



## From the President



Dear Friends,

At last, Fall is in the air—with much needed cooler weather (well, at least it's not quite as hot.). The kids are going back to school, football games have started again, and the holidays will be here before we know it.

**Central Library's third floor Children's Department was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Amy Freeman Lee.** She was the guiding force behind the Young Pegasus poetry contest for many years. Dr. Lee was an artist and a winner of our Arts and Letters Award. She was a Life Member and a past president of the Friends. We are pleased to have one of our own thus honored.

**The Isabel Bazan Branch has an official Friends group now!** If you use this branch library (it is on W. Commerce), talk to **Raymond Villarreal**, the branch manager. Tell him you want to be a member of this group.

**The newest branch—the Julia Yates Semmes Branch Library—will open on Saturday, November 5th.** The ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. with festivities lasting through to 5 p.m. The Semmes Branch is located in Comanche Lookout Park, at the corner of Judson Road and Nacogdoches. We are forming a Friends group for Semmes. What fun for them to be there "at the birth!" If you are interested in joining this group, please contact me, or the Semmes branch manager, **Kate Grey**.

Last, but by no means least, I hope you got to attend our **Arts and Letters Awards Ceremony**. This was a wonderful chance to meet and greet some of san Antonio's creative best! Thank you to **Lucy Gale** and her committee for doing such a nice job on this, both in choosing the winners and in presenting the awards.

Your Friend,  
*Linda Nairn, President*

## San Antonio Public Library Honors Dr. Amy Freeman Lee

*Beth Graham*

On Sunday, October 2, the Board of Trustees of the San Antonio Public Library dedicated the Children's Department of the Central Library to educator, artist, and author **Dr. Amy Freeman Lee**. The Library honored Dr. Lee for her lifelong devotion to its Young Pegasus Poetry Competition, which recognizes the creativity of young San Antonio poets from preschool to age 18. From 1941 until her death in 2004, Dr. Lee served as Chair of the Judges' Committee of the poetry competition.

The ceremony included an unveiling of memorial art in tribute to Dr. Lee. The work will hang in the Central Library Children's Department beside Grecian Beach Rider II, a watercolor executed by Dr. Lee, internationally known for her involvement in the arts. Additionally, an exhibit of paintings by Dr. Lee was on display in the Central Library Gallery through October 2.

The dedication closed with a special reading as young poets presented

selections from their work published in the Young Pegasus Poetry anthology.

### About Dr. Amy Freeman Lee

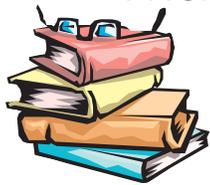
Born in 1914 to a family with strong roots in the ranching industry, Amy Freeman Lee could only be described as a Renaissance woman: her life was spent in service to the arts, education, and humanitarianism. After her mother's death in 1918, the child was adopted by her maternal grandmother **Emma Freeman**. She attended St. Mary's Hall, the University of Texas, and Incarnate Word College, and was married for three years to **Ernest Lee**, an aide to **Gen. Dwight Eisenhower** during World War II.

Dr. Lee was a skilled horsewoman and competed nationwide against equestrians including the young **Jacqueline Bouvier (Kennedy Onassis)**. However, she was in principle opposed to circus, rodeo, bullfighting, and other animal-based spectacle, setting her beliefs against

*Continued on p 4.*



Dr. Lee's goddaughter **Carol Karotkin**, former San Antonio Board Chair **Don Counts**, and San Antonio Library Director **Ramiro Salazar** unveil **Dr. Amy Freeman Lee** tribute



# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

September 18, 2005

Submitted by *Lucy Gale*

### Board of Directors & Officers present:

**Linda Nairn, Robert LaCaff, Nancy Gandara, Barbara Isner, Alan Cutler, Bruce Gill, Pat Konstam, Ronnie Retzloff, Maria Pfeiffer, Pat Mendiola, Don Norton, Lee LaCaff, Aaron Konstam, Lucy Gale, Betty Berry, Rowena Rodgers, Lou Harris, Lucille Lammert, Robbi Ruppert, Vera Banner, Pat Brown, and Gerry Celitans**

### Library Board of Trustee Present:

**John Nicholas, Chair**

### SAPL Staff Present: Beth Graham

Linda Nairn called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

The minutes for the board meeting were reviewed and approved with the minimal corrections.

