

# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

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Vol. 1, No. 2

Bainbridge Public Library, P.O. Box 11219, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Fall 1998

## Mark your calendar

Special events and on-going series make the upcoming fall months a busy time for Bainbridge Library users. Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Bainbridge Public Library main meeting room.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

**Toddler storytimes**, 10:30 to 11 and 11 to 11:30, downstairs in children's library

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

**Pre-school storytime**, 10:30 to 11, downstairs

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**Toddler storytimes**, 10:30 and 11, downstairs

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

**Preschool storytime**, 10:30, downstairs

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

**Second Annual Laps for the Library, POSTPONED** until May, 1999.

Watch for re-scheduling in spring.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

**Toddler storytimes**, 10:30 and 11

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

**Preschool storytime**, 10:30

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10,

**10 am - 2 pm**

**Used Book Sale**, Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

**Library closed** for all staff training day.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

**Preschool storytime**, 10:30

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 4 pm

**Norm Rice**, "The Changing Connection Between Government and Citizens," First in the Bainbridge **Library Speakers Forum**.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

**Toddler storytimes**, 10:30 and 11

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

**Preschool storytime**, 10:30

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

**Final fall toddler storytimes**, 10:30 and 11

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

**Final fall preschool storytime**, 10:30  
Next storytime series begins in January

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 4 pm

**John Paul Jones**, "We Are Connected to Something Larger Than Ourselves," **Bainbridge Library Speakers Forum**.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 7:30 pm

**Rod Molzahn** as Shakespeare in "Shakespeare on Shakespeare (The Sonnets)." **Inquiring Minds** series, sponsored by Friends of the Library and the Washington Commission for the Humanities (free).

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 10 am - 2 pm, Library Book Sale.

### THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26-27

**Library closed** for Thanksgiving.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 10 am - 2 pm, Library Book Sale.

### THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24-25

**Library closed** for the Holidays.



## Aquarium attracts attention

The new saltwater aquarium on the library's lower level is attracting lots of attention from youngsters like Mei-fan Parnes (above). The aquarium is a gift from Friends of the Library. (For more about the Friends, please turn to Page 2.)

(Photo by Verda Averill)

## Norm Rice to open speakers forum

Former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice will open the first annual Bainbridge Library Speakers Forum Sunday, October 18.

Rice, who is now executive vice president of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle, has long been committed to building diverse, self-sustaining communities through economic development. He'll speak on "The Changing Connection Between Government and Citizens."

A few weeks later, on November 8, architect John Paul Jones of Seattle will speak. His topic: "We Are Connected to Something Larger Than Ourselves."

Jones was lead designer of the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institution. His

firm, Jones and Jones, designed the Woodland Park Zoo and Northwest Trek, and was among the first in the world to design zoos using natural habitats.

The four-part lecture series will continue in early 1999 with appearances by Island writer Andrew Ward January 31 and University of Washington chemistry professor William P. Reinhardt on February 28.

All the talks begin at 4 p.m. Sunday in the library conference room on the main floor.

The speakers' forum was organized by Susan Bray and a group of local volunteers, and is sponsored by the Bainbridge Island Library and the Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council. All profits will benefit the library.

At \$25 for the season, tickets were expected to go fast — and they did. Series tickets have been sold out, but those who have missed out on this year's events may call Bray at 842-4156 or sign up at the library to be placed on the mailing list for next year's programs.

A few single-lecture tickets at \$10 each may be available at the door the afternoon of each event.

"We're just delighted that the series has been so well received and sold out so fast," Bray said last week. "All of the tickets were gone within a few days. . ."

"Our primary focus is on getting excellent speakers," she added, "and we'll continue that emphasis in planning next year's programs."

## Special resources serve VIP group

Many library users think that the lower level of the new Bainbridge Public Library is exclusively for children. But, the new elevator-accessible ground floor houses several facilities for adults.

The VIP Room provides a number of different resources for visually impaired users, and this and other meeting rooms at the library serve the visually impaired persons support group on the Island.

Bainbridge Island Visually Impaired Persons was founded in 1992 and currently has about 75 members on its mailing list, according to Virginia Hardy who helped establish the group. The VIP group meets at the Bainbridge Public Library at 1:00 pm on the second Wednesday each month, with about 35 members usually attending. A wide

range of topics of interest to the visually impaired is offered at the monthly meetings. Interested persons may call Dick Hassell at 780-5525 to learn about facilities, meeting topics, and transportation to the library.

The VIP Room and equipment in the new library building owes its existence to a combination of individual gifts, community organization contributions, and foundation grants, plus lots of work by VIP members, library staff, and local volunteers.

The VIP Room has a variety of resource materials, including large print magazines, pamphlets, and even large print ferry schedules. The room also has a reading machine that can greatly

(continued on page 8)



Former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice will open the inaugural season of the Bainbridge Library Speakers Forum

## One Call does it all

By VERDA AVERILL

Fall on the Island means the kids are back in school, the days are shorter and the nights cooler, and Bainbridge Foundation will soon be making its One Call for All.

Chances are you'll be receiving the Foundation's annual fund drive packet in your mailbox soon after this newspaper reaches you. Look it over. Read the information within it. Consider your personal finances. And then, please return the enclosed ballot with your contribution — and do be generous.

We who use the Bainbridge Public Library often hope that you'll specify a sizable contribution to the library.

Many worthwhile organizations seek Bainbridge Foundation funds, but we know of none that serves more Islanders than our library. More than 90 percent of us have library cards, and we use them frequently. Most cardholders visit the library at least once a week, not just to check out books, but to use the computers, read periodicals, admire the art, do serious research, and meet with friends.

The new building, dedicated just over a year ago, contains nearly twice the square footage of the old structure — and already it is filled almost to capacity at some hours. The library is a popular place with locals and we love showing it off to our visitors.

