

# Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002  
Winter 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

We might call this the Gratitude Issue of Ex Libris. First, let me introduce myself. I became involved with the Friends of the Library when, while browsing at H.P. Wright Library, I noticed some people at a table discussing the possibility of the library closing. I asked, "Is this an open meeting?" and in short order was part of the Save Wright Library campaign. I offered to edit the newsletter and help in the creation and maintenance of a website. Thanks to member Melinda Baker donating her expertise and server space, the Friends' site got up and running.

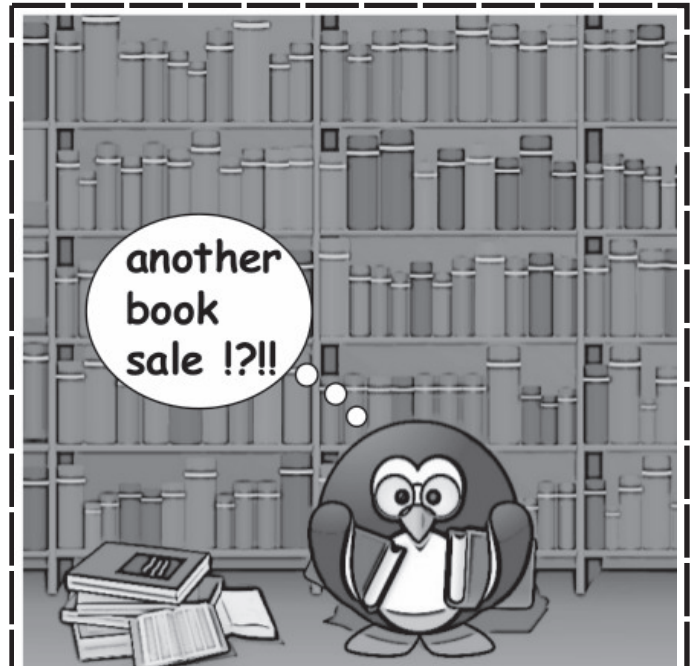
Readers are people of both sentiment and imagination. We still miss Wright Library and the new library at Hill Road is not the end of our imagining. The Hill Road Library, welcomed on its opening day by 1100 visitors, exists through the tremendous efforts of many.

Thanks to Berta Steele, the motive force behind the Save Wright campaign, who has continued to advocate, as president of the Friends of the Library and as Library Advisory commissioner, to expand library services in our city. And thanks to Marianne Coffey, who has served in bookstore operations and as vice-president, for her indefatigable promotion of libraries to city and county officials. For more on the opening of Hill Road Library and our thanks to those who made it possible, see pages 2 and 3.

Kathy Thomson, who has served as president since 2010, is now serving as treasurer. Our thanks to Kathy for her leadership through tumultuous times and to Gary Stephens, who served as treasurer during that time, for setting a very high bar for the organization and reporting of financial information, in addition to spearheading the reorganization and maintenance of our member database. Thanks to Charles McDermott, our new vice president, who revived the Friends' Fund Development Committee. The investment and return of our capital improvement fund allowed us to be part of the solution in creating the new library. We hope to be able to support future library developments with continued investment in the fund.

Thanks to Colleen Gallo, who is leaving her position as bookstore manager. After the store was renovated in 2010 by Jean Nickel and Gayley McConica, Colleen undertook the herculean task of managing the store and the tons of book donations constantly arriving at E.P. Foster Library. For more on the bookstore, see page 4.

Thanks to all of you who are members – this is an open invitation, look inside for ways you can join in!



Our inventory overfloweth  
All categories  
Many Large Print titles  
and Children's Books  
Books individually priced

## Ventura Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, February 17  
Members only 9 am to 10 am  
Open for all 10 am to 3 pm

Topping Room  
E.P. Foster Library

All genres, including special interest, classics and vintage; fiction, including current hardcover and paperbacks; non-fiction, including biography, science, travel, cooking, history, California history, art, music, craft books, children's books; dvds, books on cd and tape, puzzles, and more.