**Treasurer's Report.** Nancy Gandara was not able to attend board meeting. Treasurer's report was emailed to board.

### Reports

**Library Board—John Nicholas, Chair.** The Board worked with the City regarding the Library's budget, and it was approved with increases for a new roof, books, and materials. Other items requested for the budget were denied.

The Board met with city and county officials regarding a commission put in place to study the Library District recommendations. A proposal was developed that outlined the use of the Hertzberg space. Next step is to review suggestions made by person hired to study the space and the ideas proposed for the building.

### Library Administration—Beth Graham.

♦ The Dedication naming the children's area for **Dr. Amy Freeman Lee** will be at Central Library on Oct. 2 at 2 p.m.

♦ Oct. 17 is the Ribbon Cutting for the Cody Branch parking lot. Semmes Branch grand opening is on Nov. 5.

♦ As of August, 27 new staff members have been hired.

♦ The Library has been involved in efforts toward the Hurricane Katrina survivors with the help of Youth Wired, Little Read Wagon and the Friends.

♦ Staff Development Day is scheduled for Oct. 14.

♦ Library Foundation has received 2 grants to help the Library obtain more qualified staff.

### Library Foundation—Lucy Gale

♦ On Oct. 11, Foundation is hosting a book signing with **Bob Rivard** and his book, *Trail of Feathers*.

♦ Writer **Carlos Fuentes** will be honored by the Foundation with the LILA award on Oct. 21.

♦ The *SA Express News* Children's Book and Author will be held on Oct. 29.

♦ On Nov. 12, the Library will host the 3rd Annual Sleep Over; applications are available and due by Oct. 21.

**Secretary-Correspondence:** None.

### Committee Reports

**Arts and Letters Awards—Lucy Gale** reported that this year the committee chose three fine candidates for the awards. **Diane Gonzales Bertrand, Steven G. Kellman, and Jamie Maverick** will be honored on Sunday, Oct 30, at 2 p.m. at the Central Library.

**Audit—Robbi Ruppert** passed out the audit report. The audit committee reviewed the records for the past 2 years. They made recommendations for better practices.

**Book Cellar—Aaron Konstam** reported that the renovations are complete. He also reported that sales from the Book Cellar increased when open on Thursday

evenings; committee would like more volunteers for this shift.

**Membership—Ronnie Retzloff** reported that 15 new members have joined since July. Letters for renewal will go out in October.

**Directory—Robert LaCaff.** The format for the upcoming directory will be revised to include new board members and by-laws. Publishing of the directory to take place in February 2006.

**Memorials—Sheila Figueroa** reported that Memorials are now found in the newsletter and that letters are sent out within 24 hours recognizing memorial donations.

**Newsletter—Rowena Rodgers, Cathy Dean** is out of town. Rowena reported that extra newsletters can be found in the Book Cellar.

### Old Business

**Lee LaCaff** reported on the remaining by-laws changes from the last meeting. Description on what was passed and changed can be found in an article in this newsletter edition.

### New Business

♦ Nominating committee needs to be formed. Five people must be on committee; three from membership at large and two from Board of Directors.

♦ Guests representing the Bazan Branch were on hand to present to the Board their by-laws to be voted on as they are forming their own Friends group. The motion passed.

♦ Linda reported on the request from the Library to have \$7,500 to pay for meals during staff development day. The motion passed.

### Branch News & Announcements

Book sales are scheduled for Cody, Guerra, McCreless Oakwell, Thousand Oaks, and Westfall.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



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

#### 2004-2006 Term

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

#### 2005-2007 Term

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.