When the need for an expanded building became evident a few years ago, Bainbridge residents responded in typical generous fashion, raising over \$2 million in personal and business contributions. No taxes were raised. No outside grants were requested. We just did it ourselves. Other communities which struggled to pass bond issues for their new libraries expressed amazement. It's understandable that we felt rather proud and pleased with ourselves.

But now that we've stopped congratulating ourselves and perhaps begun to take our new building for granted, one thing becomes clear. This expanded library will need more money for maintenance and operation.

The building has doubled in size — and it's doubled in maintenance costs. The bills are bigger for heating and cooling (remember how comfortable the building was during that hot spell?). Cleaning and repairs cost more. There's a service contract on the elevator. And the list goes on and on. The annual operating budget is estimated now at \$80,000, not bad for a \$2 million building but a lot more than has been budgeted before. And not a penny of that is paid by taxes. (Taxes which go to the Kitsap Regional Library cover salaries and books at the local libraries, but do not contribute to the buildings upkeep.)

Like homeowners with a remodeled house or car owners with an elegant new vehicle, we want our library building to get the care and maintenance it deserves. One way of meeting our expenses is through Bainbridge Foundation donations.

The One Call for All drive has brought substantial chunks of operating money to the library in previous years. But unless our donations increase this fall, they will meet only about one-quarter of this year's estimated budget. That leaves a lot to be made up in other ways, through our annual gala, laps for the library, memorial contributions, and so on.

Clearly, it would help if those who have given set amounts every year could double their donations this year. But even a few extra dollars would be a help.

To those who use the library regularly but have not contributed before, we can only say: Please join your neighbors in supporting this great community asset. Write a check to Bainbridge Foundation — as much as you can manage — and then specify a substantial portion of it for your Bainbridge Public Library. You'll be glad you did.



Verda Averill, a library board member, is a former editor and publisher of the Bainbridge Review.

# Friends of the Library raise funds through book sales

The Friends of the Bainbridge Island Library work quietly, often behind the scenes.

But their work is visible throughout the building: in the monthly book sales, the used magazine rack near the front door, the new saltwater aquarium — for just a few examples. And they were among the major contributors to the library building campaign.

The local Friends of the Library was organized in October 1970, says secretary Carolyn Peterson.

"Mrs. Bloomer, a member of the original steering committee, said that the Friends was organized as a way to give our library additional equipment and materials and keep the whole community aware of the services of the library," she adds.

Projects discussed at the group's first meeting included increased story hours for children and the purchase of a film projector. A rummage sale, which raised \$1,000, was held in October 1971.

The group has been raising funds for the library ever since.

Officers for 1998-99 include Susan Richards, president; Barbara Ferrin, vice president; and Bill Iulo, treasurer, as well as Peterson, secretary.

Annual rummage sales early in the Friends' history raised funds for books, toys, maintenance, more shelves, art, lectures, furniture, book reviews, and a typewriter, the records show. And The Friends helped buy land for further library expansion.

Beginning in 1975 the rummage sales were replaced with semi-annual book sales, and since the early 1980s the sales have been held once each month, on the second Saturday.

In 1978-79 Island historian Katy Warner gave the rights to her book **A History of Bainbridge Island** to the Friends of the Library. The book sells steadily and is reprinted as needed. It is used in the Bainbridge Island School District and sold at Eagle Harbor Book Co. and the



Bill Iulo, Friends of the Library treasurer, at a book sale  
(Verda Averill photo)

library. Sales of the book raised \$5,000 for the library in a recent four-year period.

Beginning in the mid-1990s, the Friends began to sell magazines for 10 cents each from a rack in the lobby. Sales of books and magazines have raised about \$12,000 during the past year.

All those small sales do add up. The Friends' contribution to the library building fund was a whopping \$25,000. And this past year, with staff and library users settled in the new building, the Friends have contributed money for furniture, toys, books, art work, and two bulletin boards for the children's area.

The new saltwater aquarium, located downstairs and admired by adults and children alike, is the newest Friends of the Library contribution. Its arrival was celebrated September 12 at the first Friends book sale of the new school year.

Funds from the Friends have also gone to the Kitsap Regional Library summer reading program, to pay for additional magazine subscriptions, for two Inquiring Minds

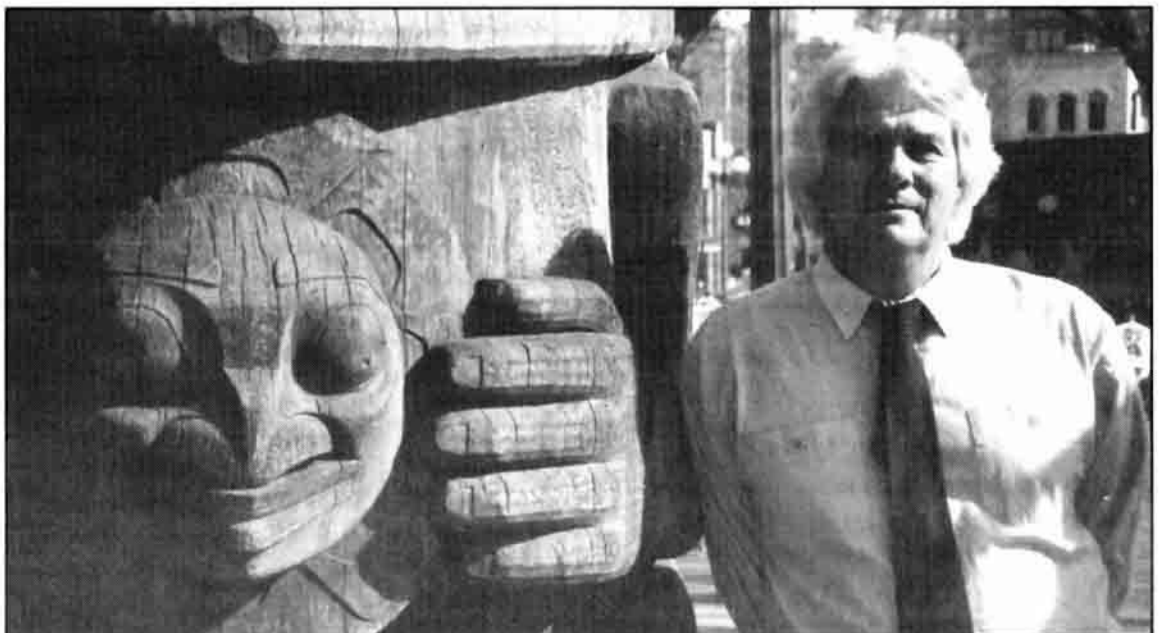
lectures, seasonal decorations, and refreshments for various library events.

