



From the President



Dear Friends,

Spring has definitely arrived in San Antonio! We are finally getting some much needed rain. The wildflowers are in bloom, and Fiesta has come and gone. When you are thinking of summer reading, be sure to read our 2007 "1 Book, 1 San Antonio" selection. That is *The Gates of the Alamo* by **Stephen Harrigan**. Everyone in San Antonio will be discussing this book soon. The library has several copies of it, so you can reserve one at your nearest branch. You can also reserve a book online. Just go to www.sanantonio.gov/library. (You will need your library card number.)

The Annual Spring Book Sale at our Book Cellar went well. Aside from the money it earned for us, it brought new people into the Book Cellar. Some had never realized that the Book Cellar was in the basement of our Central Library. Or they were surprised that it was so large and had such an extensive selection of books. If you have not visited the Book Cellar, or haven't recently, you really should stop by soon. It is open every day the library is open, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., and on Thursdays until 7 p.m. You will be delighted at the choices available. Something for everyone!

We have a new Friends group starting at Landa Branch Library. They had an organizational meeting in March and are busy forming their bylaws and choosing their officers. Hopefully, they will be official after our May board meeting.

Also in May are our San Antonio city elections. We will be electing both city council members and our mayor. The important Bond Program will be on the ballot, too. Please go out and vote – either during early voting or on Election Day, May 12. We want to support our libraries as much as we can!

*Your Friend,
Linda Nairn*

Bond Program and City Council
Elections—May 12, 2007

(Early Voting April 30–May 8)

Vote for Proposition 4, Library Improvements

It's all or nothing on the Library Proposition, so even if there's no library project in your district, please Vote Yes for libraries across the city!!!

The City of San Antonio Bond Program Information Guide states that Proposition 4, Library Improvements, "authorizes the City of San Antonio to issue bonds, the proceeds from which will be used to acquire, construct, improve, renovate and equip library facilities or other learning center facilities. This proposition also would allow for the acquisition of lands and rights of way necessary to accomplish such purposes."

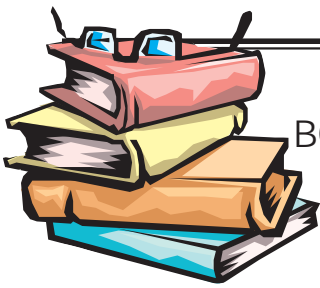
Repairs and renovations to branch library facilities are proposed for 8 locations. Two new branches are also proposed, with funding designated for "site acquisition, design and construction of a branch library" (additional funding is needed to complete both new branches). Renovation of an existing building on the campus of Robert E. Lee High School (or another identified site) is proposed "to provide a Fine Arts Library for use by the general public in coordination with leveraged funding from North East Independent School District."

Bazan Branch Library (District 5)	375,000
Collins Garden Branch Library (District 5)	400,000
Cortez Branch Library (District 4)	300,000
Johnston Branch Library (District 4)	300,000
McCreless Branch Library (District 3)	450,000
Memorial Branch Library (District 5)	300,000
Oakwell Branch Library (District 10)	325,476
(replace roof)	
Pan American Branch Library (District 4)	300,000
District 3 New Branch Library	4,175,000
District 9 New Branch Library	3,000,000
Fine Arts Library (District 1)	<u>1,100,000</u>
Total:	\$11,025,476

Book Cellar News

Chefs in uniform discovering hard-to-find recipe books, teenagers finding books on military weapons or the "Left Behind" fiction series, parents hauling armloads of children's books, little kids excitedly announcing their finds, adults carrying stacks of art and coffee table books, foreign military educators from Lackland AFB hunting English teaching materials to take home to their countries, lots of folks

Continued on p 5.



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Cody Library – March 18, 2007

Submitted by *Sheila Figueroa*, Secretary

President's Report: Linda Nairn reported that she traveled to Austin, Texas, for the state's Library Legislative Day on Feb. 6. She asked that everyone contact their state legislators to request support of library funding bills. Linda and several of our Friends' board members attended a joint workshop on Feb. 22 sponsored by the Library Board, the Library Foundation, and the Friends of SAPL. **Sally Reed**, Director of Friends of Libraries USA, was the speaker and her topic was advocacy. On March 24 Linda will conduct a meeting at the Landa Branch library to organize a new Friends group.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Gandara distributed a 2006 report as of Feb. 28, 2007, which was accepted and filed for audit.

Reports

Library Board: Jean Brady, Chair, reminded everyone that the bond election and City Council elections are in May, and encouraged us to attend neighborhood meetings where council members and candidates appear to speak. The Library District Commission will conclude its work in May. Jean announced that the Board has a new naming policy that provides for adding a person's name to a geographic location name.