Managing Editor . . . . . Alana Woods  
FOSAPL Editor . . . . . Open

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*

**Article contributions for publishing in the newsletter are always welcome!**

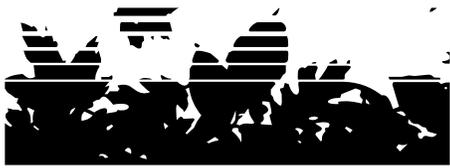
**The deadline for submitting articles and photos to SAPLings is the 15th of the month**

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

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos 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)



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## Bazan

The Bazan Library Friends met on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2005 and discussed the ratification of the by-laws that were submitted to FOSAPL. We were delighted that only a minor change had to be made, and that we are now ready to proceed with other business. During this meeting, we selected a Nominating Committee so that we can proceed with electing officers for our group. Three members were selected for this Committee, which will meet soon with this most important task. Once we have the names in place, we are hopeful we will be ready to announce to everyone who the first officers will be. This election will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2005, at our next Friends Meeting, which will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Bazan Library Meeting room.

*Raymond Villarreal*

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## Book Cellar

The Book Cellar has specials galore in November and December. All hardback fiction for adults and children (except science fiction and easy readers) is on sale through Dec. 31. Buy one book at the regular price (\$1 for adult books, 50 cents for children's) and get two free.

Biographies and the 600 Dewey Decimal series (health, parenting, business) are on sale during November. Buy one regularly priced book and get another free.

A coupon enabling Friends to get one free regularly priced book with the purchase of one book is published elsewhere in this newsletter, good for the rest of this year. This is the first of several discount coupons that the Book Cellar Committee hopes to issue through a variety of organizations to attract new customers.

A wide selection of holiday books for Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa, along with Christmas craft magazines, will be available starting in mid-November.

For gift giving, the store has lots of new (i.e., not marked by a previous owner) books, especially novels, and all kinds of special-interest books (mostly used). It also sells gift certificates. The store is in the Central Library basement and open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. every day the library is open, plus evening hours until 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays. The Book Cellar will be closed Nov. 23–25 for Thanksgiving.

To help staff the store, volunteers who can work one Thursday evening a month or be on call to substitute occasionally on a day shift are especially needed. Call Book Store manager **Monica Hernandez** at 227-9519 for more information or to sign up.

*Pat Konstam*

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## Guerra

We had a fun and busy time. Our street direction signs were installed, making it easier to find us. Thanks so much to **Ramiro Salazar** and Councilwoman **Delicia Herrera** for getting those signs for us.

Our children's computers came online. The kids had been enjoying the cute desks.



*Children's computer desks. Photo by Yanira Cruz*

From library catalog to games to internet in just their size. And now they can do so much more.

We all had fun with the crafts for Hispanic Heritage Month especially Paper Portraits.

Our librarian, **Hedi Hoecker**, left us to go to Reagan. The staff and friends held a potluck goodbye, and we gave her flowers. We will miss her, but she gave us a great foundation to build on for the Guerra branch.

We were able to give the library all they had on their wish list. So we are busy getting ready for our book sale this weekend to fund more goodies from the new bigger wish list.

*Lora Eckler*

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## Memorial

### Celebrar (Celebrate)

The Memorial Library Amigos (MLA) held its first event at the Memorial Library facilities on Saturday, Oct. 8, from 1:00–

3:00 p.m. The event was planned in conjunction with the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month as well as an opportunity for the MLA to introduce the organization to the community.

Although the event was small, members were overjoyed with its success. The MLA members pulled their resources together



*Photo by Cathy Dean*

*Henry with list of Memorial charter members.*

and not only had a mini book sale, but also entertained the young library patrons with an excellent puppet show presented by **Charlene Alvarado** who so graciously donated her time. Additionally, an art contest was held for students in grades K–12. Students participating in the contest were from the surrounding schools in the Edgewood Independent School District, San Antonio Independent School District, and private/parochial area schools. The first place winners in the following categories K–2, 3–5, 6–8, and 9–12 were awarded an autographed book. All first place, second place, and third place winners received a ribbon for their incredible work. The colorful artwork was displayed throughout the library adding to the festive atmosphere.