Donations to the library book sales are evaluated by Friends of the Library members who sort and separate the books into categories for shelving.

A few unusual books are individually priced and placed on a special shelf. But most books are priced from 10 cents to \$4 each. Average price for a hard-cover book is \$1.25, says Carolyn Peterson. Children's books usually sell for a dime to \$2.

Paperbacks go fast at five for a dollar or a quarter each. Romance paperbacks are 10 for a dollar. (A few nearly new and better-quality paperbacks are individually priced.)

Book sales are held in the downstairs book storage area near the children's library. Because space is limited, the Friends cannot keep all the books received. There is no room for textbooks, out-of-date technical manuals, old encyclopedias, computer books over three years old, coverless books, and musty, moldy, and tattered books, says Carolyn Peterson.



Architect John Paul Jones will appear at the Bainbridge Public Library as the second speaker in a new library series. Former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice will open the speakers' forum in October. (See story on Page 1.)

## BAINBRIDGE ISLAND LIBRARY NEWS

P.O. Box 11219, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

The Bainbridge Island Library News is published every quarter by the Bainbridge Library Board, a non-profit organization, and distributed to all Island residents and library users. Verda Averill is editor; Peter Harris and Steve Olsen are associate editors.

Board members are: Tom Olson, president; Richard Blumenthal, Jo Schaffer, Gayle Seyl, Don Yockey, Verda Averill, Mary Ann Campbell, Peter Harris, Judy Karr, Pat Putman, Jane Brand, Diane Hamilton, Steve Olsen, Marty Sievertson, and Sarah Griffiths.



Friends meet friends  
at the library

# book sales

They come from all over the Island: young and not so young, retired professors, busy professionals, homemakers, students of all ages, and future students too young to read for themselves. They line up before the library opens at 10 and chat with friends or read while waiting patiently for a look at the bargain books inside. Then, for four hours on the second Saturday of every month, comes the fun, browsing and choosing new selections for their personal libraries. A dollar will buy several paperbacks; some shoppers fill grocery sacks with good reading material. Bainbridge Friends of the Library organize and supervise the monthly sale, which raises thousands of dollars every year for special library purposes.

*(Photos by Verda Averill at the mid-June sale)*



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# Books and cassettes at the library

By **STEVE OLSEN**  
Library board member

These recommendations on reading, listening, and viewing come from the staff and board of the Bainbridge Public Library. All are available from your Bainbridge Public Library, either in the branch collection or from one of the other branches of the Kitsap Regional Library system.

## Adult fiction

**Bachelor Brothers' Bed and Breakfast**, by Bill Richardson (St. Martin's, 1997). A pair of endearingly eccentric bachelors operate a bed and breakfast off Vancouver Island, where "the gentle and bookish and ever so slightly confused" retreat to read and relax, bringing their own books or perusing the brothers' substantial library. Originally published in Canada, this book won that country's prestigious Stephen Leacock Award for Humour in 1994.

**Consider This, Señora**, by Harriet Doerr (Harcourt, Brace, 1994). A great follow-up to her *Stones for Ibarra*, this novel examines the lives of four North American expatriates in a small Mexican village. An accurate observation of Americans, Mexicans, and the landscape that affects them all so powerfully.

**Cuba and the Night**, by Pico Iyer (Vintage, 1996). The first novel by travel writer Iyer captures the melancholy yet ebullient character of Castro's Cuba in a haunting story of love and politics. A great read, whether you're planning a trip to Cuba or not.

**The Genesis Code**, by John Case (Ballantine, 1998). This spellbinding medical thriller by Case (pseudonym for an award-winning Washington, DC reporter) takes readers on a wild ride from Italy to Foggy Bottom and back in a page-turner that raises hard questions of medical ethics and Vatican politics.

**High Crimes**, by Joseph Finder (William Morrow, 1998). A chilling courtroom thriller featuring high-finance, techno-terrorism and state-of-the-art sleuthing, ending with a twist that delivers an almost-visceral shock.

**Los Alamos**, by Joseph Kanon (Dell, 1998). Highly

recommended by Nancy Pearl in her February talk here, this suspense novel takes the reader back to 1945 Los Alamos and the murder of a security officer on the Manhattan project. It's been called a love story inside a murder mystery inside the most significant story of the 20th century.

**Through a Gold Eagle: a Glynis Tryon Mystery**, by Miriam Grace Monfredo (Berkley, 1996). Especially appropriate in this 150th year of the Women's Rights Movement, this cozy mystery is set in Seneca Falls, New York—home of the first Women's Rights convention—during the mid-19th century.

## Adult nonfiction

**The Maya**, by Michael D. Coe (Thames and Hudson, 1993). Originally published in 1966, and revised many times since, this clearly written and beautifully illustrated small volume is still the best instruction to the world of the Maya, probably the New World's greatest ancient civilization. A must for anyone traveling to southern Mexico and Central America.

**Moss Gardening: Including Lichens, Liverworts, and Other Minatures**, by George Schenk (Timber Press, 1997). A delightful book that contains a wealth of ideas for those who want their gardens to reflect the local climate.

