

## 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."

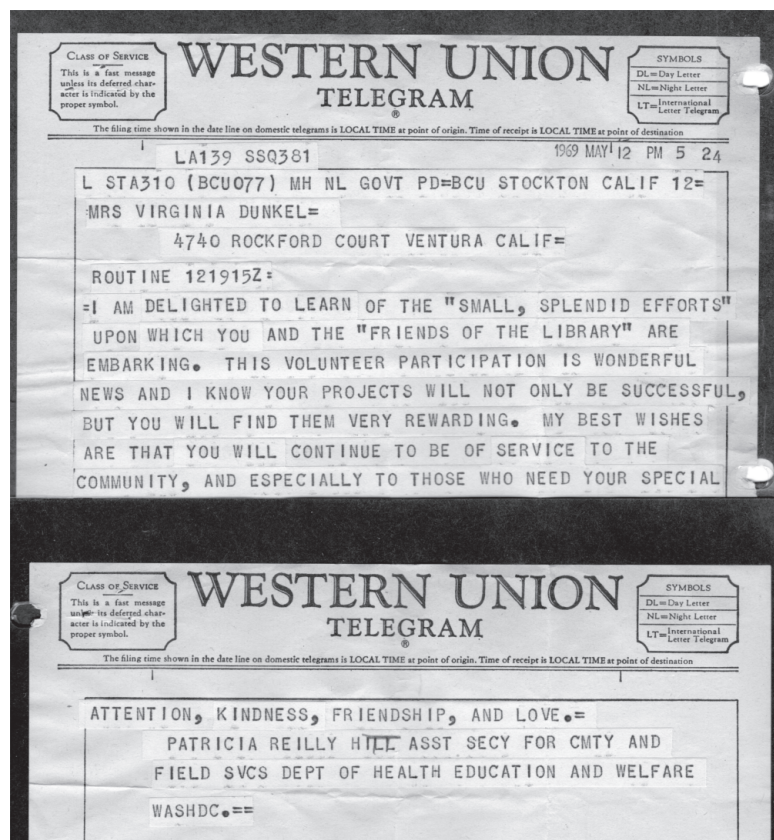
A handwritten notation reads: "April 1969".

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!

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