



# Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002  
Spring 2016

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Kathy Thomson

Last month, several Friends' members attended a celebration for volunteers at the RSVP luncheon in Oxnard. Amazingly, over 75,000 hours were logged by the dedicated retired seniors, including many of our own Friends of the Library volunteers.

Recently I read an article which stated that non-profits comprise 11 percent of the United States workforce and will contribute about 6 percent to GDP this year. In fact, the charitable segment surpassed the size of our national defense in 1993 and is still growing. Volunteers for these charitable groups number between four and ten million full time employees, depending on the guide by which this group is measured.

Of course, you already know that volunteers make extremely valuable contributions to the country and philanthropy is a driving force that fills many gaps in society. But are you aware that only 14 percent of contributions comes from foundations and 5 percent from corporations, whereas the remainder comes from individuals? Volunteers and charitable contributors are a mighty powerful force and a great asset to our country and the world.

So, while praising our volunteers, we must also treat them kindly. One way you can help is by being extremely judicious and prudent with any book donations that come our way. The library will unlikely place a book in the collection if it is more than five years old. Books we sell in the bookstore are usually from the years 2011 to present and in bookstore ready condition. Older titles may or may not be able to be used at our periodic sales, so we are asking that you prudently cull for items that could be readily resold. Please, no torn, mildewed, worn or damaged books. Large donations left overflowing at the donation bin make extreme amounts of extra work for our two book store managers.

We are greatly appreciative of your assistance in this area. Compliance will save many volunteer hours each month. If you are so inclined to offer assistance, please procure a bookstore assistant application in our bookstore at Foster Library. Many hands make light work and we can always use a few extra hands!



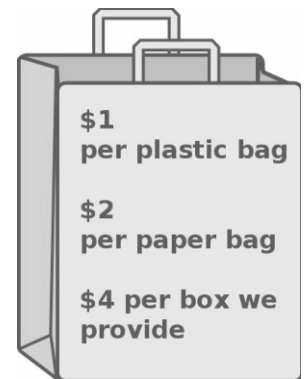
## BUCK-A-BAG BOOK SALE

Restock your bookshelves  
along with your groceries!

We provide the bag.

Fill a plastic bag and  
take home a books for just \$1.00.

Fill a larger paper bag  
and take it home for \$2.00.



We'll even provide a box which you can fill for \$4.00.

**Saturday, April 16**

**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**at the Vons  
Telegraph & Victoria**

### Ventura Friends of the Library Book Store

inside E.P. Foster Library

Open

Monday through Thursday:

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday :

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**\* MEMORIALS \***

*in memory of Betty Black  
from  
Leila Knight*



**A big thank you  
to the**

**Ventura Downtown Lions.**

**We couldn't have done it without you!**

The Downtown Lions wowed us with their hard work, enthusiasm and above all, the large number of volunteers who turned out to assist in every aspect of our January book sale. From set up on Friday until the last book was placed in the bulk buyer bin on Saturday afternoon, the Lions served with pride.

Many thanks to:

Ken Cozzens  
Jill Powell  
Diane Ellis  
Kathy Shurtleff  
Steve Shaw  
Joellen Flannigan  
Sandy Greenberg  
Chuck Cassy  
Mario Robinson  
Randy Jewell  
Rita Peterson  
Kevin Seelos  
Juergen Ohrt  
Joey Siddens  
Stan Yates  
Dan Lyon  
Ilona Scott

And a huge thank you to our membership chair, Sandy Greenberg, for coordinating this large group of community servants. The Friends certainly appreciate this partnership.

