

the Limited edition

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library • Bismarck, ND



The Library
Foundation, Inc.
Since 1975

- 1 Sakariassen Recipient of Pearce Award
- 2 My First Library Memory
- 3 Pearl Harbor Survivor's Gift to Library Still Giving
- 4 Good Experience with ND Tax Credit
- 5 Pearce Award Dinner
- 6 Foundation Donors
- 7 Editorial
- 8 The Gifted Bean

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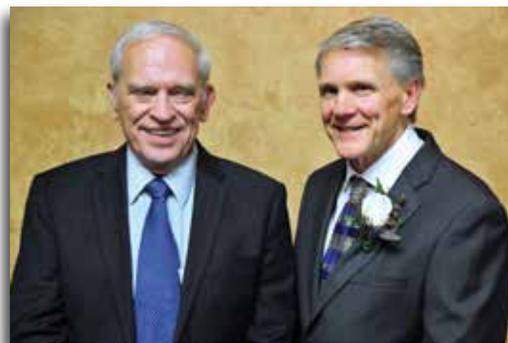
Sakariassen Recipient of Pearce Award for Library Service

Erik Sakariassen was awarded the 2014 Pearce Award for Library Service by The Library Foundation, Inc. at a dinner held in his honor Nov. 1 at the Ramkota Inn. The annual award recognizes a person for significant contributions to Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library, to literature, and/or to learning in Bismarck.

Sakariassen has served on the Foundation's board since 1998. He has served as vice president, president and has chaired the Finance Committee for 15 years. He assisted with the campaign to begin the Endowment Fund, which now stands at \$1.2 million. He co-chaired the \$643,000 Children's Library Project from 2007 to 2009. He and his wife, Amy, are among the top donors to the Foundation.

Sakariassen grew up in Bismarck. He attended the University of Montana, where he received a Master's Degree in Creative Writing from the University of Montana. After college, he began working for the family-owned business, Saks News, where he is now president.

During the gala event, John "Bob" Sakariassen described the role of literature in their family as Erik was growing up. "The printed word



Bill Pearce presented the Pearce Award for Library Service to Erik Sakariassen.

was the cornerstone of our family's livelihood. One night a week was set aside for our family to go to the Library."

His volunteer efforts on behalf of literacy also include teaching English as a second language; promoting reading as chairman of the N.D. Center for the Book from 1994-1998; chairing the Governor's Advisory Council on Libraries and Library Vision 2004 to streamline library services in North Dakota; and serving six years as a member of the Board of Directors of Bismarck Public Library.

"If we were to define the personification of the heartfelt, literacy supporting, book loving, community engaged, public library lover, we could simply say 'Erik Sakariassen,'" said Christine Kujawa, Library Director.

More photos can be found inside this edition.

My First Library Memory



Cameo Skager

I recall many trips to the old Mandan Library as a child. It was always exciting to walk up the big stairs out front, knowing I would get to spend an hour or so wandering through the stacks looking for a new book. I grew up loving horses, so I tried to find a new horse book on every trip. I devoured *Misty of Chincoteague* and many other books about kids and horses.

Later, I spent a lot of time in the high school library finding books to read and doing research for high school projects. I may be giving away my age, but this was before computers and the Internet. We used the card catalogue to look up books for homework assignments! This was my era of Stephen King books – so creepy but such good writing.

In college, I trekked to the University of Mary library on the south campus many times to do homework. There wasn't much time to read for pleasure then, but I always felt at

home surrounded by the stacks.

When our children were young, we took them often to the Morton Mandan Public Library at its new location. The kids loved looking at picture books and picking out stories we could read together. Once, an author came, read his book to the kids, and signed a copy of the book for them to take home. They were pretty impressed with that.

For the last six to eight years, life has been super busy. My children are growing up and they are involved in LOTS of activities. We spend our time driving to music lessons, going to concerts and volunteering with the kids' organizations.

I'm looking forward to this new chapter in my life – working for the Library Foundation. It will definitely give me a chance to get back into the library. Hopefully, I'll find a few moments to get lost in the stacks again.

Book Mark

Skager Named New Foundation Director

Cameo Skager recently became the new director of The Library Foundation, Inc. She replaces Gayle Schuck, who retired after nine years with the Foundation.

A Mandan native, Cameo graduated from the University of Mary with a double major in Communications and Business Administration and a minor in Public Relations. She owns a consulting business, Cameo Communications, Inc. Currently she is president of the Central Dakota Humane Society and serves on the board of Dakota Media Access.

She began work Nov. 20.

