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Fall 2000

2000 Fall - Friendly Correspondence Newsletter

Courtright Memorial Library Otterbein University

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Friendly Correspondence

Volume 3
Issue 1
November 2000

A Reading of Charles Dickens: A Christmas Carol



Friday, December 8, 2000
7:00 pm
Philomathean Room,
Towers Hall (3rd Floor)

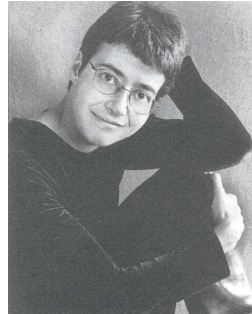
Refreshments will be served.
Free-will offering accepted.

Officers, 2000-2001

John Wells	President
Mary Cay Wells	Vice President
Jim Grissinger	Secretary
Lois Szudy	Treasurer
Beth Daugherty	Membership Chair
Mary Pat Knight	Program Chair
Marilyn Day & Joanne Van Sant	Fund Raising Co-Chairs
Sylvia Vance	Past President

Helen Fremont presented

"Family Secrets and Family Histories"



On Tuesday October 24, 2000, at 7:30pm approximately 50 people attended the presentation by Helen Fremont at the Otterbein College, Courtright Memorial Library. Helen discussed her recent book, *After Long Silence*, the 2000-2001 Common Book.



After Helen's presentation, the Common Book Author Wall, consisting of framed pictures of Mary B. Thomas and all of the Common Book Authors, was unveiled and dedicated. Thanks to Becky Smith, Mary Pat Knight, Sandra Hume, Thomas Hume, Vita Rossi, and Joseph Presutti for all their fine work in creating this wonderful visual display.





About the Author

Helen Fremont is an attorney with the Massachusetts public defender agency in Boston and a consultant for the U.S. department of Justice.

Her memoir, *After Long Silence*, published in 1999, was a national bestseller and Featured Alternate of the Book of the Month Club. She is a Resident Scholar at the Brandeis University Women's Studies Scholars Program, and has been an Adjunct Professor at the Harvard College Summer School and Emerson College.

Her fiction and essays have been published in *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards*, *Ploughshares*, *The Harvard Review*, and other journals. A graduate of the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers, Helen is a fiction editor of the *Marlboro Review*. She was awarded a fellowship to the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and has taught workshops at Gemini Ink, the Warren Wilson Writers' Conference and the New Hampshire Writers' Project.



The "Common Book" program at Otterbein College began 6 years ago. Each year a different book is chosen and entering freshmen read the book prior to arriving on campus in the Fall Term. All faculty and many staff also read the book in order to participate in campus-wide discussions. The Thomas Academic Excellence Series was made possible through the generosity of alumna Mary B. Thomas '28, who donated the money in memory of her parents. This gift allows for an extensive community-building program on campus, which includes a several day visit by the author of the year's book. It is a special privilege that the Friends share Helen Fremont's time this year.

How would you feel if you suddenly discovered that the most basic elements of your family identity – your parents' histories, their religion, even their names – were all lies? Would this mean that your own identity, the person you perceive and project yourself to be, is also a lie? These are just a few of the questions posed by Helen Fremont in *After Long Silence*.

Raised Catholic in suburban America, Helen Fremont discovered as an adult that her parents were actually Jewish and that their long journey to their American lives succeeded, in large part, because of their ability to recreate themselves whenever necessary. With *After Long Silence* Ms. Fremont attempts to reconstruct her parents incredible odyssey through Europe during the Holocaust and, in so doing, casts shifting shadows over her own sense of identity.

After Long Silence raises important questions not only about the nature of identity but also about the role of stories in our lives, the reliability of memory, the impact of "history," and much more. The multidisciplinary implications of Fremont's work are being examined under the umbrella, "Selves and Stories, Disguise and Disclosure," this year's academic theme.

-- Becky Smith & Rebecca Bowman, Co-chairs of Common Book Selection Committee



In the Piggy Bank

By: Treasurer, Lois Szudy

As of November 14, 2000, the Friends Treasury has \$4,929.72. So far this year we have spent \$6,266 with \$3,034 encumbered. The money spent has been used to:

- Purchase a public address system for the library. This system has already improved the security of the

About the Common Book

library allowing us to notify people about closing times and weather emergencies.

- Order additional shelving units for housing music CDs. The cabinets are on order and should be available sometime in late November.
- Purchase the appropriate supplies to archivally preserve the Otterbein Room collection of photographs.
- Purchase the Book Lover's Calendars. This amount will be recovered when we sell the calendars.

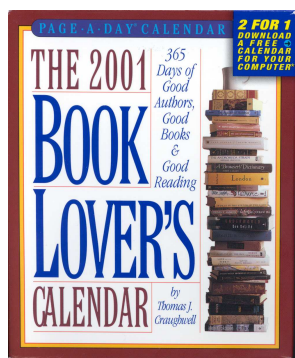


A Penny for your thoughts ...or your Library!!