**CARL MOREHOUSE  
CHALLENGE DONORS**

Donald Belless

*Thank you  
Donald Belless  
for your extremely generous  
donations  
to meet the Carl Morehouse challenge  
and to the Capital Improvement Fund*

**Thank You**

*to our donors*

Sumiye Fukasawa & Janis Brown  
Stephanie Orr

*and to our members  
who renewed  
at the Sponsorship level*

Lila Atkisson  
Marilyn Batelaan  
David & Debbie Bayer  
Connie Casavan  
Austin & Mary Jo Coe  
Nan Drake  
Terence Foley & Kevin Hartigan  
Sumiye Fukasawa & Janis Brown  
Ruth Gallagher  
Sandra Greenberg  
Ronald G. Harrington  
Lavern Hoffman  
Theo Kretschmer  
Rosemarie Q. Magness  
Rose Adelle Marsh  
Donald F. Mills  
Lois C. Moynihan  
Ken & Sheri Oelschlager  
Tom & Mary Olson  
Mary Anne Powers  
Allan & Berta Steele  
Merilyn Thompson  
Carolyn Wood

**Share your enthusiasm for reading  
with your Friends!**

**BOOK CLUB # 1**

The first book club created by members of SBFOL is still looking for new members. Monthly meetings are held in members' homes. If you are an avid reader who enjoys sharing your reading experiences, please call Clydie Wright (805) 643-8204.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
BOOK DISCUSSION**

meets in the Topping Room on the 1st Saturday of the month, 10 am to noon and reads a variety of fiction and non-fiction titles.

The event is free and open to the public.

New members are always welcome to join the discussion!

For more information,  
call Marcia Ortiz 407-3510 or e-mail  
marciarenee@gmail.com.

**VENTURA FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT:**

Kathy Thomson

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

Marianne Coffey

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Joanne Fields

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:**

Jill Forman

**TREASURER:**

Gary Stephens

## Makerspaces at the Library

### *Makerspace Librarian, Antonio Apodaca*



**Antonio Apodaca demonstrating the 3D Printer at Foster Con**

With about a decade of public library experience, from page to administrator, Antonio is very excited to embrace the innovative role of Makerspace Librarian with Ventura County and Foster Library! In his former role with the Maricopa County Library District in Phoenix, Arizona, he organized outcome-based programs across 17 branches and coordinated a summer reading program for 62 libraries that had over 77,000 participants in 2015. Wearing many hats, Antonio was also the project lead on developing free and open source digital badging software, the head grant writer, the staff development manager, along with the lead on mobile makerspace kits and creative equipment labs. He recently relocated from Arizona with his lovely wife and two little girls and is honored to call Ventura County his home.

In case you're wondering, the "maker" movement is a new trend for public libraries, but has repeatedly surfaced throughout the years. As long as people have been making stuff, the spirit of makerspaces has been alive. The library is building on that concept, offering a physical place for people of all ages to share ideas and use creative technology, such as our laser 3D printers. Makerspaces are part DIY projects (Do It Yourself), part STEM practice (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and part community involvement.

Antonio aims to continue the spirit of making—celebrating discovery, ingenuity and learning for the sake of learning. In the Library LAB, he will facilitate the growth and impact of "maker" programs and reinforce connections with neighborhood partners. With the help of the whole team, he looks to embed the spirit of "making" in library services, collaborations and projects.

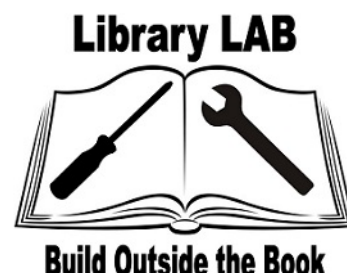


The "**MakerBox**" is making the rounds at Ventura County Library branches and other city libraries in the county, bringing elements needed to create something using new technology. Some of the newest technology — from 3D printing to LED circuitry — is now available thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the state, awarded through the Library Services and Technology Act, which is administered in California by the state librarian and supported federally by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Saticoy Library has held several MakerBox events on the first Thursday of the month, 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The next event is scheduled for Thursday, May 5.

At E.P. Foster, the **Library LAB** is open on Wednesdays 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Come by the library on Wednesday evenings to learn more about the 3D printer and laser cutter—or to use them yourself! Ask the library staff about what you need to bring to print or engrave an item of your own.