**The New Cottage Home**, by Jim Tolpin (Taunton Press, 1998). A compendium of charming small homes by the water, in the woods, in town. Here is plenty of inspiration for scaled-down living.

**Princess in the Land of Snows**, by Jamyang Sakya (Shambhala, 1990). A young woman grows up in a rural village in Tibet and marries a prince just as China takes her country and exiles many of the Buddhist leaders.

## For young people

**Bunnica: A Rabbit-tale of Mystery**, by Deborah and James Howe (Athenium, 1979). Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their founding baby bunny must be a vampire.

**Dinosaurs Before Dark**, by Mary Pope Osborne (Random House, 1992). In this first volume in the "Magic Tree House" series, eight-year-old Jack and his younger sister, Annie, find a magic treehouse which whisks them back to an ancient time zone where they see live dinosaurs.

**Izzy, Willy-Nilly**, by Cynthia Voigt (Athenium, 1986). Because she lacked the courage to turn down a ride with a drunken driver, Izzy loses her leg in an accident. Adjusting to life as an amputee, she learns the true meaning of friendship.

**Losing Joe's Place**, by Gordon Korman (Scholastic, 1990). Jason and his two friends move into Jason's brother's apartment and manage to wreak havoc in it during one funny and memorable summer.

## Audio books

**Note:** some of the **unabridged** books-on-tape require a stereo tape player with balance control to allow each cassette to do double-duty. Check with a librarian or the on-line catalog.

**Angela's Ashes: A Memoir**, by Frank McCourt, read by the author. (Simon & Schuster, 4 cassettes, 1997 or Recorded Books, 11 cassettes, 1997). Here you have the choice, 4 hours abridged or 15 hours unabridged. Both versions are filled with McCourt's searingly truthful recollections of growing up poor, Irish, and Catholic in Limerick, which are somehow miraculously transcended by his humor and humanity, and are even more affecting to hear in his own voice.

**Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First Hundred Years**, by Sarah and Elizabeth Delany, read by Iona Morris, with an interview with the Delany Sisters. (Audio Renaissance, 6 cassettes—unabridged, 1994.) Touching, no nonsense memoirs of the remarkable Delany sisters as they recall days of segregation, growth of black freedom, and the rise of a black middle class.

**The Hobbit**, by J.R.R. Tolkien, performed by Anthony Jackson et al, (Bantam/Mind's Eye, 4 cassettes, 1989.) Originally recorded for the BBC, this large-cast version

easily transports you into the fantasy world of Bilbo, Gandalf, Thorin, and all the rest of Tolkien's fantastic characters.

**How Stella Got Her Groove Back**, by Terry McMillan, read by the author. (Penguin Audiobooks, 2 cassettes—abridged, 1996). Told as only Terry McMillan could tell it, a Jamaican vacation turns out to be a transforming experience for a do-it-all mother and investment analyst named Stella.

**Mrs. Pollifax and the Lion Killer**, by Dorothy Gilman, read by J. Charles. (Brilliance Corporation, 3 cassettes—unabridged, 1996). Emily Pollifax is at it again, this time taking her spying to Africa.

**River God: A Novel of Ancient Egypt**, by Wilbur Smith, read by Dick Hill. (Brilliance Corporation, 8 cassettes—unabridged, 1994). Historical fiction on the grand scale, *River God* is set in Thebes and the Valley of the Kings during the Middle Empire, ca 2,000 B.C.

# Here's how to get the book you want

Do you want to read that latest best-seller, though it's not on the library shelf?

Looking for an older, out-of-print volume that the library doesn't own?

Here's how the library can help you get the material you seek. The Bainbridge library has more than 63,000 items available locally; but you have access to over 400,000 books, magazines, audiotapes, videos and other materials available in the Kitsap Regional Library system.

If the item is owned by Kitsap Regional Library, but is checked out or assigned to another branch, you may put a hold on it at the library, by telephone or from your home computer. Usually the book arrives within one to two days (unless it is checked out or has a waiting list.) You will be notified by postcard when it arrives. You also have the option of notification by e-mail.

If the item is not owned by Kitsap Regional Library, you may fill out a "Purchase Request" form at the library. The library will consider purchasing most requests if they are in print and fit the library's guidelines. Purchases may take one to two months to arrive and you will be notified by postcard.

If the item is not in print, is very expensive or specialized in nature, the library will try to get it for you through Interlibrary Loan. Interlibrary Loan is a courtesy service between library systems, but some libraries charge a fee. It may cost Kitsap Regional Library \$25 or \$30 to obtain items. You are not charged for loaned books. Most Interlibrary Loan books take three to six weeks to arrive and you are notified by telephone.

If you are able to dial in from your home computer with a modem, your library is a 24-hour resource. You can search for items listed in the Kitsap Regional Library catalog and place holds for pick-up at your convenience. Technology has transformed the library; it would not have been possible to verify the

## Library hours

The Bainbridge library is open daily except holidays:

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Tues. - Thurs.- Fri. - Sat.

10 to 5:30  
Sunday 1 to 5



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## Meet the staff

# Peggy Hughes is young people's librarian

By VERDA AVERILL

Peggy Hughes, young people's librarian at the Bainbridge Public Library, has always loved children and books.

Growing up in Minnesota, as the third of seven children, young Peggy liked to play school.

"And," she smiled, "I got to play teacher for the younger children."

Playing teacher came naturally. Both her parents and a grandmother were teachers. And in college, Peggy studied English with the goal of becoming a teacher.

She attended the Bemidji State University, and her first job was as a high school librarian. Later, after marrying, she and her husband Mike moved to St. Paul, where she worked in the reference department of the University of Minnesota library.

The young couple settled in Seattle in 1980, and Peggy Hughes acquired a two-year master's degree in library science at the University of Washington. Immediately after completing her studies she began work as a librarian at the

Kitsap Regional Library branch in Port Orchard. She stayed there five years, while that branch was renovated, then moved to Bainbridge Island in 1988.

