

SAPLings

Volume 17, Number 4

July • August
2005

From the President



Dear Friends,

Many things are happening in our San Antonio Public Library! On May 21, we helped celebrate the **10th birthday of our "big red enchilada" aka the Central Library**. The Friends helped serve punch and also signed up new members. June 1, we helped kick-off the **Summer Reading Program**. If you haven't enrolled in this yet, do so soon. You can sign up at any branch. Adults are included again this year. Remember, it may be HOT outdoors, but the library is COOL! Then, on June 12, we **officially welcomed Ramiro Salazar, our new library director, with a reception in the Central Library auditorium**. (Wise people decided the terrace would be too hot.) This lovely afternoon was orchestrated by **Nancy Gandara**, who could hire out as an event-planner. I was really pleased to see so many of our Friends turn out to meet and greet Ramiro. I'm sure he feels San Antonio is a "Friend-ly" place!

The Book Celler is now open from 11:00 am until 7:00 pm on Thursdays. Other days, its hours are still 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Remember that the Book Celler is open every day the library is open. This includes Saturdays and Sundays. It also has acquired both a soda machine and a snack machine. Stop by when you get a chance.

Memorial Branch has a Friends group starting. They have met a couple of times and are getting organized. If you use this branch library, talk to **Melva Ramirez** the branch manager. Tell her you want to be a charter member of this group.

The Library District legislation passed in both the House and Senate in Austin this spring. It has been signed into law by the governor. This legislation merely makes it possible for the Library District to be voted on by the citizens of San Antonio. If you want to learn more about this idea, "Grassroots Coffees" are being held at various branch libraries. There is one scheduled at Cortez, July 6; Westfall, July 11; McCreless, July 13; Johnston, July 20; Pan American, July 27; Memorial, August 1; Carver, August 2; Collins Garden, August 9; and Bazan, August 15. Others will be held in the coming months. See page 7 for more information, and check with your local librarian to confirm the dates and times. We want to support our library, and this is an issue we need to understand.

*Linda Nairn
President*

Central Library Celebrates 10 Years

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library participated in the 10th Birthday party for the Central Library on Saturday, May 21. The photo on the right is of Friends President **Linda Nairn** and new member **Lora Ecklar**, the president of our newest



Photos by Charles and Mary McAfee



Friends group at the Guerra Library. They had a table at the front door for inviting people to join the Friends. The lower photo is of Board Member **Pat Mendiola** with her husband, **Gabe**, and son, **Jacob**. It was a big party with old west gun-fighters, HEBuddy, Libro the Lion, and Disney Radio station broadcasting. Lots of kids and families enjoyed the festivities.

Mary McAfee

Welcome Back

More than a hundred Friends gathered June 12 to welcome **Ramiro Salazar** and offer support as he begins leadership of SAPL. A gourmet afternoon "tea" was provided by **Ruth Stone** Caterer, and **Eric Montoya** played classical guitar, while members of San Antonio Public Library's "eYouth" group ladled punch and tea.

In his remarks, Mr. Salazar enthusiastically confirmed his commitment to working with the staff, community leaders, and Friends who help public libraries thrive. To ensure the Library Director will "think of the Friends every day" a large plant for



Ramiro Salazar (left) and former library director Mike Sexton (1961-1989)

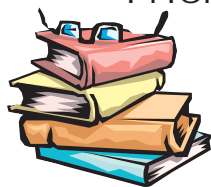
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Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

May 15, 2005

Submitted by *Lucy Gale*



Board members present: Linda Nairn, Lucy Gale, Nancy Gandara, Barbara Isner, Alan Cutler, Bruce Gill, Pat Konstam, Lucille Lammert, Josie Martinez, Pat Mendiola, Ronnie Retzloff, Robbi Ruppert, Vera Banner, Pat Brown, Gerry Celitans, Aaron Konstam, Maria Pfeiffer, Rowena Rodgers, Pat Bjornson, Pat Mendiola, Cathy Dean, Nancy Fitzgerald, Rick Riordan, Don Norton

Library Board of Trustee Present: John Nicholas

SAPL Staff Present: Beth Graham

President **Linda Nairn** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes for the board meeting were reviewed and approved with the following corrections: **Pat Konstam** was present at the board meeting; "audit committee will work with the treasurer."