Adding to the festive occasion the Amigos served refreshments consisting of watermelon, pineapple, and cantaloupe aguas frescas and antojitos (tamales, salsa, chip, and reposteria) to all patrons.

State and city leadership was well represented at the event by State Representative **Joaquin Castro**, District 5 Councilwoman **Patti Radle**, District 6 Councilwoman **Delicia Herrera**, as well as former District 7 Councilman **Julian Castro**. These distinguished leaders not only showed their support by their attendance but also became members of the Amigos. In addition, the MLA is grateful to **Lisa Rodriguez**, Chase Bank Vice-President, for its corporate sponsorship; **Tom Nemeth** (McCreless Library) for all his help with the mini book sale; and **Cathy Dean** for representing and bringing the support of the parent organization. Amigos members had such a great time that they can't wait for the next event.

*Henry Oosterveen, Jr.*

*Continued on p 6.*

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# San Antonio Public Library Sees Budget Increases for FY 2005-2006

*Beth Graham*

The San Antonio City Council has approved a budget for Fiscal Year 2005–2006 with increased funding for the San Antonio Public Library on a number of fronts. The new city fiscal year begins on October 1.

The Library's operating budget includes an additional \$500,000 over the FY 2004–2005 base budget for library resources (books), to meet increased demand resulting from the opening of the Henry A. Guerra, Jr., Branch Library in 2004 and expansion of the Brook Hollow Branch Library in 2005, as well as heavier customer traffic in general. Also included is \$127,500 in additional operating costs needed for the new Julia Yates Semmes

Branch Library, opening in November 2005, and the Great Northwest Branch Library, scheduled for expansion.

San Antonio Public Library's capital budget for FY 2005–2006 totals \$11.8 million, to allow continued construction on new branches, as well as large maintenance projects at existing branches throughout the system. The capital budget for 2006 includes funds for roof replacement at the Central Library.

In other funds, the newly approved budget includes \$1.032 million to implement Phase 1 of a three-phase radio frequency identification (RFID) theft detection/inventory management system. Also budgeted is \$75,000 to support preliminary planning efforts to

change the library from a city department to a library district. The 2005 session of the Texas State Legislature approved a bill enabling voters to approve the creation of a multi-jurisdictional library district for the San Antonio area.

In the human resources area, employees making \$50,000 or less annually will receive a 4.5% cost-of-living adjustment. Employees making more than \$50,000 will receive a 3% cost-of-living adjustment. The cost-of-living increases are an across-the-board City salary improvement.

"In an era when public libraries across the country are seeing budget cuts, we appreciate the importance that the citizens of San Antonio and the

City Council attach to their library," said Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar, noting that the increases were the result of efforts on the part of the Library Board of Trustees, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, individual City Council Representatives who championed the Library, and private citizens.

The San Antonio Public Library system consists of the Central Library, 19 branch libraries, and a high school-public library partnership, with two new branches under construction and a new branch and a new high school-library partnership in design.

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## Amy Freeman Lee (Cont'd from p. 1)

those of uncles **Joe and Harry Freeman**, instrumental in the founding of the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo, and longtime friend **Mary Nan West**, who served for many years on the Stock Show and Rodeo Board. Her opposition to performances that she viewed as animal exploitation led to an invitation to serve on the Board of the Humane Society of the United States. At the time of her death, Dr. Lee was the longest-serving member in HSUS history, and had received its highest honor, the **Joseph Wood Krutch Medal**.

She was a prolific artist, art critic, poet, author, and philanthropist. An early supporter of the Witte Museum, she was a founder of the San Antonio Art League, and later of the Texas Watercolor Soci-



Reception following the **Dr. Amy Freeman Lee** dedication ceremony.

ety. Throughout her lifetime, Dr. Lee had more than 1,250 exhibits of her work, in settings from Maine to Texas to Mexico. She was a charter member of the University of Texas College of Fine Arts Council. She amassed a superb collection of art by many of the leading contemporary artists of her day and

made important donations to the McNay Museum, the San Antonio Museum of Art, and other museums. In 1985, she was the subject of a television documentary, *Reality Is Becoming*.

