

FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF THE EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARY

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www.epls.org/friends/

February, 2009

Eileen Simmons, Editor

Membership renewal time!

It's that time of year when we ask you to renew your membership in the Friends of the Everett Public Library. The support that the Friends provide is more important than ever this year. Many programs and special collections are funded with interest income on library endowments, and we all know what's happened to investments lately.



So please renew your membership—and if you can upgrade to a higher category, that would be even better! A membership form and return envelope are included with this newsletter.

New Toys for Children's Department



It's a fact of life that toys wear out and puzzle pieces get lost, and that's especially true when

they get used every day for years. A grant from the Friends paid to purchase new toys in 2008, and we'd like to buy a few more this year.

The Big Read Comes to Everett

Everett Public Library and Sno-Isle Libraries are partnering on a project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts to return reading to the center of American Culture.



Friends bought the button maker to help publicize the event

Look for lots of special programs in May, all related to the book *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett, and all organized to encourage Snohomish and Island County residents to read and discuss Hammett's book, which the NEA's Dana Gioia calls a "brilliant literary work, as well as a thriller, a love story, and a dark, dry comedy."

Library Giving Tree



Library staff, Friends, and patrons gave generously to decorate the December Giving Tree at the Main Library. All donations were given to the Everett Gospel Mission,

which sorts donated items and makes sure they go to the most appropriate place. In case you're a numbers person, here's the tally:

129 hats

57 scarves

185 mittens and gloves

40 socks

Library Cards and Book Bags for Babies

A policy change in late 2008 means that babies can get their very own library cards now—with bookworm bags included in the deal. Baby storytime participants at the Evergreen Branch were quick to take advantage of the opportunity.



It's Not Spam: The Everett Public Library News Comes to Your In-Box

The library has been collecting email addresses when people register for library cards for quite a while now. It's a handy way to send reminders about overdue books or holds that are ready to pick-up. Now your email address can bring you news about new programs and services. In November the library sent its first electronic newsletter, and almost 4,000 people clicked to open their copy. It's not too long, and it only comes about every 6 weeks. If you didn't receive a copy and would like to, go to www.epls.org and click on the button that says Library Newsletters. In addition to the

Everett Public Library News, you can also subscribe to over twenty different newsletters tailored to specific reading interests. Learn about newly released books and older titles you may have missed.

Library Use Up in 2008

It's not your imagination if it seems busier at the library lately.



In 2008 our circulation was up 10%, for a total of 992,960 items checked out. Web use is way up too. Visitors to epls.org have increased 36% from January to December, and database use has jumped from 84,262,031 in 2007 to 109,186 in 2008.

The most popular downloads from the website are the Evergreen Cemetery Tour, the Director's podcast, and the Friends Newsletter (Yay!).

Download Books to Your I-Pod



You can now download books from Overdrive to your Mac computer or digital device. Just click on the Download Audio Books button on www.epls.org to get instructions and see a list of available titles.

Join the Friends - New Officers for 2009

President: Judy Pascale

Treasurer: Claire Griffith

Secretary: Eileen Simmons

Member-at-large: Gwendolyn Gray

Member-at-large: Kelly Mercier

Member-at-large: Maggie Hardiman

Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 7 p.m. in the Director's Office, Main Library.

Call 425-257-8022 for information.