President’s Message

By Gorman Duffett

The recent passing of Margaret Onnie kindled my memory of the fine women and men who have worked so hard since the spring of 1984 to bring to life and to sustain the Friends of the Library of Hiram College.

Joining with Margaret in my memory are Belle Murtagh, Janet Henry, Norma Fisher, Mollie Rinehart, Dorothy McConkey, Glenna Bissell, Joe Denham, David Anderson, Roland Layton, Janet Cooper, Dwight Hendricks, Tam Pendleton, Rose Hoard, and Joanne Sawyer. I have probably left someone out, but the message is clear -- a cross section of the Hiram College family saw the need for a library support group and did something about it.

Today, the Friends of the Library of Hiram College continues with a varied group of members working individually and collectively to enrich the collections of the Library and to provide appropriate programming.

From 1984 until 2008, the Friends of the Library has been built on a foundation of people. While remembering in a special way the warmth, dedication, and hard working nature of Margaret Onnie, I do not mean to diminish the significance of all those mentioned above. People have made the Friends and will continue to do so in the future. Thank you past, present, and future Friends of the Library of Hiram College.

Meet Jessica Olin

by David Everett

Jessica Olin joined the library staff this past summer as the Information Literacy/Instruction Librarian. In this newly created position, Jessica will be responsible for defining the library’s instruction program, working with faculty to help students become better researchers and information users, and extending the library’s outreach programs. In addition, she will be the liaison to a number of academic departments.

Jessica earned her B.A. in history from Hood College and her MLIS from Simmons College. She most recently earned a M.A.Ed. (with an adult education concentration) from Touro University International. Jessica comes to us from Landmark College in Vermont where she served as Research Services Librarian.

You can find Jessica in her office – the one previously occupied by Jeff Wanser, who has moved to a new office in the southwest corner of the main floor, by email at olinjr@hiram.edu or at 330-569-5312.
Programs Past and Future by Cathy Mansor

I think sometimes folks have the misconception that summer at Hiram means nice quiet days, time off with family and friends, and the chance to get caught up with the daily work on campus. While this is true for some, many offices run at full speed caring for the multitude of summer camps, conferences, alumni events and regular undergraduate and graduate courses that are offered from May through August. However, summer does allow time to do some program planning, which is what the Friends have been working on.

The 2008-2009 academic year is going to be an exciting one for those who enjoy a variety of offerings and special events. To start off the year, we’re pleased to invite you to campus on October 13th for a lecture by well-known “ghost hunter,” John Kachuba. Mr. Kachuba comes to Hiram through the joint efforts of the Kennedy Center Programming Board (KCPB) and the Friends of the Library, in what we hope will be the first of many partnerships between the two groups.

Kachuba is a noted conference speaker and presenter, and is author of several books. The subject of his lecture at Hiram will come from his interest in the paranormal, as evidenced by two of his most recent books, Ghosthunting Ohio and the newest release, Ghosthunters: On the Trail of Mediums, Dowsers, Spirit Seekers and Other Investigators of America’s Paranormal World, which was published by New Page Books in 2007. The October 13th lecture begins at 7:00 in the Kennedy Center Ballroom and is free and open to the public. Copies of the two featured books will be available for purchase at the lecture.

Another campus partnership will bring something very different to Hiram in the spring. As some of you may already know, The Lindsay-Crane Center for Writing and Literature recently received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to organize the “Big Read” in Portage County, with the goal of encouraging reading by engaging the entire community with a single book at the same time. The book chosen for this project is Dashiell Hammett’s The Maltese Falcon, and the Friends are pleased to announce that we will be co-sponsoring, with the Weekend College and Office of Graduate Studies, an original radio play to be performed live in Hayden Auditorium in February 2009. The play, a fictional account of a hard-boiled detective who tries to locate Hammett after the writer goes into seclusion, is written by Cleveland Plain Dealer television critic and writer Mark Dawidziak. The performance will be followed by a post-production reception in the library. Watch for more details over the next few months.

And finally, plans have begun on the program for the annual meeting in May 2009. We welcome input from our members on what topics are of interest to them. Please contact any Friends board member with your ideas.