One of the principal founders of the San Antonio Symphony, Dr. Lee also nurtured a passion for chamber

music and supported many musical organizations.

A well-trained critic, she wrote for the *Express-News* and had a radio show on KONO for years. But her most influential outreach consisted in the literally thousands of lectures she delivered to groups throughout the nation, sometimes driving as far as New York or California to deliver lectures that invariably stressed her belief in the importance of civility, humane ethics, and universal love. Her keen wit and self-deprecating humor contributed to the effectiveness of her presentations, and she remained among the most popular speakers in Texas, even when bouts of illness slowed her pace in recent years.

Dr. Lee died in July 2004 in San Antonio.

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# THE SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY: A RICH LEGACY

## Part III—Setting the Stage for the New Millennium

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

**S**an Antonio's public library system was entirely inadequate to serve the growing city during the boom period of the 1920s. In 1926, **Maury Maverick**, then a library board member, joined a Citizens' Committee to recommend that between \$500,000 and \$1 million be spent to establish a "sufficient and adequate library system." Maverick observed that to date, no bond funds had been spent on libraries.

When the bond package was approved by voters on May 19, 1928, it included \$500,000 for the library system. Though some thought that the bonds should only be spent for branches, funding included a new library on the site of the old Carnegie building. During construction, which proceeded in spite of the Depression, the library operated in the basement of the Municipal Auditorium. The new main library building, designed by **Herbert S. Green**, opened August 1, 1930. The San Pedro branch opened August 4 and the Carver August 9. The Roosevelt Branch had opened the previous year.

A new period of library growth began in spite of, or perhaps because of, the Great Depression. It was also during the Depression that **Julia Grothaus**, now an icon in San Antonio Library history, began her 36-year tenure as library director. Under her leadership, the collection doubled in size, new branches were built, and the bookmobile was instituted. Mrs. Grothaus presided over the library through the

Depression, World War II, and the McCarthy era when budgets were slashed, librarians went off to war, and the collection was threatened with censorship.

Three branches opened in 1937—those in the Highland Park and Lockwood Park recreation centers and the "Latin American branch" on Matamoras Street. In 1939, the Carnegie Corporation donated another \$15,000 to the City for a library dedi-

cated to Latin American material. Built by the National Youth

Administration as part of the restoration of La Villita, the facility opened in 1941.

The 1940s brought three important bequests to the library. In 1940, **Edward Dixon Westfall's** widow died, and the city received its long-promised bequest of his farm. Sale of this real estate provided much needed revenue for the library, which named the Westfall Branch in the family's honor. The same year, **Harry Hertzberg** died, willing his book and circus collection to the library. Finally, the donation of the Landa home for a library in 1947 added another branch library to the system. By 1952, there were ten branches.

A report commissioned by the City in 1952 was critical of San Antonio's branch system, citing small, badly located facilities that were not easily accessible to many citizens. It was ten years before the City took major

steps to close outdated and undersized branch libraries and begin to replace them with more modern and efficient facilities. The 1964 bond election provided \$1,755,000 for a new central library and four new branches. Westfall (1965), McCreless (1966), and the new "main" library (1968) ushered in a new era in local library history. Eight more branches followed in the 1970s including a new Carver

branch in 1973.

When a national survey of libraries in

the late 1970s found San Antonio at the bottom of the funding ladder and a local magazine declared the San Antonio library as "the worst public library of any major

American City," local leaders began to focus their efforts on improvement. A master plan was commissioned that recommended construction of a new central library. A consortium of architects led by **Ricardo Legoretta** of Mexico was selected, and citizens approved a \$28 million bond proposition to construct the state of the art, 240,000 square-foot building. Additional enhancements and materials funded by the San Antonio Library Foundation increased the library's holdings from 450,000 to 750,000. Popularly called the "big enchilada," the library opened to the public on May 20, 1995. San Antonio had a new architectural and cultural landmark that would help launch the public library system into its second century.

