



EX LIBRIS

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This newsletter is published three times during the academic year by the Office of Marketing and Communication, Gustavus Adolphus College, under the supervision of Dean Wahlund, director of communication services and special events and executive director of GLA. For further information about Gustavus Library Associates membership and activities, contact Wahlund or Dana Lamb at 507-933-7550 or e-mail marketing@gustavus.edu.

Get Set to ‘SHINE’!

by Jan Michaletz and Sue Wilcox, *A Royal Affair* Co-Chairs

It’s *A Royal Affair* time and we are excited about a new theme, a new venue, and a new opportunity for strengthening the resources of our library for the benefit of Gustavus students.

At a recent meeting, we introduced *Shine * A Royal Affair* for 2009. Immediately, Erin Wilkin from the alumni relations office said, “YES, Gusties will shine.” And that’s just what we want to do on Saturday, November 14. We want to shine that evening—Gustavus alumni, parents, and friends alike. We want to radiate such success for our library that it will literally “shine.”


We’re moving to the Minneapolis Convention Center ballrooms, and the site is fantastic. In our effort to raise more funds for the library without increasing ticket costs, we must be able to provide seating for more guests. With this new space, we can grow by more than 50 percent. What an opportunity!

We have outlined more underwriting and sponsorship opportunities than ever before. Our hope is that many more individuals will step forward with generous support. Both of us will be happy to take time to sit down with anyone interested in volunteering or contributing, or to answer questions.

Please mark your calendars for November 14 and get set for “the brightest and best event of the holiday season.”

Thank you in advance for your support. 🇺🇸

Presenting



SHiNE A Royal Affair

Saturday, November 14, 2009
Minneapolis Convention Center
Downtown Minneapolis

Silent and live auctions, fine dining, entertainment... and a few surprises!

Gustavus Library Associates proudly nurtures student learning through its biennial gala. Accept this invitation to become part of a great organization with a wonderful goal — to make Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library a place of inspiration and a library that continues to meet the needs of students.

Volunteers are needed to . . .

- facilitate committees
- solicit auction items
- underwrite expenses
- spread the word

Please call! We want to hear from you.

Susan Wilcox | 952.944.5972
Jan Michaletz | 952.945.9669
Co-chairs

GLA BOARD 2008-2009

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* Executive Committee
 ** Honorary Member

From Your President...

Winter in Minnesota brings thoughts of cold, snow, wind, and ice, with adventures of skiing, snowboarding, skating, hockey, and sledding; quiet times with hot chocolate, cozy fires, cooking, and movies; and of course that "Great Read." When it's cold outside, many of us dream of warmer destinations.

Back in the late 1800s and early 1900s, spas were popular vacation and relaxation destinations. There the sick and sickly might "take the waters," but they were just as frequently social gatherings for the families, who traveled to such places in Minnesota for mineral waters or hot springs as Jordan and Shakopee. People started taking outings as well, from downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul to the shores of White Bear Lake and Lake Minnetonka and sightseeing trips to the "distant" towns of Stillwater and St. Anthony. Then the Great Northern Railway was built, connecting the hotels on the Mississippi River and area lakes to places in Canada and across the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, opening up the opportunity to travel. Much has changed, but we still look forward to that next vacation, whether it's staying at home, going to the lake, or traveling far away. Planning the trip remains an integral part.

Every organization goes through a time when they too do some dreaming, exploring, or visioning and review their mission and goals, looking toward the future. Currently our Board of Directors is in the process of performing a strategic plan for Gustavus Library Associates. Our members are strong in their support of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library and Gustavus Adolphus College, so please partner with us and let any board member know of any suggestions or ideas you may have as we plan for our future. People are the most important part of GLA, and your membership is greatly appreciated. And ultimately, the students of Gustavus will benefit from the resource support GLA provides to the college library.

Exciting plans are being made for the upcoming year, including a festive Easter Bunny Breakfast on March 14 and an inspiring Author Day on April 7. Be sure to "Save the Date – November 14, 2009" for our biennial A Royal Affair as well—it promises to be a spectacular evening connecting with friends at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

As we sit in our warm homes thinking of visiting different cities, states, and countries; we can always travel through a book. I have explored such places as Afghanistan and Pakistan this month and now I am heading to Paris. I hope your reading or travels take you somewhere wonderful, too

Deb Johnson

Deb Dankers Johnson '80
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A Glance at Past Events...



