An Interview with GLA Founders Award Recipient Kelvin Miller

SHERYL JOHNSON, GLA co-president

At A Royal Affair in the fall of 2013, Gustavus Library Associates honored two exceptional individuals with the inaugural Gustavus Library Associates Founders Awards. In a previous issue we highlighted recipient Lois Allen, and in this issue we feature Kelvin Miller.

Kelvin serves as corporate vice president of communications at Lifetouch Inc. Previously, he devoted three decades to his Minneapolis public relations firm, Primarius Promotions. Gustavus presented Kelvin with the Fine Arts Award in 1978 and the Sesquicentennial Award in 2012 for his long time service to the College. GLA is especially grateful to Kelvin for his creative professional consultation and support for many A Royal Affair events over the past 38 years.

Tell us a bit about yourself. I graduated from Gustavus with a music major in 1973. I was thinking about teaching until President Frank Barth offered me a new position as fine arts coordinator for the College. My wife, Diane, was at the time a freshman and we married right after her graduation in 1976. Our honeymoon was leading the Gustavus Stage Band and Pop Choir on a tour of Denmark and Sweden.

How did you become involved and active with GLA? After two years as fine arts coordinator, I moved to the Development Office to become the executive secretary for G-1000 and assist with the public continued on page 3
From Your President . . .

Thanks for reading!

So, what do you read? What attracts your attention, and keeps it captivated with intrigue? How much of what you read is for pleasure, study, a project, or out of habit? Do you prefer paper pages or an electronic device?

It’s quite miraculous that we are designed to be able “to read.” The gift of reading is a treasure beyond measure and should not be taken for granted. Throughout the world, many readers are self-taught, out of persistence and determination. Unfortunately and far too often, avid readers lose the ability to read, due to a debilitating disease or health condition. And for some, reading is simply not possible.

A college campus (and especially its library) is full of advanced technology, focusing attention on the ability to navigate the complex electronic world, while continuing to expand students’ ability to read, understand, and explore. Similarly, as we integrate electronics into our personal lives, we are required to diligently preserve and develop our critical reading skills, as well as become facile with skimming snippets of scrolling text, abbreviated sentences, expressions, commands, and emoji. I can only imagine the new facets of technology that will be commonplace in 20 years. Regardless, reading will be a constant—a precious and valuable skill.

Musing about this reminds me to be rooted in the love and appreciation of reading. As you look ahead to our upcoming GLA events, we welcome you to join us as we lift up reading along the way. Books in Bloom highlights amazing books, Author Days expose us to talented writers, and A Royal Affair celebrates and supports our beloved Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, an outstanding house of reading. We appreciate your continued membership in Gustavus Library Associates, and we hope you enjoy our Ex Libris publication.

Again, thanks for reading!

With gratitude for your involvement in GLA,

Sheryl Brolander Johnson ’83
Co-president, Gustavus Library Associates

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relations effort. GLA was formed on my watch and their events became mine to coordinate.

How have you benefited from serving GLA and the College?

I not only attended GAC for four years, I had another five years of “on the job” training under the finest mentor one could hope to have, Bob Peterson, who served as director of development at that time. Everything I needed to know to be successful, I learned in my nine years at Gustavus.

What is your vision for GLA in 10 years?

I believe GLA has great promise in that it will continue to be a great friends-of-the-college organization and donor aggregator for Gustavus.

What are your fondest memories associated with GLA?

When I count my blessings, individuals come to mind, including Rhoda Lund, Patty Lindell, Fran Engelsma, Marge Pihl, Pat Lund, Bob Peterson, Lois Allen, Elaine Brostrom, Susan Wilcox, Dean Wahlund, Chaplain Elvee, and the list goes on and on.

Kelvin Miller continued from page 1

A Royal Affair Planning Is Under Way!

JAN MICHALETZ, A Royal Affair co-chair

In the world of event planners, you’ll find this corny adage: FUNDRAISERS BEGIN WITH FUN. And we’ve all attended fundraising dinners and auctions that have been somewhat less than fun.

Gustavus Library Associates does not need any slogans to remind us that our galas should be fun and entertaining. As we plan for A Royal Affair, we’re trying to focus on fun and eliminate the mundane. Please join us on Saturday, November 14, at the Radisson BLU Mall of America in Bloomington. We promise an evening of laughter, friends, and fun as we join together to raise funds and heighten awareness of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College. We’ll feature a live auction of exclusive items and experiences, as well as a silent auction in a new and different space.

Gather your church friends and college classmates to organize tables for the dinner. Or, how about a family table? We’re also looking for energetic folks to help with the planning and to donate auction items. Do you have a unique item that you’d like to share with our guests? We’d gratefully accept anything from art to automobiles. If you have a vacation home that you’d be willing to share, we’d love it! Restaurant gift certificates are always welcome, and they need NOT all be from the Twin Cities. Contact Dana Lamb anytime at dlamb@gustavus.edu, or call 507-933-7550 with your ideas.