**Makeshop** is open at E.P. Foster on alternate Tuesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. On Tuesday, April 19, build a "No Wire" Circuit, using different conductive materials, an LED light, a small battery.



**Avenue Library, 606 North Ventura Avenue (805) 643-6393**  
**E. P. Foster Library, 651 East Main Street (805) 648-2716**  
**Saticoy Library 1292 Los Angeles Ave. (805) 671-5148**

The year 2016, besides marking the 150th Anniversary of the city of Ventura, also marks the centennial of the Ventura County Library System, which officially opened on January 1, 1916.

1916 2016

Ventura County Library

*Ventura County Library Centennial  
Celebration!*

WEDNESDAY - APRIL 20TH 4-7 PM

Celebrate the 100th year of your library with:

- Several historical talks
- Historical exhibits
- "Tell us your story" booth
- A glimpse into the next 100 years of VCL

Exhibit opens at 4pm - Speakers at 5:30pm

E.P. FOSTER LIBRARY TOPPING ROOM  
651 E MAIN ST, VENTURA, CA 93001

### From the archive:

#### VENTURA FREE LIBRARY TRUCK

A NEW DEPARTURE in library service has recently been inaugurated by Miss Elizabeth R. Topping of the Ventura County Free Library. The Board of Supervisors have given to the county library both a sedan and a truck to be used exclusively in library work. The use made of the truck is something new in California library work. Miss Topping had the truck equipped with specially built shelves



for books, with space within the body of the car for carriage of both furniture and books. The truck is used as a traveling branch library. The truck has a schedule of places to stop and persons are issued books from the truck's bookshelves. Ventura County has a number of oil camps. At these places the truck arrives at around 6:30 p. m. and issues books to the men. The mileage covered by this truck branch library is around one thousand miles per month. Miss Topping finds this manner of distributing books to country patrons much better than that of small branch libraries in country communities.

Western Journal of Education  
February 1936

### Ventura County Library Centennial Display at Avenue Library

Avenue Library is hosting a display highlighting the centennial of the Ventura County Library System. The display features interior and exterior photos of the Avenue branch from 1929 to present day. Very few institutions can speak to generations of service to a specific community. The display highlights this service over the years, while also looking to the next 100 years of service.

Staff posted a clipboard asking the community to share their memories of the library.



Keep updated at [www.sanbuenaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org](http://www.sanbuenaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org) and at our Facebook page

## Literacy for all at the Library

A great range of programs to encourage literacy are offered, beginning with the youngest listeners and readers.

**Early Literacy Classes**  
Ventura Area  
*Three, Two, Fun!*

These classes are a great way to introduce your child to early literacy and the library.

Join us every week for stories, poems, music, movement, a simple craft & fun!

Tuesdays - E.P. Foster Library - 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays - E.P. Foster Library - 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays - Avenue Library - 10:30 a.m.  
Thursdays - Saticoy Library - 11:00 a.m.

explore discover connect  
venvalibrary.org

A new puppet theatre is the latest addition to Foster children's area. With early literacy classes, Lego play events, dance parties, many new books and early learning center, we are growing readers and inspiring the imaginations of our little future Friends of the Library.



Jesse Coffey, 4, presents an animal puppet show to his grandmother at E.P. Foster's new puppet theatre.

Avenue Library is also adding manipulatives to encourage early literacy skills. In October, thanks to the Eaton trust, new bilingual materials were added to the collection.

Homework Centers provide free homework help for students K-12 at E.P. Foster, Avenue and Saticoy libraries on a first-come, first served basis. Students get help with free printing, computer access and research assistance. A volunteer at Avenue Library reports that one of her students was able to move from Special Education to a mainstream class through the support offered at the library.

**V E N T U R A**

# HOMework HELP

First-come, first-served homework assistance.