Photo by Tom Roster

Rachel Schmitt, the newly crowned 2008 St. Lucia, dined at the GLA Swedish Smorgasbord marking the 68th annual Festival of St. Lucia on Thursday, December 12, 2008. Special guest Kevin Kling '79 entertained luncheon guests with his outrageously funny storytelling.

CELEBRATING MEMBERSHIP IN GLA

Gustavus Library Associates is a friends-of-the-college organization dedicated to the support and advancement of Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College. The 2009 membership year is June 1, 2008, to May 31, 2009. To date, there are 262 active memberships in GLA. New members this year include...

John and Linda Cesnick, Rice Lake, Wis.
 Marlys Chase, Edina, Minn.
 Gordon and Varlene Dankers, Red Wing, Minn.
 Gary and Barb Fish, Brandon, S.D.
 Ken and Gwen Freed, Edina, Minn.
 Sandra Fuller-Thielen, Minnetonka, Minn.
 Robert and Judy Gardner, St. Peter, Minn.
 Helen Ihrig, Naperville, Ill.
 Jan Jensen, St. Peter, Minn.
 Sylvia Kittelson, Litchfield, Minn.
 Jack and Kris Ohle, St. Peter, Minn.
 Jan Olmanson, St. Peter, Minn.
 Todd and Lori Ramsburg, Eden Prairie, Minn.
 Mary Wagner, Mankato, Minn.

New and renewed memberships for 2009 are welcomed until May 31. You are invited to complete the membership form in this newsletter, or join online (gustavus.edu/gla; click on Membership Application).



Photo by Dana Lamb

The Enger brothers masterfully shared the podium to the delight and interest of the 125 in attendance at last fall's Author Day at the Edina Country Club. Following their "brother act," Leif (foreground) and Lin autographed books, autographed books, and autographed books while telling a few more stories at the book-signing table.

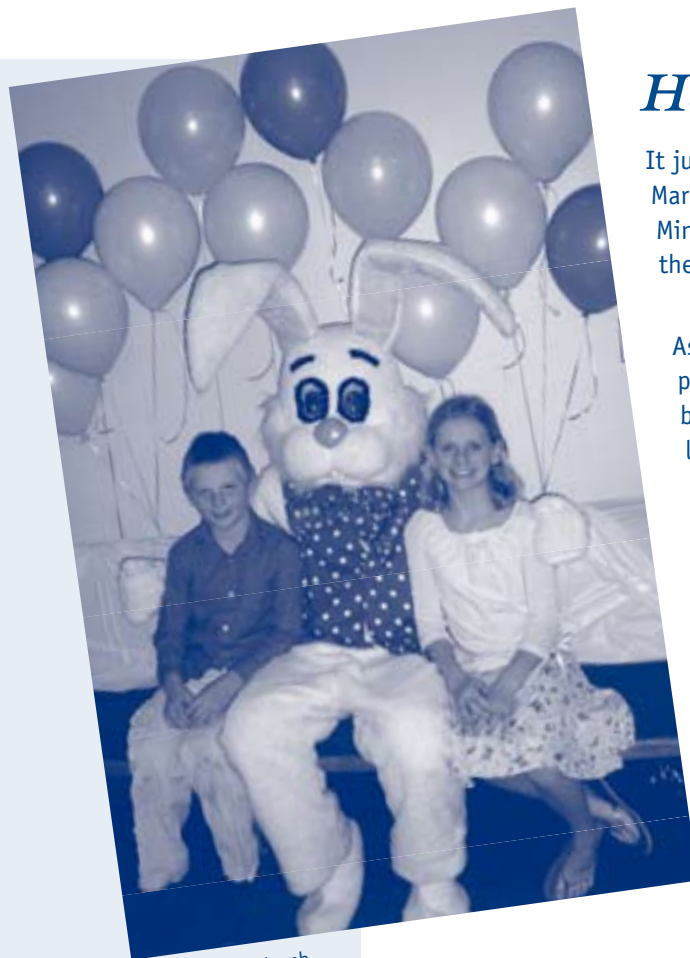


Photo by Dana Lamb

Hopping toward March 14...

It just may be a little too early for the tulips and daffodils, but March 14 is not too early to hop on over to Mount Olivet Church in Minneapolis for a hippity-hoppity, fun-filled Saturday morning at the Bunny Breakfast!

