

# Friends Trends

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

NO. 50

February 2017

## Jo Rusin, author of *Volunteers Wanted*, pays visit to Friends' Sorting Center

by Peg Phelps

In November, 2016, the Friends were gratified and excited to receive a note from Jo Rusin, author of *Volunteers Wanted: A Practical Guide to Finding and Keeping Good Volunteers*. She mentioned that she had visited our October book sale, and that she was very impressed with our operation. To quote Jo, "Thank you for an enjoyable shopping adventure at your latest book sale. Not only were the books and venue well organized, your volunteers were great—so friendly and helpful. Clearly your volunteers enjoy your program."

Jo also mentioned that she was working on a revision to her book, and that she would welcome any suggestions we might have. She also included a copy of her book, which several of us have already perused.

We thought she might like to see the other side of how we operate, so we invited her to visit our sorting center, which she did on January 26<sup>th</sup>. We gave her a tour of the sorting area, the Amazon operation, and the store. We had also asked her to bring her



Anna Campos

Author Jo Rusin, above, visited the Friends in January.

lunch, and she joined us at noon so she could really see how we operate! She asked us lots of questions, and said we had given her many good ideas that she plans to include in her next edition of her book. She

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The Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

## GENERAL MEETING

10:00 A. M.  
Wednesday, February 15, 2017  
East Bank Regional Library  
4747 W. Napoleon Ave., Metairie

**Guest Speaker: Jeanne Rudzki**  
Louisiana Master Gardener  
"Super Plants for  
Your Louisiana Landscape"

Sign up to volunteer for the Big Book Sale  
March 9-12 at the Pontchartrain Center

P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, Louisiana  
504-455-2665  
friendsjpl@yahoo.com

The Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

## BIG BOOK SALE

**March 9 - 12, 2017**  
Thursday-Saturday 10 AM to 8 PM  
Sunday Noon to 5 PM

**The Pontchartrain Center**  
Williams Blvd. at the Lake  
in Kenner

**Over 65,000 Books,  
DVDs, CDs and LPs**  
Cash and Credit Cards - Sorry, No Checks  
Free Admission and Parking

ALL BAGS WILL BE CHECKED BY SECURITY UPON ENTRY

P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, LA 70055 504-455-2665 friendsjpl@yahoo.com

*We find good homes for used books.*

### **Friends of the Jefferson Public Library**

(a member of United for Libraries, the  
Association of Library Trustees,  
Advocates, Friends, and Foundations)

#### **Officers**

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Simmons, Judy Welcker

#### **Mission**

The Friends of the Jefferson Public  
Library is an independent, nonprofit  
organization of civic-minded volunteers.  
We support the Jefferson Parish Library  
by promoting library awareness, providing  
needed unbudgeted items for all its branches  
through fund raising, and  
participating in literacy programs.

#### **Address and Phone**

P. O. Box 9391  
Metairie, LA 70055  
504-455-BOOK (2665)

#### **Web Site**

<http://www.friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org/>

#### **Friends Trends**

*Editors:* Anna Campos, Annette  
Centanni

*Contributing Editor:* Peg Phelps

## **Paulette Mauterer Awarded Volunteer of the Year**

by Annette Centanni



Robert Campos

*Paulette Mauterer, left, poses with award presenter Annette Centanni.*

**I**n a surprise presentation, Paulette Mauterer was honored as Volunteer of the Year at the September General Meeting. Unbeknownst to her, she had been selected in April, along with Milly Spear, to co-receive the award, but was unable to attend the volunteer luncheon because of a previous commitment. The awards committee decided to surprise her at the next General Meeting.

Paulette was selected because of her service to the Amazon enterprise, where she has been responsible for packaging and mailing tens of thousands of dollars worth of merchandise. Her weekly share of the packing, accounting for about 30% of the total sales, has directly contributed to the continued 99-100% Amazon customer satisfaction rating our enterprise has enjoyed since its inception.