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Gandara reported that \$30,000 should be deleted from the Library Support line item, it was mistakenly added. Also the mailbox fee is \$80, \$10 more than the original budget.

Reports

Library Board: John Nicholas thanked **Cathy Dean** for all her hard work as a member of the Library Board of Trustees. John reported that the Board has two new trustees, **Dr. Paul Frisch** and **Dr. Harriet Romo**. The next board meeting is scheduled for June 25 at Central. The Cody parking lot renovations will begin in June and end in August. Semmes and Maverick libraries are to open

this year, and the new library on Hausmann Rd. is in the design & planning stage. The Trustees are working on two major projects: the Hertzberg Building, which a group would like to take over and turn into a western art museum with a library presence; the Urban Library District state legislation, which would allow San Antonio to take the issue to the voters.

Library Foundation: Lucy Gale. Christus Santa Rosa had declined the grant proposal submitted jointly between the Foundation and the Friends for a health collection for the Library. The Library Foundation had a successful fund-raiser April 17 at the Central Library Gallery where art was sold at a silent auction. The Foundation was invited to participate in the 50th Annual International Reading Association Conference and presented the Born To Read program. Mexican Sculptor Sebastian will do a book presentation at the Central Library on June 10 at 6 p.m. The Skeet Shoot fundraiser for the Texana/Genealogy collection is scheduled for July 30 at the National Shooting Complex.

Library Administration: Beth Graham. The Library hosted a Job Fair in an attempt to fill the 80 library vacancies. The new library director would start the search for an additional assistant library director. Summer reading will run June 1 through July 31. Central Library will celebrate its 10th Anniversary May 21, and attendees will enjoy food and entertainment. Fifty-one poets participated in Young Pegasus 2005 – their reception was a couple of weeks ago. Thanks to the Writer

Friends for sponsoring additional lighting for the auditorium. Beth requested that FOSAPL sponsor the extra lighting, 2 lights on each tract, for \$375. Planning was progressing for the **Amy Freeman Lee** dedication Oct. 3 & 4.

Secretary–Correspondence: None.

Committee Reports

Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam. The price of paperbacks has increased to 50 cents, and the committee will be working on Book Cellar procedures. The Committee would like to recruit additional volunteers for the Book Cellar and increase its advertising. Renovation plans include adding lighting, turning bookracks, cleaning and refurbishing floors and upgrading and streamlining the look of the Book Cellar.

Newsletter: Don Norton. An inner masthead will be added to the Newsletter. Many thanks to **Robert LaCaff** for helping the newsletter committee with that project.

Membership: Ronnie Retzloff. FOSAPL has 782 total members. Ronnie presented a sample of what the Directory will look like; it will be done by the end of summer.

Arts & Letters: Lucy Gale. Submit nominations by May 31. The Arts & Letters reception will be Sunday, October 30, in the Central Library Auditorium.

Welcome Reception for Ramiro Salazar: Nancy Gandara. The reception will be Sunday, June 12, on the Central Library 3rd floor terrace. More details about the event will be sent out.

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The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote public use of the San

Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Linda Nairn President
Robert LaCaff Vice President
Nancy Gandara Treasurer
Lucy Gale Secretary
Barbara Isner Immediate Past Pres

BOARD MEMBERS

Term 2004–05

Lollie Boudrie • Alan Cutler
Bruce Gill • Pat Konstam
Lucille Lammert • Josie Martinez
Yulane McKnight • Pat Mendiola
Dr. Mark Prange • Ronnie Retzloff
Robbie Ruppert • Jim Wogstad

Term 2005–06

Vera Banner • Betty Kelly Berry
Pat Brown • Gerry Celitans
Lou Harris • Shirley Horner
Aaron Konstam • Lee LaCaff
Maria Pfeiffer • Rowena Rodgers

SAPLINGS

Newsletter published every two months for the information of member Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and others supportive of our ideals and activities.

