



From the President



Dear Friends,

We don't want to take our Friends for granted, so I am happy to say "Thank you!" to several people who recently made especially generous donations to FOSAPL: **Anbarasi Arulmani, Ruth McLean Bowman Bowers, Esperanza Calderon-Jones, Hillary A. Neskora, Virginia Van Steenberg, and Dr. and Mrs. John Mumma.** Gifts such as theirs—whether dedicated to individual branches or to support the San Antonio Public Library through its annual contributions by the Friends—are appreciated more than ever, during this time of budgetary reductions.

Creative economizing was also on the minds of those who attended our "Show Me the Money" program on July 18 at the Central Library. Almost all the Friends groups were represented at the workshop, and everyone learned a new trick or two. Panelists who shared their success stories (and a few cautionary tales) included **Sue Ratliff, Beverly Duran, Marshall Mundorff** presenting for **Jeanne Mundorff, Luberta Satterfield, Bruce Gill** who presented information compiled by **Pat Bjornson, Alan Hildreth, Richard Morales, Linda Arronge, Judy Wilson, and Kathy Donellan.** **Mary McAfee, Linda Arronge, Linda Nairn, Bruce Gill** and I provided refreshments, and gourmet coffee was courtesy of **Ann Tobin.** Thanks to everyone who participated, on both sides of the panelists' table.

Aaron Konstam reports that The Book Cellar now has a Twitter account: look for BookCellarSA—a great way to keep up with the newest sales and special deals!

Lastly, with this issue of *SAPLings* members of the newsletter committee begin to roll out new content: **Lyn Belisle, Cathy Dean, Alana Woods, Bruce Gill, Linda Nairn** and I have worked to set up some new columns and minimize repetition of the information reported. Look for a regular column by Library Director **Ramiro Salazar**; three columns per issue to introduce Friends who are active members of branch or interest groups; and "Branch Leaves" articles that emphasize Friends' activities (especially upcoming ones), rather than programs conducted by library staff. Writers, photographers, and web page designers are also needed to help "polish" our communication media, so volunteer your suggestions, time, and talent by contacting any member of the committee.

Cheers,

Nancy Gandara

Leave a Legacy

Lyn Belisle

Like a good book, lives must end, but you can leave a legacy of love and literacy when you consider planned estate giving to the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library. Every gift—no matter the size—is appreciated. Here are some of the reasons you might include the FOSAPL in your legacy planning:

- Contributions through wills and estates have a significant impact on building a strong future for our beautiful Library
- You can add special meaning to your gift by arranging a tribute in honor of or in memory of a special friend or loved one.
- You'll save money on income, gift, and estate taxes that can instead be put to use in our community in ways you choose.
- You'll enjoy your giving more, knowing that you're helping your community through a direct literacy initiative through our San Antonio Public Library.

If this sounds like a cause that fits your spirit of giving, please contact the treasurer of the Friends of the SAPL after you have consulted with your family financial advisor.

Leave a legacy – you'll help the community and all of us who love our San Antonio Public Library.

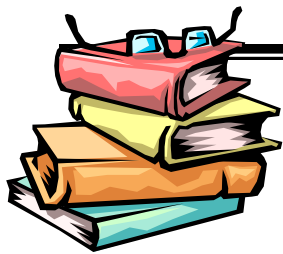


Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony October 25 @ 2:00 p.m. Central Library Auditorium

We had many impressive nominations this year for our Arts and Letters Awards. We will be presenting these awards on **Sunday afternoon, October 25, at 2:00 p.m. in the Central Library Auditorium.**

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. You should be getting an invitation in the mail in October. Y'all come! It is always exciting to meet San Antonio's creative geniuses, up close and personal!

First presented in 1972, the Arts and Letters Awards are presented annually by the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library to recognize and celebrate achievement by individuals who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the arts and letters. Honorees include artists, writers, musicians, educators, community leaders, and entertainers whose dedication and devotion to their chosen fields have served to enrich the cultural and spiritual life of San Antonio.



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Board Meeting

July 19, 2009

Submitted by *Linda Arronge*

The Friends of the Library meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by President **Nancy Gandara**. It was held at Semmes Library. The roll was called, and a quorum was present. **Mary McAfee** moved and **Sue Ratliff** seconded the motion that the minutes be approved as printed in the *SAPLings*.

President's Report—Nancy Gandara. Gandara reported that the San Antonio Area Foundation presented the John Igo Library with a \$500 donation. The contribution was a gift from **John and Judy Mumma**. Gandara announced that the "Show Me the Money" workshop held on July 18 was a great success.

Treasurer's Report—Judy Wilson. Wilson presented a copy of the expense report. It was reviewed and accepted. It will be filed for audit. The expense report will be printed in the next issue of *SAPLings*.

Library Board of Directors President—Jean Brady. The Central Library will be under renovation in the fall. In July, Brady attended the annual Urban Library Council (ULC) meeting in Chicago where she received the ULC Urban Players Award. Brady thanked the group for sending so many congratulatory notes and letters regarding her award.