The annual Easter Bunny Breakfast, hosted by Gustavus Library Associates, has been a springtime tradition for grandparents, parents, and the youngest future Gusties. This year's event, beginning at 9:30 a.m., will have all the elements a kid would love: balloons, the lively Teddy Bear Band, kid-tested food, and time for pictures with a bunny!

Tickets are \$9 and may be purchased by contacting the Office of Marketing and Communication at 507-933-7550, or online at gustavus.edu/gla. Oh, and don't forget to bring your teddy bear . . . and a camera! 📷

2008-2009 Patricia Lindell Scholar

Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library is pleased to announce that **Amara Berthelsen** is the 2008-09 Patricia Lindell Scholar. Amara is a junior communication studies major who hails from Midlothian, Texas. Her application demonstrated great enthusiasm and interest in the research topic. She will be working with librarians Dan Mollner and Julie Gilbert to explore the role of recreational reading on college campuses, including barriers that prevent students from reading for pleasure and steps libraries can take to address some of those barriers. Amara will begin the project in spring 2009. 📷



Photo by Steve Waldhauser

The Joys of Reading for Pleasure

by Barbara Fister, Head Librarian

In 2004, the National Endowment for the Arts sounded the alarm: reading is at risk. A few weeks ago, they issued an update. Never mind.

I was never convinced reading was as endangered as the NEA claimed, but I'm cheered that their most recent national study tells us that reading is on the rise. Specifically, more people are reading fiction, and the greatest gains are among 18-24 year olds.

There's something special about reading for pleasure. Psychologists have studied the trancelike state people experience when "lost in a book." Though readers may consider that kind of reading to be deeply relaxing, neurological tests show that the brain is more active when absorbed in a book than when processing other media such as television or film—busy processing language, images, and emotions. Other research has found that reading for pleasure helps in the formation of identity; readers find characters who affirm who they are and provide perspectives that are unfamiliar. And some researchers believe that fiction acts as a simulation of life situations. A study reported recently in *New Scientist* found that those who read novels tend to develop a stronger capacity for empathy than those who favor non-fiction.

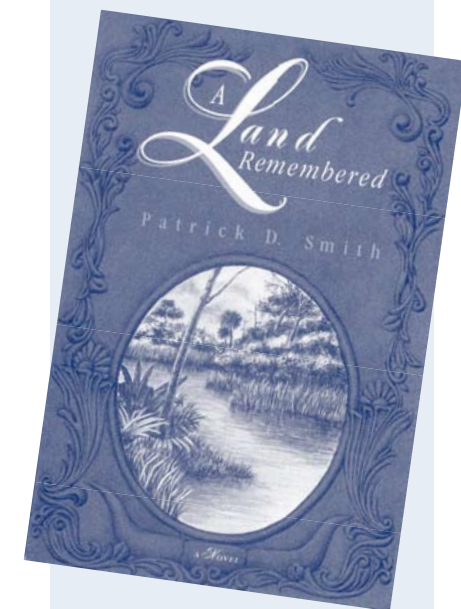
I had the chance to teach a course on books and culture this January. The students have been exploring books from a variety of perspectives, including field research. In the first week, they surveyed over 150 students about their reading practices. Though students reported enjoying reading, they had trouble finding time—and no wonder, given that over 80 percent reported having on average more than 25 pages a night to read for class, with more than half of those students having an average of more than 50 pages of assigned reading every day.

To dig deeper, they designed field projects that have given us lots of things to think about. Fiction is far and away students' choice for pleasure reading, but many students are unaware that the Folke Bernadotte Library has fiction. Unlike a public library, we don't shelve fiction and non-fiction separately. An observational study found that students are attracted to colorful book displays and respond especially well to books labeled by genre and recommended by other students. And though we are connected by interlibrary loan to both public and academic libraries throughout the state, a majority of students surveyed didn't realize they could order books from other libraries for non-academic purposes. The research my students have presented in class has given me all kinds of ideas for helping us do a better job of connecting books and students.

This spring, our Patricia Lindell Scholarship winner will delve deeper into the role of pleasure reading as a part of liberal learning and an ingredient for life-long learning. Funds raised by the GLA support a range of resources, from journals to databases with full-text content to a large percentage of the new books we put on our shelves. Now the scholarship funded by the GLA—in a competition that drew more applications that we've had in over twenty years—will help us find new ways for those books to find their readers.

