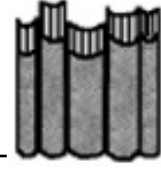


Ex Libris



Newsletter of the San Buenaventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Summer 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kathy Thomson

This past spring, the city of Ventura, the Library Advisory Commission and the Friends of the Library delved into city history to ascertain the original color of E. P. Foster Library in preparation for painting. This research unearthed some interesting archival history of the San Buenaventura Friends of the Library.

Did you know that Friends of the Library groups have been around since Ben Franklin's time? Citizen groups would gather and distribute books to other citizen groups. It is great to see that this long held tradition is alive and well in Ventura.

In 1970, their first full year, the SBFOL had 82 members and raised \$577 for libraries. Today we have almost 300 members and approximately 75 regular volunteers. Through March 31st, book sales brought in \$53,000, plus donations, dues, memorials and tributes, all contributing to meeting current and future library needs within the city.

We invite you to be a part of history in celebrating and preserving libraries. If you want to help us in any way as we 'redistribute books to other citizen groups' or if you recognize an area where we are ineffective, please contact me at 658-2248. Let me know if you would like to assist with a short term, seasonal, intermittent or special project. We have a place for everyone and every skill level.

And the result of the research into the historical color of E.P. Foster library? The City Council unanimously passed the color palette recommended by the Library Advisory Commission - parchment on the building with historical green as trim. Berta Steele will be working with Jack Schafer, Chair of the Historical Preservation Committee on finalizing the color scheme. Denise Sindelar from the City Staff is working on the specifications for the paint which will then be forwarded to the County who will be responsible for painting the building.



Brava, Mary
and Best Wishes!

I just returned from my first visit to the New York Public Library. It was a rainy day and I came into the library uncertain where to go. A lovely librarian greeted me and said, "Are you a visitor?" When I replied, yes, she said, "I bet you wanted to see our Reading Room." She directed me to the beginning of a wonderful visit to an amazing library.

Here in Ventura our E.P. Foster City Librarian, Mary Stewart, has assisted many of our library visitors over the years. Mary will be retiring June 30, 2012. Mary's leadership and expertise these past few years helped us through some very challenging times.

Mary helped us to merge the Wright and Foster Collections and make the second floor Children and Teen Library a welcoming and enriching environment for youth and families. Mary also helped direct the implementation of the 9 Point Plan for Foster improvements, contributed to the enhancement of the building's interior, facilitated the upgrade of the Topping Room, and inspired the consolidated library staff to form an effective team.

Mary is that kind, welcoming presence directing visitors to our library and city services. She has worked on the homeless task force, and patrons of all ages have benefited from her gentle spirit and vast knowledge. Mary has also been a strong advocate for patrons, served on the CAPS Board networking with community leaders, and attended and spoke at many public meeting on behalf of our libraries.

SBFOL extends our best wishes to Mary in her retirement. She will be dearly missed.

-- Marianne Coffey

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

SBFOL is planning some great programs for the summer and fall. Richard Senate, local historian and raconteur, entertained us at our annual membership meeting in March. We have invited him to return for four historical lectures scheduled for the Topping Room from July through December. These newly developed lectures will take us from Thousand Oaks to the Olivas Adobe, and from Old California to present day in Mr. Senate's unique style.

Make your reservations now for these fascinating tales of by-gone times. Refreshments will be provided.

RSVP by e-mail or calling Marcia Ortiz at mrortiz@earthlink.net
643-4281

Also stay tuned for our membership drive kick off party, which will be held in October and promises to be like no other event we've ever had.

Richard Senate's Ventura

*Ventura County's first and only theme park:
Jungleland*

Saturday, July 14th 4pm-5pm

Lost treasures of Ventura County

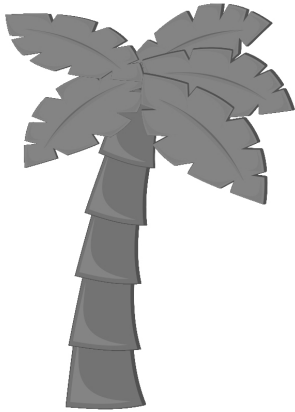
Saturday, August 11th 4pm-5pm

Myths and Monsters of Ventura County

Saturday, September 8th 4pm-5pm

Fiestas of Old California

December: details to follow



**Do you enjoy planning special events?
Are you an organized, people person?
Do you agree that we need people with new ideas?**

Please contact Marcia Ortiz, Membership Chair at 643-4281 or mrortiz@earthlink.net, for information on how you can become more involved in FOL.

The Membership Committee is also looking for a detailed, organized, computer literate volunteer to assist in membership data entry.

Keep up to date with the Friends' activities at our website:
www.sanbuenaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org
and like us on Facebook.

