

# Friends of Morris Library Activity Report 2013 – 2014

*Projects funded by the Friends of Morris Library since the fall of 2013 include:*

- ✦ **Rhonda M. Kohl talked about her book, *The Prairie Boys Go to War: The Fifth Illinois Cavalry, 1861-1865*** (Southern Illinois University Press, 2013). She was the guest speaker at the opening of *Civil War 150*, a touring exhibit from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.
- ✦ **While the audience looked out of the 7th Floor onto Thompson Woods, Patricia Dey Cuendet described her book, *The Ghost in the Garden*.** Janice West passionately read passages from the novel about four young friends, one residing in the Thompson House, and their adventures. The children encounter Civil War–era ghosts, secret rooms and a variety of obstacles and thrills in their quest to save the home from the wrecking ball, in part by documenting its role as a station on the Underground Railroad during the Civil War.
- ✦ **2014 Delta Award** –Presented to P. Michael Jones for his work as a local historian, and as the founder of the General John A. Logan Museum of which he has been its Director for 20+ years. He coauthored *The Life and Times of Major General John A. Logan*, coauthored and edited *Forgotten Soldiers: Murphysboro's African-American Civil War Veterans*, coauthored *Murphysboro, Illinois 150 Years, A Pictorial History 1843-1993*, and was historical consultant and co-producer of the half-hour documentary *Forgotten Soldiers: Murphysboro's African-American Civil War Veterans*.
- ✦ **Edible Book Festival** – An annual event in which people choose a book title or phrase and illustrate it using edible products. Categories included: the punniest, best book structure (Berry Potter and the Sorcerer's Scone), most edible, least edible, and the people's choice. This is a worldwide event that was open to projects created by people of all ages from the entire University, Carbondale, and surrounding communities.
- ✦ **U.S. Constitution Day** – It is a federal law that all public educational institutions celebrate the signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17th every year. This year Government Documents Librarian, Anna Xiong, and Political Papers Archivist, Walter Ray, organized an event that included a debate by the nationally recognized SIU debate team on the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- ✦ **New Blankets' Artist-in-Residence**, Katja Vetter of Amsterdam, Netherlands, gave a live demonstration and workshop. Vetter works with pure data involving math, computer science, narration, and music in creating her art.
- ✦ **Appreciation lunch for the Library Faculty and Staff**
- ✦ **Funded** –
  - ✦ Charging station for smart phones, tablet computers and other personal electronic devices.
  - ✦ Cart for the 3-D printer and scanner
  - ✦ Stand for the preliminary architectural model of Morris Library