The library is still accepting your pennies. Please help the Friends of the Library collect a mile of pennies (21,120 rolls end-to-end or \$10,560). Money raised will be used to purchase heavy-duty outdoor furniture for "under the overhang" of the library. As part of Otterbein's strategic plan, the Friends of the Library is interested in creating an inviting, informal, and comfortable gathering place for faculty, staff, students, and community members. Your pennies (and nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars) can make a difference in the look and feel of the library. If you prefer, you may donate funds sufficient to purchase a bench or a set of table and chairs. A plaque honoring your gift will be created and proudly displayed.

Please send your donation (of any size) for this worthwhile project to Lois Szudy. Checks should be made out to Otterbein College. Donations also can be delivered to the circulation desk of the library. Thus far we have raised approximately \$600 for this purpose.

Purchase a 2001 Book Lover's Calendar



- Cost is only \$9.95
- Support the Friends of the Library
- Purchase calendars for yourself, your friends, and your family
- Contact Lois Szudy at (614) 823-1414 or LSzudy@otterbein.edu to purchase calendars



Try out the Friends Web Page

You can use the new Friends web pages by going to <http://www.otterbein.edu/learning/libpages/Friends/index.htm> or you can access it from the library's home page (<http://www.otterbein.edu/learning/library.htm>). Our web page has information on membership, officers, volunteer opportunities, bylaws, and fund raising, and includes copies of previous newsletters and pictures taken at various events. Any comments or suggestions are welcome – please let Lois Szudy know.



A Farewell to a Friend We Have Lost



Nancy Lee Snapp Yoest, of Westerville, died Saturday, November 4, 2000. Nancy was born on June 8, 1931 in Columbus, OH. Nancy was a graduate of Mifflin High School in 1949 and The Ohio State University, college of Nursing in 1953. She served as a School Nurse for Westerville Schools from 1972 until her retirement in 1992.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her entire family, including: E.W. Bud Yoest (Professor Emeritus in Physical Education), Jeffrey & Sarah and Kyle & Jeri, and grandchildren Daniel, Mary Lee, and Charlotte.

Membership Benefits

Your participation will help:

- Encourage an understanding of the part the library plays in educating Otterbein's students, in supporting faculty and staff, and in cooperating with other libraries to share available resources.
- Provide a medium through which friends of the library may become acquainted, share their enthusiasm for books and reading, and participate in programs sponsored by the library.
- Attract bequests and gifts of money, books, manuscripts, and other library materials.

Membership is open to individuals and families who support these goals.

Friends enjoy:

- Borrowing privileges at the Courtright Memorial Library.
- Borrowing privileges from other OPAL and OhioLink libraries.
- Interlibrary loan privileges.
- Subscription to the Friends of the Library newsletter.
- Invitations to events sponsored by the Friends.
- Voting privileges at the Friends of the Library business meeting(s) each year.
- An opportunity to join others who are committed to the development of a valuable resource – the Courtright Memorial Library.

Service opportunities:

Friends members can serve the group in several ways:

- Become an officer (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer).
- Participate in committees (Program, Membership, Fund Raising Projects, and Nominations).
- Be an active member of the friends.
- Renew membership annually.
- Encourage others to join the Friends.
- Donate time, money or items to the library.

For additional information, contact Lois Szudy, Library Director by mail at Courtright Memorial Library, Otterbein College, 1 Otterbein College, Westerville, OH 43081 or by phone at (614) 823-1414 or by email at LSzudy@otterbein.edu

Friends of the Library Membership Information

Memberships are valid for one year,
from July 1 to June 30.

Date: _____

Renewal or New Member **(Please circle one)**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Choose the donation category most appropriate for you:

- _____ **Imaginative Friend: Generous donation, including special purpose or non-financial Philanthropist (\$500+)**
- _____ **Benefactor (\$100-\$499)**
- _____ **Contributor (\$50-\$99)**
- _____ **Family: 2 + people in same household (\$35)**
- _____ **Individual Friend (\$20)**
- _____ **Otterbein Student (\$5)**

To insure proper gift credit, please make **checks payable to Otterbein College**. Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with Internal Revenue Service rules.

One benefit to being a friend is borrowing privileges at the library.

Are you interested in receiving borrowing privileges?

Yes, I would like to have borrowing privileges. Please provide social security number(s) for name verification.

No, I do not need borrowing privileges.

Please return form to Circulation desk or mail to:

**Lois F. Szudy, Library Director
Courtright Memorial Library
1 Otterbein College
Westerville, OH 43081**

Courtright Memorial Library
1 Otterbein College
Otterbein College
Westerville, Ohio 43081

Please note that your membership expires on the date shown on your mailing label. If date is blank you need to join & become a member. To renew fill out the enclosed form and mail to Lois Szudy at above address. Thank You.

*Enclosed is your latest
“Friendly Correspondence,”
The Newsletter of the Friends
of the Courtright Memorial Library!!!!*