Library Administration: Mark Gretchen, Assistant Director for Public Services, thanked the Friends for money donated, specifically referring to the production of "Camp Logan" held at the Carver

Center. Mark reported on various capital projects: The Igo Branch is ahead of schedule; San Pedro Branch is going well; Landa has a roofing project scheduled for May, and it will be closed for approximately six months for the Landa Gardens Conservancy Project—landscape and parking lot renovations. Carver, Bazan, and Cortez Branches will close in April and May for renovations, and Memorial Branch in early June. He stated that the library's website has good information on the bond propositions. A new service is being offered whereby audio books can be downloaded onto a computer or MP3. Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) stickers will be put into books at the libraries, which will help with self-checkout. Libraries will not have to close in order to complete this project.

Library Foundation: Victoria Smith reported for the Foundation; she is acting in the position held previously by **Lucy Gale**. Victoria reported the 1 Book, 1 San Antonio Campaign had begun with the March 7th announcement of this year's book, *The Gates of the Alamo*, by **Stephen Harrigan**. She also reported that the Jeun House at Landa was being renovated to make it ADA compliant.

Viki Ash, Children's Librarian, thanked the Friends for its monetary support. She reported that flannel-board easels were purchased and the children's librarians wrote thank you cards to FOSAPL. Viki also reported that 10,000

copies of *Green Eggs and Ham* were received, to be given away at the end of April.

Committee Reports

Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam requested a \$2,500 line of credit for Book Cellar equipment and maintenance, the Board unanimously approved it. **Bruce Gill** is a new member of the Book Cellar committee.

Membership: Ronnie Retzliff reported 697 individual members paid in full to date, reflecting an increase following the second renewal notices. The 225 former members who have not renewed at this time will be dropped from the roster. The Board thanked **Ronnie** for her years of service as chair of the Membership Committee and welcomed **Claudia Kohler** as the new chair.

Newsletter: Cathy Dean requested feedback on the current 12-page issue and stated that volunteers are needed to handle bulk mailing.

Arts and Letters Committee: Alan Cutler, Pat Brown, and Bruce Gill have agreed to serve as committee members, with a chair to be determined.

Branch News and Announcements:

Carver will have a meeting on March 31. Cody is the "trial" branch for the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) System. Maverick's first anniversary party had approximately 800 in attendance.

Thanks to **Carol Van Cleave** and the Friends of Cody for refreshments.



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
Bruce Gill Vice President
Nancy Gandara Treasurer
Sheila Figueroa Secretary
Lee LaCaff Immediate Past Pres

BOARD MEMBERS

2006–2008 Term
Anna Cleve • Alan Cutler
Teresa Garza • Pat Konstam
Josie Martinez • Janie Oosterveen
Ronnie Retzliff
2007–2009 Term
Linda Arrange • Vera Banner
Betty Kelly Berry • Pat Brown
Lucy Gale • Lou Harris
Claudia Kohler • Aaron Konstam
Pat Mendiola • Rowena Rodgers
Evanleen Schmueckle
Judy Wilson

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

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Cathy Dean
Nancy Gandara • Bruce Gill
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> and Cathy Dean at <ca-dean@sbcglobal.net>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., 78238.



Brook Hollow

The Friends are busy this Spring at Brook Hollow. A number of items have been purchased from the library staff's Wish List, including a large round picnic table with seating for eight, which has been installed under a nice shade tree for use during staff breaks and lunches. We were also able to secure a new floor buffer, which combines the wash and rinse cycles, greatly reducing cleaning time for the library's custodian.

Work is proceeding on our multiyear Landscaping Project, particularly along the front of the library. A number of perennials and shrubs were recently planted, which will provide a variety of color as we go from spring into summer here in south Texas.

Plans are also on schedule for our upcoming Book Sale, set for Saturday, May 19. While donations initially got off to a relatively slow start, they are now coming in at a rapid pace, which will enable us to offer a wide range of quality books and media at our spring book sale.

Please make a note to stop by Brook Hollow on the 19th, both to check out the new Texas Xeriscape plants and to participate in our spring book sale. We look forward to seeing you.

Richard Bowser

Cody

We're losing a dedicated, capable, and valued member, **Janna Lawrence**, in June, because she's taking a job out of state. Janna, thank you for all you have done to make Cody's book sale what it is. We'll miss you.

Our next Book Sale is May 19, 9:00-3:00. Our behind-the-scenes organization has gotten a big boost because of increased member and board member involvement. Cody is the first branch to set up the RFID system for checking books in and out, and we've just started using the system.

Carol Van Cleave

Guerra

April was an exciting month for us. I stepped down, due to my appointment to the Library Board of Trustees. We had elections and these wonderful people stepped up to be Guerra officers.

- ♦ President, **Delores Huber**
- ♦ Vice President and Treasurer, **Evelyn Thomas**
- ♦ Secretary and Friends Board member, **Anna M. Cleve**

We purchased and took delivery of our first display case, and it is already being put to good use. We have other things on our wish list, so Guerra will have a book sale on June 2 and 3. Come on down and help us add to the library.