*A new period of library growth began in spite of, or perhaps because of, the Great Depression.*

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### Bylaws Committee Report Approved by Board

*Robert LaCaff*

At the Annual Membership Meeting in January 2006, members of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library will be asked to vote on changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules, which were approved by the members of the Board of Directors at the July 13 and September 18, 2005, meetings. The proposed amendments are designed to clarify and facilitate certain administrative functions and provide consistency and closer descriptions of committee duties.

**A copy of the proposed changes is enclosed with this newsletter for member reading in preparation for voting at the January meeting. Please bring this copy with you to the Annual Meeting.**

Committee Chair **Lee LaCaff** expressed sincere appreciation to the committee members **Ronnie Retzloff**, **Bettie Ward**, **Robert LaCaff**, and ex-officio **Linda Nairn** for their dedicated work over a five-month period of meetings and numerous exchanges of thoughts and recommendations by telephone and e-mail.

## Oakwell

Thanks to **Mr. Depasquale**, husband of our new member **Pat Depasquale**, we now have a sign in our nature plant streetscape recognizing the Friend's group for maintaining the garden. The garden was funded by the **Wray's Grant Fund** and established in 1999 by the **Native Plant Society of Texas**, but in more recent years, the maintenance has been by the Oakwell Friends. We hope to



justify the sign more fully with much needed attention as cooler weather arrives.

Thank you to all of the Oakwell Friends for the successful book sale we had in August. Helping to set up, working the day of the sale, and packing and cleaning up after the sale are all very much appreciated. Our next book sale is Nov. 19 at 11:00 a.m. Mark your calendars.

The Oakwell Friends Annual Meeting will be in the Oakwell Meeting Room Nov. 12, 2005, at 2:00 p.m. We hope many of you will attend.

*Fern Burke*

## Texana/Genealogy

The Friends of Texana/Genealogy will hold their annual book sale on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2006. Please call the Texana/Genealogy Department (207-2514) or Maria Pfeiffer (222-1586) if you have books to donate. Also mark your calendars for a very interesting program on Monday, Feb. 6. **Bobbi Ravicz**, daughter of **Perry** and **Frances Kallison**, will speak to the Friends about her father, his fabled farm and ranch business, and the radio program that he broadcast for many years. She

will share some of the family's interesting historical material recently donated to the Texana/Genealogy Collection. Stay tuned for more details about this and other programs!

*Maria Pfeiffer*

## Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks Friends gave a luncheon honoring the library staff on Sept. 14. BBQ beef, sausage, potato salad, cole slaw, and rolls from Tom's Ribs were served along with yummy desserts brought in by the members.

The Friends are planning for the last book sale of the year on Saturday, Nov. 19, 10:00-3:00 & Sunday, Nov. 20, 1:00-4:00. Hope you can come and bring your friends.

In December, the Friends will be decorating the library for Christmas and preparing a potluck luncheon for the members and the staff on Dec. 7.

*Happy Holidays!*

*Nancy Fitzgerald*

## Westfall

San Antonio author (and FOSAPL member) **Diane Gonzales Bertrand** presented a very interesting talk/ workshop entitled "Home Grown Miracles" at the Oct 4 meeting of the Friends of Westfall. Ms. Bertrand gave her audience suggestions for writing and publishing stories about their own family or hometown. Writing these "home grown" stories will not only provide challenging material for beginning writers but will also help preserve family memories for future generations. Ms. Bertrand is Writer-in-Residence at St. Mary's University and the



*Diane Bertrand signing authographs.*

author of numerous bilingual books for young people. Her 2004 book, *My Pal, Victor*, received the American Library Association's Schneider Family Book Award.

The Friends of Westfall will have a Used Book Sale on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Donations of "gently used" books are always gratefully accepted.