Doris C. Orr Living Trust Adds to Endowment

A gift of over \$12,000 has been received by the Library Foundation from the Doris C. Orr Living Trust. The funds have been placed in the Endowment Fund, which provides private support to Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. Doris Curry was born March 14, 1905, in Finley, N.D. She graduated from Finley High School and

Jamestown College. She was united in marriage with Dr. August Orr on Sept. 1, 1933, in Jamestown, N.D. The couple had one son, Robert.

Orr taught school in N.D., Mont. and S.D. She completed her teaching career as head of the English Department at Bismarck Junior College in 1968. Doris was an avid reader and enjoyed writing poetry. She died at the age of 104 on May 23, 2009, at Bismarck.

MDU Resources Foundation Gives Support

A \$5,000 grant from MDU Resources Foundation enabled the Library Foundation to increase its annual grant to the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library in 2014.

Target Grant Helps Kids

This past summer, 322 children completed the 8-week Summer Reading Program. They read almost a half million minutes. The Library Foundation extends a big thank you to Target for providing a \$2,000 grant for the program.

Army Nurses at Pearl Harbor

"Eighty-two Army nurses were stationed in Hawaii serving at three Army medical facilities that infamous morning (December 7, 1942). Tripler Army Hospital was overwhelmed with hundreds of casualties suffering from severe burns and shock. The blood-spattered entrance stairs led to hallways where wounded men lay on the floor awaiting surgery. Army and Navy nurses and medics (enlisted men trained as orderlies) worked side by side with civilian nurses and doctors. As a steady stream of seriously wounded servicemen continued to arrive through the early afternoon, appalling shortages of medical supplies became apparent. Army doctrine kept medical supplies under lock and key, and bureaucratic delays prevented the immediate replacement of quickly used up stocks. Working under tremendous pressure, medical personnel faced shortages of instruments, suture material, and sterile supplies. Doctors performing major surgery passed scissors back and forth from one table to another. Doctors and nurses used cleaning rags as face masks and operated without gloves. Nurses at Schofield Hospital and Hickam Field faced similar difficult circumstances."

~ U.S. Army Center for Military History, recorded by Judith A. Bellafaire

Pearl Harbor Survivor's Gift to Library is Still Giving



Irma Block is pictured here at the Pearl Harbor Reunion at Carrington in 1968.

Next time you attend an event in Room A at the Library, take a look at the photo of Irma Block located on the wall to the right of the stage. The room was dedicated to Miss Block because of an \$80,000 bequeath from her estate.



Irma Block

"The gift was very much a surprise," said Tom Jones, former Library director. "We didn't know she left a third of her estate to the Library. It ended up being the seed money to help complete the building in the 1980s."

Irma was born at St. Claire, Minn. She attended the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, where she received her degree in 1932. In 1940 she enlisted in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps.

She was stationed in Hawaii when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1942, one of only 82 nurses serving there with the Army Nurses Corps. The effect of

Pearl Harbor on her life was evidenced in the fact that she was a longtime member of the North Dakota Chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

Like many World War II veterans, Irma returned to the states with plans to make her world a better place to live. She received her master's in public health and served as a public health nurse in Bottineau and later worked in Minot. In 1956 she moved to Bismarck to work for the N.D. Health Department, becoming the state director. She passed away February 25, 1981.

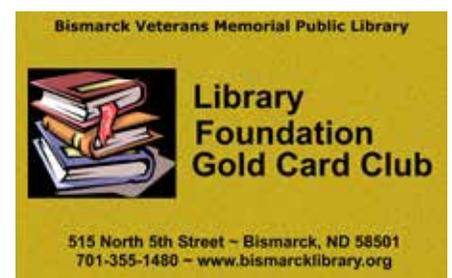
"Irma's bequeath through the Block Memorial Fund was such a wonderful gift," Jones states.

Cynthia Norland, Library Foundation president, adds, "Irma Block's gift still helps the community decades after she decided to make it. Room A is the venue for many activities, such as recitals, public meetings and the Friends' Book Sale. We're still grateful for her gift."

Join the Gold Card Club today!

Go to www.bismarcklibrary.org and click on "Support the Library" icon.

Membership in the Gold Card Club provides a unique gold library card and invitations to The Library Foundation events. Membership is \$250 per year, with a 3-year membership requirement. Only one person's name may be included on the card. Membership is tax deductible.



A Good Experience with the N.D. Tax Credit



Cynthia Norland

My husband Bob and I have donated to nonprofit organizations over the years in a manner that may be similar to many other people. We've supported friends and family in their charitable endeavors and have given to our church, the United Way, to our rural church cemetery fund, memorial gifts to various charities, and of course to the Library. Those gifts added up, but we had never given a more substantial gift.