Hughes became the first young people's librarian in the Bainbridge branch, and anyone watching her conduct story hours for young children knows she's a natural. She's had plenty of practice reading to children. Some of that practice came at home, with her own children: Anna, 21, now a senior at Western Washington University, and Brendan, 15, a Bainbridge High School student.

At the University of Washington Hughes took a full range of courses in children's librarianship, reference work, programming, storytelling, and more. She is at home in all departments of the library, and sometimes works upstairs when the need arises.

She likes working with adults as well as youngsters.

"One thing I really enjoy about children's services is the interaction with library users of all ages," she says. She's worked with a Mothershare program for young women at Rolling Bay Presbyterian Church, with senior center



Peggy Hughes, young people's librarian

volunteers who help with the Head Start program at Commodore, and with many other groups.

"I do like to work with the other agencies that serve kids, and this is a wonderful community. . . There are a great

many adults who come in here . . . It's really essential that adults remain concerned and work with children," she says.

Hughes has seen many changes in her years as a young people's librarian. An obvious one is the growth in computer usage; and the Bainbridge children's area is well equipped with kid-friendly computers.

A current trend in children's book publishing, says Hughes, is toward well-designed non-fiction books with bright colored photos. She sees the youngsters respond enthusiastically to these.

"So many kids like to read for information now," she says.

Bainbridge youngsters use their library constantly. Nearly 1,000 were enrolled in the summer reading program this year, and the upstairs conference room was packed with children for the program's season-ending puppet show.

Keeping up with so many youngsters takes a dedicated staff and Hughes gives full credit to Eleanor Wheeler and Nora Gelineau, the other young people's librarians on staff.

"They have developed a real specialty in children's services," she says.

## Summer reading program draws record numbers

The 1998 summer reading program at the Bainbridge Public Library was, not surprisingly, the biggest ever. Final counts on the program, which wound up September 6, were not available at press time, but young people's librarian Peggy Hughes estimates that nearly 1,000 youngsters signed

up, and a record number completed the 10-hour reading assignment and received free paperbacks as their rewards.

The larger children's library space in the new building provided the setting for the program, and several of the walls and windows were covered with little cutout cars

representing the reading program participants.

"The success of the annual program depends in large part on volunteers," said Hughes, "and we really appreciate the work of those who helped."

Volunteers who helped with registration include Annabel Johnson, Ashley Christensen, Barbara Gebney, Cameron

Thorsteinson, Dorman Tong, Janet Usellis, Janice Toiumi, Joan Vassiliadis, Julianna Berry, Julie Fiess, Mattise Hemingway, Meagan Miller-McKeever, Pam Kreyling, Phyllis Frothingham, and Sarah Bailey.

"Our thanks also to all those on the library staff who explained the reading program, issued certificates, and awarded paperbacks to hundreds of participants," said Peggy Hughes.

Nearly 200 children attended the Wednesday programs during July. Adults planning those events included library staffers Nora Gelineau, for Star Party, and Eleanor Wheeler for Kids' Web. Barbara Winther, Bainbridge Island author and storyteller, presented Folklore Drama.

Assisting with the Wednesday programs were high school volunteers Amy Nyhus,

Meaghan Williams, and Sarah Bailey.

The puppet shows, which entertained nearly 200 children, were presented by the Kitsap

### Volunteers make children's summer program a success

Regional Library children's librarians, Kirstin Iller and Lynn Stone; scriptwriter was Carol Gill Schuyler.

"Kudos to the Kitsap Regional Library's Young People's Department, located in the county's central library, for creating and providing posters, reading rosters, and certificates as well as for acquiring paperbacks for distribution," added Hughes. "Their support is truly appreciated."



Pre-school youngsters are entranced by a library story hour (left); puppeteers from the Kitsap Regional Library entertain children during the Bainbridge library's summer program of children's events



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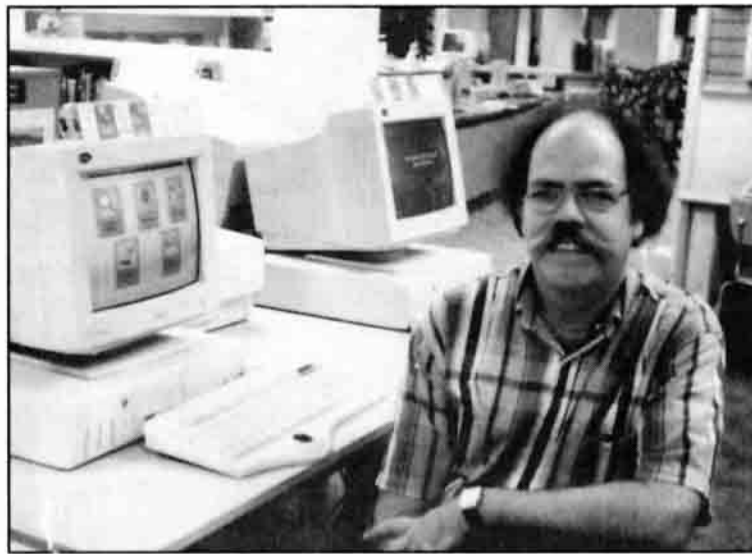
# Island man named Cybrarian of the Year

By STEVE OLSEN

Most of us are getting used to the many different ways that the library provides us with access to information and we may even be starting to take them for granted.

For the electronic systems that we depend upon, however, it takes a special kind of librarian not only to keep things up and running on a daily basis, but also to stay abreast of what is happening in the larger world of information technology and make sure that our systems continue to make maximum use of what is available in that world. Hence the term "cybrarian" (from cyber and librarian) for technical librarians.

We who use the Bainbridge Public Library and the Kitsap Regional Library system have



Cybrarian Michael Schuyler at work

known for some time that our libraries are in the vanguard of public use of new information resources. But, we may not, however, be fully aware of some of the major staff

contributions—both locally and regionally—to our enviable library information resource situation.

