



FriendsNews

The Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Friends of the Library

President's Message

Happy Holidays,

We have welcomed three new board members since our last newsletter, Margaret Haneberg, Rosemary Baxter and Dolores Soll. We are thrilled and very appreciative of their interest and active participation.

Several board members have completed their terms and are no longer on the Board. If some of you are interested in joining the Board, we meet the first Tuesday of every month in the Library conference room on the third floor. Our meetings are open to all and are scheduled from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Please feel free to attend or contact one of the current board



the Library and our community.

As you can tell by the information posted in this newsletter, the Board continues to be very engaged and busy. One exciting event we introduced this past spring is Friends Tuesday, our second Tuesday of the month paperback book sale. This event was introduced by board member Laura Lehmann. It has served as a nice opportunity to offer books for a great price and has given us an

members if you would like more information. Board membership is a very satisfying way to help

opportunity to increase our visibility – one of our key strategic goals.

Speaking of our goals for the year, we have implemented a new membership record keeping system thanks to our new 1st Vice President, Margaret Haneberg. This has allowed us to change our membership renewal policy and to make it easier to understand.

In addition, this new system allowed us to analyze our goal of increased membership. We are pleased to report that this year our new membership is up 44% and renewing membership is up 13%.

Please enjoy this newsletter, and we thank you very much for your support and membership in the SLO Friends of Library.

Ken Barclay

We need your Email Address

Beginning with this newsletter, a printed copy will be sent only to members who have specifically requested one. Printed copies will be available at the Friends Counter near the entrance to the SLO Library.

Digital copies are available at slofol.org. If you did not receive an email notification of the availability of this newsletter, send an email to email@slofol.org with your name in the subject line.

Time to Renew

As we come to the end of 2014, it is time to renew your membership in the SLO Friends of the Library. Remember, the dues from your membership go directly to fund our

projects, SLO Library programs and the acquisitions we provide the Library.

Renew now and you will not have to worry about renewing during

2015. And this will ensure that you will be able to attend the early entry day of our Annual Book Sale on March 5, 2015.

Click to renew:; www.slofol.org.

36th Annual Book Sale

Put March 5, 2015, on your calendar as the opening night of our Annual Book Sale held at the Veterans Hall. Based upon donations to date, this may be our largest book sale ever. You don't want to miss this event.

To donate books or other media, contact Paul Murphy at (805) 544-3033 or email us, books@slofol.org.

New Membership Payment Policy

Beginning immediately, our membership payment policy is changed to the following:

- Memberships are valid for a calendar year - the 12 month period from January 1 through December 31.
- New membership payments made in January through November apply to that calendar year.
- New membership payments made in December apply to the remainder of that year plus the following calendar year.
- Renewal payments will apply to the calendar year following the last membership year.

News from the Library

The year 2014 brought many exciting changes to the San Luis Obispo County Library system. To better serve the public, library hours were expanded and changed throughout the system. The three regional libraries in San Luis Obispo, Arroyo Grande, and Atascadero are now open six days a week and offer evening hours Monday through Thursday.

The fee for requesting materials from SLO libraries and other Black

Gold Consortium libraries was eliminated, a change that gives patrons access to many more collections without charge.

The San Luis Obispo Library Branch continues to grow and improve, thanks in large part to the SLO Friends of the Library. Here are some of the activities that the Friends support, helping to make the library a dynamic community resource:



Kay Rader,

Regional Library Manager for Coastal Libraries and Branch Manager, SLO Library Branch

New Books for Adult Readers

Bestsellers and recent releases are in high demand throughout the library system. With Friends support, the library is able to purchase additional copies of many of these titles as Express Books. Express Books cannot be put on "hold" and have a shorter checkout period than other books, making them more available to SLO Library patrons.

Here is a selection of recently purchased Express Books:

- ***Personal*** by Lee Child
- ***Deadline: A Virgil Flowers Novel*** by John Sandford
- ***Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*** by Atul Gawande
- ***Killing Patton: The Strange Death of World War II's Most Audacious General*** by Bill O'Reilly
- ***Burn*** by James Patterson
- ***In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette*** by Hampton Sides
- ***Pay Any Price: Greed, Power, and Endless War*** by James Risen
- ***The Job*** by Janet Evanovich and Lee Goldberg
- ***Nora Webster: A Novel*** by Colm Toibin

Children's and Teen Activities

The Friends enhance the services of the Youth Services Department in many ways, including providing refreshments and other items for story times and the Teen Book Club. The *Annual Teddy Bear Tea* is entirely funded by the Friends.

This year's tea will be held on **Saturday, December 13, at 10:30 a.m.**, featuring ELSA as a special guest. Children ages 3–10 are invited to dress up and bring their Teddy Bears.