If she ever has an easy packing day, Paulette adds to the inventory by listing books. She also participates in book sale set-ups and sales, and has served as cashier on numerous occasions. She attends most General Meetings and other Friends-sponsored functions. During the 2015-2016, May to April Friends year, she clocked over 500 hours of service to our organization. In addition, everything Paulette undertakes for the Friends is accomplished with conscientiousness and good grace. She has been a most pleasant and valuable asset to the team, and thus worthy of the title Volunteer of the Year.





## Fall General Meeting



JPL Staff

*Friends President Anna Campos and Library Director Marylyn Haddican pose with the presentation check for \$100,000.00 given to the library by the Friends at the September General Meeting.*



Robert Campos

*Franz Hellwig shares his love and knowledge of American Brilliant Cut Glass at the September 21, 2016, General Meeting.*



### Don't Forget to Vote!

**The library millage is up for renewal on April 29, 2017. (This is a renewal, not a new tax.)**



JPL Staff

*Groundbreaking ceremony for the Gretna Library Centennial Park Project, January 5, 2017.*

*We find good homes for used books.*

## In Memoriam

### Mary Anna Lightner

*November 29, 1932 - November, 19, 2016*

Mary Anna brightened our days in the Sorting Center for many years. She was given the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2014.



Robert Campos


*The Three Musketeers: Annette Centanni, Anna Campos, and Paulette Mauterer all wore the same colors on set-up day at the October book sale.*

## Jo Rusin

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loved Ouida Prieur's statement that sorting was her therapy.

Jo was impressed with how dedicated our volunteers are to the jobs they do, but most important to her was "learning how well your friends group is knitted into the fabric of the whole library operation."

We have invited Jo to come on March 8 to our set up day for the book sale. We even emphasized that she could purchase up to 10 items that day, but only if she works at least three hours!! We all look forward to seeing her again. 

## We're on FACEBOOK!!!

Check out the "Friends of the Jefferson Public Library" Facebook page!

"Like" us on Facebook to get our reminders and updates on the latest happenings and Friends events!"



Like us on  
**Facebook**



Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library, Metairie, LA as your charity. Amazon will donate .5% of all your sales to the Friends!

If you do not wish to receive future issues of *Friends Trends*, address an e-mail to [friendsjpl3@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsjpl3@yahoo.com). Use "Unsubscribe to Friends Trends" in the subject line.

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## The Shadow Knows (and TELLS All)

**G**reetings, fellow booklovers! If it seems a long time since you've seen some Shadow news, that's because it HAS been. We have been through a Big Book Sale, a coffee, Thanksgiving, the Holiday Party, Christmas, Hanukkah, and a New Year since I have reported any happenings to you. And guess what? It's almost time for another Big Book Sale.

**Looking Backward, then Forward:** It will be hard to top the first day receipts of the 2016 October sale: \$33,140.00, one of the highest opening days on record, but we will try. **Judy Zawislak** and the team are readying 1,400 boxes for the Spring sale, which will be held on March 9-12. **Judy Welcker** is preparing to feed a delicious lunch to the tired, hungry troops who will work on set-up day. Once again, volunteers who never cease to amaze, and *never* disappoint, will turn out in droves for the occasion.

It was great fun having **Randy Pittman** cashier in October; wife **Diane** claims he "plays to the crowd," and always has. We hope he comes back in March, along with **Bob and Debbie Reed** from the North Shore. **George Hasseltine** has had a knee replacement since his last stint as cashier, so he should definitely be good to sign up for more hours, along with his wife, **Mary Ellis**. We could not do without **Cheryl Ledet**, who cashiers all day, every day. Cashiering is so much fun! If you are the least bit tempted, tell **Peg Phelps** you would be happy to serve a shift or two this March. She is always looking for personable and competent cashiers.

