

Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library

Special Interest Articles:

- Library goes electronic. Page 2
- Friends volunteer Aaron Marston. Page 3.

Inside:

- Puppet Shows 2
- October Sale 2
- Mississippi Aid 5
- President's Column 6

Gwyn Hyman Rubio—reading for Friends

By Chris Helvey

Speaking before a modest but enthusiastic audience at a reading sponsored by the Friends, Gwyn Hyman Rubio revealed herself to be an open, generous, personable artist, who was willing to answer questions and share her own thoughts concerning the state of American literature today.

Before reading from her latest novel, *The Woodsman's Daughter*, Rubio talked eloquently and at length about her childhood in rural Georgia—she grew up in

Jimmy Carter country. In fact, her grandmother played bridge with Miss Lillian Carter, the President's mother. As the oldest child in the family, much of her childhood was spent in the company of her father, Mac Hyman, who was the author of the best-selling novel, *No Time For Sergeants*. This novel, which was published when her father was only 31, was later made into a Broadway play (and later a movie) which helped launch the careers of Andy Griffith, Don Knotts, and others. Rubio shared with her audience how

Andy Griffith—this was before his many successes—actually telephoned her father and asked him to put in a good word for him with the producers for the lead role.

Being the daughter of a best-selling novelist, who tragically died at 39, left her with mixed feelings about becoming a writer herself. Although she “dabbled” with writing throughout her early life, she continued for years to choose a path other than that of a writer.

She graduated from Florida State University (continued on page 3)



Photo by Michael Embry
Gwyn Hyman Rubio speaks to the Friends in June at the Frankfort Women's Club.

Friends Board Members

Officers

Mary Lynn Collins,
President

Marguerite Wordell,
First Vice President

Mary Cheek,
Secretary

Jules Delambre,
Treasurer

Mimi Gosney,
Membership Committee Chair

Joe Johnson,
Publicity Committee Chair

Directors

Carol Baughman

Mildred Browning

Eileen Cackowski

Evelyn Claffy

Michael Embry (newsletter)

Libby Kadler

Chris Evans

Chris Helvey (newsletter)

Carol Hummel

Gretchen Vaught

Cecilia Broadwater
(Past President)

Next book sale scheduled in October

The Friends have tentatively set the date for the next book sale for the week of Oct. 23.

After Labor Day, we will be in the basement of the library every Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. and from 5-7 p.m. sorting books. We hope to see you there.

Paul Sawyer Library goes electronic

Never let it be said that the Paul Sawyer Public Library does not keep up with the times.

In addition to a brand-new, state-of-the-art library building nearing completion, the always energetic library staff has implemented an exciting new feature.

This program, known as the *Electronic Newsletter*, provides an opportunity for patrons to sign up to receive library publications electronically and allows them to place titles on hold via their personal computer from the convenience of their home.

Check out this time-saving, not to mention step-saving

service, for yourself at www.pspl.org. You may also call 223-1658 for more information if you require operating guidance from the library staff.

-- By Chris Helvey



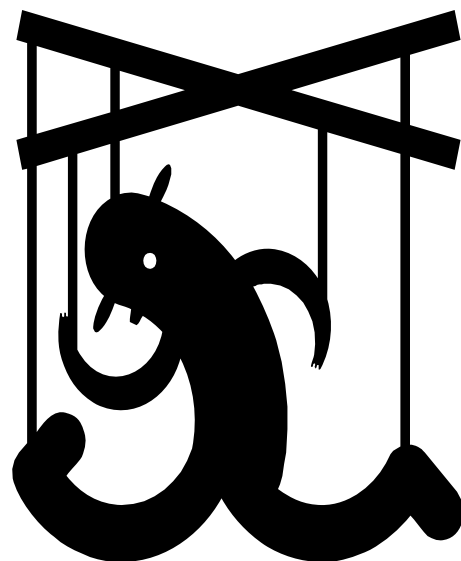
Puppet shows a huge success at Collins Elementary

Two exciting and entertaining puppet shows sponsored by the Friends were held at Collins Lane Elementary School on June 26.

"The Cat Acrobats" were performed by the Patrice Heiken Puppets of Evansville, Indiana, and were designed to appeal to puppet fans of all ages.