Watch this newsletter for further details!
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Gustie Gourmet II Cookbook, now in its second printing, features nearly 450 recipes from “soups to (Swedish) nuts.”

The easiest way to order your cookbook is to contact the Gustavus Book Mark at 1-800-847-9307, or online at bookmark@gustavus.edu. The cost is $25.00 (including tax) plus a $5.00 postage and handling fee.

Our featured recipe this issue is the “light and heavenly” Chocolate Nut Angel Pie!

Find the recipe on the back page of this newsletter.

Keeping Up

Fall 2006 Author Day guest Chuck Logan has been named a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award in the category of genre fiction for his book Fallen Angel. Winners are to be announced on April 18.

Dana Lamb, GLA’s administrative coordinator and the administrative assistant for the Office of Marketing and Communication at Gustavus, was named recipient of the 2014 Augusta Carlson Schultz Award, which is given annually by the College to a support staff employee who exemplifies outstanding dedication and spirit of service.

Seven members of the Gustavus community were recognized on March 11 at the College’s annual Author Tea for works published in the past year: Associate Professor of Health and Exercise Science Aaron Banks, for FitQuest; former board member and bishop of the ELCA Herb Chilstrom for My Friend Jonah; Associate Professor of English (and 2014 GLA Author Night writers’ workshop guest) Becky Fremo, for publication of poetry, “Collisions,” in Red River Review and “Here There Be Snakes,” in Compose: Journal of Simply Good Writing; Professor Emerita of Health and Exercise Science Gretchen Koehler, for Out of the Blue; Associate Professor of Art and Art History Kris Lowe, for her feature-length documentary (DVD), Painting the Place Between; Professor Emeritus of Scandinavian Studies Roger McKnight, for Out of the Ashes; and the late Steve Wilkinson, longtime men’s tennis coach and director of Tennis and Life Camps, for Let Love Serve.

Christmas Wish author Lori Evert, and her daughter, Anja, who were guests of GLA at the 2014 Lucia Luncheon, have collaborated again to produce a new book, The Tiny Wish.

Two-time Lucia Luncheon guest (1994 and 2000) Tom Hegg has written a book titled Baby Talk: Reflections on a Blessed Event, which is about the “lifetime contract” that is signed at the moment of a birth.

GLA Author Day host Joan Wright helps author Kristin Swenson prepare for signing books. Kristin, author of Bible Babel: Making Sense of the Most Talked-About Book of All Time, spoke to a “packed house” at an Author Day brunch last October at the Edina Country Club.
An Invitation to Books in Bloom
MARISA PRACHAR, Books in Bloom Chair

After four successful years and nearly $50,000 garnered for the library’s acquisition endowment, GLA continues to bloom into a premier supporter for Gustavus Adolphus College. This year’s Books in Bloom event has arranged for a bouquet of “fictions” and “colorful expressions.”

During the first three days in May, all are welcome to view sensory interpretations of their favorite literature. The library will be awash with vibrant spring colors and floral fragrances.

With generous donations from individuals and groups, talented designers create extraordinary visuals of beloved literature and media. Attendees have identified this annual opportunity as a community art event!

Books in Bloom is a principal fundraiser of Gustavus Library Associates. GLA is dedicated to supporting, enhancing, and sustaining the collections and endowment of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

Books in Bloom will be held on Friday, May 1 (3–6 p.m.), Saturday, May 2 (10 a.m.–4 p.m.), and Sunday, May 3 (11 a.m.–3 p.m.). Viewing the experience is free with complimentary public tours offered each day.

Author Lori Evert at Lucia

Gustavus Library Associates welcomed Lori Evert, author of the magical Nordic tale *The Christmas Wish*, to the Festival of St. Lucia Brunch on December 11, 2014. Lori’s photographer husband, Per Breiehagen, was unable to attend; however, he provided a video presentation of the beautiful behind-the-scenes photography used in the making of the book. There was wonderful musical entertainment by daughter Anja on the violin and student group G Sharp, the Gustavus male a capella ensemble. The book signing went well too!
COMING EVENTS

MAYDAY! PEACE CONFERENCE
“The War Within: Can the Soldier Be at Peace?”
Wednesday, April 29, 2015
10 a.m.
Christ Chapel
Gustavus Adolphus College
Full-day event; open to the public without charge

BOOKS IN BLOOM
Friday–Sunday, May 1–3, 2015
Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library
Gustavus Adolphus College
Open to the public without charge

ST. PETER BOOK FESTIVAL
Brunch and a Moveable Feast of Authors
Keynote Speaker: Michael Perry, author of The Jesus Cow
Saturday, May 16, 2015
9:30 a.m.
Jackson Campus Center
Gustavus Adolphus College
Register online at stpetercommunityonline.com

A ROYAL AFFAIR
Saturday, November 14, 2015
5 p.m.
Radisson BLU Bloomington
Save the Date mailing this spring

Developing Expertise
DAN MOLLNER, Head Librarian

One of the more challenging parts of the research process is selecting credible sources from many options. It is a matter of making good choices, and realizing that there should be and will be imperfect choices made initially. In reality, although we all face such determinations daily in a variety of situations, the process can lead to frustration and dissatisfaction as often as to great reward.