Lora Eckler

Maverick

The Maverick Friends have been together one year now. Our original group of 6 members has grown into 23 wonderful members with more Friends who help out regularly at our events. We've had two

very successful book sales, and our next one is scheduled for September 15.

We are now into shopping mode, spending the proceeds of those sales. Recently we purchased 5 book carts, a round caterpillar rug for the children's reading area (we've heard the kids love it!), and a bulletin board. We are looking into pricing for a color printer and a display case. We are going to attach brass plaques to those gifts that will read "Donated by Friends of Maverick Library."

The summer reading program is fast approaching, and the Friends will be providing refreshments for the kick-off and helping with registration.

Claudia Kohler

McCreless

McFriends enjoyed hearing Master Gardener **Orlando Martinez** at their April 18 meeting. We also look forward to learning more from him on his Saturday morning radio show (KEDA 1540 AM, from 9 to 11 a.m.).

Because McCreless is an Early Voting site again, we're stocking up on Friends membership envelopes and planning a lobby display during that period to publicize our group's support for the library.

Cathy Dean

Semmes

Since our last newsletter, Semmes Friends joined the library staff in recognizing several milestones and celebrating great events. We welcome the arrival of Children's Librarian, **Randi Jones**. Randi stepped in to fill the vacancy created when **Michelle DiGiacomo** retired and has been on Semmes staff since February 12th. Randi started working for the SAPL exactly 12 years ago in

the Young People's Department at the Old Main Library. She joined the Las Palmas library staff in the Spring of 1996 where she stayed until her most recent move to Semmes. Randi has academic degrees in Elementary Education, French and Library and Information Science. She is an accomplished guitarist and intends to include music as a regular part of each storytime, having the children use the Semmes percussion instruments. She will also incorporate languages into the storytimes as appropriate. If you are interested in learning "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" in Spanish, French and/or Japanese, 'c'mon by! We are also very proud of Semmes librarian **Haley Holmes** who has completed all requirements for award of the Doctor of Philosophy Degree from the University of North Texas in Denton. Congratulations, Haley!

The Semmes Friends held its second book sale in early March, enabling the Friends to purchase book shelving for new books for the branch.

Lastly, the Friends were honored to participate in the library mission of community education by co-sponsoring a debate between the District 10 City Council candidates on April 24.

Christie Smith

Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks Friends of the Library will sport their new aprons at the Spring Book Sale on May 5 from 10 to 3. The group purchased plain aprons, and member **Nancy Fitzgerald** added customized pockets. Membership in the Friends organization is being promoted at this year's sale. Bookmarks, designed by

Continued on p 4.

member **Renee Hermanson**, will be placed in books purchased at the sale.

Thousand Oaks Library staff will no longer need to make a trip to the Central Library for a projector when they want to show movies. The Friends purchased a new projector for permanent use at Thousand Oaks. In addition, they purchased a movie license for use in the branch.

Plans continue for activities commemorating our 20th anniversary.

Leila Hileman

Tobin Library at Oakwell

Note that we have a new name. The San Antonio Public Library Board voted at its February meeting to change the name of the Oakwell Branch to the Tobin Library at Oakwell. We thank the Tobin Endowment for taking us under its wing.

We also have a new president. **Mary McVicker** surprised us all by announcing in February that she was resigning as president and moving to the state of Washington. Mary is a long-time member of the Friends of SAPL who served several terms as president of Oakwell Friends, developed our native plant garden, was chairman of our volunteers, editor of our newsletter, and general all around helper. She was the first recipient of our "Best Friend" award, and she will be sorely missed. With the help of all our board members, former vice president **Joan Hildreth** is attempting to fill her shoes.

Book Sale chairperson **Pat DePasquale** and her dynamic team scored another success at our February 17th sale. We netted a little over \$2,000. Pat always welcomes

donations of current titles and greatly appreciates the many volunteers who put in countless hours to guarantee our success.

On March 5, the staff honored its many volunteers with a lovely luncheon in the meeting room of the library. All staff members told what they do and how the volunteers make their particular tasks easier. It was a wonderful opportunity to get better acquainted with the librarians, and we really got a feel for the many different jobs that are required to serve the public in our busy library.

Our library is used in many ways by citizens of all ages. The computers are popular with seniors, working people, and students. The Tuesday morning story hour for toddlers, conducted by **Debbie Martin**, is a hit with mothers and 25 to 30 kiddies. The monthly afternoon book club, moderated by manager **Wendy Friedman**, has at least 15 enthusiastic participants. **Betsy Dalton** keeps the after-school crowd busy every Wednesday with craft activities, a "graphic novel" club, game tournaments, and many other fun activities for the Ckool kids at Oakwell.