*Bettie Ward*

## Writer Friends

The next Writer Friends event will be Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.—*Getting Published: An evening with literary agent Jim Hornfischer*—in the Central Library Auditorium, 600 Soledad.

*What are publishers looking for? How does one submit a manuscript? How can an author's work get out of the "slush pile" and get the attention of an agent?* Join us for a rare opportunity to hear answers from someone who knows the business.

James D. Hornfischer, president of Hornfischer Literary Management, is one of the few agents in the country who is both a licensed attorney and a former New York trade book editor. He is also the author of the nonfiction book *The Last Stand of the Tin Can Sailors: The Extraordinary World War II Story of the U.S. Navy's Finest Hour* (Bantam) and the 2004 recipient of the **Samuel Eliot Morison Award**.

In twelve years as an agent, Hornfischer has handled eight New York Times bestsellers (including two No. 1's) and several finalists for major book prizes. The company enjoys strong relationships with the leading New York publishing companies.

Q&A will follow. Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public!

*Rick Riordan*

## Be a Friend—Renew Early

*Ronnie Retzloff*

It's that time of year again! Membership envelopes for 2006 will be at your door, right before the busy holiday season begins. Don't let them get mixed up with all the holiday ads and cards that will begin drifting in as well.

Yes, if you let this opportunity pass by, you will get another chance to renew in January. However, please consider this. FOSAPL will have spent 74¢ instead of 37¢ to solicit your one renewal. Each year around 200 of our members wait until the second notice before they send in their donations. The math tells us that waiting to renew costs us a sizeable chunk of change. The extra \$74.00 in postage that is paid to send out

*Continued on p 7.*

## ALA Mid-Winter Meeting in SA

*Mary McAfee*

The American Library Assn. will have its Mid-Winter Meeting here in San Antonio January 20-25. According to **Sally Reed**, Director of Friends of Libraries USA (FOLUSA), there will be a FREE Nuts and Bolts Workshop (this is a sharing time for Friends and Trustees) on Saturday, January 21, from 10:30-12:30. Also there will be an Author Tea (featuring 4 best selling authors, to be announced) on Monday, January 23. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Mary McAfee, 695-9287, will have details as the time grows nearer. There will be a more complete list of programs, hopefully in time for the next Newsletter.

## Nominating Committee Report

Mary McAfee

The Nominating Committee members, **Rose Castro, Lucille Teeter, Robert LaCaff and Mary McAfee**, met October 9, 2005, at the Book Cellar. The following members accepted nomination for the 2006–2008 FOSAPL Board.

<b>Ann Cleve</b>	<b>Teresa Garza</b>
<b>Janie Oosterveen</b>	<b>Ronnie Retzlloff</b>
<b>Sheila Figueroa</b>	<b>Pat Konstam</b>
<b>Alan Cutler</b>	

These names will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January 2006. The floor will be open for additional nominees. If you want to nominate someone, you must have his or her approval. If you have any questions, call **Mary McAfee**, 695-9287.



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

### The Friends' Book Cellar Free Book Coupon!

Bring this coupon to the Book Cellar in the basement of the Central Library at 600 Soledad Street, San Antonio, and with the purchase of any book, surrender the coupon for a FREE regular priced book!

The Book Cellar is open 11:00am-3:00pm, Sunday-Wednesday, and Friday-Saturday, and on Thursdays, 11:00am-7:00pm.

COUPON VALID THROUGH 31 DECEMBER 2005



## Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2005

Submitted by Nancy Gandara

Accounts	Balance
Working Capital Account	51,278.62
Money Market Gold Account	24,805.01
Money Market Gold Account	53,611.36
Checking Account	71,052.20
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>200,747.19</b>
Branch-designated Funds	60,209.48
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>60,209.48</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>140,537.71</b>
Bazan Added 8/31/05,	
Pending Approval of FOSAPL Board	12.00
Brookhollow	19,514.81
Carver	1,968.46
Cody	6,154.89
Collins Garden Added 8/31/05,	
Pending Approval of FOSAPL Board	3.00
Guerra	1,737.23
Johnston	1,500.10
McCreless	2,841.06
Memorial	89.00
Oakwell	8,024.27
Teens	55.89
Texana-Genealogy	7,794.48
Thousand Oaks	5,366.46
Westfall	3,934.95
Writers	1,677.48
<b>TOTAL BRANCH FUNDS</b>	<b>60,209.48</b>

### Renew Early (Cont'd from p. 6)

the second letter could have gone to benefit the library, our unified goal!