**Avenue Library** Monday - Thursday  
606 N. Ventura Ave. 3:30-5:30  
643-6393

**EP Foster Library** Tuesday & Thursday  
651 E. Main St. 3:00-5:00  
648-2716

**Saticoy Library** Monday - Thursday  
1292 Los Angeles Ave. 3:00-6:00

Tutoring Program sponsored by PROJECT at San Buenaventura

venvalibrary.org / sanbuenaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org



### Paws for Reading

aims to improve the literacy skills of children reading below their peers who may be intimidated by reading aloud in a group. A study at UC Davis (Feb 2010) showed that kids in reading dog programs increase their reading skills by 12% to 20% over kids not in a reading dog program.

To make appt.:  
E.P. Foster  
Saturdays, 12 - 1  
call 648-2716.

Saticoy Library  
alternate Saturdays  
noon to 1  
call 671-5148

**FREE/GRATIS ENGLISH CLASSES**

Mondays/Lunes @ 11 AM  
Tuesdays/Martes @ 2PM  
Wednesdays/Miercoles @ 12PM  
Thursdays/Jueves 1PM  
Fridays/Viernes @ 11 AM

Friday class is @  
Ventura Avenue Adult Center

Introductory English classes offered through Laubach Literacy at Avenue Library.  
Comenzando clases de inglés ofrecidas a través de Laubach Literacy en la biblioteca.

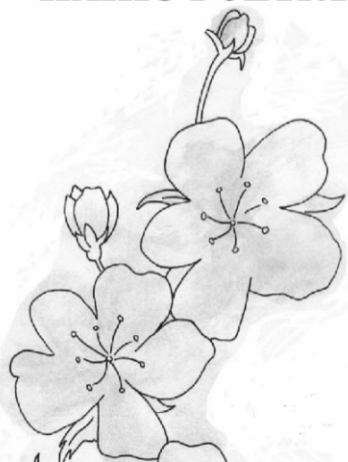
English classes are offered free to the public nearly every day that Avenue Library is open. Classes see a range of learners and teachers from all over the world. It is inspiring to see native speakers of Portuguese, Russian and Spanish all come together to learn English at Avenue Library. New student workers who speak Spanish have increased the outreach to Spanish speakers.



The READ Program trains volunteers to provide free one-to-one reading and writing instruction.

The Ventura County Library has been offering this program since 1984. Instruction takes place in library, school, community and jail facilities throughout Ventura County. For more information, (805) 677-7160.

## HAIKU POETRY CONTEST



Between April 1 and April 17, 2016, the Ventura County Library System will commemorate National Poetry Month with a county-wide Haiku Poetry Contest. Participants submit their own original haiku at any library location or online at [tiny.cc/vclhaiku](http://tiny.cc/vclhaiku). Entries will be judged by Ventura County Poet Laureate Phil Taggart, and the winners will receive custom-designed prizes commemorating their accomplishments.

All submissions should follow the traditional format for haiku: three lines of five, seven, and five syllables each. The contest is open to all ages and topics; contact the library for further information regarding contest rules.

Participation in this contest is free and open to the public.

**Opera Santa Barbara** series of Free Noontime Concerts in the Topping Room have been well attended. The concerts feature members of the Mosher Studio Artist Program, a residential training program for accomplished young singers and feature a diverse repertoire of popular and lesser-known operatic offerings, all accompanied by piano.

These concerts are offered FREE to the public.

**Friday, April 15, 12:00 pm to 12:45**

**and the fourth and final concert Friday, May 13**, will preview the music that will be performed in Opera Santa Barbara's upcoming season.



### *A Visit to the California Prairie*

**Presented by  
Glen Holstein**

**California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands Chapter**

**E.P. Foster Library Topping Room  
Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

The earliest visitors to California's valleys and foothills found a sea of wildflowers where grasses were scarce and vast elk herds grazed. Why then do so many call these areas "grasslands" when even today native wildflowers can so completely cover them that hardly a grass blade is seen? Answering that takes looking back at some plant ecology history still hugely affecting California native plant conservation. California's prairies are its lost ecosystem hiding in plain sight. Dr. Holstein will explore their misunderstood history, their unique ecology, their great biodiversity, and their urgent conservation challenges.



