



Ex Libris



Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Winter 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

There's something about big round numbers that put us in a contemplative mood, whether it's a personal birthday, anniversary or a milestone of some public event. In the year 2019, our Friends of the Library organization turns 50 years old. This has led the board to search out the scrapbooks kept by early members of San Buenaventura Friends of the Library. We can't determine a precise date for our birthday as an organization -- there are newspaper clippings from several organizing events. Ventura was a smaller town in 1969 and newspapers reported more local events. The goals of this new organization were clearly stated in one article: "The new group will concentrate on bringing library service to people not now reached by the library -- the elderly and disenfranchised, residents of the county Juvenile Hall, patients in convalescent homes and hospitals -- and help in various ways with the services of the city and county library system."

Today, we are still devoted to the goal of extending the reach of library service. Even in this 21st century, Professor of Sociology Eric Klinenberg, in his book "Palaces for the People", has observed that libraries and their social infrastructure are essential not only for a neighborhood's vitality but also for buffering all kinds of personal problems -- including isolation and loneliness.

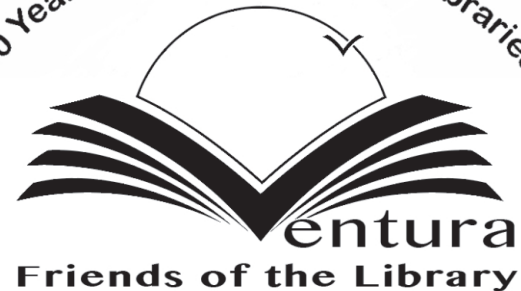
The Friends of the Library provide support to four library branches with funding for programs and materials and helping to publicize library events. We also show up at City Council meetings, Community Council meetings and other public forums to increase awareness of and advocate for the support of our public libraries.

A robust membership base is vital for all the work that we do. In this 50th anniversary year, be part of our celebration by renewing your membership in Ventura Friends of the Library. Come to our book sales and library events -- and bring a friend!

You can use the enclosed envelope to join Ventura Friends of the Library or renew your membership or you can do so at

<https://squareup.com/store/VenturaFOL>

50 Years of Serving Ventura Libraries



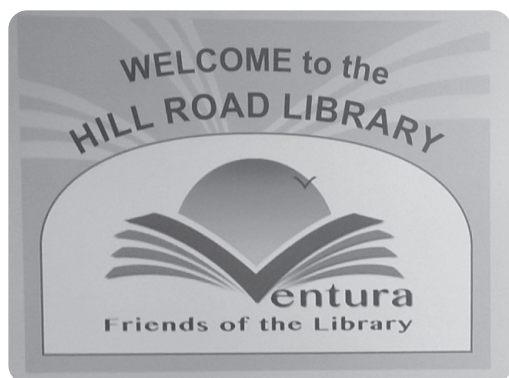
Book Sale
January 19 & 20
at E.P. Foster Topping Room
Details inside.

HELP WANTED

Our greatest need for volunteer help is during book sales. Help is needed setting up the book sales, during the book sales and closing the book sales. Our volunteer crew is aging and we could really use some younger people with strong backs for moving those boxes of books. If you would be interested in volunteering for a couple of hours on the occasion of book sales, please email friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org or call Mary Olson (805) 223-1187

We would also like to add to our team for organizing the book sales.

And we could use a Volunteer Coordinator -- someone who would keep records of and contact people who have offered on some occasion to volunteer for us. Right now, this information is not well organized so that opportunities are probably missed for recruiting and contacting potential helpers.



Ventura Friends of the Library Annual Membership Meeting

took place on October 21 at Hill Road Library. Librarian Molly Krill described for us the innovative features of Hill Road Library, including the availability of Open+ morning “Express Hours”. This system allows library customers to access materials and resources outside of standard operating hours. Access to the express hours requires a current library account in good standing, as well as special registration at the Hill Road Library during staffed hours.

Hill Road Library is the first library on the west coast to adopt this system. This has garnered Hill Road Library a starring role in a Bibliotheca (creator of the Open+ technology) promotional video as well as an award for innovation for Ventura County Library from The California County Information Services Directors Association (CCISDA).

Some of our members present at the meeting immediately signed up for Open+ access.

During the business part of the meeting, we voted to change our Bylaws to allow the board to appoint individuals to be included on the bank signature card in addition to the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer.

We also elected Officers of the Board of Directors for 2019:

PRESIDENT	Mary Olson
VICE PRESIDENT	Charles McDermott
TREASURER	Kathy Thomson
RECORDING SECRETARY	Ellen Klope
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Star Soto

Treasurer's Update

The Friends volunteers, members and contributors were able to raise funds to provide close to \$54,000 for Ventura's four libraries in calendar year 2018. These funds were used to support the Summer Reading Program and other youth related activities plus provide a year end gift for collection needs at each library. At print time the final numbers are still being tabulated but \$54,000 will be close to the final year end amount. In addition, \$4425 was deposited in the Friends Capital Improvement fund with VCCF, per standing rule requirements.

