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Trivia contest puts minds on library fund-raising

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What did Lizzie Borden, Napoleon, and Titian have in common?

What famous American landmark is constantly moving backward?

Who was awarded the first gold record?

With these and 61 other questions the Friends of the Frisco Public Library turned fund-raising into a trivial pursuit Saturday.

Eleven teams competed in the Friends first annual trivia contest at the First United Methodist Church in Frisco. Competition was fierce as Mayor Maher Maso acted as master of ceremonies and also read the questions.

Members of The New Arrivals are the first reigning trivia champions in Frisco.

"I attribute our success to our wide age range," team captain Christine Saville said.

"Also we're no good at spelling bees. We're terrible spellers," team member Kris Wilson-Potter added.

The 64 questions read in eight rounds of eight questions each covered a wide variety of topics. To win the contest it would have helped to know something about history, geography, movies, literature, sports, and a number of other topics.

Theda Page Brice, president of the Friends of the Frisco Public Library, said she thought the event was fabulous.

"We generated a lot of interest in the library and people had fun," Page Brice said. "They didn't have to study to participate. They could just come and have fun. I had fun. We're already planning for next year."

Not having to study was a reference to the spelling bee the Friends of the Library held every year for more than a decade. Many teams, when they got the list would divide it up among team members to study, and competition among teams was intense.

Last year members of the Friends decided to try something different for this year's event. Competition among teams was equally as intense, as people discussed the answers in low tones so no one else would overhear their answers.

After each round and the answer sheets from each team were collected, Maso would read the answers to the questions. That's when a lot of cheering and commiserating could be heard among team members.

The loudest sound of regret was from teams who had originally written the correct answers to questions and then changed them to end up with the incorrect answers.

Friends member and past president Judy Clark credits members of the Little Elm Friends of the Library with all of the help they provided. The Little Elm Friends have been holding a trivia contest every year for more than a decade.

"We didn't do as many things as they do. This year we thought we'd start small," Clark said.

The Little Elm Friends of the Library team called themselves The Outsiders.

Clark said the Frisco Friends trivia event did not bring in as much money as they had hoped, but it got the library's name out there.

"We've had nothing but good comments," she said. "We definitely want to do this next year."

Frisco Friends of the Library members Jan Fischer and Sandra Gass wrote the questions. Here are three answers: 1. They were redheads. 2. Niagra Falls. 3. Perry Como.

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