2015 Adult Winter Reading Program

The number of patrons signing up for the Adult Winter Reading Program continues to increase each year. The program runs from January 15 through April 15. Friends help purchase prizes and books to support the theme “Hot Reads for Cold Nights: Earth Edition.” Readers may choose from eight categories including environmental issues affecting California, national parks and films about nature.



Arts Live at the Library

Thanks to a grant to the SLO Friends the Library of almost \$18,000 from the Harold J. Miossi Charitable Trust, we will be able to offer **Arts Live at the Library** in support of performing arts education. The grant will be used to provide opportunities for young people to learn about performing arts by attending performances and using the library's resources. A special effort will be made to include members of low-income families, disadvantaged children, and children with disabilities.



The gift will enable the library to enrich its collections of performing arts resources, including a collection of hands-on performing arts and demonstration

instruments. From December through April, young people will be able to participate in the PAL program, a Performing Arts Literacy Program, designed to encourage learning about the performing arts.

Beginning in December, the library will present a series of performing arts programs, all free and open to everyone. Programs begin at 10:30 a.m.

- **Ashley Brown's Musical Puppet Show**, Saturday December 27
- **B'rer Rabbit and Other Trickster Tales**—Boxtales Theatre Co., Saturday January 3
- **SLO Ballet Theatre Performance**, Saturday February 14
- **Hunk-ta-Bunk-ta Musical Party for Kids**, Saturday March 14
- **SLO Symphony Musical Petting Zoo**, Tuesday April 7
- **SLO Opera Live for Little Guys**, Wednesday April 8
- **PCPA presents "Tomas and the Library Lady"** Play, Friday April 10
- **Central Coast Children's Choir**, Saturday April 11

New Movies and Movie Times

The “Watch a Great Book Series” is a favorite program and draws diverse audiences. For example, the recent showing of “Monuments Men” attracted many art, architecture, and history students and fans.

Friends fund the library’s express DVD collection and help purchase new Blu-rays, movies, and music including new releases such as these recently ordered titles:

- Downton Abbey: Season 5
- Herzog: the Collection
- The Skeleton Twins
- The Giver
- Boyhood
- True Detective: Season One
- X-Men: Days of Future Past
- Mr. Peabody and Sherman
- Snowpiercer

Book Club in a Box

One of the library’s most popular services, Book Club in a Box program, offers book kits that include multiple copies of books plus background information about the author and title. Many book clubs check out the kits to use for their reading selections. This year, the Friends increased funding for this growing collection.

Here are some new Book Club In a Box titles coming in January 2015:

- *Boys in the Boat*
- *Eighty Days: Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Bisland*
- *Empty Mansions*
- *Monuments Men*
- *Yellow Birds* (Cuesta Book of the Year)

Get to Know the Library Staff

The next time you visit the library, please stop by to meet the staff. We appreciate getting to know you and learning how we can improve your library experience.



Shawnita August
Circulation Department

Shawnita was born and raised in Alabama. She has lived on the Central Coast for 10 years and has worked in the library since 2005. Shawnita loves to travel whenever possible. When not traveling, she enjoys reading books that allow her to visit the most distant parts of the world. She is also a fan of historical fiction.

Shawnita has an artistic side that can sometimes be seen around the library, especially in her creative book displays. She always enjoys meeting new people who come into town and stop by the SLO library.

Donna Aragon
New staff member
Circulation Department

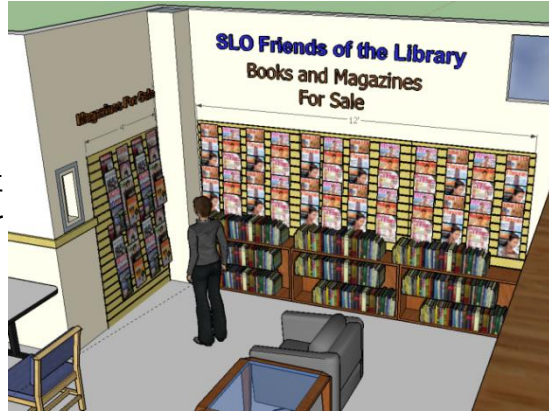
Donna previously worked at the library and is very happy to be back! Donna is a graduate of Cal Poly. She enjoys reading science fiction and fantasy and re-reading mysteries by Agatha Christie and Josephine Tey. Some of her favorite authors are Tim Powers, Neil Gaiman, and Ray Bradbury.



SLO Friends of the Library Book and Magazine Corner

If you regularly visit our racks of like-new previously read books and magazines for sale, you know they are now on the far left wall (east) as you enter the Library, just past the computer bay. This corner will become the **Friends Corner**. We are in the process of installing shelves, racks, and signage to make it more accessible for you. We hope this makes it easier to browse and find the book / magazine you want.

These books and magazines are donated to the Friends by library patrons; volunteers price and



shelve them. We wish to take this opportunity to thank all who bring books and magazines to us and to those who give their time to this ongoing endeavor.