Oakwell plans a summer reading program for its adults that keeps the overall theme of "Sail Away with Books." Readers over the age of 18 can register to win a basket filled with goodies, such as a new beach towel, puzzle books, and soothing aloe vera gel. For each four books read, an adult may enter one time. "This is an excellent way for grown-ups to provide positive role models for the younger ones," **Sherrie Hardin**, adult programming coordinator, said. "When a child sees an adult reading it lets them know reading is an important aspect of life."

We will honor all the members of this hard working staff with an Appreciation Dinner at the Barn Door restaurant at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, May 4.

Our next Book Sale will be held Saturday, May 19, from 10 to 3. We hope to see you all there.

Joan Hildreth

Westfall

The April 17th meeting was highlighted by the appearance of **Gregg Barrios** as our guest speaker. Mr. Barrios spoke of his fortunate encounter with a librarian who encouraged him to apply for a job with a local paper in Victoria. The job was as book reviewer and it led him into a profession as book editor for the *San Antonio Express News* and later as a film and arts columnist at the *Los Angeles Times*. He is a regular contributor to the *Texas Observer* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* Book Review. His play *Rancho Pancho* was selected for a reading at the prestigious Tennessee Williams Literary Festival in New Orleans in March 2007. He is currently at work on a play about **Candy Barr**.

Diane Fanning, a New Braunfels resident and true crime author, will speak about her books and sign copies at the May 22nd meeting, 7 p.m.

Pat Cummins

Writer Friends

The Writer Friends of the San Antonio Public Library is hosting a reading and book signing, Tuesday, May 8, at 7:00 p.m. at Barnes and Noble, San Pedro Crossing, 321 NW Loop 410. Featured

authors are: **Diane Fanning**, *Under the Knife*; **Dr. Deborah Douglas**, *Foot Soldiers: Stories from the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk*; and **Joan M. Cheever**, *Back from the Dead*.

Several other local authors will be also be available to sign their books. Ten percent of the sales price for each book sold will benefit the San Antonio Public Library. For more information, contact B&N Community Relations Manager **Sasha Kodet**, 210-342-2386.

About the authors and books:

Diane Fanning is the Edgar award nominated author of several true crime books for St. Martin's Press. She will discuss her newly released book **Under the Knife**, which is about a beautiful, successful woman named **Maria Cruz** who went to "**Doctor**" **Faiello** for a relatively simple cosmetic procedure...and succumbed to a fatal complication while under his care.

Retired pathologist, author, and breast cancer survivor, **Deborah Douglas, M.D.**, walked 600 miles in 10 Breast Cancer 3-Day events to interview cancer survivors and co-survivors. The collected stories emphasize the complexity of diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship.

Attorney **Joan M. Cheever** is an award-winning legal affairs journalist and a former managing editor of *The National Law Journal*. *Back From The Dead* is the story of 589 former death row inmates who, through a lottery of fate, were given a second chance at life in 1972 when the death penalty was abolished; it returned to the United States four years later.

Cynthia Leal Massey

Book Cellar Sale (Cont'd from p. 1)

exclaiming, "I didn't know this place was here."

These were a few of the scenes at the Book Cellar's 16th Annual Spring Sale on April 13-15. Despite competition with several major events that weekend, the store and adjoining patio were filled with a steady stream of shoppers, including regulars, newcomers and out-of-towners from Austin, Kerrville, Sugarland, and Waco.

The sale brought in a near-record \$7,391 and possibly set a record for the number of volunteers who helped—at least 70, including 51 Friends and 19 Valero Energy Corp. employees who signed up through their company's community service program. The success of the sale was a tribute to everyone's hard work.

On Feb. 26, the Book Cellar held a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch organized by **Lucille Teeter** and attended by 26 of the store's 36 current volunteers. **Judy Wilson** received a monogrammed purple apron awarded to veteran volunteers. **Jim Wogstad**, who tallies volunteer hours, reported that 41 different people volunteered at the store during 2006, working a total of 5,962 hours. That's the equivalent of 1,490 four-hour shifts or four people working every day all year.

The Book Cellar will not have a special sale during May. During June, children's and young adult hardback fiction ("chapter" books, not easy readers) will be on sale for half-price (25 cents a book) to encourage summer reading.