Alana Woods Managing Editor
Don Norton FOSAPL Editor

Southwest Research Institute® provides partial funding for printing the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle • Cathy Dean
Lucy Gale • Rowena Rodgers
Linda Nairn, *Ex Officio*
Mary McAfee, *Distribution*

Contributions for publishing in the newsletter are always welcome!

The deadline for submitting articles and photos to SAPLings is the 15th of the month

(February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, December 15)

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos to **Don Norton** at <doris-norton@satx.rr.com> with a cc to **Alana Woods** at <awoods@swri.org>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78238.

BRANCH LEAVES

(News from Support Groups)



Book Cellar

The Book Cellar is now open on Thursday evenings, thanks to an added crew of volunteers. Thursday hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Please help spread the word that the store's large, bargain-priced inventory is now available to after-work shoppers. Hours for the other six days remain 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The July clearance sale is biographies, at two for the price of one. All children's books except easy readers will be half-price (25 cents for hardbacks, 2-for-25 cents for paperbacks) during July and August. This is a good opportunity for teachers to restock classroom bookshelves.

To be notified of special sales by email, call 227-9519 or send email to sa_bookcellar@hotmail.com and ask to be put on the store's email list.

Renovations are continuing, with improved lighting being installed in the children's section, new shelving units and book carts added, and better signage planned. Thanks go to **Kimberly Villalpando**, a St. Gerard Catholic High School student, for bright new signs for the store entry.

Come down to visit and shop, and then consider signing on as a volunteer to help grow this major Friends of the Library project. Call Book Cellar manager **Monica Hernandez** at 227-9519 for details about volunteering.

Pat Konstam

Carver

Carver Friends hosted a lunch buffet on May 25 for branch manager **Addie Armstrong's** retirement. Addie was also the branch manager at McCreless for many years before her transfer to Carver, so staff and friends from both branches were there to wish her well, plus many others from throughout the library system.

Guerra

We have had a busy time. Our Vice-President **Monica Reyna** resigned due to an upcoming move. **Robert Blackstone** was elected as our new Vice-President. Plans have moved forward for our 1st Birthday celebration on July 16th. We are planning to acknowledge special guests for their support of the library, before and after it was built. We will have our first book sale during the celebration on the 16th as well. We have been busy doing some local business outreach to get more support for the branch. As usual, our meetings will be the 1st Wednesday of each month

Lora Eckler

Oakwell

Our annual Appreciation Dinner for the staff of Oakwell Library was May 13 at Ocean Star and Grill. It was a great opportunity for us to visit and have dinner. We enjoyed the time together.

The book sale on May 31 was a great success. Many good books had been donated, and there was an assortment to choose from. It was very successful, and many thank yous to all of our volunteers.

Some new items purchased for our Library, thanks to a good book sale, are spindle racks for young adult paperbacks, additional shelving for adult books, and new signs to hang over the check-out and return desks.

The garden at the entrance to Oakwell Library is being kept beautiful with the Native Plant Society maintaining the plants and keeping the weeds under control. It is nice to drive in and see this nicely kept area to complement the Library. Also our sign has been washed and looks new—a great improvement.

Mark your calendars for our next book sale, which will be August 20.

Fern Burke

Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks Branch Friends will be having their second book sale of the year on July 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We expect to have a successful day. Purchases are being made for the library with the funds earned.

This month the Book Club is reading *The Thief Lord* by **Cornelia Funke**. It is a wonderful story about two young boys who run away from home and go to

Venice where they meet the Thief Lord who helps them to survive while having great adventures. A very enjoyable book.

The Friends meet the third Saturday of the month at 11 a.m. in the library meeting room. All members are welcome to attend.