Each show reached a large audience—with 283 attending the morning performance and 187 at the afternoon session.

A special thanks to **Erinn Hayes**, PSPL Youth Services librarian, for coordinating and publicizing these successful summer season events.



Rubio talks about writing during presentation

(from page 1)

with a degree in English, and served as both a Peace Corp volunteer (in Costa Rica where she met her husband, Angel) and as a VISTA volunteer among other jobs.

Her first novel, *Icy Sparks*, about a young girl with Tourette's syndrome, brought her international fame when it was chosen as an Oprah's Book Club Selection. Her second, *The Woodsman's Daughter*, is based on stories Rubio's grandmother told her about her own mother, and is set in the old Georgia turpentine industry. She has had short stories and fiction published in numerous literary journals anthologies.

Rubio, who writes at home—often for 12 hours a day--does extensive background research before beginning her novels. She was very honest about how much hard work is a part of the writer's life. She revises her work extensively, going over each passage between 30 and 50 times before she is satisfied. Rubio,

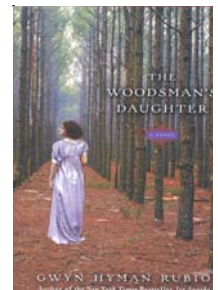
who now lives in Woodford County, is currently working on a comedic novel set in Kentucky about a struggling artist.

Among the writers Rubio likes to read are several Kentuckians, including Gurney Norman, Bobbie Ann Mason, and James Baker Hall. She is a huge fan of the novelists John Berger and J.M. Coetzee. Rubio believes that the novel is a crucial aspect of our lives, taking us on journeys to new places and helping us learn how to live. One component of her literary philosophy is that novels often tell more truths than autobiographies, because in fiction the writer has characters to stand between him and his readers.

This reading was only the first in a series sponsored by the Friends throughout 2006. It was a wonderful event--entertaining, educational, and inspirational. Please watch our newsletters and *The State Journal* for details and join us for upcoming readings. Suggestions for future readings are welcome. Please contact **Mary Lynn Collins** or **Michael Embry**.



Gwyn Hyman Rubio



Meet Aaron Marston—one of PSPL's youngest volunteers

Aaron Marston is one of the youngest of the Friends' book sale volunteers. The son of **Barry** and **Donna Marston**, he recently graduated from Franklin County High School and will be attending the University of Evansville this fall.

His favorite aspect of the book sale is getting to meet and assist the wide variety of people who come to the event.

Among the books he has recently read are *Tess of the*

d'Urbervilles; *Pride and Prejudice*; *Harry Potter V*; *Heart of Darkness*; *Jane Eyre*; the book of Job from the Bible; and Arthur Miller's play, "Death of a Salesman."

He believes reading fiction can be educational, pointing specifically to the novels of Michael Crichton.

His other interests include music (he plays the guitar) and computer games. He was an honor student at FCHS and was named to *The State Journal's* All-Academic Team.



Aaron Marston

--By Chris Helvey

The new Paul Sawyer Public Library is nearing completion next to the present facility on Wapping Street. We hope you can join us for the grand opening.



PSPL Friends Membership Application

Name _____ Date _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone () _____

Membership Level (please circle one):

Individual (\$5) Student (\$3) Senior (\$3) Family (\$10) Patron (\$50+) Benefactor (\$100+)

If family membership, list family members:

Name _____ E-mail _____

Name _____ E-mail _____

Name _____ E-mail _____

I would like to receive the Friends newsletter by (please circle one):

E-mail only Regular mail and E-mail

I would like to help with (circle as many as you like):

Book sales/Book Fair Newsletter Public Relations Fundraising Children’s Programs
Adult/Special Programs Other

Dues and gifts may be tax deductible.

Make checks payable to “The Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library

Return completed application to: Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library

305 Wapping St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

Applications may also be dropped off at the Friends mailbox at the PSPL Circulation Desk.

