

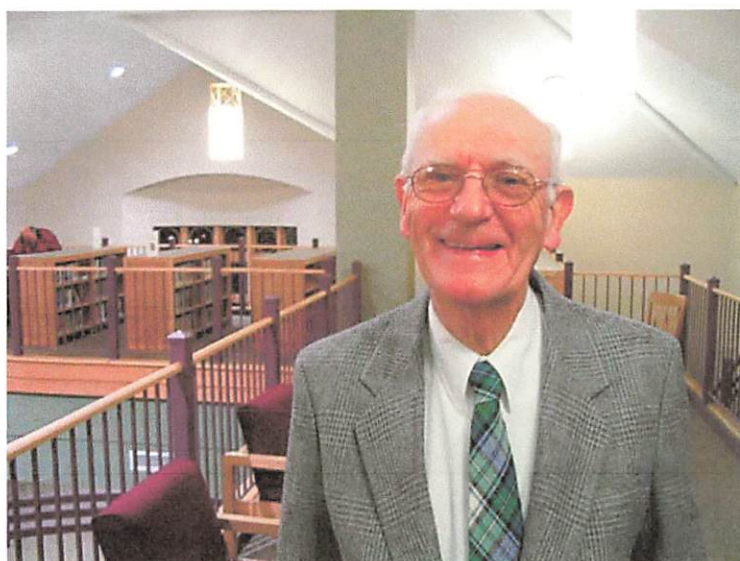


Hours:  
Mon to Fri 10-8  
Sat 10-5  
Sun 2-5  
Closed Sun in  
the Summer

## July/August/September

## 2013

**In Memory of Sam Dickieson**  
**See inside for the full story!**



**Friends**

**Bling Fling!**

**Friday, September 20th**

**5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Seneca Falls Library**

The Friends of the Seneca Falls Library needs costume jewelry, both men's and women's, for a fundraiser on September 20, 2013.

Rings, earrings, watches, bracelets, necklaces, cuff links, toe rings, anklets, tie tacks, pins/broaches and hat pins can be dropped off at the library until Wednesday, September 18.

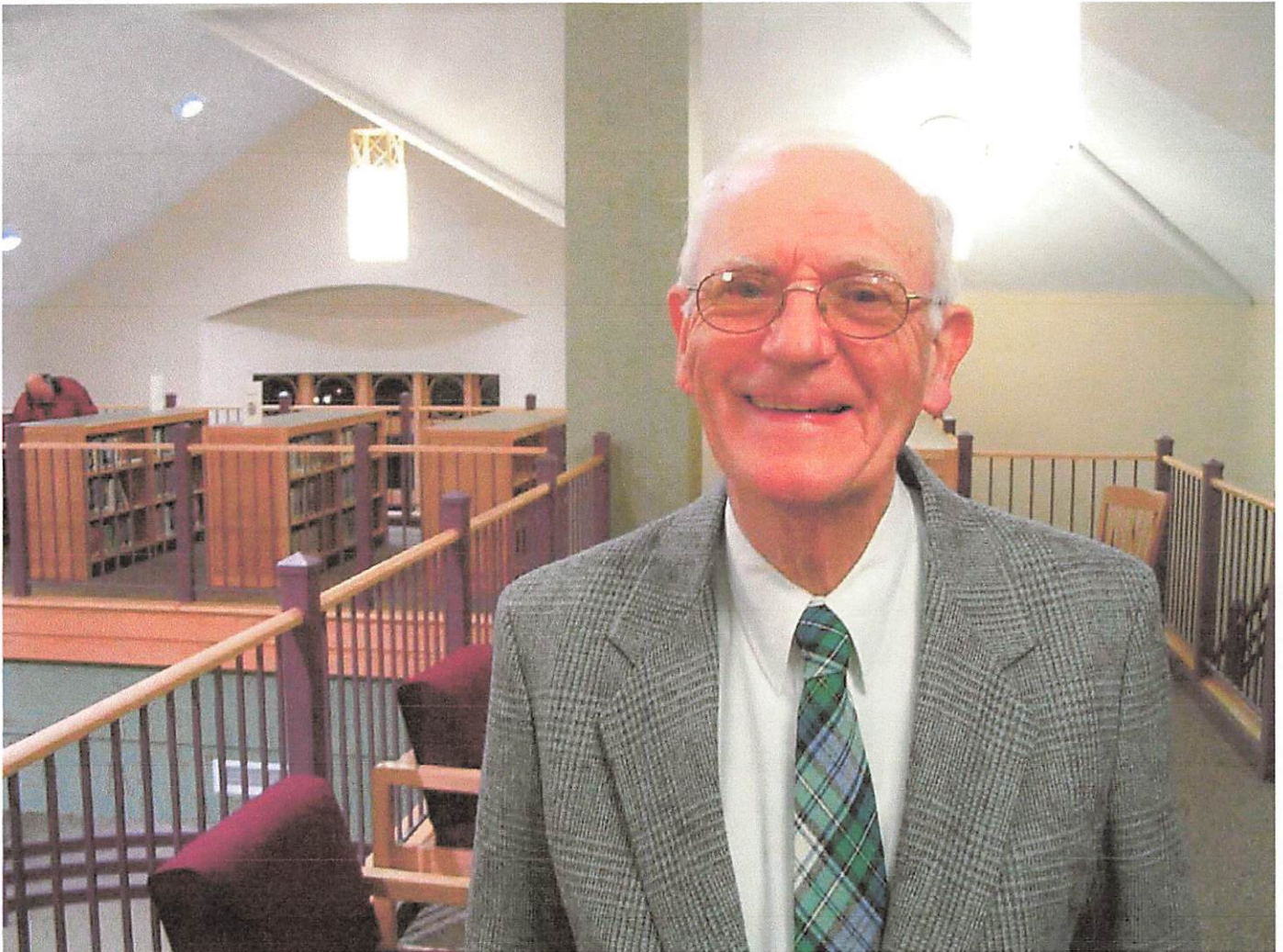
We will also include men's and women's wallets, purses/pocketbooks, scarves and hats.