Nancy Fitzgerald

Writer Friends

The Writer Friends held their spring meeting May 10 at the Fiesta Trails Barnes & Noble. In honor of Texas Writers Month, books were available from many members and five member authors read from their works – **David Liss**, **Bryce Milligan**, **Naomi Shihab Nye**, **Rick Riordan** and **Tammar Stein**. Selections ranged from poetry to myth to mystery. In a lively Q & A session that followed, the authors fielded questions on everything from the writing process to local mayoral politics. And just in case there was any doubt, political comments made by audience members or guest speakers do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Writer Friends or its board! Many thanks to **Caren Creech**, who worked hard to organize the event. The next Writer Friends meeting will be Tuesday, September 13, 7 p.m. at the Central Library auditorium. Details TBA.

Rick Riordan

Meeting Highlights

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Guerra Branch Friends presented their by-laws for FOSAPL Board approval, which were approved. **Ronnie Retzlloff** made a motion to give \$50 to the Guerra Friends. The motion passed. **The FOSAPL P.O. box** has changed to a more central location. The USPS will forward mail for one year. **Maria Pfeifer** made a motion to give the Library \$375 for extra lighting in the auditorium as requested by **Beth Graham**. The motion passed.

Branch News & Announcements

Brookhollow is closing for renovations during the summer and a bookmobile will be there to serve that community. **Guerra Branch** will celebrate its one-year anniversary July 16 with a book sale and a WOAI remote broadcast.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

San Antonio Sizzles in the Summer, but the Library is Always Cool!



Summer Reading Program presents nationally known performers

June 1–July 31, 2005

It's not your grandfather's library: for Summer Reading 2005, the San Antonio Public Library has booked nationally known performers to help spread the word that libraries, reading, and research are cool:

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library are sponsoring the following performances by Brian Bushwood and Joe McDermott.

Brian Brushwood: Scams, Sasquatch and the Supernatural

Have you ever wondered how spiritualist mediums talk to dead people or how phone psychics predict the future? How about tarot cards, UFOs, Ouija boards, Big Foot, palm readers, astrologists, holistic medicine: are they real? See the show where you will learn the secrets that top con artists use to scam, trick, and rob believers all over the world. National touring magician Brian Brushwood performs amazing live demonstrations of the cleverest scams out there. And just when you think, "There is no way he could do that without some special power," he'll show you how it's done and teach you how to avoid getting scammed in the future.

You can see Brian live at these San Antonio Public Libraries:

June

1	Central, Library Youth(wired) Dept, 600 Soledad	7:00 p.m.
15	Oakwell Branch Library, 4134 Harry Wurzbach	11:00 a.m.
	Great Northwest Branch Library, 9050 Wellwood	1:00 p.m.
	Guerra Branch Library, 7978 Military Drive West	3:00 p.m.
	McCreless Branch Library, 1023 Ada	6:00 p.m.

Joe McDermott

An award-winning children's musician, Joe invites children and adults to sing, dance and use their imaginations as they listen to his catchy, kid-friendly songs. Learn more about Joe at his Web page, www.joemcdermottmusic.com, and see Joe in person at these Library locations:

June

7	Pan American Branch Library, 1122 Pyron Avenue	11:00 a.m.
	McCreless Branch Library, 1023 Ada	2:30 p.m.
	Cortez Branch Library, 2803 Hunter Boulevard	6:30 p.m.
14	Forest Hills Branch Library, 5245 Ingram Road	11:00 a.m.
	Las Palmas Branch Library, 515 Castroville Road	2:00 p.m.
18	Carver Branch Library, 3350 E. Commerce	11:00 a.m.
	Central Library, 600 Soledad, 3rd Floor	2:00 p.m.
21	Landa Branch Library, 233 Bushnell	11:00 a.m.
	San Pedro Branch Library, 1315 San Pedro Avenue	2:00 p.m.
25	Great Northwest Branch Library, 9050 Wellwood	11:00 a.m.
	Cody Branch Library, 11441 Vance Jackson	2:00 p.m.