Begging your pardon for the late reminder but if you shop on line at Amazon.com and instead type in smile.Amazon.com into your browser search, you can select San Buenaventura Friends of the Library as your charity and Amazon will contribute a small portion of each purchase to the Friends. The amount has been small over the past years and I apologize for not sending a reminder at the beginning of the shopping season but count this as your reminder for 2019! We would like to grow this simple but very welcome additional income source for our libraries.

People who are good with numbers and have a background in accounting are always needed to serve on the finance committee and assist the Treasurer. Working knowledge of Quickbooks is a plus! If you have an interest in helping in this way, please email friends@venturafriendsoftheibrary.org or introduce yourself to one of our board members at the upcoming book sale.

As always, thank you for your dedicated support of Ventura's libraries.

Thank you for your donations

Sylvia Mack
Lois Moynihan
Arlien Plat
Berta Steele

from
Charles & Laurie Vanoni
for Saticoy Library



BOOK SALE

Saturday, January 19th

VFOL Members only

11 am to 12 pm

Open to all

12 pm to 3 pm

Topping Room

E.P. Foster Library

Sunday, January 20th

Open to all

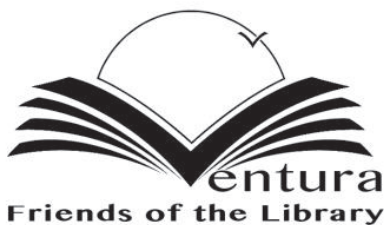
12 pm to 3 pm

Watercolors & Photos also for sale

The family of Hank and Susan Stoutz have graciously donated original watercolors and photos to benefit the Ventura Friends of the Library.

Framed watercolors up to \$250.00

Unframed watercolors and photos \$10.00 to \$40.00



Quality used books at bargain prices.

All proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries!

For more information, call Mary Olson (805) 223-1187.

Among Friends.....

That header has been scanned from an early newsletter of the Friends of the Library.

We are fortunate that Friends who came before us have preserved early newsletters, newspaper clippings and other mementoes in scrapbooks.

In the oldest of those scrapbooks, there is a newspaper clipping which reads:

"A new book and a new organization will be launched at an open house marking the start of National Library Week tomorrow at 5 p.m. in the E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main St., Ventura. The new book is Charles Outland's "Mines, Murders and Grizzlies" and the new organization is Friends of the Library, a group which will have as its primary aim the support of library activities in the community."

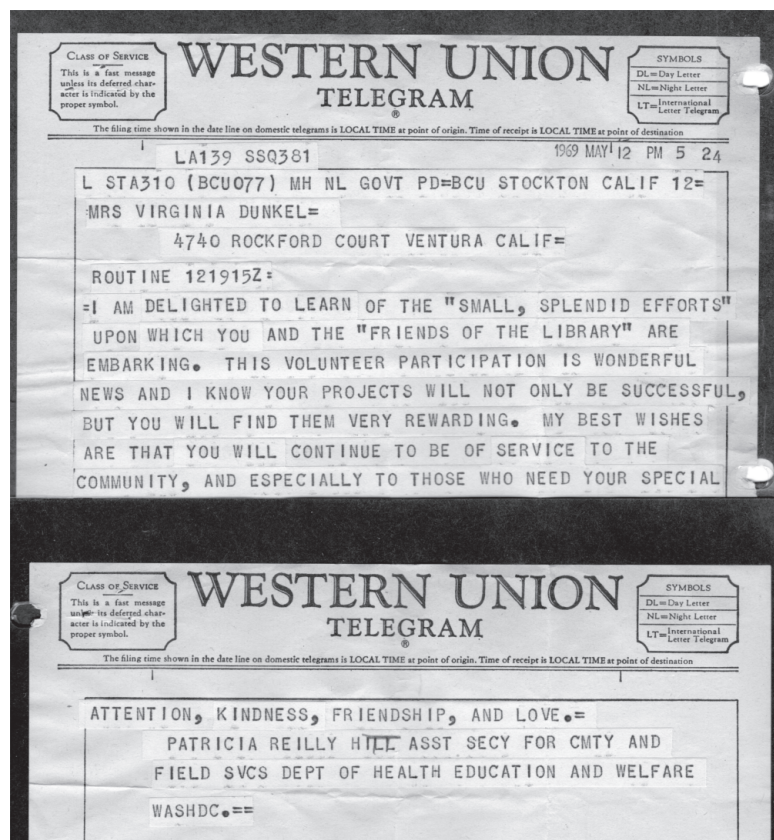
A handwritten notation reads: "April 1969".

