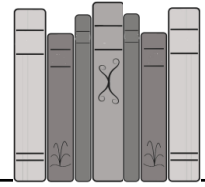


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Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Fall 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Kathy Thomson

It is with sadness I address the Friends membership with my final letter as President. It has been a privilege to serve as President for the better part of eight years. In those years the Friends of the Library have accomplished many things to bring awareness and support to Ventura's libraries.

We have increased our communication and connection to our members, library partners and the community at large by creating a well functioning and up to date website and Facebook page. By regularly communicating through email we are able to relay relevant and current library activities and Friends activities, at minimal expense. We also participated in developing the 2012 Library Strategic Plan for Ventura, regularly attend Library Advisory Commission meetings and communicate with elected officials in person and by email to address library issues. We were able to identify additional revenue sources which allowed us to increase the Friends' Capital Improvement Fund and with the investment return from that fund we are able to make a sizeable contribution to participate in the development of the new Hill Road Library and its planned opening in December.

Of course, none of this could have been accomplished without a committed and passionate board and an army of devoted and enthusiastic volunteers who express their love for libraries through tens of thousands of volunteer hours. Whether those hours were with bookstore operations, serving on the board, working in the warehouse or at book sales, creating quarterly newsletters, researching and writing grants, buttoning down a labyrinthine membership database or stewarding the city's 150th anniversary kid's poster contest, each and every hour is an expression of love and care for our libraries, the staff and the children and adults they serve.

And lastly, I would like to thank our members for continued support and with each renewal concur with the board and volunteers that libraries and literacy for all are important for our community.

I plan to remain on the board in another capacity and you can be assured that I will continue to work to make sure that libraries that serve our citizens will remain an integral part of our community.



*You are invited to
Ventura Friends of the Library
Annual Membership Meeting*

*Sunday, October 29, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
E.P. Foster Library, Topping Room*

*Meet Karyl Lynn Burns,
producing artistic director
of Rubicon Theatre
"Celebrating 20 Years in Our
Community"
Bring a friend!*

More details on page 3.



In April, Ventura County Library held its Second Annual Haiku Contest. This year, one of the Friends of the Library, Jill Forman, was awarded second place for her haiku:

MIRACLE

***Soaring nine-foot wings.
Cage...to canyon, rock, ledge, peak.
Condor, going home.***

If you want to practice your poetry, or just listen, drop in to E. P. Foster for Poetry Open Mic Night, Thursdays @ 7:30-9pm
Join this group of writers as they meet in the Topping Room to share their work.
A new poetry contest opens in October sponsored by the VC Arts Council.
Details on page 5.