

FRIENDS' NEWS

July 2015

Friends of the Surprise Libraries, Arizona

REPTILE ADVENTURES DRAWS MORE THAN 300

Richard Ihle's "Reptile Adventures," financed by a summer reading grant from Friends of the Surprise Libraries, drew more than 300 participants on July 9. The show, a dazzling mix of Ihle's educated patter with reptile specimens from around the world, drew rapt attention from young readers. After the show, the youngsters stormed the Library to check out a wide variety of reptile books. Highlight of the show was a boa constrictor named Teresa who was, in turn, petted by a line of children who filled most of the library's community room.



Richard Ihle demonstrates one of a series of reptiles from around the world in his "Reptile Adventures".



FRIENDS' PLACE OFFERS NEW BAGS



Friends of the Surprise Libraries Vice President, Laurel Sund displays one of the new book bags that will go on sale at the bookstore for \$2.

Specially styled book bags will go on sale at Friends' Place, Funded by a City of Surprise Community Outreach Program Grant in the amount of \$2,000. The neat and sturdy bags went through a rigorous design procedure before the final product was accepted. They will sell for \$2 each at the bookstore desk and will be awarded to Friends volunteers at the Volunteer Appreciation event in November.

<u>COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE 2003</u>	
Total Gifts to Surprise Libraries.....	\$184,480.25
Total grants to local schools.....	\$156,233.48
Dysart Education Foundation Grant.....	\$8,000.00
Bookmark Contest.....	\$12,999.29
Other gifts.....	\$16,428.21
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY....	\$384,341.23

BOOK STORE SALES INCOME FOR 2015 REACHES HIGHEST SIX MONTHS IN FRIENDS' HISTORY

Book sale income for the first six months of 2015 totaled an amazing \$29,116; \$820 more than the same period in 2014. Membership Fees were \$210. Total Friends' income was \$29,421. Sales during each of the five months from February through June set records as the highest months ever. Friends' President Alyson Cline credited the increasing expertise of the organization's volunteers resulting in the ever continuing record income. Also contributing was a two-week special sale in May.