The scrapbook cover bears a label:

1969
Our First Year
Membership 82
Book Sales \$470

One of the mementos in that scrapbook is pictured here, a telegram congratulating Mrs. Virginia Dunkle, the Organizing Chairman of San Buenaventura Friends of the Library on the early activities of the organization. The telegram is from the Assistant Secretary for Community and Field Services of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, DC.

This year our Friends of the Library group reaches the milestone of our 50th year of holding book sales and supporting library activities.



A celebration is certainly in order, so a Ventura Friends of the Library 50th Anniversary Committee has been established. As our town has grown over the years, realizing our goal of extending the reach of library service has brought four branches of the Ventura County Library into our area of support. It seems fitting to sponsor four individual celebrations, one at each branch.

Our first event will be held at Avenue Library on Saturday, March 2. Children's bi-lingual author Amada Perez will be our guest. (Another newspaper clipping in that scrapbook notes that "Funds received for memberships and through money-making activities will be spent for expanding the library's usefulness by purchasing quantities of simply written paperback books in English and Spanish to serve adults and juveniles with limited reading abilities, or those who speak little or no English")

We are planning to have an event at E.P. Foster Library in conjunction with the Summer Reading Program, to be followed by an event in late August or September at Saticoy Library. We'll wrap up our year of celebration at Hill Road Library in October.

Join us in our celebrations and help us continue our work by your membership in this, our semicentennial year!

**Keep up with all the news at www.venturafriendsofthelibrary.org
and Ventura Friends of the Library on Facebook
Email: friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org Newsletter Editor: Mary Olson**

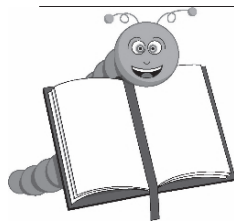


**Opera Santa Barbara
Noontime Concert**

E.P. Foster
Topping Room

Friday, January 18, 2019
12:00 to 1:00 pm

Beautiful opera performed in a cozy setting. Come enjoy a free noontime concert presented by members of Opera Santa Barbara's Chrisman Studio Artist Program. One of the library's most popular events.



**New Book Club
Hill Road Library**

The first selection for the Hill Road Library Book Club is **Outlander** by **Diana Gabaldon**.

Come by the library to grab a print or audiobook copy before our meeting, or download the eBook or eAudiobook using cloudLibrary.

Join us for a lively discussion on **Tuesday, January 29, 2019, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.** All are welcome who have read the book!

Building Blocks of Development - Birth to Five Years of Age

Join us for an interactive and educational hour learning about the building blocks of child development from our special guest speaker from Ventura County Public Health. Storytime, songs, crafts and education will be provided as well as an opportunity to complete a free developmental screening on your child.

Avenue Library
Monday, January 28, 2019
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

E.P. Foster Library
Thursday, January 31, 2019
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm



A California Native Plant Society Lecture

Tuesday, February 19, 2019
7:00 pm to 9:00
E.P. Foster Library Topping Room

Please join us for an interesting and enlightening lecture series presented by the California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands Chapter.



**E.P. Foster -
Virtual Reality**

Tuesdays @ 3:30-5:30 pm on the 2nd Floor. Explore the virtual world with these different VR platforms: Samsung Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. VR HEADSETS can only be used by those aged 13 and older, this event is for ages 13-17.



**3D Printing Club
E.P. Foster**

Wednesdays @ 4-5 pm
Explore this emerging technology through hands-on experiences! Discover new skills through design-based problem solving, and connect with others in a collaborative and positive learning environment. Age Group: Tweens, Teens

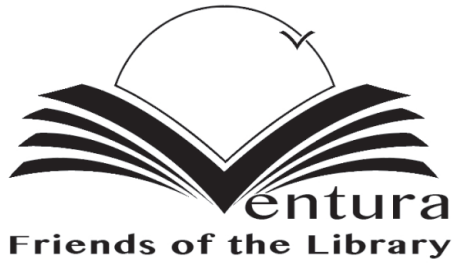
**Hill Road Library
Maker Lab**

Thursdays
4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Join us each week as we explore making stuff with the 3D printer, Legos, Little Bits, Dash & Dot Robots, or Squishy Circuits. Aimed at ages 10+

**Saticoy Library
3D Printer Demo**

Wednesday, January 30
@ 12-6 pm
Come watch the 3d printer create objects! All ages, adults too!



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

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

Ventura FOL supports the public libraries of the City of Ventura in delivering library services, including:

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

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	Patron \$100	Family \$35	Individual \$25	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.

We need YOUR help! 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