Donate to stained glass window and brick funds at PSPL

Friends' Stained Glass Window Donation Form

I would like to make a donation to the Friends stained glass window effort for the new library and have enclosed the following amount:

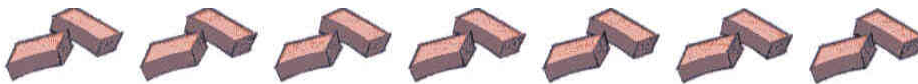
- \$5 Name _____
- \$10 Address _____
- \$25 _____
- \$50 _____
- \$100 Phone/E-mail _____
- Other _____

Please return form with donation to:
 Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library
 305 Wapping Street
 Frankfort, KY 40601



One of the birds that will appear in the stained-glass window

Forms may also be dropped off at the Friends mailbox at the PSPL Circulation Desk



Paving the Way to Frankfort's Future

Bricks for Front Sidewalk of New Paul Sawyer Library

Please PRINT all information in BLACK ink. Thank you.

YES, I want to reserve _____ brick(s) for the new library.
(number)

YES, I am closing a check in the amount of _____. Check number _____.
(Make checks payable to Paul Sawyer Public Library.)

NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ORDER _____

PHONE number to contact you _____

ADDRESS _____

Inscription on Brick(s) 17 characters per line including spaces and commas. 2 lines maximum. If ordering more than 2 bricks, please include information on another sheet.

Line ONE _____

Line TWO _____

Line ONE _____

Line TWO _____

Return this form along with your check to:
 Community Campaign
 Paul Sawyer Public Library
 P.O. Box 1001, Frankfort, KY 40602

Friends help Mississippi library

Friends of the PSPL collected \$640 for the Long Beach (Miss.) Public Library that was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

The fundraising effort took place Aug. 4 during a summer concert sponsored by Downtown Frankfort.

We are pleased to report that we have sent \$1,000 to the Friends of the Long Beach Public Library for the purchase of new books. In addition to the \$640 collected at the concert, the Friends board allocated \$360 from our recent book sale.

Friends had previously donated several boxes of books to the Mississippi library.

**Friends of The
Paul Sawyer Public
Library**

**305 Wapping St.
Frankfort, KY 40601**

**PHONE:
(502) 223-1658**

**E-MAIL
members@psplfriends.org**

**We're on the
Web!**

See us at:
www.psplfriends.org

Dear Friends,

If you did not attend the Friends Spring Book Sale, you missed one of the most important literacy events of the community.

It was an incredible sale! We had more books than ever and thanks to **Mary Cheek** and all of the Tuesday "volunteers," it was the best organized of our book sales.

Thanks to all of you who donated books, those who volunteered your time for the sale, and those of you who shopped during the sale. We broke a record on our sales—more than \$7,400!

As thrilled as we are, with our financial success, we are just as proud and excited about getting so many books into the hands of eager readers. All during the sale, there was an excitement as folks came in and realized what bargains we had. I was pretty excited myself when I was helping a customer and came across a copy of a book about Mary Breckinridge, founder of the Frontier Nursing Service. I treasure the memories of hearing my mother and aunts talk about this incredible woman and was very pleased to find this out-of-print book.

Several teachers and librarians came in and bought books to use in their schools.

We had a class of children from Second Street that were delighted with what they found. Several of you who were working the sale that day ended up buying additional books for them--and that was, for me, the highlight of the sale.

A grandmother came and allowed her

President's column

grandchildren to pick out several boxes of books--another special moment at the sale. (I made several purchases for my then-unborn granddaughter at the sale, including her first art book!)

We donated books remaining from the sale to the local jail; to a library at Long Beach, Mississippi, that suffered major damage by Hurricane Katrina; and to Peaks Mill Christian Church, which is collecting books for an orphanage in China.

In closing, I want to welcome one of our newest Friends volunteer, **Steve Cohen**, who is relatively new to Frankfort, but has been very active in Friends groups in other communities. He proved to be of great assistance to us during this sale. He has, among other things, just completed our first Friends Internet sale!

Thank you, Steve, and to all of you who helped make our spring sale such a success!

Mary Lynn Collins
President

Friends of The
Paul Sawyer Public Library

*"I have always imagined that
Paradise will be a kind of library."
--Jorge Luis Borges*

FRIENDS OF THE PAUL SAWYIER PUBLIC LIBRARY

305 Wapping St.
Frankfort, KY 40601

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
FRANKFORT KY
PERMIT NO. 468