July

2	Johnston Branch Library, 6307 Sun Valley	11:00 a.m.
	Guerra Branch Library, 7978 Military Drive West	2:00 p.m.
6	Coker Elementary School, 302 Heimer Road	11:00 a.m.
	(for Brook Hollow Branch Library)	
	Oakwell Branch Library, 4134 Harry Wurzbach Road	2:30 p.m.
	Thousand Oaks Branch Library, 4618 Thousand Oaks	6:30 p.m.
9	Westfall Branch Library, 6111 Rosedale Court	11:00 a.m.
	Memorial Branch Library, 3222Culebra Road	2:00 p.m.
16	Bazan Branch Library, 2200 W. Commerce	11:00 a.m.
	Collins Garden Branch Library, 200 N. Park	2:00 p.m.
19	Great Northwest, Branch Library, 9050 Wellwood	11:00 a.m.
	Reagan High School & Public Library Partnership, 19000 Ronald Reagan Drive	2:00 p.m.
	Cody Branch Library, 11441 Vance Jackson	6:30 p.m.

SeaWorld Adventure Park San Antonio presents

Paul Epner with Herbert Hilligan and his Magic Lunchbox

In the Herbert Hilligan Series, Herbert is assisted by his lunchbox, known as "The Coolest of Cool," which has magical powers allowing it to transform into anything Herbert desires.

To recreate the magic of his stories, author Paul Epner is accompanied to presentations by his own magic—a dancing, singing, talking lunchbox—which delights, mystifies, and entertains children and adults of all ages!

Paul will bring Herbert and his magic lunchbox to the following library locations:

June

4	Thousand Oaks Branch Library, 4618 Thousand Oaks	2:00 p.m.
18	Westfall Branch Library, 6111 Rosedale Court	2:00 p.m.
25	Central Library, 600 Soledad, 3rd Floor	2:00 p.m.

July

15	Great Northwest Branch Library, 9050 Wellwood	2:00 p.m.
16	Pan American, 1122 Pyron Avenue	2:00 p.m.
23	Las Palmas Branch Library, 515 Castroville Road	2:00 p.m.

All these programs are free and open to the public. Because of limited seating, a ticket may be required for admission. Free tickets will be available at each location approximately one week prior to the program date. For more information, the public may call 210-207-2500.

Welcome Back



Lucy Gale and Linda Nairn



Gerry and Barbara Celitans



Eric Montoya, Reyes Rodriguez, Antonio Rodriguez, and Autumn Montreal from Central Library's Youth-Wired Teens



Barbara and Claude Stanush

his office was presented by Friends President **Linda Nairn**.

Thanks to the Committee members who planned this event: **Nancy Gandara, Linda Nairn, Cathy Dean, Mary McAfee, Lucy Gale, and Beth Graham**, with “day-of” assistance by **Beth Bermel, Roberta Sparks, and Pat Bjornson**. Among those who contributed photographic talent were **Charles McAfee and Robert LaCaff**. Special thanks to **James and Darlene Fenimore** and to Martin Linen Supply for the donation of tablecloths for a truly elegant touch.

Nancy Gandara



Charles McAfee (left), Ramiro Salazar, and Zitla Herrera

THE SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY: A RICH LEGACY (Part I)

A speech presented by **Maria Watson Pfeiffer** to the Friends of Texana/Genealogy on May 23, 2005

Private and public libraries were well-established civic amenities long before the first book collections were made available to the public in Texas. *The Handbook of Texas* states that, “the public library movement was late in coming to Texas.” The earliest facilities were the Houston Lyceum Library, the Galveston Public Library, the El Paso Public Library, and “San Antonio’s St. Mary’s Church Library.” First a few words about other Texas cities.

When the Philosophical Society of Texas was organized in 1837, building a

library was among its earliest goals. The first group to fulfill this vision was the Houston Lyceum, organized in 1854 for the purpose of “holding lectures, having discussions among members and creating a library.” Today’s Houston Public Library traces its roots to the Houston Lyceum, which collected 88 books and purchased its first book case in its founding year. Houston was way ahead of San Antonio—and everyone else in the state.