**Around Sorting:** The holidays took their usual toll on productivity. This prompted sorting chair, **Peg**, to call several make-up Mondays; but with **Diane Davey** and **Ted Blohm** in Michigan for quite a while this fall and winter, the mountain of library "weeds" in the hall never seemed to entirely diminish. The guys still around, **Chris deVillasana**,

**Robert Campos**, **Lou Zawislak**, and **Rodney Tujague**, accomplished a great deal, even with their own work to do.

Then there were those who willfully and deliberately took advantage of the holiday frivolity to play hooky. As a prime example, on a certain December Thursday, **Maureen and Judy Howat** were spotted enjoying lunch at a nearby coffee shop. **Robert Campos**, the sharp-eyed spotter, came back and immediately reported them to the diligent krewe slaving away at sorting. Always thinking, my question is, what was **Robert** doing at the coffee house? Could it be that **The First Dude** was partly playing hooky, too?

The usual holiday goodies abounded, first with the party for the library staff, then with **Ouida Prieur's** Christmas Village Open House the following week. **Sue Hellwig's** much anticipated Queen Cake was quickly demolished. Most everyone brought treats to share, so that even now, there are still some well-packaged sweets left for those who have not yet started their January 1 diet.

**FYI:** **Aileen Janney** has added a new dog to her household. **Ann Buchel** took pictures of **Sandy** and was flashing them around before **Aileen** even had a chance to describe what she looks like. While **Aileen** is hard at work training her, it seems that **Sandy** is doing most of the training. For a while, she had **Aileen** leaving before lunch because "**Sandy** doesn't like to be left alone too long." And **Sandy** insists on going, too, whenever she hears the sound of jingling car keys.

**Maria Tujague** always quips, "The squeaky wheel gets the grease." She and **Joan Fontaine** have been lobbying for a larger, frost-free refrigerator for the center, and apparently their squeaking has paid off. The board recently voted its purchase. **Sue Hellwig** offered to do some initial legwork, then **Peg P.** (who wields the checkbook) and **Collette Ricaud** (who has a military discount) entered the fray. The new refrigerator was purchased on Friday, February 3, and **Meade Phelps** delivered it to the Sorting Center on Tuesday, wrestling it into place with the help of **Ted Blohm**. **Judy W.**, waging her own campaign for

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## What We are Reading

by Annette Centanni

**Mary Lou Spanja** reports that since the start of the holidays, she has not had time to begin anything new. It is all she can do to keep up with current events by reading the newspaper; however, she never misses the crossword puzzle! She also keeps up with *New Orleans* magazine.

Mary Lou states that when she *does* have time to start a new book, it will be one recommended by both Marie Breerwood and Joan Fontaine, who thought she would like it: *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. It is the story of five sisters whose lives changed when the Taliban seized Afghanistan.

**Jan DeVidts** has just finished reading a book she terms "Excellent!" It is *One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd* by Jim Fergus. The setting is 1875 in the Black Hills of South Dakota, when The US government began a program to integrate white people into the Cheyenne nation. It hired women, mainly "undesirables," to live among the Cheyenne, propagate with them, and dilute their power. When gold was discovered in the area, the situation became *really* involved. The story is a fictionalized account of an actual set of events.

Jan says that it is the best book she has read in a long time, and rates it five stars. ★★★★★

**Marie Breerwood** has recently finished *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. Marie terms it "deep and inspiring, a real tear jerker." It is the inspirational and philosophical memoir of a young neurosurgeon with Stage 4 cancer, who attempts to answer the question, "What makes life worth living?" Marie says that Dr. Kalanithi's book has been on the Bestseller list, and though by no means enjoyable to read, well worth the reading. She rates it four stars. ★★★★★



## The Shadow

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a large ice chest on wheels for sales and parties, will soon get her heart's desire, as well.

**A Name from the Past:** Sorting and Amazon-packing groups will never cease missing **Kuniko Izumi**, who now lives in Kentucky. Recently, **Kuniko** sent **President Anna Campos** a card thanking her and others for the Amazon tutorial they gave her during her last visit to Metairie. **Kuniko** has started listing and shipping books and DVDs through Amazon and eBay for her present Kentucky Friends group. She says that the most expensive book that she has sold was *The Spirit of St. Louis* by Charles Lindbergh, for which she got \$700.00!