National recognition has been given to one staff member.

Michael Schuyler, chief of support services for Kitsap Regional Library and a Bainbridge Islander, was named 1998 MCI Cybrarian of the Year for the State of Washington for his role in providing enhanced information technology capabilities to Kitsap County library patrons.

One librarian from each state was chosen by a national judging panel, and each state's Cybrarian will receive a \$1,000 grant for purchase of library and educational materials. Schuyler said he planned to devote most of his grant to upgrading the CD-ROM collections at the Kitsap and Bainbridge libraries.

Also this year Schuyler and Kitsap Regional Library were among five libraries nationwide to receive \$30,000 technology grants from MCI. At a special ceremony at the Poulsbo branch library, Congressman Rick White

joined MCI in presenting the awards.

Schuyler said that funds from this grant will be aimed at two new library projects. First will be a pilot program to explore enhanced computer

**Grant money will go toward two new library projects.**

access—including the graphical features of World Wide Web browsing—to visually impaired library users. This project will be based at the Bainbridge branch and work closely with the VIP (Visually Impaired Persons) support group here. A second, system-wide project will introduce automatic telephone notification for patrons when requested books arrive at the library, saving us all time and cutting library costs.

## Internet provides access to information

Can the Internet replace curling up with a good novel? Never!

Does it lead you to reflect on the meaning of life? Probably not.

The Internet does a superb job, however, of providing access to information. And in an era where the division between information haves and have nots is growing in size and importance, the library is perhaps the only institution that makes modern information technology available to everyone.

To visit some sites of particular interest, visit the Bainbridge Library home page ([www.kitsap.lib.wa.us/branches/bainbridge/bitext/html](http://www.kitsap.lib.wa.us/branches/bainbridge/bitext/html)). You will find all the links described below, and many more besides. If you are not already connected to the internet, stop by the library and use its computers. For help getting started, sign up at the reference desk for individual instruction from a dedicated volunteer.

In **Speaking of Books**, you will find Bookwire. This is the digital edition of the Library Journal, and it includes a pre-publication alert, giving advance notice of upcoming books by popular authors. This is a great place to check if you

want to be at the top of the waiting list for the newest Tom Clancy or Mary Higgins Clark! If you are looking for events, click on **Seattle Literary Events** and see a calendar of up-coming literary presentations. Don't overlook the on-line bookstores, such as Amazon, with book news, and great search features for both current and out-of-print books and music.

For local news, check the **Bainbridge Island section**. The City of Bainbridge Island has done a wonderful job of providing information, including the full Municipal Code. **The Bainbridge Island Community Network** will connect you to community news. You may also enjoy exploring the homepages for the schools and the park district. On a more practical note, bus and ferry schedules are included.

Because seniors are the fastest growing population of Internet users, they have a special section, **Especially for Seniors**. This section includes links to government information, weblinks especially for seniors, and even information on the Elderhostel program.

Another special group is students, and there is a section

to help them find information for school projects, and also for general interest. Librarians hope they, and their teachers and parents, will let the staff know of other links that would be useful.

Are you looking for a tide schedule, or interested in how many earthquakes there have been lately, or what weather is forecast for the next day? Look for this information under **Weblinks**.

While you are exploring, you may enjoy the on-line **Japanese American National Museum**, or the **Native American links**, including the homepage for the Suquamish tribe.

Do you need a zip code? Look for the zip code page, type in the address, and the nine-digit zip code will be generated. Or perhaps you need directions to almost anywhere. In Mapquest, you can enter an address, and a map and directions will be created. There are Search Engines to locate links to virtually any topic. One of them, **Alta Vista**, will even translate!

Whether you use the Internet for fun, for information, or are exploring just out of curiosity, you will enjoy visiting your virtual library, the Bainbridge Library homepage on the web.

## Library staff seeks more suggestions from readers

By ELEANOR WHEELER

Library staff member

The library staff wants to hear your ideas, so we took a survey of our patrons to find out what suggestions they had. It was not surprising that there was a high rate of response, and that many of our customers had ideas we needed to consider. The staff was delighted at the high percentage of people that feel we are meeting their needs, and who complimented both the staff and the library facility.

**We were not surprised that the greatest priority for spending library dollars was for purchasing books.**

We were especially interested in hours, because we know the current hours are not convenient for everyone. We received many suggestions, but the only consensus was that we should not change by adding hours in one place while subtracting in another. If no additional hours are available, it seems most of our patrons would prefer to keep the current hours.

With approximately 1,000 responses gathered in a period of two weeks, there were many ideas put forth. The staff especially appreciates the thoughtful comments. Over half of the surveys included individual statements. There were many valuable insights into how we can better serve you, our customers.

**But we need to hear from more of you. If you were not one of our survey group, we especially want to know what we can be doing to serve you. Is there something that would bring you into the library?**

If you did fill out a survey, please keep telling us how we can improve. To best serve the entire community, we need to hear from all of you; please stop in, call, or write your suggestions. We're listening.

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# Savvy traveling begins at the library

By NANCY OLSEN

When making your travel plans, begin with a trip to the Bainbridge Public Library. You'll find all the resources you need to make your journey a memorable one.

You'll probably want to start by browsing the various travel guidebooks.

(Hint: Be sure to consult the on-line catalog as well as the shelves, as the most popular and recent editions are often checked out. It's a good idea to place a hold on these so you can be notified when they are returned.)

Compare the pros and cons of each, so that you'll know which ones best meet your needs when you go to make a purchase. Travel videos are now shelved together with guidebooks, so consider borrowing one of these, too, and enjoying a visual overview of your chosen destination and its attractions.

If traveling outside the

English-speaking world, you might want to learn a little of the language that will surround you. Knowing even a few phrases can make a big difference, and being able to read signs always comes in handy. Look to the library for phrase books, dictionaries, and language courses on tape.