Just in time—because it seems these days people are looking for just the right book. 📷

More on the course is available at <http://booksandculture.wordpress.com>. To keep up with library news, check out our blog, "Folke Lore" (<http://folkelore.blogspot.com>).



A Must-Read for a Florida Vacation...

A Land Remembered
by Patrick D. Smith

Smith's book is a historical novel covering three generations of early Florida cattle ranchers and their interaction with the Seminole people native to the area. Novels of the Everglades written by Smith are *Forever Island* and *Allapattah*.

'Affirming life, even in the bleak midwinter': Author Day offers up two magical poets

by Mim Kagol, Author Day Committee co-chair

Here we are in the deep of a Minnesota winter. And it can get kind of lonely, dark, and brittle. Hard to remember we need this deep, dark space for things to rest, rebuild, and rejuvenate down there at the molecular level. Hard to remember we're supposed to suffer a bit so we can value more the good times when they come. Hard to accept that Super Bowl XLIII is supposed to matter, that its outrageously commercial ads are the current measure of creative expression. And so we turn, moved by some deep instinct, to writing. Deep, gray, soulful thoughts. Like this. Like channeling Garrison Keillor on a bad day.

Well, we can do better, although both the generous, passionate women I celebrate here (it's coming, it's coming), being poets themselves and teachers of creative writing, would likely say, Go for it, write your gloomy little heart out, you have the right to do that, it may make you feel better, it may make something in you come to life and sing—a minor tune, off-key maybe, but so what?—because you're human, and you get to honor that impulse.

What I'm saying is (indirectly, as if scrambling for traction, as on an icy sidewalk), I'm saying the better way is to go to your computer and Google "Some Part of the Old Days" or "The Great Secret of Life" by Deborah Keenan. Or anything by Keenan. And while you're there, search for "From Out of the Cave" or "Living in the Body" by Joyce Sutphen, or anything else by Sutphen. And I promise you it will be like the sun coming out, or a big giggle bubbling up, or the smell of brownies baking in your kitchen. You will feel better. You will feel rescued. You will feel as if you are in Arizona, or Florida.

Better yet, go to a library or bookstore, pick up their books (Deborah Keenan's, Joyce Sutphen's), hold them in your hands, find a corner, sit down, and read quietly. Discover that we really do like and need poetry, as we like and need song, or prayer. It affirms life, even in the bleak midwinter.

Even better yet, go mark your calendar for, and start anticipating, April 7, which is GLA's Spring Author Day, when both these gifted women will be our speakers, sharing the microphone to remind us Why we need poetry, Why people write it, Why people turn to it at their most heightened moments, Why it works to say it out loud, Why little children know how to feel its magic and older people are in a process of forgetting that, Why it intimidates us and makes us feel shy or stupid when it shouldn't, and maybe even How to write a poem.

Deborah Keenan has published eight books of poetry. She teaches at Hamline University in the MFA and MALS programs and at the Loft Literary Center. Joyce Sutphen is Gustavus's own, a teacher of literature and creative writing, who has published three collections of poetry. Both write and teach beautifully. They will share with us what they know and do on Tuesday morning, April 7, at the Edina Country Club.

Bring a friend. Bring a pencil, a piece of paper, your deep spirit yearning: you may be moved to write a poem. 📖

Make your reservations for GLA's Spring 2009 Author Day by calling the Office of Marketing and Communication at 507-933-7550, or online at gustavus.edu/gla.



