent in the Sherratt Library, this newsletter will expand the awareness of the great depth of information housed in the Library collections. Future issues of the newsletter will emphasize the unique collections of material found only in the Library, how to access information from the Library and provide up-to-date articles on what is happening in the Library.

The FOL has established an advisory board, written a constitution and bylaws, and defined membership levels for donors.

Within in the past decade the growth of Southern Utah University has been phenomenal. The Gerald R.

Sherratt Library has kept pace with this growth and has expanded its collections and research materials to meet the needs of those using the Library. With the advent of economical changes it is vital to keep the Library intact. Cost containment has thrust the issues of survival and growth into center stage, thus initiating the need for an organization of concerned alumni, students, and community members to form the Friends of the Library. Our quest is to continue to improve the quality of the Gerald R. Sherratt Library and maintain its present position as a bastion of learning in Southern Utah. Will you join us in our quest for continued excellence for the Southern Utah University Library?

Diana Graff  
Chair, Friends of the Library

### CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE FOR THE FOL!!!

The Friends of the Library now has a website. To access it go to [www.li.suu.edu/library/friends](http://www.li.suu.edu/library/friends). The website outlines the mission of the Friends, explains how to become a friend of the library, lists the members of the Advisory Board, outlines the bylaws and allows donations online.

## THE NEED FOR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY SUPPORT

The Gerald R. Sherratt Library has fewer books and current serials per student when compared to seven other universities with similar enrollments according to the 2008-2009 American Library Directory.

	Enrollment	Book Volumes	Volumes per Student	Current Serials	Librarian Staff
Range of seven comparable academic libraries	5,396 to 9,055	308,318 to 710,000	40.60 to 91.03	705 to 3,330	3 to 18
SUU Library	6,672	232,506	34.85	1,105	8

You can see from the statistics that the Gerald R. Sherratt Library needs financial support to expand the academic materials needed by SUU students. The Friends of the Library has a mission to reach out for financial support.

### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY EXHIBIT AT THE SUU HOUSING OPENING

The Friends of the Library sponsored an exhibit at the fall semester SUU housing openings on Sunday, August 16, and Wednesday, August 19. The FOL exhibit depicted the libraries at the University from the 1898, "Old Main" Library, to the present Gerald R. Sherratt Library.

Members of the FOL Advisory Board handed out a brochure explaining the mission and purpose of the FOL to the parents of incoming students. The pamphlet included a donation slip for the FOL fund. Over 200 pamphlets were distributed, many questions were answered, and new friendships were started.

### FIRST PRESS RELEASE PRAISES THE FOL

On September 2, 2009 an article titled "Friends of the Library to Raise Awareness" appeared in the Cedar City Neighborhoods edition of *The Daily Spectrum*. The two-page article outlined the purpose and goals of the Friends of the Library. Members of the local community were made aware of the "helping hand" in the form of a newly founded chapter. An invitation was extended to the community to support the Southern Utah University Library Gala on October 9, 2009 to launch the Friends of the Sherratt Library.

#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

**Patron \$35**

- Borrowing and Interlibrary Loan
- Newsletter

**Friend \$100**

- All Patron benefits PLUS
- Invitation to special programs and lectures

**Associate \$250**

- All Friend benefits PLUS
- Remote access to selected online databases
- Library workshops and training sessions

**Sponsor \$500**

- All Associate benefits PLUS
- Use of private, technology enhanced study rooms

**Fellow \$1,000**

- All Sponsor benefits PLUS
- Membership in the SUU President's Club

**Benefactor \$5,000**

- All Fellow benefits PLUS
- 6 indoor weekday Shakespeare Tickets
- Other benefits as negotiated

Send donations to Friends of the SUU Library

## IN WHICH LIBRARY DID YOU STUDY?

A library is the core of academic studies in any standing University. The first library at the University was on the top floor of Old Main, dedicated 28 October 1898. Old Main caught on fire on 12 December 1948, and many of the books were saved by the combined efforts of community members.

After the fire, the books were scattered throughout the campus. In 1955 the books were gathered up and moved to the auditorium/ library building which still houses the auditorium. The library moved to "old copper top" which served as the library from 1969 to 1996.

Finally on March 10, 1996 the Gerald R. Sherratt Library was dedicated. The Library now serves over 8,000 students and remains the eminent academic library of Southern Utah.

Services offered by the Southern Utah University Library have certainly changed since the dedication of Old Main, but it still remains the center of learning and academic prowess. We will continue to build the Sherratt Library and expand its book collection, personal collections, services offered to students and external structure to meet the future demands of students.



## INAUGURAL GALA FOR THE LIBRARY WAS A SUCCESS!!

The Friends of the Library Gala in the SUU Library on 9 October was a lovely occasion enjoyed by more than 150 guests. The theme “An Evening with Friends” turned out to be appropriate as people gathered from all over Southern Utah and a few from other states, to enjoy music, food, and camaraderie.

Special guests included Homer S. Jones and Max R. Bonzo of Cedar City. Both photographers spent many years in Cedar City and have donated their collection of photographs and negatives to the SUU Library Archives. Fantastic exhibits had been prepared throughout the library



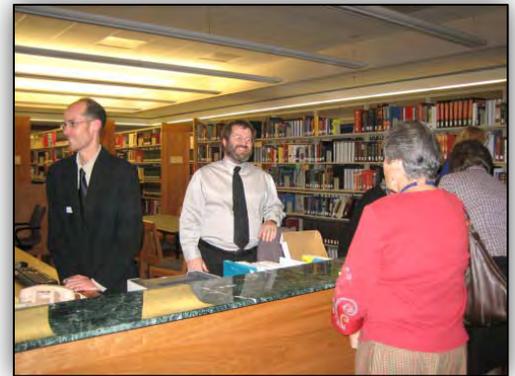
for guests to enjoy as they moved from floor to floor.

The excellent food provided by Chartwell’s Food Service was served on every floor, with the main course on the second floor in the Huntsman Reading Room.

SUU faculty authors exhibited their books on the third floor. Some also read from their publications and showed videos they produced.

Music filled the air throughout the library. The SUU jazz ensemble, string ensemble, and piano music created an atmosphere of warmth and welcome.

Guests were delighted with the Gala and as a result, we have over 70 new Friends.



### FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

Randall Allen  
Douglas B. Bonzo

Camille Q. Bradford  
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Diana T. Graff, Co-Chair  
Anne O. Leavitt

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W. Clayton Petty, Co-Chair

Gerald R. Sherratt  
Evan Vickers

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**SUU**

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#### FRIENDS OF THE SHERRATT LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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