Pat Konstam



Book Sale Workers

Linda Arronge
Vera Banner
Pat Brown
Fern Burke
Rita Corey
Pat Cummins
Juliana Davis
Frank DePasquale
Pat DePasquale
Jesse Diaz
Julie Ernst
Jackie Fremming
Ruth Galindo
Bruce Gill
Maria Guerra
Monica Hernandez
Yolanda Herrera
Joan Hildreth
Aaron Konstam
Pat Konstam
Anne Long
Ira Lott
Marilyn Maizal
Josie Martinez
Mary McAfee
Jean Molina

Richard Morales
Linda Nairn
Tom Nemeth
Chuck Olson
Judy Olson
Jeanne Papa
Dianne Prickett
Rowena Rodgers
Kate Rutman
Jose San Clemente
Gay Schilhab
Christie Smith
Norm Sonnenschein
Edith Speert
Bennett Stampes
Shirley Stampes
Cynthia Talboys
Lucille Teeter
Arturo Titian
Bettie Ward
Judy Wilson
Eric Wogstad
Jim Wogstad
Carol Wooster
Ruth Yows
19 Valero Volunteers

All of our volunteers worked extra hard to put this sale together, but we would like to say a special thank you to **Jim Wogstad** and his son **Eric Wogstad** for putting up and taking down the tents. They worked very hard and did such a good job for us. — *Lucille Teeter*

Left: Book Sale Shoppers
Both below: Book Cellar Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at La Fogata, Feb. 26





Texas Library Association's 94th Annual Conference

Report by *Cathy Dean*, Hospitality Committee

Many, many thanks to the Friends who helped our Local Arrangements Hospitality Committee with gift bag assembly and meeting speakers at the airport. **Jackie Caverly**, former SAPL librarian who recently moved back to her home state, and **Gail Douglas**, former Schertz librarian who is now in Schertz city administration, were the other committee members.

Claudia Kohler, **Linda Nairn**, and **Mary Schmid** came to the Convention Center to work on gift bags, so of course I could take pictures of them. It was a fun group and really nice to get to know each other better. You can see the results of our handiwork in the background, and if you check the newsletter online when it gets posted to the SAPL web site, you can even see it in color. If I do say so myself, I think the black bags and lime green tissue paper were perfect for this year's program cover colors. More important, though, were the chocolate Alamos and gourmet nuts inside. Our committee was very pleased to acquire all gifts and packaging from local businesses, both on principle and in keeping with the conference theme of Strong Communities.

Unfortunately, there are no photos of the hardworking airport team of **Bruce Gill**, **Nancy Gandara**, **Josie Martinez**, and **Rowena Rodgers**. They stood in the airport terminals holding up large Texas Library Association signs to greet speakers from all over the country, including **Sally Reed**, executive director of Friends of Libraries U.S.A. **Gail Douglas** and I were asked to meet **Lynn Sherr** of 20/20 and ABC news fame, who flew in from the

East Coast early in the morning to speak at the last major General Session and then flew back home immediately after her program. Ms. Sherr is a very warm and gracious individual, and also an outstanding speaker. It was really fun to meet her!

Copies of the Book Cellar's book sale flyer were available in the Registration Information area every day, and there was also a notice placed in Friday's daily conference newsletter. Hope that did some good, but there's so much going on during Conference, and so many books available at author events and the Exhibit Hall, I'm not sure the flyers and notices translated into business for the Book Cellar. TLA will be in San Antonio again in 2010, from April 13–16. I learned a lot this time and know there are some things



Linda Nairn and Mary Schmid

we could do differently to promote the Book Cellar better. Let's also get FOSAPL more involved in LiFTA activities!



Lynn Sherr and Gail Douglas



Claudia Kohler

A Round Table

of the Texas Library Association

Serving Public, School, Academic, and Special Libraries

Beth Crabb, a Brook Hollow Friend, is the newly elected chair of Library Friends, Trustees, and Advocates (LiFTA). As chair-elect this past year, she worked closely with TLA on the Opening Author Session luncheon sponsored by LiFTA. We had lunch, a great turnout, and three excellent speakers, all of whom had their books available—what more could you ask for!



Left: Opening Author Session luncheon sponsored by LiFTA.

Large Photo below: Beth Crabb, Chair of LiFTA, is on the far right at the head table.

Bottom L-R: Brian Selznick, The Invention of Hugo Cabret. Tim McClure, Don't Mess with Texas. Laura Lippman, What the Dead Know

Blue Ribbon Library District Commission

*Ramiro Salazar, Director, and Jessica Ramos, Special Projects
Coordinator, San Antonio Public Library*

In March 2006, Mayor **Phil Hardberger** and County Judge **Nelson Wolff** appointed a Joint Blue Ribbon Library District Commission. The City, as the lead governmental entity, appointed 10 commission members and 1 ex-Officio member, Councilman **Roger Flores**. City appointees are **Jean Brady, David Carpenter, Elda Flores, Laurie Gruenbeck, Lamont Jefferson, Dennis Martinez, John Nicholas, Manuel Pelaez-Prada, and Julian Trevino**. The County appointed 5 commission members are **Eddie Aldrete, Adele Dendy, Ph.D., Patricia Flynn, Aurora Geis, and Debbie Prost**.