No items that are badly worn or broken will be put in the sale.

Call 315-568-8265 ext 4 for more information, or email: [mmrobbins@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mmrobbins@rochester.rr.com).

Please join us on September 20th! We will have wine and cheese and lots to shop for!

## **Longtime Library Board Member And Advocate Sam Dickieson Died July 2 At The Age of 89.**



For years, Sam was a daily presence at the library – delivering the mail, attending his weekly Myndwich meeting or just checking up on things.

The former Mynderse Academy science teacher joined the Mynderse Library's board of trustees in 1968 and became the board's president in 1997. He served in that role until 2002 – just before the library moved to its larger, more modern facility at 47 Cayuga St.

As library staff and board members reflect on Sam, it's that dream of a new library that is mentioned time and again.

Sam Dickieson's dream became a reality in large part because of his persistence and his charm.

Past president Gretchen Koch noted that Sam's dream to build a new community library started years, if not decades, before the board decided to move forward with plans for a new library.



"Sam was convinced that Seneca Falls would one day build a new library. He kept in contact with many of his former students and over the years their contributions to Sam's vision became a 'New Library Fund.' When the board finally decided that we would begin the planning for our building, Sam had almost \$50,000 in contributions already banked! Sam's confidence and vision were the starting point for what the community enjoys today," Koch said.

Trustee Emeritus Ed Chase, who recently turned 90 and served many years with Sam on the board, said without his commitment and leadership there would be no new Seneca Falls Library today.

"I still remember Sam slamming his fist on the table and saying, 'We have to build a new facility for the Library,'" Chase recalled. "We had just completed an extensive search for a building or space within a building in the village for relocation of the library. We all questioned the ability to raise the funds for a new building, but Sam was adamant that we had to do it."

Under Sam's leadership, the library reached its \$3 million construction goal. He was named the Finger Lakes Library System's Trustee of the Year in 2006 and received its distinguished service award.

Library Director Michael Caraher remembers Sam as someone he could always count on. He, too, said Sam's ability to raise money and convince others of his dream was his lasting legacy.

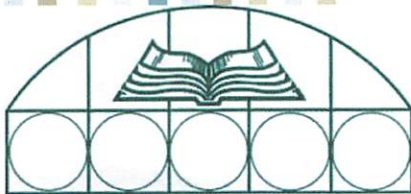
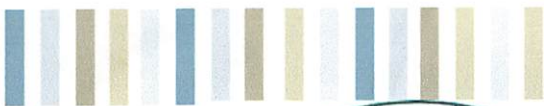
"It started with the letter every month to a new class of students asking for start-up money for the new building and the total surprise at how much he was able to raise," Caraher said. "Then there was the time before we had the current building site and he was trying to talk the Town of Seneca Falls into giving us the land next to the old town office building.

"He showed up at the old library one day and said that he had borrowed the machine used to mark the high school football field and we were going to check that site to see if it was large enough to build on. There he was measuring off the site as I followed along behind with the field marker. It was declared large enough and reported to the town, but the town did not want us building on that site, so they offered to buy us another site. The present location was selected, a much better site."

Sam was a gifted teacher so it's no surprise he directed some of his efforts in retirement to creating a place where community members -- young and old -- can learn. In July, the month he died, the library saw 4,500 of its holdings circulated or renewed, and the number of visitors passing through its doors clocked in at 7,919 — many of them children in the popular summer reading program.

Current board President Karen McNamara said Dickieson's efforts are worth remembering and emulating.

"Sam's steadfast dedication to carrying on, supporting and enabling grass-roots efforts of many community members, agencies and organizations, especially the library, to provide facilities, materials, programming, and experiences which foster life-long learning, and enrichment in the lives of all community members, and visitors, is to be modeled," she said.



Seneca Falls Library

## DONOR FORM

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The Seneca Falls Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is  
tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Are you interesting and  
interested in the world  
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Join a weekly discussion  
group that discusses anything  
and everything around you!

No rules, except keeping a  
civil tongue.

Interruptions accepted and  
encouraged.

Participants may disagree  
with each other, but will listen  
to you!

**Myndwich** meets every  
Thursday from noon until  
2:00PM at the Seneca Falls  
Library!

Coffee, cake and cookies  
served.

Want to join **The Friends of  
the Seneca Falls Library**?  
Come to one of our meetings  
and find out what we are all  
about! We meet the 3rd  
Tuesday of the month at 7:00  
PM at the Library. You can  
also email Michelle at:  
[mmrobins@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mmrobins@rochester.rr.com)  
for more information.