**Speaking of Amazon,** during late December and early January, our enterprise was "slammed" with books to be packaged and mailed. The crush was caused by a combination of factors: unusual weekend holiday closings of the library and the post office, out-of-town trips, and some holiday scheduling conflicts of usual packers. On one day, 32 books needed to be packed and mailed. Unfortunately, the Amazon giant doesn't care *what* our problems are, and will "remind" us if shipments are late. Fortunately, **Diane Schleifstein** and **Kathy Brady** were up to the challenge; it took them 2½ hours of solid work to finish the project that day. But the following week it happened again with 36 books, and they were required to put in another marathon performance. As an Amazon side note, **Joan Demers**, founder of our Amazon team, has not been traveling as much lately, and has been coming around on Wednesday afternoons to assist with packing or with troubleshooting any other problems that arise. We are all happy to have **Joan** back in the fold.

**The bridge between Sorting and Amazon:** Some people and conversations span both sorting and Amazon enterprises at the center. I, the **Shadow**, happen to be privy to the overlap, as I am part of both groups. When **Anna Campos** realized that **Sue H.** does not own a "happy phone," as she calls it, she jokingly offered to pass the hat and purchase one for her. **Sue** declined. **Judy Z.** uses her cell

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## The Shadow

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phone mostly for book sale business. **She, Kathy Brady, some others, and I**, agree that current cell phones and iPads are way too fancy. Personally, I got off the technology train years ago, and am content to sit in the station sipping my diet cola while watching the world go by.

On the other hand, **Wendy Luna, Rosemarie Goetz**, and others in the Amazon group love to take pictures, flip through them with their forefingers to show everyone something special, then enlarge them to show detail in living color. With their electronic devices, **Peg Phelps** and **Robert Campos** are virtual fountains of information on anything you need to know, from impending storms, to road closings, to the date of Mardi Gras in the year 2020. Happily, most people at the center are somewhere in between, content with the convenience cell phones provide, but not willing to learn all of the possible nitty-gritties. The subject of E Books is another story, everyone vocal with his own opinion. My point is, the whole technological business often makes for lively lunch or break time conversation that *everyone* takes part in and enjoys.

**On to Raise a Reader:** **Sandra Blount's** Raise a Reader program will now be functioning without the help of the Jefferson Volunteers for Family and Continuing Education, Inc., who have opted to expend their energies in other directions. **Collette Ricaud** continues to do double duty with sorting and with Raise a Reader. Both **Sandra** and she will be aided by **Maureen Howat** and **Rosemarie Goetz**, who have agreed to give Raise a Reader a trial run. **Kathy Brady** has volunteered to substitute as needed. The team packs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month, or whenever everyone can get together. They pack 7-9 boxes with 30 packets each per month. Included in the literature are library locations, their hours of operation, and information on how to obtain a library card. These packets each contain a children's book. They are distributed to Ochsner West Bank, Ochsner in Kenner and West Jefferson Hospital by **Sue Hellwig** and **Chris deVillasana**. Kudos for the worthy service

these Friends provide to the hospitalized children, and to babies and new mothers of Jefferson parish.

**At the Store**, there were quite a few challenges in the year 2016. According to **Patricia Cox**, Store Manager, the biggest challenge was the re-carpeting; but thanks to the help of many volunteers and a great library crew, the entire task was completed in four days.

Another challenge was **Sandra Blount's** unfortunate encounter at home with a step ladder that kept her out of commission for several weeks. Instead of floundering without their **volunteer coordinator**, super volunteers stepped up to cover the shifts.

A new credit card machine with a "chip detector" presented still another challenge that had store salespersons wishing for the old one back. Through it all, however, the store not only survived, but thrived!