Deborah Keenan



Joyce Sutphen

Ten Reasons to Attend Author Day

by Kate Halverson, Ex Libris Committee Member

- 1 April is National Poetry Month.**
Be a part of it! Learn something new about yourself. Invite a friend who loves poetry and discover why.
- 2 Poems are quicker reads than books!**
Keep a poetry book handy in the car or by your bed for those times you can't concentrate on anything heavy.
- 3 If someone asked you who your favorite poet is, would you know?**
Spend an hour at the library, book store or Googling to find out or discover a new poet. Elizabeth Alexander's Inaugural Poem, "Praise Song for the Day," is wonderful.
- 4 If poetry doesn't feel like your genre, get your feet wet with Shel Silverstein.**
Almost Perfect But Not Quite is one of my all time favorites.
- 5 Think haiku, limericks, free verse.**
Try writing one again just for fun!
Warm-Ups
Poems exude from my head
before I'm actually out of bed
After pills and my V-8
reading others..... AM bait
Then I'm primed to pen my own
ripe to write MY morning poem
Hot to trot, word work ahead
revamping thoughts once thought dead
- 6 Writing Poetry is therapeutic.**
"A good poem is a contribution to reality. The world is never the same once a good poem has been added to it. A good poem helps to extend everyone's knowledge of himself." ~Dylan Thomas
- 7 Look for a poet with one or two lines that could become your epitaph.**
Emily Dickinson's *Time & Eternity Collection*
- 8 Treat yourself to a new poetry book at least once a year:**
My favorite Joyce Sutphen collection is *Naming the Stars*. John Lithgow's *Poets Corner* (with CD) was last winter's pick! Pablo Neruda is timeless! Charles Bukowski and Dorothy Parker are hoots! Caroline Kennedy's *Family of Poems*, a tribute to her mother, is wonderful! Garrison Keillor's *Good Poems* is easy "jumpstart" reading.
- 9 Consider having a Poet Tea Party!**
I did this for almost ten years. Each guest brought one poem to share with others as we sat around the fireplace, sipping tea, wearing vintage hats, and explaining why they meant so much.
- 10 Last but by no means least: Joyce Sutphen is a Gustie!!**
We need to hear her writing journey.

Gustavus Library Associates

Coming Events Spring 2009

Saturday | March 14 | 9:30 a.m.
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Minneapolis
(Register online at gustavus.edu/gla)

Wednesday | March 11 | 7 p.m.
**Rydell Professorship Lecture:
Dr. Curtis Marean**
Institute of Human Origins,
Arizona State University, Tempe
Science Museum of Minnesota
St. Paul
(Advance reservations by calling
651-221-9444; seating limited)

Wednesday | April 22 | All Day
**Linnaeus Symposium: "Global
Trees: Releaf – Relief,"** featuring
Dr. Margaret Lowman, Forest
Canopy Biologist and Author
Gustavus Adolphus College
(Register by e-mail: shirley@gustavus.edu)

Wednesday | April 29 | 10 a.m.
**MAYDAY! Peace Conference:
"Tiananmen + 20,"** with keynote
Speakers: Dr. Andrew Nathan,
Columbia University, and
Dr. Yang Jianli, Boston, Mass.,
human rights activist
Gustavus Adolphus College
(For reservations, call 507-933-7520)

Tuesday | April 7 | 9:30 a.m.
Author Day: Minnesota Poets
Joyce Sutphen, Gustavus
Adolphus College, and Deborah
Keenan, Hamline University
Edina Country Club
(Invitation to follow)

Saturday | November 14 | 5:30 p.m.
Shine * A Royal Affair
Minneapolis Convention Center

Call the Office of Marketing and
Communication at 507-933-7550 for
reservations or more information about the
above-mentioned events.

Gustavus Library Associates

800 West College Avenue
Saint Peter, MN 56082

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Gustavus Library Associates

provides significant support for acquisitions and special programs that help Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the College. Members receive the GLA newsletter (published three times a year), invitations to GLA-sponsored cultural and social events, and other privileges. Annual memberships are for the academic year (June 1–May 31). Keep your membership current—we have big plans!

2008–2009 Membership Categories:

- Benefactor – \$1,000 and above
- Patron – \$500 and above
- Associate – \$250 and above
- Sustaining – \$125 and above
- Acquisition* – \$65
- Contributing – \$35

* *The Acquisition Membership gift is determined by the average cost of one library acquisition.*

Love to Read? Join Gustavus Library Associates

Name _____

Address _____ ZIP _____

Primary Phone (_____) _____ Other Phone (_____) _____

Email _____ Date _____

I am enclosing a **remembrance gift** of \$ _____ in memory/honor of _____.
(Your gift will be recognized with a book plate.)

I am a member (your name _____) and am giving this **membership gift** to a new member. *(List gift recipient's name and address above.)*

I am enclosing my company's matching gift form.

Alumnus/Alumna Parent Friend College Staff Faculty Student

Generation: Traditionalist (*born 1945 or before*) Generation X (*born 1965–1979*)
 Baby Boomer (*born 1946–1964*) Millennial (*born 1980 or after*)

Please make checks payable to **GUSTAVUS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES**. All gifts are tax deductible.

Please return this form with your membership contribution to: **GUSTAVUS LIBRARY ASSOCIATES**
Gustavus Adolphus College
800 West College Avenue
Saint Peter, MN 56082
or, join **ONLINE** at gustavus.edu/gla