

To: The Friends of the Library

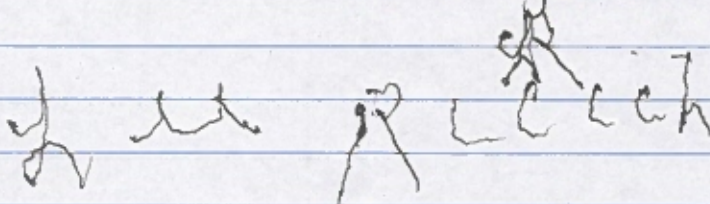
Dear friends,

It is a pleasure to use the word "friends" in my salutation and mean it for more than a greeting. The kindness that you have shown to my family and me last Saturday was heartwarming and appreciated.

Rolling through the entrance and into the foyer was a surprise to me beyond any expectation. Seeing those smiling faces and hearing the Applause made me ask, perhaps too loud, "For me?". And yes, at what seemed to be a playful moment at a recent Board meeting, where it was decided that I should get some recognition of the randomness of my involvement in the wonderful community that I have shared with you through my words.

Although I admit to some apprehension when seated as part of the great circle that formed at the entrance, I quickly recognized when I saw Sve Paulsen as host that all will soon be well.

Thank you and love,



(Lee Birch)