* MEMORIALS *

*in memory of Elizabeth
Budworth
from
Larry & Joyce Kirkpatrick*

*in memory of Gene Simmons
from
Newell & Dotty Gragg*

OFFICERS

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Kathy Thomson

VICE PRESIDENT

Berta Steele

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Joanne Fields

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Gary Stephens

MEMBERSHIP

Marcia Ortiz

BOOKSTORE MANAGER

Colleen Gallo

COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Olson

Ventura Readers Book Group

You are invited to join your book-loving friends at the Topping Room of E.P. Foster Library every first Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon. This group reads a variety of fiction and non-fiction.

In July, we will discuss the play *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. The selection for August is *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett, and for September, *The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris* by David McCullough.

For more information, contact Marcia at 643-4281 or mrortiz@earthlink.net

***Thank you for
your generous donation***

Mayor Mike & Linda Tracy
Nan Drake
Marilynn Batelaan
Mary Pease
Mary Anne Powers
Karen Dowty



Ventura County Libraries
Summer Reading Program
2012

Ventura County Libraries have two exciting Summer Reading Programs held from June 10 through August 12, 2012:
DREAM BIG for grades K-6 and *OWN THE NIGHT* for grades 6-12.
Teens also may volunteer at their local library branch to help run the programs.

All aspects of the Summer Reading Program are open to youth of all ages and are free of charge! Each branch library has planned storytimes, events, games and demonstrations.

**E. P. FOSTER LIBRARY
2012**

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM
SPECIAL EVENTS**

THURSDAY, JUNE 21st, @ 3:30pm
*SUMMER READING KICK-OFF
NIFTY BALLOON SHOW*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27th @ 3:30pm
PULSE DRUMMING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11th @ 3:30pm
OJAI RAPTORS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18th @ 3:30pm
SILLY SCIENCE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25th @ 3:30pm
REPTILE FAMILY

Saticoy Library
Summer Reading Kick-Off

Nifty Balloon Show
Wednesday, June 27
3:00 p.m.

Avenue Library
Summer Reading Events

World through Word & Crafts
Thursdays, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Answer "Geo-Quiz" each week for
prize drawing

July 7: Wii Sports
July 28: Movie Matinee

A large graphic with a black background and white text. The title "OWN THE NIGHT" is in a very large, bold, white, sans-serif font at the top. Below the title, there is a list of activities and information. The text is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The background of the graphic has a pattern of overlapping circles of various shades of gray and white.

OWN THE NIGHT

**Come to the Ventura County Library Summer Reading for Teens!
June 10- August 12**

- Read dark novels or moonlight drenched romances, tales of the undead or crazy action adventures.
- Download hot new ebooks-free
- Read 15 hours and get a free flying disc. It glows in the dark. Suitable for romping with your werewolf at midnight.
- Teen volunteers may get community service credit and some pre-employment experience for the future. (KA CHING! \$\$)
- Connect with friends, or meet new ones at the free teen events at the library.

For the Friends of the Library,

it's pretty easy being green!



Have you ever heard the term "upcycling"? It refers to old products being given **MORE** value, not less. If what the Friends do with the donations they receive is not exactly upcycling, it is certainly putting those donations to their best and highest use.

The first option for a donated book is to be added to the library's collection. Small paperback books, like the Babysitter Club series, which are popular with teens and tweens will make their way to the library's shelves to replace tattered copies and be read many more times.

New technology allows us to pick through the donations for collectibles and books which can bring a higher price if offered to a wider audience. Volunteer Teddy Wood has a good eye for identifying books to scan electronically, using the ISBN. She can then check to see if those books are being offered through Amazon.com, the number of copies being offered and the price. San Buenaventura Friends of the Library now has a presence on Amazon. Teddy has sold collectibles and art and text books through Amazon for a much greater yield than would have been realized at a local sale.

The greatest volume of sales is still through the bookstore at E.P. Foster Library and the periodic book sales. When you shop there, you can congratulate yourself on getting a great bargain as well as being green and supporting your local libraries. The money raised purchases library materials and equipment and funds the summer reading program and year-round programs for children and youth. Donated paperback books are also "regifted" to the county jail. One generous patron also buys inexpensive children's books to leave at laundromats so that children there have something valuable to do with their time.

So you can see that when you donate books or buy books from the Friends of the Library, you make it easy for us to be green!

FIND THE FRIENDS ON AMAZON.COM

You, too, can shop at the San Buenaventura Friends of the Library storefront at Amazon.com. Look for collectibles and other unique titles at our online store.

The direct link to our Amazon site is:
<http://www.amazon.com/shops/A2JYAHUHFNJMH6>.

MEET US AT THE FOURTH OF JULY STREET FAIR



SBFOL will participate in the city's Fourth of July Street Fair. Meet us at E.P. Foster Library.

The festivities on Main Street go on from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We will have a selection of books for sale.



WHEN YOU DONATE: SOME GUIDELINES

Are the books clean and in good condition?