So too was Galveston. The Galveston Mercantile Library, founded in 1871, was succeeded by the Rosenberg

Library, established in 1900 by **Henry Rosenberg** as a private corporation to give free library service to all Galvestonians. The Rosenberg opened in 1904, and in 1905, absorbed the public library’s collection. It still operates today and its lineage allows Galveston to claim the “oldest public library in Texas in continuous operation.”

The El Paso Public Library, which claims on its website to be the first public library in Texas, grew from the collection of public school teacher, **Mary I. Stanton**. Stanton began a reading club for her high school students in

1894 in a local office building. As the collection grew, a library association was formed in 1896, and the library was moved to the municipal building in 1899. The El Paso Public Library was incorporated the following year and moved to a Carnegie-built facility in April 1904.

So what about San Antonio? While *The Handbook of Texas* states that the St. Mary’s Church library was the city’s earliest public collection, other libraries did predate it. Research compiled by the staff of the San Antonio Public Library’s Texana/

Continued on p 6.

San Antonio Public Library

Genealogy Department indicates that a military library of some two to three thousand books was organized here prior to the Civil War. The books were apparently scattered during the war, and in 1867, **General John S. Mason**, Commander of the San Antonio Post, issued the following order:

“Many of our citizens have since acquired these books without knowledge of how they were formerly obtained, purchased at auction, etc. They are none the less government property, and the holder is subject to trial by military commission.”

It is said that the books were promptly returned.

Another private collection was apparently maintained by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. As early as 1868, before the church building was even completed, rector, **Dr. Melville Keith**, is said to have promoted a church library.

By 1872, the Alamo Literary Society established a library of 120 books (it grew to 800 books) that was open to the public on a regular schedule. Ladies were welcome on Mondays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. and men on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 to 10 p.m. Though open to the public, a \$1.00 fee was charged to join the Society and 25-cents monthly fee sustained the collection of books and periodicals. The Literary Society also offered lectures, concerts, debates, socials, and theatrical performances. By 1877, the Society had moved to the home of its librarian, **John Copeland**.

As cited by *The Handbook of Texas*, the St. Mary's Catholic Church library was San Antonio's first free lend-

ing library. Established by the women of St. Mary's Church about 1890, the Alamo Free Library, as it was called, was reportedly housed in the church belfry. Other local facilities included libraries operated by the Bexar Bar Library Company and the Y.M.C.A. An organization called the San Antonio Public Library and Women's Exchange also offered a library, kindergarten, nursery, art exhibitions, employment bureau, and socials as early as 1893.

While all of these organizations addressed the community's literary needs, none were publicly funded. It was not until 1899 that the Alamo Free Library and San Antonio Public Library and Women's Exchange joined together to establish a permanent building and organization. The previous year, **Andrew Carnegie** had given the first of what would become 34 grants to Texas communities to establish public libraries. The small East Texas town of Pittsburg received the first grant. Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Houston, and El Paso would follow by 1900.

Andrew Carnegie predicated his grants on the requirement that the libraries must serve the public and be supported by public funds. Cities were required to provide a site and pledge an amount equal to 10 percent of the grant to operate the library.

Mrs. James L. Slayden, wife of Congressman **James Slayden**, led the group that petitioned Carnegie for funding. Carnegie wrote on January 6, 1899, that he would provide \$50,000, if the city would provide:

- ◆ A site for a detached building that could be lighted from all sides.
- ◆ \$5,000 for annual operating support (10% of Carnegie's gift)
- ◆ Free access

While various locations were suggested, **Caroline Kampmann** donated land on Market Street on the San Antonio River opposite La Villita. The library, designed by Bexar County Courthouse architect, **James Riely Gordon**, opened to the public on June 15, 1903, with 7,151 volumes. It was the third Carnegie-funded library in Texas after Houston and Dallas received grants in 1899.

The first library director hired by the board was **Benjamin Wyche**, formerly the director of the University of Texas Library. Wyche presided over a collection that came to include:

- ◆ Illustrated children's books and rare books purchased with a \$10,000 gift from **George Bedell Moore**
- ◆ Technical and reference books purchased with a \$5,000 gift from **George W. Brackenridge**
- ◆ **Col. Francis L. Towne's** private library of 3,000 volumes
- ◆ Chicagoan **J.A. Keach's** collection of rare books;
- ◆ **Col. J.G.C. Lee's** collection of military material.