With practical matters and general orientation taken care of, it's time to delve into the books that will add a special dimension to your travel experience by providing in-depth cultural background. Do you love art, or history, or folklore? Seek out books on these subjects.

Our passion is fiction. We like the insights into other ways of thinking and being that come from a well-written novel, and take pleasure in having the lives of imaginary characters teach us about a country's history and politics.

As an example, our recent visit to Sweden was enriched by reading Vilhelm Moberg's

classic, **The Emigrants**, the story of Karl-Oskar and Kristina Nilsson, who escape the relentless poverty of the 1850s by emigrating to the United States.

**Hanna's Daughters**, by Marianne Fredriksson, a saga of three generations of Swedish women, showed us the dramatic social change that has occurred in Sweden over the past 125 years.

We learned about a range of contemporary political issues from Kerstin Ekman's gripping literary thriller, **Blackwater**. **The Locked Room**, one of several excellent mystery novels by Maj Sjöwall and Per Wahlöö, gave us a good feel for daily life in Stockholm, while also incorporating the authors' considerable commentary on all that's wrong with Swedish social policy.

Our geography lesson came from Selma Lagerlöf's charming children's book, **The Wonderful Adventures of**

**Nils**. In it naughty Nils is turned into an elf and travels throughout Sweden with a flock of wild geese, yielding lyrical descriptions of the Swedish countryside.

Film is another pathway into the soul of a nation.

Although August Strindberg is an important literary figure in Sweden, truth is we didn't want to take the time to read his novels and plays. Viewing the video version of **Miss Julie**, a riveting story of class and gender politics in a setting of midsummer madness, was the perfect solution.

We also borrowed **Scenes from a Marriage**, Ingmar Bergman's take on modern relationships, **The Man on the Roof**, based on a Sjöwall/Wahlöö mystery and directed by Bo Widerberg, and several other films.

Each evening's entertainment took us further along in our understanding of how Swedes think and feel and view the world.

How to find books and videos that will immerse you in the culture of your own travel destination? The on-line catalog and various other on-line resources are good places to begin. The library's direct link to the World Wide Web provides many research options. Additionally, your chosen guidebook may include a list of recommended books and films.

There are reference works, too, such as **The Traveler's Reading Guide**, by Maggy Simony, and for mystery fiction, **Crimes of the Scene**, by Nina King. **Videohound's Golden Movie Retriever** has extensive lists of films from other countries, as well as those set in various U.S. cities.

For assistance in accessing all these travel resources, consult the helpful staff of the Bainbridge Public Library.

(Nancy Olsen is a library volunteer. Her travel partner is Steve Olsen, a member of the Library Board of Directors.)

## Fall story hours get under way

The fall series of storytimes for children will run from September 21 to October 28.

Storytimes for children from 18 months to 3 years will be on Mondays at 10:30 and 11, young people's librarian Peggy Hughes said this week.

Registration is required; parents may sign up their children at the young people's checkout desk downstairs or call 842-4162.

Dates for the toddler series are September 21, 28 and October 5, 19, and 26. The library will be closed on Monday, October 12.

Preschool storytimes, for children 3 to 5 years of age, will be on Wednesdays at 10:30. Dates for these are September 23, 30 and October 7, 14, 21, and 28. It is not necessary to register for the preschool storytimes.

The next series of children's story hours will begin in early January.

## Tips for storytime newcomers

The fall schedule of library story hours for toddlers is just getting under way. And young people's librarian Peggy Hughes has a few words of advice for parents.

"If this is your child's first group experience," she says, "it may be helpful for you to come to the library 10 or 15 minutes before the program starts to let your child get accustomed to the story area." (The library opens at 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday.)

Toddler storytime programs include a few simple books, flannelboard stories, fingerplays, puppets, songs, and activities for children ages 18 months to 3 years.

Storytimes are designed as

a one-on-one sharing experience for child and caregiver and last 20 to 30 minutes.

"Please sit with your child on carpet pieces which are provided," Hughes says. "Participate in the fingerplays, songs, and activities and encourage your child to become involved."

Children of this age are not expected to sit quietly throughout the entire program, she adds.

"However, if your child becomes upset or is crying during the program and is distracting other participants, kindly take him or her to another area of the library until the child is calmer and willing to return to the storytime

room," Hughes said.

When children are unable to attend all programs in a series, parents or caregivers are asked to notify the young people's librarians. Space in the series is limited and a call would allow the staff to contact someone on the waiting list.

To register a child for the toddler series (Mondays September 21-October 26) or the pre-school series (Wednesdays September 23 through October 28) phone 842-4162, Extension 9806, on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays. Or call 842-4162, Extension 9807 on Fridays. For additional information, visit the young people's area downstairs during library hours.

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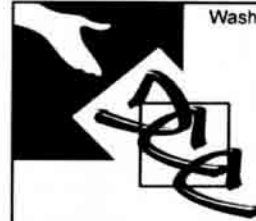


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# Two fall art displays set for library

Two special art exhibits will brighten the walls of the Bainbridge Public Library this fall.

Through the end of September, current works by local artists will be displayed. The group show, organized for the library's recent fund-raising gala, features artists whose work was installed in the remodeled and enlarged building when it opened last year. That collection will remain through the end of the month to give library users who missed the gala a chance to view the new pieces, said Joanna Newnham, who organized the display.

Included in the September show are works by Solia Van Slyke, Michele Van Slyke, Darrah Cole, Steve Maslach, Constance Miller, Peggy Vanbianchi, Gayle Bard, Amy Chamberlin, Ben Philips, Bob Lucas, Molly Greist, and Barbara Helen Berger.

A one-woman show by Solia Van Slyke will open in early October and remain through the end of the year.

The versatile Van Slyke promises a mixed show "with a definite fall feeling and maybe even a surprise. It will be very organic in feeling, very curvy. . . I like to work with movement," she says.

