

## Donations at Club Meeting on Friday, September 14 Net Approximately 60 Books

First, thanks to the 25 members present at the Club Meeting on Friday for contributing \$62 plus change for the purchase of books at the Annual Sale of the Friends of the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library. Those of us who lead the reading and discussion sessions at the Shawnee County Juvenile Detention Center know how much these books mean to the youth there. This continuing generosity supplements our official grant of \$200 for the purchase of new books for the Center's Library. Reading has become an important part of the Center's program and these contributions will be appreciated by the male and female residents ages 11 to 17.

Second, once again this year, Member Ken Kerle, took time on Saturday morning to visit the annual sale of the Topeka -Shawnee County Library where he reviewed paperback books available in the youth section and made purchases with the funds we provided. Ken transferred one large box and a large bag of books to me today that I will take to the Juvenile Detention Center this Friday when I go to read so that they may be processed and put into circulation.

A quick look at the books reveals an impressive collection of contemporary and classic books on a wide range of subjects including baseball, sports generally, mysteries, biographies, ghost stories which the kids really love, and stories about youth in today's world. Once again, I will ask that the volunteer coordinator at the Center have each book stamped as being a gift from the Downtown Optimist Club. This not done to boast about our good works but to reinforce our primary message to the residents that people in the community care about them.

So, once again, thanks to Ken Kerle for his efforts for the past five years and our members who continue to make these annual trips to the Library sale possible. Ted Heim