The charge of the Library District Commission (LDC) is to "evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of comprehensive data and informational scenarios regarding the proposed library district." Currently, the library is a City department and, although the City Council has consistently supported the library, it remains underfunded. As such, the San Antonio Public Library ranks lowest among major Texas cities in expenditures on library items per capita and second to last in operating expenditures per capita. The library requires stable and sustainable funding in order to provide the level of library services our community needs.

The creation of this Commission was a result of passage of the Multi-jurisdictional Library District legislation last session (79R) in the legislature. Codified in Local Government Code Chapter 336, this statute allows for the creation of a multi-jurisdic-

tional library district. Through the joint collaboration and efforts of the Friends of the SAPL, SAPL Foundation, and the SAPL Board of Trustees, this very important first step towards the Library District initiative was a success.

Since its creation, members of the LDC have met regularly to gain a better understanding of the current state of the library, options for other sources of revenue, and issues related to the transition of the San Antonio Public Library to a library district. The LDC is looking at a funding option that would include contributions from the City and County to augment revenue from a dedicated sales tax.

Additionally, as the Commission has moved forward planning the implementations of a library district, a need to further clarify the intent of the initial legislation was identified. This need is being addressed during this legislative session. Senator Wentworth has sponsored a clean-up bill, SB940, and Representative Straus has filed an identical companion bill HB2711.

The LDC plans to present a final report to City Council in the summer of 2007. It is expected that this report will focus on the glaring funding deficiencies of the San Antonio Public Library and will recommend the creation of a Library District as the best option to address these deficiencies. The report is also expected to identify key issues related to transitioning a city department into a stand-alone entity and will entertain the need to plan and develop a transition plan.

State Acknowledges Libraries and Librarians

In recognition of National Library Week and National Library Workers Day, Representative Dawnna Dukes introduced House Resolution 1502 to recognize the staff of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and library staff working throughout the state. Below is the text of the resolution.

In Celebration of National Library Week and National Library Workers Day

WHEREAS, our state's public, academic, school and specialized libraries, and the people who work in them, are valued resources;

WHEREAS, libraries play a vital role in supporting the quality of life in their communities-places for opportunity, education, self-help and lifelong learning;

WHEREAS, librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn and work in the 21st century;

WHEREAS, in 2005, Texans borrowed 100 million items from public libraries, and got help with nearly 24 million reference questions (66,000 per day!);

WHEREAS, research shows that students who attend schools with good school libraries headed by librarians perform better on standardized tests;

WHEREAS, libraries are key players in the national discourse on intellectual freedom, equity of access, and narrowing the "digital divide;"

WHEREAS, all Texans and all Texas libraries benefit from the resources and services provided by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the commission's dedicated staff;

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, library workers and supporters across America are celebrating National Library Week and National Library Workers Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the 80th Texas Legislature proclaims National Library Week, April 15-21, 2007, and National Library Workers Day, April 17.

Thanks to **Beverley Shirley**, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and **Beatrice Canales**, Las Palmas Branch Library, for sharing this news.

Memorials and Donations

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
Mr. and Mrs. Guadalupe Garcia	Rachel Zepeda
Cecelia Real	Coleman Company Insurance Services
John Wise	Jim and Cathy Dean
<i>Sheila Figueroa</i>	

Best Friends Awards Presented at Annual Meeting, January 21, 2007

Congratulations to our 2007 FOSAPL Best Friends, pictured with presenters of their awards (unless otherwise noted).

Bazan

Atanacio Garcia

Carver

Shirley Davis

Cody

Carol Van Cleve (not shown)

Forest Hills

Yolanda Kirkpatrick

Johnston

Jean and Robert Barlow

Maverick

Donna Hogan &
Claudia Kohler

McCreless

Barbara Santella

Memorial

Lisa Rodriguez

Oakwell

Norma Carmack (not shown)

Semmes

Judy Wilson

Thousand Oaks

Carol Crawford

Westfall

Bettie Ward

Texana/Genealogy

Lenore Karp (not shown)

Writer

Caren Creech Berlanga
(not shown)

Book Cellar

Aaron Konstam

NOTES: My apologies to those of you in the fuzzy photos. We all know you look better than this, but my search for better photos wasn't working out well and we didn't want any further delay in acknowledging your awards.