Serving on the Library Foundation Board, I learned about the unique tax advantages that the North Dakota Legislature put in place in support of local non-profit organizations. The purpose of the tax credit is to give North Dakotans the opportunity to make meaningful gifts to charities and reduce income tax bills. If an individual makes a single gift of \$5,000 in one year to a North Dakota non-profit charitable endowment fund, such as The Library Foundation's Endowment Fund, they receive a 40 percent North Dakota income tax credit in addition to the Federal income tax deduction for the charitable gift. For some people the

net cost of a \$5,000 gift after the tax deduction and tax credit is \$1,600.

In 2013, we decided to make a \$5,000 gift to the Library Foundation, Inc. Endowment Fund because we believe in the good work the Library Foundation and Bismarck Public Library do in our community and because we wanted to take advantage of this tax credit. Making the gift definitely made an impact on the amount of North Dakota state income taxes we owed in 2013.

If you have any questions about making a gift to The Library Foundation, Inc. Endowment Fund, contact the Foundation office at 355-1494 or visit with your accountant.



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Scenes from the Pearce Award Dinner

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The Limited Edition is published twice annually by The Library Foundation, Inc. This newsletter

is mailed to all donors and others concerned about the continued growth and enhancement of Library services. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please call Gayle Schuck at (701) 355-1494.



Erik Sakariassen accepts a picture of Bismarck Public Library, circa 1965.



Tom O'Neill provided mellow music.



John "Bob" Sakariassen with Amy & Emily Sakariassen.



The Sakariassen family reacts to a speaker.



Sue Sorlie, Doug Prchal & Tara Holt

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*Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. However, if you find an error in our list,
 please bring it to our attention.*



Gayle Schuck

“Books are lighthouses erected in the great sea of time.”

~ Edwin P. Whipple

Prepare Today for the Needs of Tomorrow

One beautiful summer day, a lazy grasshopper was chirping and sitting and playing games, just as he did every day. A hard-working ant passed by, carrying a huge leaf that he was taking back to the ant's nest.

The grasshopper said to the ant, “All you ants do is work all day. You should be more like me and play, play, play!”

“I’m storing food for the winter season. You should be working, for just the same reason. What will you eat when the weather gets cold? How will you feed your hungry household?”

North Dakotans hardly need a reminder that winter comes every year, but this classic fable has a moral that we’d do well to heed: Prepare today for the needs of tomorrow.

Some of us have been around long enough to remember when it was difficult to find a job anywhere in the state. Instead of legislative arguments about how to spend all the state money, there were tense times when there was no way to fund basic infrastructure.

Just as the grasshopper should have prepared for winter, we need to prepare for days when the economy is less robust. For the Library Foundation, that means building a strong endowment fund in the good times, so there are extra resources for Bismarck Public Library during the lean years. To that end, the board and staff are grateful to those such as Doris Orr and Irma Block, who remember the Foundation when writing a will or setting up trusts or other financial vehicles.

On another note—by the time you read this, I’ll be retired from here and working hard on my next book! I’m excited to see where the new Foundation director, Cameo Skager, takes this organization. She has a heart for reading and the Library. Please give her a warm welcome.



Five Ways to Help the Foundation

Gifts to the The Library Foundation, Inc., can be designated for specific purposes. All gifts are tax deductible and deeply appreciated. Designate my gift for:

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Coffee's on at the Gifted Bean

Since 2007, the Library's coffee shop has offered good coffee and a peaceful place to spend time with a book or a friend. As of October 1, the shop also has a higher purpose.

Matt and Sandy McMerty took over the shop to establish a business for their oldest son, Cristian, who was born with Down syndrome. The shop's new name, The Gifted Bean Coffee House, reflects the McMertys' plan to help Cristian, who is 13. The couple was inspired by Tim's Place, a restaurant in Albuquerque, N.M., owned and operated by a man with Down syndrome.

After sharing their plan on social media, their story was picked up by media across the state. Since then, things have been perking at the Gifted Bean.

Matt manages the shop and Sandy helps during busy times. They expect the coffee house to be a family venture. Their other children are Finnegan, 11, and Parker, 9. Matt also owns a records management company and Sandy works for the N.D. Department of Commerce.

The Gifted Bean offers regular and seasonal drinks, and freshly made soup and sandwiches. The hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday; and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. The shop is closed Sundays.



Matt McMerty, owner of the Gifted Bean Coffee House