If you have books and/or magazines you would like to donate, please drop them in/on the table just as you enter the foyer of the building (there is a square table/bin on your left as you enter the foyer to the Library) or you may hand them to a Library staff member.

Current hardback books sell for \$2.00, trade (large-size) paperbacks are \$1.00, and small paperbacks and magazines are 50¢.

Friends Tuesday Paperback Book Sale

The second Tuesday of the month is special at the SLO library. It is the day we host a paperback book sale. We carry all types of fiction and nonfiction as well as many classics.

All paperbacks are 25¢ each or 5 for \$1.00. Children's books are 25¢ for hardback and 2 for 25¢ for paperbacks or board books.

The December sale will be on the **9th of the month**. We will be there all day—from opening at 10:00 a.m. to closing at 7:00 p.m. Check it out!

DVD Rentals:

Fall is here and it's time to catch up on the movies. Come to the SLO Library and check out our DVD rental collection. Some of the newest titles we have available include **The Fault in Our Stars, Fargo: Season 1, X-Men Days of Future Past, Hercules, Maleficent, and 22 Jump Street.**

Beginning January 1, 2015, the Library will no longer be renting DVDs. These DVDs will be added to the express DVD collection whose checkout period will be two weeks and for which there will be no holds.

In-School Reading Program



The In-School Reading Program is underway again this year, its sixth, with 19 volunteers working with students at Hawthorne and C.L. Smith schools. This year we have partnered with the American

Association of University Women (AAUW) so we could expand the program to C.L. Smith. We have volunteers in Grades 1-2 at Smith and K-3 at Hawthorne. We have many returning volunteers and several new ones as well.

Our volunteers go into the classroom and work with students one-on-one to help improve their reading skills. In the spring, we give books to take home to all the students in the classes in which we have volunteered. The program is

very successful and is enjoyed by students, teachers, and volunteers alike.

Our book purchase has been supported by Kiwanis of San Luis Obispo De Tolosa, Altrusa of San Luis Obispo, SLO Friends of the Library, San Luis Sourdough, and Mary Howell. We greatly appreciate their generosity!

If you are interested in more information, please contact Linda Thompson (linda@puzzledparentspress.com).

Outreach to Homeless

In early 2013, the SLO Friends of the Library launched the **Homeless Outreach Program** to bring a broad range of reading materials, including more newly published books, directly to San Luis Obispo's homeless men, women, and children.

Our goals include encouraging family literacy, enriching clients' knowledge, adding to their enjoyment of life, and reaching a potentially underserved population. We designed an extremely low- to no-cost program: labor is all volunteer, and media are selected from the literary donations that the Friends receive throughout the year from our generous community members.

To efficiently reach the maximum number of our city's homeless population, we partnered with the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. which manages two local homeless facilities that provide services 365 days per year



The Prado Day Center serves up to 120 clients daily, offering a broad range of assistance, including showers/laundry facilities, a reading/writing area, phone and mail service, employment listings, résumé computers, housing referrals, health screenings, breakfast and lunch, and a children's playroom/yard.

The Maxine Lewis Shelter is a 50-bed overnight facility, providing dinner, showers, mail /phone /message service, reading and audio-visual materials, information and referrals, and access to case management.

Our volunteers visit both Prado and Maxine Lewis on an as-needed

basis to remove dated materials and restock shelves with a broad range of fiction and nonfiction books for teens and adults.

Homeless clients have expressed special interest in science fiction and the classics. Books on health, self-help, and biographies are popular as well. We also provide charming children's books to be enjoyed by families, including like-new books for CAPSLO's "Pajama Program"—a special program to give children at the overflow family sleeping location a new book and new pajamas for a cozy night's experience.

Each time we visit the shelters, we encourage clients to feel free to take whatever books they find of interest—it's been a great pleasure to find empty book shelves when visiting the shelters to restock and an even greater pleasure to see clients lining up at the newly stocked shelves as we leave!!

The 2015 Annual Luncheon May 7, 2015, at Madonna Inn

We encourage you to plan to attend our annual meeting and luncheon. We will celebrate our achievements and hear from our Keynote Speaker.

Show your support of the SLO Friends of the Library and learn more about the work we do. Watch for a future announcement about the speaker and our menu selections; both are guaranteed to

delight you! You will be able to make your reservations in April 2015.

Members and their guests greatly enjoyed the venue and the delicious meal at last spring's meeting, so we are returning to the Madonna Inn.

Last year's speaker, local author Felicia Prekaris Brown, held us spellbound describing events from her inspirational book *God Give Us*

Wings, which detailed her family's harrowing escape from Lithuania during WW II.

Mark your calendar to attend the luncheon in the Main Ballroom, Madonna Inn, 100 Madonna Rd, from 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Sally Hillis at luncheon@slofol.org after January 2015.



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For more information about the SLO Friends of the Library, visit our website, www.slofol.org.