Cathy Dean



Carver - **Shirley Davis (R)** and **Rowena Roby**



McCreless - **Barbara Santella (R)** and **Evanleen Schmueckle**



Bazan - **Atanacio Garcia (L)** and **Libbie Roussin**



Forest Hills - **Yolanda Kirkpatrick (L)** and **Dr. Johnnie Spraggins**



Memorial - **Lisa Rodriguez (R)** and **Rosie Castro**



Johnston - **Jean Barlow (L)** and **Cathy Rainwater**



Maverick - **Donna Hogan (L)** and **Claudia Kohler (R)**, co-honorees



Thousand Oaks - **Carol Crawford (L)** and **Nancy Fitzgerald**



Westfall - **Bettie Ward (L)** and **Pat Cummins**



Semmes - **Judy Wilson**



Book Cellar - **Lucille Teeter** and **Aaron Konstam**

Last Chance Books: Rags to Riches

TLA-LiFTA Presentation by **Julia Ousley**, Lay Advocate, New Braunfels Public Library

Library Friends, Trustees and Advocates (LiFTA) had its most well-attended Texas Library Association program ever this April by sponsoring a local area, lay advocate speaker. The theme for this year's Conference in San Antonio was **Strong Libraries, Strong Communities**, and LiFTA's own **Julia (Julie) Ousley**, a member of Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library, fit right into that theme. Her presentation demonstrated how unwanted, discarded books can be transformed into saleable art, fashion, and furniture through a creative recycling program—a program that was adopted by the FOSAPL Book Cellar last summer.

The New Braunfels Public Library's fundraising has been so successful that they now call their Last Chance Books project the "recycling arm of the Friends of the NBPL," and their group won the 2006 Alamo Area Library System's Unique Fundraising Award of the Year for their project.

Here are some excerpts from the nomination describing their project.

Every library has discardable books, rendered unacceptable for the collection by their age, redundancy, or condition, and the NBPLFOL tries to find homes for them all, but there are still "orphans" remaining. Last Chance Books strives to make these, the last, the lost, the lonely, the losers, into the delightful, the delectable, and the desirable. In short, we transform "duds" into "Prom Queens."

The project's direction is channeled into three distinct avenues: "Books to be made into Altered Books" (including **Shaped Books**), "Books as Fashion Accessories" (including **Book Purses**), and "Book Furniture" (e.g. the **Book Bookshelf**), all of which are currently available for sale at our NBPL-housed Friends Bookstore.

Our specialty, Shaped Books, or books that have been band-sawed into recognizable and inspiring shapes, which helps the crafter to shake any hesitancy or reluctance to "deface" a book, starts with these previously undesirable books, and turns them into Best Sellers.

Perhaps not so wildly successful economically, yet just as unique, is our offering of Book Purses. Once again we start with totally rejected books, but, in this case, transform them into fashion accessories. The sale of these purses is nice, but our secret marketing strategy is to get buyers for our books who will then make their OWN hand-bags. To this end we'll be offering a class (for a fee) in How to Make a Book Purse, which is another unique fundraiser.

The third manifestation of our Unique Fundraiser is our Book Bookshelf, which sells from our Friends Book Store in the Library itself. Easy to make by a novice woodworker, these are the perfect touch for decorating a bibliophile's den, or giving to a favorite hard-to-buy-for someone. Entered in the Comal County Fair, the prototype won a blue ribbon, and garnered some publicity for the library and its Friends. These Prom Queens also started out as unwanted, unloved, undesirable social misfits, but with a little attention, they are beautiful belles of the bazaar, a great fundraiser with a great future.

The real beauty of this unique fundraiser is that it is do-able by almost any library of any size. One need not engage a caterer nor decorator nor keep track of RSVPs nor Thank You notes. The start up costs are negligible, and its ongoing potential is inestimable. Not to mention that the recycling aspect is every municipality's dream . . . definitely a Win-Win-Win proposition.

DISCLAIMER: No books actually worth reading have been harmed in the production of these fundraising items.



INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

February 28, 2007

Submitted by Nancy Gandara

Accounts	Balance			
Money Market Gold Account				\$134,654.49
Checking Account				\$87,393.77
Total Assets				\$222,048.26
Branch-designated Funds				\$75,980.47
Total Liabilities				\$75,980.47
OVERALL TOTAL				\$144,067.79
	Budget	Jan/Feb 07	FOSAPL YTD	Groups YTD
Income				
Book Cellar Sales/Group Book Sales	\$65,000	\$15,192.10	\$7,920.45	\$7,271.65
Donations	\$3,523	\$1,216.25	\$200.00	\$1,016.25
Interest	\$6,250	\$1,004.29	\$1,004.29	
Membership	\$8,000	\$13,112.00	\$10,392.00	\$2,720.00
FOSAPL Income	\$82,773	\$30,524.64	\$19,516.74	
Branch/Groups Income				\$11,007.90
Transfer from Savings	\$37,227			
Assets to be Used During 2007	\$120,000			
Expenses				
Accounting	\$2,250	\$165.00	\$165.00	
Arts and Letters	\$400			
Bank Charges	\$50	\$11.50	\$11.50	
Book Cellar Expenses				
Advertising	\$2,000			
Commodities for resale	\$600	\$423.00	\$423.00	\$519.40
Internet & software	\$200			
Printing/copying	\$200			
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$750			
Salary & benefits	\$7,200	\$1,180.00	\$1,180.00	
Volunteer Appreciation	\$500			
Water service	\$652	\$68.00	\$68.00	
Branch/Group Operating Expenses				\$662.43
Bulk Mail	\$1,500	\$160.00	\$160.00	
FOLUSA Membership	\$100			
FOSAPL Committee Expenses	\$400	\$121.70	\$121.70	
FOSAPL Donor Recognition	\$1,000			
Friends recognition	\$300			
Insurance (bonding)	\$125			
Library Support				
Programming for public [all year, all ages]	\$40,000			
Staff development & training	\$40,000			
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Members	no funding amt.	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Branch/Group Purchases for SAPL				\$3,779.27
Mail Box	\$100			
Newsletter Prep/Editing	\$1,800	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Newsletter Printing	\$2,800	\$1,005.08	\$1,005.08	
Office Supplies	\$1,500			
Parking	\$4,600	\$760.50	\$760.50	
Postage	\$623			
President's Expenses	\$350			
Sales Tax (Book Cellar and Branches)	\$10,000	\$654.29	\$654.29	
Total Expenses	\$120,000	\$4,949.07	\$4,949.07	\$4,961.10

Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

February 28, 2007

	Dec. 31, 2005	Dec. 31, 2006
Bazan	\$ 71.00	\$ 781.73
Brook Hollow	19,483.55	16,017.85
Carver	1,812.39	1,875.63
Cody	8,756.82	8,494.84
Forest Hills		895.87
Guerra	2,152.56	2,843.46
Johnston	1,014.06	1,031.76
Maverick		3,545.48
McCreless	3,048.06	6,053.73
Memorial	2,860.00	5,683.31
Oakwell	5,716.68	3,386.55
Semmes	33.00	1,370.88
Texana/Genealogy	9,548.48	12,711.31
Thousand Oaks	4,158.22	5,037.97
Westfall	4,770.14	4,674.98
Writers	1,936.48	2,267.39
Total Group Funds	\$65,361.44	\$76,672.74

San Antonio Public Library Summer Reading 2007

Sail Away with Books! / Navega lejos con libros!

Weigh the anchor and batten down the hatches as you set sail for a boat load of fun this summer at the San Antonio Public Library! **The program will begin June 1 and end July 28.**

Sailors and salty dogs, mermaids and merchantmen are all invited to join the 2007 Summer Reading Club—it's so easy, even a landlubber can do it!

1. Sign up online at www.sanantonio.gov/library or at your neighborhood library.

2. Pick up a reading log.

3. For each book you read (or listen to), write the title on your Reading Log.

4. When you've read 15 books, bring your Reading Log back to the Library and we'll let you choose a book to keep, AND you'll receive two tickets to a San Antonio Missions Baseball game!

5. You're welcome to complete as many Reading Logs as you want - but only one book-to-keep and one pair of tickets per reader, please!

6. Keep your Reading Log as a reminder of your summer reading success.

...and don't miss **SummerFest 2007!**

As our summer of sailing comes to an end, we can't resist the notion of one last hurrah as our sailors return from the sea!

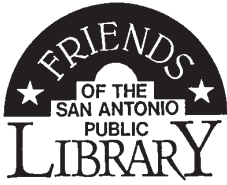
Join us on Saturday, July 28, beginning at 11:00 a.m. as we celebrate your summer reading success and relive your many maritime adventures!

There will be activities throughout the library, stem to stern. And don't worry—we won't lower the mainsail until 3 p.m. Stop by and be part of the fun:

Saturday, July 28, 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Central Library, 600 Soledad

For more information about the San Antonio Public Library Summer Reading Club, please call (210) 207-2621.



P.O. Box 461523
San Antonio, Texas 78246

Address Service Requested

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

CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Because dates and times change occasionally, please call and verify information.

- May 2 Westfall meeting, 7 p.m., **Diane Fanning** guest speaker
- May 5 Thousand Oaks Book Sale, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
- May 8 Writer Friends, 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, San Pedro Crossing, 320 NW Loop 410, featuring **Diane Fanning, Dr. Deborah Douglas, Joan M. Cheever**
- May 12 City Elections
- May 19 Brook Hollow Book Sale
- May 19 Cody Book Sale, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- May 19 Tobin Library at Oakwell Book Sale, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
- May 20 FOSAPL Board Meeting, 2 p.m., McCreless Branch Library**
- June 1 Summer Reading Program begins
- June 2-3 Guerra Book Sale
- Sept 15 Maverick Book Sale
- Nov 3 Thousand Oaks Book Sale

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.

Brook Hollow Library
530 Heimer Road, 78232
210-496-6315

Cody Library
11441 Vance Jackson, 78230
210-696-6396

Guerra Library
7978 Military Dr W, 78227
210-673-1492

Maverick Library
8700 Mystic Park, 78254
210-680-9346

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

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

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

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