Stop and think for a moment of those times in your routine life where you determine expertise, reliability, and appropriateness. Although it becomes practically automatic, there is a process to follow when buying a product at the grocery store (e.g., think why you choose one brand over another. Is it familiarity, or quality, or affordability, or some other factor?), or when hiring a remodeler (Did you see the company advertised? Did you get a recommendation for someone you trust? Do you have prior experience with the company?), or when choosing a physician, a financial adviser, or the like. In each of these situations we listen to experts and trusted advisers, we compare on our own, and we take a plunge. Sometimes your brother-in-law’s hot tip is successful, and unfortunately sometimes not.

Now transfer that process to the work of student research. There are many choices to be made, often in an unfamiliar discipline with its own particular jargon, shortcuts, historical practices, and “standard” publications that differ from the next discipline. Students typically take four courses each term and they rarely know before getting the assignment what is really expected. So, coupled with other obligations and other interests, they are under pressure of time and performance to go through that process. They return to the familiar, they turn to their peers, and they seek more input from their instructor than that instructor may really want to give. Of course, this is also where the friendly, well-stocked college library comes into the picture.

Not so long ago, the greatest challenge to a student researcher was often simply locating sources. Today, even in an undergraduate setting, with the Library’s extensive full-text databases in every discipline, with a building filled with books, with the Internet and online collections of manuscripts and transcriptions and the like, thoughtful winnowing skills are more important than ever. Just this morning, working with a student researching women’s health topics, our initial search returned 16,000 (yes, thousand) scholarly results. There is little problem locating sources—choosing from among them is another matter.

Librarians work with faculty to purchase those sources with the best potential, and we then assist students with ways of determining reliability (with changes to the publishing world, this is not always the same process it was even 10 or 15 years ago), appropriateness, learning about currency, and credibility. In turn, students build a personal knowledge base, particularly in their major courses, as they progress from course to course. Much of this consultation and exploring naturally takes place before any real writing begins, but those student researchers who begin to understand the process realize that it must continue throughout the project and can only end when they can confidently draw a line and say for themselves, this is enough.
Founders Day 2014

GLA executive director Dean Wahlund and Founders Award recipient Lois Allen (pictured above) pose with a rendering of a special plaque honoring the founders of Gustavus Library Associates at the inaugural Founders Celebration in September on campus. Minneapolis artist Nick Legeros ’77 is creating the plaque for placement in the GLA Reading Room of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library. The fall celebration event welcomed President Rebecca Bergman, who spoke about her first three months at Gustavus. GLA founder Patty Lindell was also in attendance at the “membership” coffee!

A Gustavus Library Associates Membership Is Something Special!

ERIN WILKENS, GLA board member

Gustavus Library Associates would not exist without our members! Think back to how you were introduced to GLA. Did a friend invite you to attend an event? Did someone you “looked up to” mention this amazing group? Did you work in the Library—or just love the library? Chances are you joined GLA because you knew someone in GLA.

So let’s pass it along to a new generation of Gusties, parents, and friends. Reach out to a classmate, a colleague, your book club. Invite them to attend an Author Day, Books in Bloom, or A Royal Affair. Share a book from a former Author Day speaker. Send them a text or email about why you choose to support the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library at Gustavus.

Or, give the gift of GLA! Share your love for the library by purchasing a gift membership for a new Gustie, a recent grad, or even a long lost roommate! Heck, why not buy your entire class a GLA membership in honor of your upcoming reunion!

A recent alum shared with me how excited she was to receive the gift of GLA. “It was such a pleasant surprise receiving a GLA membership as a graduation present. Throughout my four years of Gustavus, I was in awe of the GLA women and all that they have accomplished. I look forward to learning from and serving with such admirable females.”

Thank you for supporting Gustavus students, faculty, and staff by supporting the Library! You can make your gift today by visiting gustavus.edu/gla and clicking on Membership Application, or call the Office of Marketing and Communication and talk with Dana Lamb at 507-933-7550.
A light and heavenly pie . . .
the perfect dessert at your summer picnic.

Chocolate Nut Angel Pie

**Crust:**
2 egg whites
½ c. sugar, sifted
⅛ tsp. cream of tartar
½ c. chopped pecans

**Filling:**
¾ c. semi-sweet chocolate chips
3 T. hot water
1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. whipping cream

Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry. Gradually add sugar and cream of tartar.

Beat until meringue is stiff. Add nuts and spread in well-buttered 9" pie plate. Bake at 250 degrees for 1 hour. Cool.

Melt chocolate chips in top of double boiler. Add hot water. Cook until thickened. Cool slightly. Add vanilla. Whip cream and fold into chocolate. Combine well but don’t beat. Pour into crust and chill 2–3 hours. Serves 6–8

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