How Your Gift to the Friends Was Spent by David Everett

Each year the Board of Directors, as well as the library staff, works hard to ensure that your gift is used in direct support of the library and its collections and services. This past year, 86¢ of every dollar went directly to purchasing materials for the library’s collection, as shown in the chart to the right. It should be noted that this past year, supplies were a higher percentage than normal because it was necessary to buy the usual three-year (or so) supply of stationery. That cost should decrease significantly in the coming year. As always, we will do our best to make sure your money goes where it was intended — to the support of the library. Thank you for your generosity.

library.hiram.edu/
In Memoriam:
Margaret K. Onnie
by Joanne Sawyer

Margaret Kilmer Onnie passed away on June 24, 2008. Margaret was a graduate of Hiram’s Weekend College, and Friends will remember her smiling face and gentle laugh from many years of annual book sales. She and her good friend, Belle Murtagh, staffed the cashier’s table each year and were also members of the Friends’ Governing Board.

Several years ago, Margaret “retired” to Judson Manor in Cleveland, where she made new friends and had many interests, although the move meant she didn’t get out to Hiram as often. She will be missed.

Library Launches Web Page for Alumni
by David Everett

On Alumni Weekend, the library staff launched a new web page (http://library.hiram.edu/Alumni.html) just for Hiram College alumni. The page is split between library resources and resources from the Hiram College Archives.

The library side features links to the library’s many newsletters, the Friends, and to Hiram Reads!, our online book community. The Archives side features links to Making Hiram Memories, information about the Archives, and online exhibits designed and produced by Jennifer Morrow, College Archivist.

Check it out. This is a great way to stay up-to-date with the library and the Archives.

Flicks with Friends: The Friends of the Library Film Festival
by David Everett

Beginning this September and running throughout the academic year, the Friends of the Hiram College Library will sponsor a film festival called Flicks with Friends: The Friends of the Library Film Festival. The Friends are subscribing to a film series from Film Movement, which provides one-time public performance rights (and the library keeps the DVD for its circulating collection) to award-winning, first-run, independent and foreign films from top festivals such as Sundance, Cannes, and Toronto.

The first film is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at 7:30 in the Pritchard Room of the Library. The Grocer’s Son, a French film by Eric Guirado that won awards at the Berlin International Film Festival and the Berkshire International Film Festival, will be shown. Admission is free and everyone is welcome. The Friends will be selling refreshments at the “concession stand.”

The second film of the series, Days and Clouds, will be shown on October 1. A complete list of dates is available on the new Flicks with Friends web page at http://library.hiram.edu/FOLfilms.htm. We will add the film titles as we find out what they are, something we should learn a month or two ahead of the showing date. Please join us for this new program from the Friends of the Hiram College Library.
The Friends of the Hiram College Library

I (we) wish to join the Friends of the Hiram College Library at the following level:

- Student $5.00
- Friend $30-$99 Amt. __________
- Century $100-$999 Amt. __________
- Director’s Club $1,000-$2,499 Amt. __________
- Clock Tower Club $2,500+ Amt. __________

I am:
- Alumni
- Trustee
- Parent
- Friend
- Faculty/Staff
- Student:
- Weekend College
- Traditional
- Other
- Specify __________

Name(s): ________________________________________________________
Class Year(s): _____________________________________________________
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Please make checks payable to “Hiram College”. Thank you!

Online at http://give.hiram.edu

Enclosed is my/our gift to the Friends of the Hiram College Library

I/we pledge $ ________ in ___ payments by June 30, 20 _____.

Please allocate my/our gift as follows:

$ _______ Friends of the Library (general)
$ _______ Jones Archival Preservation Endowment
$ _______ Professor Wilson Hoffman/Friends of the Library Endowment

Please bill my:
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Signature: __________________________________________

Matching Gift:
- Enclosed
- Will be sent
- Online

The Friends of the Hiram College Library

Please make checks payable to “Hiram College”. Thank you!

Renew Your Membership for the 2008-2009 Academic Year

We gratefully welcome your membership gifts to the Friends of the Hiram College Library. We know that some Friends prefer to follow a calendar year when renewing their memberships, rather than the academic July-June fiscal year of the College. Please make your generous gift at your convenience so that we can meet our goal of $35,000 by June 30 to undergird the acquisitions of the library.

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