Are you learning Spanish but need some practice speaking?

Join this informal group to chat and practice your Español! Bring your own coffee!

**Spanish Conversation Group**

**Saturday, April 30, 10:30 am, in the Rentfrow Room at E.P. Foster**

**Keep updated at [www.sanbuenaaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org](http://www.sanbuenaaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org) and at our Facebook page**



**President, Kathy Thomson  
and Recording Secretary, Joanne Fields  
preparing for St. Patrick's Day Parade**

## Making New Friends

Ventura Friends of the Library have participated in various community outreach events. March 12 was a very busy day. Friends rode in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in the morning and joined the community gathering for the groundbreaking for Kellogg Park on Ventura Avenue in the afternoon.

We also officially joined Ventura Chamber of Commerce this year and participated with Ventura County Library in the Family Fest at Pacific View Mall, where local businesses and resources that cater to children and families gathered to showcase their business and services to the Ventura County community.

## Foster Con Mini Comic Festival

This year's third annual Foster Con Mini Comic Festival was a great success!

There was something for comic lovers of all ages, including a comic workshop for kids, vendor tables and raffle prizes. 268 people attended the event throughout the day, some even dressed up in costume. The Mandalorian Mercs, our Star Wars costume club, were a big hit. They graciously posed for pictures with the kids. Both our storyteller, Julie Jacobs, and our Anime Workshop teacher, Carlos Nieto, had big turnouts. Everyone really loved their goody bags, and no one left empty handed.



The Ventura County Library website, [vencolibrary.org](http://vencolibrary.org), has been redesigned to display in a more readable way on devices of various sizes and shapes.

A new feature (<http://vencolibrary.org/library-catalog/tell-us-what-buy-suggest-purchase>) allows you to: "Tell us what to buy - suggest a purchase." The link appears in the lower left hand corner of the home page. It takes you to a form you can use to suggest an item that you think would be a good addition to the Ventura County Library.

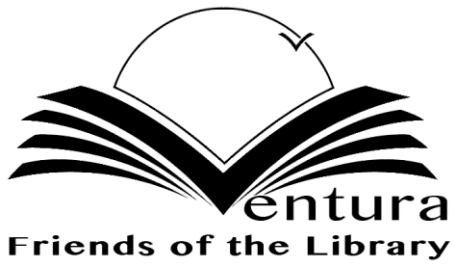
In addition to suggesting an item to purchase, you may also:

- Check the catalog to see if another Ventura County Library branch has the item you want.

- Visit the eLibrary to see if a digital version of your item is available.

- Search in WorldShare if you'd like to get your item through Interlibrary Loan.

**At E.P. Foster Library**, customers looking for titles the library does not own can submit a request for the Foster branch to purchase the title in eBook format through Amazon. For titles that meet the library's criteria, the customer can then borrow a Kindle DX eReader from the library with the title pre-loaded and ready to read. In most situations, it will be possible to have the device ready to lend on the same day!



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

Join **Ventura Friends of the Library** and help make our libraries even **BETTER!**

**We support the public libraries of the City of Ventura in delivering library services, including:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase of library materials and equipment, e.g. books, CDs, DVDs, books on tape</li> <li>• Summer programs for children and youth</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public awareness of legislation and other events that may affect the delivery of library services</li> <li>• Special programs, receptions, speakers, &amp; field trips</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

*Your membership at any of the levels below helps make all this possible.*

(Make checks payable to: Ventura FOL and mail to P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002)

Lifetime \$1000	Business \$250	Sponsor \$100	Family \$30	Individual \$20	Student \$10
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Name:						Phone:	
Address:							
Email:							

<input type="checkbox"/>	I want to help save printing and mailing costs—Please email Newsletters to me.
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We need YOUR help! Ventura FOL is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization run entirely by VOLUNTEERS.

Please consider volunteering in any of the following areas. Just check the boxes. We'll contact you.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bookstore	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Pickup	<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Sorting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other