On the day of the opening, the newspaper reported:

“All day there was a leisurely stream of persons to and from the library. They walked behind the railing and examined the literary treasures, some selecting a book... numbers of children were in the children's room... Although there was a general stir in the building, a sober

academic quiet was maintained. Before the library closed, several hundred books had been loaned.”

Though it was a modest beginning, San Antonio finally had a public library.

The subsequent history of the San Antonio Public Library will be continued in the next issue.

Summer Reads

This is your chance to tell about books you've read and what you thought about them. Please submit your Summer Read to awoods@swri.org.

*The President's House: a first daughter shares the history and secrets of the world's most famous home, by **Margaret Truman**. I really enjoyed this book and learned a lot I didn't know, and I grew up in DC.*

*The Women of Watergate by **Alden Cohen** and **Madeleine Edmondson**. Short bios of the wives, daughters, etc. and what happened to them.*

*A Midsummer Night's Scream: a Jane Jeffry mystery by **Jill Churchill** . . . Murder with a light touch. Jane and Shelly, a rundown theater, caterers, and, of course, murder. These are great funny reads.*

*The Goodbye Body by **Joan Hess** . . . as usual, so funny I just couldn't put it down and finally finished at 4 a.m. People are coming and going, and no one seems to be who they are supposed to be. Like in Trouble with Harry, the body keeps appearing and disappearing.*

Lora Devlon

Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2005

Submitted by *Nancy Gandara*

Accounts	Balance
Working Capital Account	51,107.58
Money Market Gold Account	24,653.53
Money Market Gold Account	53,249.57
Checking Account	59,501.02
TOTAL ASSETS	188,511.70
Branch-designated Funds	57,572.86
TOTAL LIABILITIES	57,572.86
OVERALL TOTAL	130,938.84
Brookhollow	19,464.31
Carver	1,771.48
Cody	2,890.43
Guerra	9.00
Johnston	1,215.18
McCreless	4,395.22
Oakwell	6,626.08
Teens	55.89
Texana-Genealogy	7,809.70
Thousand Oaks	4,554.42
Westfall	5,861.20
Writers	2,975.84
TOTAL BRANCH FUNDS	57,572.86

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS April 30, 2005

	Budget	Income	YTD
BookCellar	60,000	7,004.55	15,925.15
Donations	1,600	655.00	1,020.00
Interest	1,300	320.15	509.42
Membership	11,000	1,172.00	4,549.00
Transfer from			
Savings	2,050	0	0
TOTAL INCOME	75,950	9,121.70	21,973.57
	Budget	Expense	YTD
Accounting	2,000		420.00
Advertising	1,800		
Arts and Letters	700		
Bank Charges	50	21.75	84.00
BookCellar			
Renovation	5,000	681.61	681.61
Bulk Mail	1,850	135.00	285.00
Library Support			
[approved by FOSAPL Board]	40,000		30,000.00
Mail Box	70	80.80	80.80
Medicare	230	14.50	29.00
Membership			
Directory 2005-06	1,500		
Newsletter Prep			
& Editing	1,200	200.00	400.00
Newsletter Printing	1,300	591.38	591.38
Office Supplies	800	37.50	43.86
Parking	3,800	501.00	1,001.00
Postage	500	126.57	232.10
President's Exp	350	0	75.00
Salary	6,000	869.50	1,739.00
Sales Tax	7,000	0	2,092.50
Social Security	1,000	296.00	412.00
Subscriptions	100		
Volunteer Appreciation	500		
Water service at			
BookCellar	200	108.90	144.24
TOTAL EXPENSES	75,950	3,664.51	38,311.49

SAPL Foundation to Kick Off Neighborhood "Coffees"

Grassroots program designed to inform citizens about library needs and solutions

San Antonio spends just \$12 dollars per person per year for library services – that's at the bottom of the scale compared to what similar cities spend in Texas and across the country. San Antonio deserves better, but it costs money. With tight budgets, just how can we make this happen?