It will be all new work, she adds, and will probably include some metal furniture, some runners or rugs, and perhaps "a wall piece, maybe even a painting."

Solia may be best known to local library users as the designer of the



Artist Solia Van Slyke's work will be on display at the library beginning in October. This table is included in the group artists' September show now open.

jigsaw-puzzle children's tables in the young people's library area downstairs. And she loved that assignment.

"As a child raised on Bainbridge Island, I have spent many hours in the Bainbridge Public Library from the time I could hold a book," she said. "I wanted my puzzle tables to be colorful, fun, and bring a sense of intrigue to the viewer's eye. . . I wanted to allow the children the freedom to find their own secret spot to read by themselves or with their parents."

She does not, however, limit herself to furniture design.

She has worked as a jeweler's apprentice (with Pat Lown); has silk screened porcelain enamel on steel; has worked on a metal/wood relief sculpture at Swedish Hospital in Seattle and on relief murals for Kaiser Permanente in Beaverton. Other work has involved enameling for a wind sculpture at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport and a bathroom wall relief mural in Mulheim, Germany.

The library's space limitations will determine what pieces, and how many, she'll be able to show this fall.

The fall art shows follow a popular summer exhibit by Bainbridge Island artist Barbara Berger. New shows are scheduled to open approximately every three months. The library art committee, chaired by Judy Karr and Betsy Lawrence, is arranging the shows, which are open to the public during regular library hours.

## News briefs

**THE BAINBRIDGE LIBRARY** meeting room is available for rent by both non-profit and local business organizations. The room is equipped with seven tables, 100 chairs, projector, pull-down screen, public address system, and more. Maximum seating is about 110, and rental fees are modest. For information call the library at 842-4162.

**SCIENCE FICTION** writers are invited to join a local writing group now organizing. For information call Ann Lovejoy at the Garden School, 780-6783, or e-mail her at [lovejoy60@aol.com](mailto:lovejoy60@aol.com).

**A VOLUNTEER** library garden team meets Fridays from 9 to 11 a.m. and Sundays from 10 to 12. Bring hand tools and gloves. All are welcome, and appreciated.

**THE DEAD TREE** which threatened to fall on library users as they parked has been topped, dropped, and hauled away by Dave McArdle and Lee

Rosenbaum at no cost to the library, reports Rick Blumenthal, library board vice president.

**DID YOU KNOW** that the Bainbridge library subscribes to 10 magazines for children? Each can be checked out for up to three weeks, except for the latest issue. Latest addition to the juvenile magazine list is **Your Big Backyard**, published by the National Wildlife Federation. It arrives monthly and is suitable for youngsters age 3 to 5, says young people's librarian Peggy Hughes.

**THE INQUIRING MIND** series of lectures is back this fall on Bainbridge Island, sponsored by the Washington Commission for the Humanities and several local groups. One lecture is scheduled for the library (see calendar, page one). Another, planned by the park district, will be held at Island Center Hall. (Check with the Island Parks and Recreation office for details.)

From page one

## VIP group

enlarge written pages of text, a large-screen/well-labeled computer terminal for consulting the library's on-line catalog (text only version), and other handy pieces of equipment. A library volunteer, Dianne Knodel, is available to explain their use, as well as other aspects of learning to use the library generally; call 842-4162 for an individual appointment. The Bainbridge VIP Room will soon be the base for a pilot program exploring options for a much enhanced

computer facility for the visually impaired.

Library programs and facilities for the visually impaired provide a powerful challenge to the goal of providing unrestricted access to information to all members of the community. Trying to meet that challenge may also provide clues to more effective access to information for other members of our community.

## Docent training to begin soon

The Bainbridge Public Library's unique and growing art collection has attracted more than a little attention from visitors as well as Islanders.

To help answer the many questions about works of art within the library building and on the grounds, volunteers will launch a library art docents program this fall.

Art enthusiasts interested in the new program, especially those with docent experience in other areas, are invited to leave their names and phone numbers at the library's main desk, or phone 842-4216 for more information.

First step in the program will be a training session, including a visit to local artists' workshops, sometime in mid-October (tentatively October 13).

Heading the docents program will be Michele Van Slyke and Ann Sievertson of the library arts committee.

## Gala guests meet garden artists

Guests at the second annual Bainbridge Public Library Gala September 12 learned about the creation of the building's Haiku Garden from its designers and viewed new works by local artists.

About 150 guests attended the fund-raising event, which was sponsored by Fairbank Construction Company, and many library supporters who could not attend sent contributions.

"Their generosity really helped make the event a success," said Jo Schaffer, committee chair.

The artists who explained their roles in the creation of the garden included Masaku Guidry, haiku poems; Keith Mesirous, gate and fencing; John van den Meerendonk, stone cutter; Dave Berfield, ceramic tile; Molly Greist, stone carver; Vicki McCabe and Doug Tanaka, landscaping; and Junkoh Harui, garden designer.

Among the many who contributed to the gala were West Coast Paper, invitations; Les Deux Amies, catering; Bainbridge Island Winery, Madrona String Quartet, Harborcrest Bonsai, Northwest Elegance, and a local ikebana group.

## Local film premiere will foster multi-cultural understanding

The Bainbridge Public Library will be among the beneficiaries of the Northwest premiere of the film based on **Snow Falling on Cedars**, David Guterson's best-selling novel.

The Bainbridge Island Japanese-American Community, which is working with local civic groups, the author, and film executives to bring the premiere to the Island, plans to use profits from the premiere to promote multi-cultural understanding.

The Bainbridge Island premiere and another in Seattle (to benefit the University of Washington's creative writing program) are tentatively scheduled for early 1999, just before the nationwide release of the film.

Guterson is enthusiastic about the local premiere's purpose.

"I'm 100 percent behind it," he said. "Anything that will promote multi-cultural understanding is very appropriate."