The last store shopping day before Christmas was certainly a red letter day for **Milly Spear**. The Friends' current **co-Volunteer of the Year** happily broke all previous records with over \$400.00 in sales.

The store recently welcomed two new volunteers, **Rebecca Rabito** and **Delores Sameluk**. **Patricia** says that their services, along with the services of other standing volunteers, will shortly be called on since loyal worker, **Lyn Barbier** will be out for a while with a back fracture. All of your friends wish you a speedy recovery, **Lyn**.

**A final note:** In sickness and in health, come trial or adversity, when faced with good times or bad, Friends are known to answer any kind of call; however, there's no pension plan. When a true devotee, **Ouida Prieur**, innocently asked, "Is there a mandatory age for a Friend to retire?" the **Redhead** quickly replied, "**NOT HERE!**"

That's all I have for you today, dear book-lovers. I hope to see you at the Big Book Sale on March 9<sup>th</sup>!

Until next time,

Your Friendly Shadow

# What's Cooking at the Friends?

## Carrot Souffle

*(Maria Tujague has brought this tasty dish to Friends covered dish events.)*

1 1/2 lbs carrots, peeled and sliced  
3/4 cup butter or margarine, softened  
3 large eggs  
1/4 cup all-purpose flour  
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder  
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar  
1/4 tsp. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly spray a casserole dish (*1 1/2 quarts?—ed.*) and set aside. Cook carrots in boiling water until tender; drain. In bowl or food processor, combine carrots and all other ingredients and process until smooth, stopping once to scrape down sides of bowl. Spoon into prepared dish. Bake for about 1 hour, or until set and lightly browned. Serves 6.

Double recipe will fit into a 9x13" pan.



Anna Campos

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"I can't imagine a man enjoying a book and reading it only once."  
—C. S. Lewis



*Friends of the Jefferson Public Library  
Post Office Box 9391  
Metairie, Louisiana 70055  
455-2665*

Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form

Please use this form to give your reasons for nominating one of our members as volunteer of the year. Please describe, in detail, your reasons for nominating this person. The committee will consider the work done in the past year, the number of hours expended, any office or committee chair the nominee holds, and his or her overall participation in Friends' activities. A list of previous recipients is printed on the reverse side of this page. Use more than one sheet of paper if necessary. Please return this form in person to the sorting center, e-mail Sandra Blount at [sandrablount@cox.net](mailto:sandrablount@cox.net), or surface mail to P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, LA 70055, no later than May 1.

Name of nominee:

Why does this person deserve to be named Volunteer of the Year?

Your Name (optional):

(See back of form for a list of prior award winners.)

### Volunteers of the Year Awards

1999: Ethel Tarleton  
2000: Fay Bilby  
2001: Judy Zawislak  
2002: Peg Phelps  
2003: Kathy Norton  
2004: Brenda Huchingson  
2005: Jack Weldon  
2006: David Valentine & Carolyn Lindsay  
2007: Blamid Sunseri  
2008: Arlene Manguno & Joan Demers  
2009: Ailleen Janney & Sue Hellwig  
2010: Patricia Cox  
2011: Anna Campos & Annette Centanni  
2012: Chris deVillasana  
2013: Jan DeVidts and Sandra Blount  
2014: Mary Lou Spanja and Mary Anna Lightner  
2015: Ted Blohm and Diane Davey  
2016: Millie Spear and Paulette Mauterer

### Friends of Distinction Awards

2005: Lisa Conescu  
2006: Patricia Cox  
2007: Judy Zawislak & Peg Phelps  
2008: Sally & John Hoffschwelle; Sandra Blount  
2009: Mary Lou Spanja  
2010: Marie Breerwood  
2011: Kuniko Izumi & Kathy Pennington  
2012: Maria Tujague & Rick Demers  
2013: None  
2014: Robert Campos and Ann Buchel  
2015: Milly Spear  
2016: Leslie Fall