Please join us for coffee and an informal opportunity to discuss the "Choice" of bringing our libraries into the 21st century and the efforts being made to improve San Antonio's libraries. The San Antonio Public Library Foundation has begun a series of "coffees" that will take place across the city, at every library branch this summer.

"We hope to establish an ongoing dialogue between SAPLF and neighborhood leaders, library patrons and other interested parties," says SAPLF Board Chairman, **Dennis Martinez**. "By offering information and solutions, we hope to give San Antonians the "Choice" of making our libraries better – there are some wonderful opportunities here and we're excited to share them."

A "grassroots style" campaign featuring a weekly 45-minute dialogue with Library Board and Library Foundation representatives will be scheduled at each library branch during the next several months. These community "coffees" offer an informal opportunity for discussion, assist in identifying needs and options, and will further disseminate information about the future of our libraries. It is hoped that the "coffees" will also establish a useful database/support group needed for the next

phase of this initiative. The "coffees," which began in June, are being held in three phases.

Central and San Pedro discussions occurred in June. Coffees already scheduled for July and August are listed below, **but please be sure to call your branch to confirm these dates and times in the event there's a change**. Also call for branches not scheduled at this time.

- 7/6 – Cortez – July 6 – 6-6:45 p.m.
- 7/11 – Westfall – 6-6:45 p.m.
- 7/13 – McCreless – 5:30-6:15 p.m.
- 7/20 – Johnston – 11-11:45 a.m.
- 7/27 – Pan American – 3:30-4:15 p.m.
- 8/1 – Memorial – 6-6:45 p.m.
- 8/2 – Carver – 2:30-3:15 p.m.
- 8/9 – Collins Garden – 7-7:45 p.m.
- 8/15 – Bazan – 2-2:45 p.m.

Great Northwest, Forest Hills, and Landa will be scheduled in late August, and Guerra and Las Palmas in early September. Phase 3 coffees will be held in late September/October.

Contact will be made through council offices, FOSAPL (for each library) via e-mail and U.S. Post as well as counter displays/take home cards for more info. All council people for each corresponding library will be invited to attend and participate.

For more information, please contact San Antonio Public Library Foundation at 210-225-4728 or **Andi Rodriguez** at dearandi@sbcglobal.net

See you there!

Sponsored by: San Antonio Public Library Foundation, www.saplf.org

New Friends Directory

The Friends will publish a new directory soon. Please notify **Ronnie Retzlloff**, 319 Neches Branch, 78258 OR 490-4337 OR retzlloff@satx.rr.com
IF you recently moved (this newsletter was forwarded to you) or you are going to move during the next month and know the address. Your new address and new phone number are needed.

ONLY individuals who specifically requested not to have their phone number listed on their most recent membership form will have their phone number deleted from the new directory. If this is important to you and you are not sure, notify **Ronnie Retzlloff**, Membership Chairman.



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CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Please refer to the Branch Leaves for Friends group meetings. It's a good idea to call and verify information before setting out for a meeting or program. Sometimes dates or times change after newsletter publication.

- July 9 Thousand Oaks book sale, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- July 16 Guerra 1st Anniversary celebration and book sale, 1:00 p.m.–4:45 p.m.
- July 17 FOSAPL Board Meeting at Carver Branch Library, 2:00 p.m.
- August 17 McCreless meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- August 20 Oakwell book sale, 11:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
- Sept. 13 Writer Friends meeting, 7:00 p.m., Central Library
- Sept. 17–18 McCreless book sale. Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4:45 p.m.

Note: Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings.

G.W. Carver Library
3350 E. Commerce St, 78220
210-225-7801

Central Library
600 Soledad Street, 78205
210-207-2534

Guerra Library
7978 Military Drive West, 78227
210-673-1492

McCreless Library
1023 Ada Street, 78223
210-532-4254

Oakwell Library
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209
210-828-2569

Thousand Oaks Library
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233
210-657-5205