If they are hardbound fiction, how old? We do not sell many of these older books.

Does the donor believe that the books are sales-worthy?

Classics are always accepted and sell well, nearly regardless of the wear (within reason).

War, history, travel, western, and biographies sell well also.

Please, no magazines, encyclopedias, heavy bibles or dictionaries.

Any donation with any of the above condition problems might better be taken to thrift stores or another non-profit.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Two volunteers have withdrawn from active shifts at the store, but thankfully two new volunteers arrived to help fill the void. There are several volunteers with permanent shifts who will be vacationing this summer, so volunteers to fill those shifts would be very welcome!

Please email our bookstore manager, Colleen Gallo, Colleeng8548@sbcglobal.net

Library Strategic Plan Progress

At its May 7 meeting, the City Council accepted the proposed Library Strategic Plan on a 5 - 2 vote, with Jim Monahan and Neal Andrews voting against. Mr. Andrews would like to opt out of the County Library System and have the City run its own library system. At the suggestion of several Council members, evaluation criteria and methods of measuring outcomes will become a part of the implementation of the Strategic Plan. There was much interest in an East Ventura library presence and that will be a priority for the working group which will be appointed to implement the Plan. The County Library System is very cooperative and has already implemented or is in the process of implementing recommendations in the Plan.

The County Library Foundation is exploring funding sources for a Bookmobile which could be in operation before the end of the year. This is a stop-gap measure for East Ventura, but, at the least, there will be some library presence until a more permanent location can be established. Any permanent location will mean identifying sources of funding outside the City budget. This will be the focus of future community outreach efforts.

Read and Ride at the Fair

Students (K-8th grade) can read books in exchange for carnival ride passes. For every two books the student reads (and writes a brief summary), they receive 3 carnival ride passes from the Ventura County Fair.

The submission form is available at www.venturacountyfair.org (Click on the picture of the Ferris wheel). The form must be turned in by July 15.

LIBRARY TECH

Teen volunteers will help you cope with today's technology at E.P. Foster Library every third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon. Bring your gadgets to the library for some face to face tech support. Teens Teach Tech is a project of the Youth Activity Council of E.P. Foster Library.

If you know someone who might like to join the Youth Activity Council, or for more information, call (805) 648-2716 and ask for Star Soto or Jane Middleton.

Ventura County Library has over 5,000 eaudiobooks available to you through a database provider called OneClickdigital. OneClickDigital is offering training webinars which give instruction in how to use this service. You can participate in these webinars at home through your computer. You can register for a webinar through the library's website: www.vencolibrary.org. The next webinars will be given on Tuesday, June 26 from 12 noon to 1 pm and Tuesday, July 24 from 12 noon to 1 pm.

FAREWELL TO LIBRARIES' GREATEST FAN



Ray Bradbury, champion of public libraries and conductor of flights of imagination, departed this world on Tuesday, June 5. Many of his works are already classics, including **The Martian Chronicles** and **Fahrenheit 451**. He wrote **Fahrenheit 451** at the UCLA library at a time when, instead of computers, libraries were equipped with coin-operated typewriters.

He constantly reminded us of the value of libraries which he learned through experience as he has said: "I spent three days a week for 10 years educating myself in the public library, and it's better than college. People should educate themselves - you can get a complete education for no money. At the end of 10 years, I had read every book in the library and I'd written a thousand stories."

Mr. Bradbury came to our aid during the Save Wright Library campaign. In 2009, he appeared at Ventura College Theater to benefit the campaign. He enchanted us with stories from his long career in libraries, writing, television and film. We were very fortunate that he was able to greet his fans and autograph books (and t-shirts) after his talk.

According to Mr. Bradbury: "We are the miracle of force and matter making itself over into imagination and will. Incredible. The Life Force experimenting with forms. You for one. Me for another. The Universe has shouted itself alive. We are one of the shouts." Ray Bradbury's shout will surely resonate for all time.





P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

Calling all Members of San Buenaventura Friends of the Library!

We can always use more friends -- invite yours to join!

Lifetime Membership (\$1,000) Business (\$250) Sponsor (\$100)
 Family (\$30) Individual (\$20) Student (\$10)

Make checks payable to: SBFOL Send to: P.O. Box 403, Ventura, 93002

SBFOL Supports the public libraries of the City of Ventura in their delivery of library services, including:

- Purchase of library materials and equipment, e.g. books, CDs, DVDs, books on tape, bookcases
- Summer programs for children and youth
- Special programs, e.g. receptions, anniversaries, speakers
- Increase public awareness of legislation and other activities that may affect the delivery of library services

SBFOL is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization entirely directed by volunteers.

Name _____	New <input type="checkbox"/>
Address _____	Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>
Phone Number _____	Email _____ Gift <input type="checkbox"/>
I would like to volunteer in the following area(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sales <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Programs	