A board member of the Friends of the Oviatt Library unexpectedly made a large donation at a volunteer appreciation luncheon held Dec 12th in the Lambs Lounge at CSUN’s University Club.

Milton Feinberg, legislative chair, presented his gift to the Friends so they would be able to purchase a new, much-needed van for the Gift Book Committee.

Debra Goldman, board member of the Friends of the Oviatt Library, hospitality chair and manager of the Friends Bookstore has been given a special Volunteer Service Award.

This award, CSUN’s highest tribute to volunteers, was given to the university’s most active alumni, faculty and community friends at a campus luncheon and ceremony in November. This was the Alumni Association’s second annual event honoring volunteers.

Goldman has had a long and varied career as a volunteer. She began her service work in high school in New York City helping children who suffered from cerebral palsy. She continued to work raising funds on various service organization committees.

Debra came to California in 1963 where she met and married her late husband, Norman, who worked as an administrator at Kaiser Permanente health care services. Her two daughters are also service-oriented: Sharon works as a physical therapist, and Robyn has served as company officer at various organizations, the latest as an administrator for the Bill Gates Foundation, setting up charter schools. Robyn is the mother of three adopted children from Russia.

Goldman said she served as a Campfire Girl leader when her daughters were children.

More recently, Goldman worked as a volunteer at Head Start, an organization which aids the learning and socialization of underprivileged children. She also founded a toy library for disadvantaged youngsters.

About three years ago, Goldman became a Friends board member, serving as hospitality chair. She also worked as co-chair of the Friends Bookstore, with past board president Rita Streimer. Now Goldman serves by herself as store manager and supervisor.

“T enjoy working with the Friends,” she said. "I love the people—and talking with the students.”

Goldman, who continues to serve also as hospitality chair says she enjoys attending the events sponsored by the Friends. "It’s nice to be in a university setting—it’s a nice place to be," she said.

Goldman, the former proprietor of a needlepoint retail store, also manages to find time to give needlepoint lessons.

Subject of her thesis was "Rim of the Valley Trail" which became the state’s official name for the trail which stretches from the Mulholland road area through Burbank and Glendale into the Santa Susanna mountain range. The couple had two sons, the late William Feinberg, a prominent neurologist, and Lawrence, who works with computers.

"I made the donation because I appreciate education," Feinberg said. Members have long wanted a large, reliable vehicle to be driven the sometimes long distances to pick up large, heavy lots of donated volumes. These gift books are either placed in the Oviatt collection for patrons to use, or sold in the Friends Bookstore or Special Lobby Sales to raise funds for library services.

Friends President Al Ross expressed his appreciation to Feinberg and all of the other volunteers from the community and campus for their outstanding contributions of time and work on behalf of the Friends.

From July 2003 to mid January 2004, at least 13,521 books were donated to the Friends. An estimated 1,274 of those have been added to the Oviatt collection, said Vicki Campbell, Oviatt library assistant.
Everyone Invited to Author Signings

The Friends of the Oviatt Library continue to sponsor author signings. Dr. Anthony Arthur spoke about his newest book, "Literary Feuds: A Century of Celebrated Quarrels from Mark Twain to Tom Wolfe" on March 9th in the Oviatt Library. The audience included many students. Those in attendance learned that writers are often just as interesting as the books they write.

Another book signing has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, at 7 p.m. in the Oviatt presentation room. That event will feature best-selling author Lisa See who will speak on her latest novel, "Dragon Bones."

The signings were planned and organized by the Friends Board Program Committee members; June Frankenberg and Ann Kogen. For more information, telephone (818) 677-2638.

Fogarty Collection Dedicated

The juvenile literature section in the Oviatt Library has been named "The Sharon Fogarty Young Readers' Collection" to honor the late friend of the Oviatt Library.

A opening reception for "Once Upon A Time" the exhibition of the Fogarty Collection, was held on Feb. 19th in the Lower Level Presentation room of the Library. Favorite foods from childhood were featured as refreshments.

Dr. Jackie Stallcup, CSUN professor of English and specialist on children's books, gave a talk on "Comfort Books."

The exhibit will be on display until March 31. Items include children's classics such as Winnie the Pooh, current books for youngsters, lunch boxes, games, dolls, and puppets according to Teacher Curriculum Center Librarian Karin Duran. Illustrated books of many genres are on exhibit including fairy tales, poetry and drama.

The naming of the collection in honor of Sharon comes as a result of a gift from her sister Tish, and her brother-in-law David. The gift establishes an endowment for the collection. The principal remains in perpetuity, and the interest supports the annual purchase of new books for the Sharon Fogarty Young Readers' Collection. Virginia Elwood, retired CSUN librarian and personal friend of Sharon Fogarty noted, "She loved children's literature. This is a particularly appropriate honor for her."

Chinese Art Donated to CSUN

The dedication of the Tseng Family Wing of the Oviatt Library, and opening of the exhibition "Possessing the Past: Mysteries of Ancient Chinese Art," will be held April 21st at 5:30 p.m. at the Oviatt Library. Invitations will be sent to all Friends members.


The gift of antiquities from the Tseng family will also fund the renovation of the 2nd floor exhibits area, which will be named the C.K. and Teresa Tseng Exhibition Gallery.

The Roland Tseng gift is the largest in the history of the CSU system. Mr. Tseng wants the collection to be used for faculty and student research.

For additional information, call (818) 677-2638.
"There are many benefits to joining the Friends of the Oviatt Library", said Fred Levy, Board Membership Chair. Members receive library cards and are entitled to check out materials. But more important, Levy and Co-Chair Bernice Haber explained, is the opportunity to be of help in keeping the Library strong and vital.

Membership fee contributions are used to buy books and other library materials, to purchase needed equipment and provide services to students. Members are also given the opportunity to help plan cultural programs and fundraising events. And those who want more participation may also serve on the Friends Board of Directors.

The Friends of the Oviatt Library is a volunteer not-for-profit organization established to encourage community members to use and support the Library. For more than 20 years, the Friends have worked to increase the Library collection, enhance its digital services, and extend its cultural resources to areas outside of the campus. This is done by organizing fund-raising events, supporting volunteer activities and encouraging gifts and endowments. The Friends also operate a used book store in the 1st floor west wing to earn money to benefit the Library and to provide low-cost books to students and community members.

Prospective members may learn more about joining the Friends by telephoning (818) 677-2638 or by visiting the Friend's web page at: http://library.csun.edu/friends/

Friends of the Oviatt Library

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We are on the Web:
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