And your money has gone so far to benefit the SAPL. We sponsor events for both children and adults, raise money through the Book Cellar as well as through branch sales, and pay for things that would not be there in the library without our donations. Please make every dollar count and JOIN NOW.

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS – AUGUST 31, 2005			
	Budget	Income	Year-to-Date
BookCellar	60,000	12,092.15	37,353.45
Donations	1,600	30.00	3,590.00
Interest	1,300	346.28	1,193.73
Membership	11,000	450.00	5,439.00
Transfer from Savings	2,050	0	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>75,950</b>	<b>12,918.43</b>	<b>47,576.18</b>
	Budget	Expense	Year-to-Date
Accounting	2,000	1,825.00A	2,370.00
Advertising	1,800	1,789.80B	1,789.80
Arts and Letters	700	0	0
Bank Charges	50	33.75	128.25
BookCellar Renovation	5,000	3,022.27	4,107.20
Bulk Mail	1,850	0	785.00
Library Support			
[approved by FOSAPL Board]	40,000	750.00C	32,002.05
Mail Box	70	0	80.80
Medicare	230	14.50	58.00
Membership Directory 2005-2006	1,500	0	0
Newsletter Preparation & Editing	1,200	200.00	800.00
Newsletter Printing	1,300	324.29	1,183.87
Office Supplies	800	0	81.11
Parking	3,800	529.00	2,053.75
Postage	500	23.00	292.10
President's Expenses	350	0	75
Salary	6,000	869.50	3,678.00
Sales Tax	7,000	1,521.35	4,992.51
Social Security	1,000	296.00	1,004.00
Subscriptions	100	0	0
Volunteer Appreciation	500	0	0
Water service at BookCellar	200	0	144.24
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>75,950</b>	<b>11,198.46</b>	<b>55,625.68</b>

- A Preparation of Annual Tax Form 990 for 2004 and 2nd Quarter Payroll Tax Reports
- B Annual charge for Book Cellar advertisement in SBC 2005-2006 Yellow Pages
- C Reflects \$ 750.00 payment for the Menger Papers, authorized by FOSAPL Board on July 17, 2005



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
San Antonio, Texas  
Permit No. 865

P.O. Box 461523  
San Antonio, Texas 78246

**Address Service Requested**

## 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.*

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Nov. 4–6   | Julia Yates Semmes Library Grand Opening  |
| Nov. 5     | Westfall book sale, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.   |
| Nov. 5     | Bazan Friends, Election of Officers, 10 a.m.  |
| Nov. 8     | Writer Friends host Literary Agent <b>Jim Hornfischer</b> , 7 p.m. Central Library Auditorium |
| Nov. 12    | Oakwell Friends Annual Meeting, Oakwell Meeting Room, 2 p.m.                                  |
| Nov. 19    | Oakwell Book Sale, 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  |
| Nov. 19–20 | Thousand Oaks book sale, Saturday, 10–3; Sunday, 1–4.   |
| Jan. 14    | Texana/Genealogy annual book sale, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Central Library                         |
| Jan. 15    | <b>FOSAPL Annual Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Central Library Auditorium</b>                           |
| Feb. 6     | Texana Genealogy Friends, <b>Bobbi Ravicz</b> , 7 p.m., Central Library Auditorium            |

Bazan Library  
2200 W. Commerce St., 78207  
210-225-1614

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

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

Semmes Library  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247

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

Westfall Library  
6111 Rosedale Court, 78201  
210-344-2373

**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.