



## Annual Report July 2009-June 2010

### Operational Updates:

Both Tom Schmitz and Jan Thomsen were re-elected to four year terms as SELS Friends Board members. Officers for the year were Becky Baker, President; Tom Schmitz, Vice-President; and Lisa Olivigni, Secretary-Treasurer. Other Board members include Karen Frank and Jan Thomsen.

Both the mission statement and the bylaws of the SELS Friends were updated early in the year. Changes to the bylaws clarified the newly determined financial responsibilities of the SELS Friends Secretary-Treasurer and also added wording to allow electronic elections if so determined by the Board. The mission statement was fleshed out to more clearly elaborate the role of the Friends, particularly in relation to the SELS itself. It now reads:

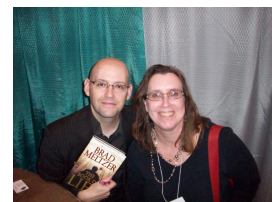
*The SELS Friends support the mission of the Southeast Library System by advocating for all libraries throughout its 15-county area and through providing the SELS with ancillary funds. Examples of support include sponsorship of events highlighting the SELS, provision of scholarships to members of the System, and funding continuing education events, equipment expenses or other special purchases. While SELS Friends recognize they are part of the System, funds for normal operating expenses may be provided only when other options are not available.*

### Finances:

Friends contributed \$1,509.50 to license the new van early in this fiscal year, and the Friends Board voted to change the SELS loan of \$750 to a gift, to help the SELS with cash flow issues.

The transition separating financial duties from the SELS office was completed, with a new bank account set up at Union Bank. The SELS Friends remain a subsidiary of the Southeast Library System.

Monetary support was provided to help cover expenses for Brenda to attend MPLA in Oklahoma City in April (at which she met Brad Meltzer, pictured at right). Other items on the SELS wish list that have not yet been funded for a variety of reasons include a netbook, a projector light bulb, a flash drive, and dies for the Accu-cut.



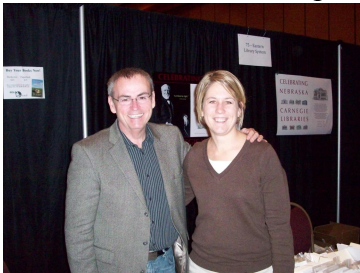
The year ended with a balance of \$4,919.00. This means that up to \$245 will be available for scholarships in each of the windows during the next fiscal year.

### Scholarships:

This new program was initiated half way through the year, with \$150 designated to be available in the spring of 2010. Heather Koeneke from Auburn Public Library was the first recipient of the SELS Friends scholarship. Because of her request for \$100 in scholarship money for an academic class, the criteria for scholarship application was revised and academic use was added as a third priority.

### NLA/NEMA Conference:

The SELS Friends were involved in the 2009 conference in two ways. We once again purchased an exhibit table (pictured at right), at which we held an iPod raffle (thanks to a donation from Rebecca Bernthal), a silent auction on crochet work (thanks to Wanda Marget for that donation), and sold Baker's chocolate in our personalized wrappers. We also hosted



keynote speaker Gary Moore (left), and sold his books which he was gracious enough to autograph at our table.

The SELS Friends also helped sponsor a program, Speed Reviews, on Friday morning. For an early morning session, it was pretty well attended.

### Fundraisers:

The year started off with a bang with a private showing of *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* in July. Over \$100 was made, and fun was had by all.



Two book fairs were held during this year, the first on November 27, 2009 and the second on June 12, 2010, both at Barnes and Noble at SouthPointe Pavilions in Lincoln. The first brought in just over \$300, and the second nearly \$600! We are very happy to work with Barnes and Noble on these events! Jan Thomsen of the SELS Friends Board is pictured to the left, providing gift wrapping for a happy customer.

Aged to Perfection 2010 was held on April 29 at the James Arthur Vineyards. Almost \$100 was made during the evening, and several new members joined the Friends group. Some of them are pictured to the right.



The SELS Friends cookbook project was announced and is still in the process of gathering recipes. Please make time to enter yours today – all details can be found on our website: [www.selsfriends.org](http://www.selsfriends.org).