Library Director Report—Ramiro Salazar. Salazar and library representatives attended the 5th Anniversary of the Guerra Library on Saturday, July 18. Salazar announced that the Library will be closed for a staff development day on Wednesday, October 12. He announced that the library and all departments were asked to make budget cuts. This is 10% for non-uniform departments. Salazar attributed 70% of the budget to personnel.

Opening dates for two new libraries will be delayed by three months in 2010. There will be cuts in services and hours at library branches. Roosevelt

might open the same hours as Reagan. The Budget will be submitted in August and each district will hold a meeting. The Council will then tweak some projects.

The Foundation—Sarah Swinney. The Foundation is trying to tap into funds from the stimulus plan. The Project *Global Giving* was a success. We came in 7th. The Spanish Heritage will present **Josephina Lopez** author of *Real Women Have Curves* on September 27. On October 3, we will celebrate Children's Books. The program will be at the Pearl Stables and will cost \$25 per person. There will be many writers present, and there will be activities for the children.

Book Cellar—Aaron Konstam. The Cellar raised approximately \$8,100 at its annual Big Sale. We received one thousand boxes of books from St. Phillip's College. The Policy and Mission statements for the Book Cellar were discussed. Copies of the statements were circulated to give members an opportunity to review existing policies. **Ronnie Retzliff** moved that we approve the Policy and Mission statement. **Jackie Fremming** seconded the motion. **Mary McAfee** called for questions. Concern was expressed and it was suggested that two people count the money each day and sign the slip showing the amount. It was stated that it was already done. It was approved as presented.

Memorials—Sheila Figueroa. Figueroa reported sending seven letters to acknowledge donations and memorials. A "thank you" letter was sent to the Ruth McLean Bowman Bowers Foundation. The foundation made a generous donation of \$1,000.

Memberships Report—Claudia Kohler. A printed report was presented by Kohler. We had 27 new members that

joined at the Book Cellar Pre-Sale. We currently have 834 members.

Directory—Robert LaCaff. The directory is roughly 85–90% completed. LaCaff has requested that each library branch designate a contact person.

Arts and Letters—Linda Arronge. Arronge said the Arts and Letters Ceremony will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at the Central Library.

Budget Committee—Judy Wilson will serve as Chairperson. Committee members will include: **Linda Nairn, Sue Ratliff, Cynthia Talboys, Aaron Konstam, and Robbi Rupert.**

Task Force for the Texas Library Association in April 2010—Denise Barlow will serve as Chairperson. Task Force committee members will include: **Cathy Dean, Evelyn Bonavita and Linda Arronge.**

2010 Recruitment—Nancy Gandara will serve as Chairperson. Committee members will include **Denise Barlow, Cynthia Talboys, Claudia Kohler and Pat Peak.**

Nominating Committee for 2010—Bruce Gill will serve as Chairperson. Committee members will include: **Robbi Rupert and Mary McAfee.**

Newsletter—Cathy Dean. The committee is looking for new members. They will meet August 3 or 4. They are flexible about the time, date, and place.

The meeting was then adjourned by President **Nancy Gandara.**

Roll call of those in attendance: **Nancy Gandara, Bruce Gill, Linda Arronge, Judy Wilson, Linda Nairn, Denise Barlow, Evelyn Bonavita, Shirley Davis, Jackie Fremming, Aaron Konstam, Pat Konstam, Robert LaCaff, Mary McAfee, Pat Mendiola, Ronnie Retzliff, Robbi Rupert, Evanleen Schmueckle, Lyn Belisle, Cathy Dean.**



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

Nancy GandaraPresident
Bruce GillVice President
Linda Arronge Secretary
Judy Wilson Treasurer
Linda NairnImmediate Past Pres

BOARD MEMBERS

2008–2010 Term

Robbi Ruppert • Pat Konstam
Dolores Huber • Shirley Davis
Dorothy Smith • Josie Martinez

2009–2011 Term:

Denise Barlow • Evelyn Bonavita
Shirley Coleman • Claudia Kohler
Jackie Fremming • Robert LaCaff
Aaron Konstam • Mary McAfee
Pat Mendiola • Ronnie Retzliff
Evanleen Schmueckle • Ann Tobin

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

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair
Cathy Dean • Bruce Gill
Nancy Gandara, *Ex Officio*
Linda Nairn, *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 <awoods005@satx.rr.com> 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., San Antonio, TX 78238.



Branch Leaves

News from
Branch Libraries

Brook Hollow

As summer blends into fall at Brook Hollow, large numbers of patrons continue to enjoy the many benefits of their local library (not just the great air conditioning!). Preparations for the new school year are about completed. A new book hold system that allows patrons to pick up their hold books and directly check out without having to wait in any line is now operational.

The brutal heat and drought of this summer have proven a challenge for us, but thanks to some of the Friends, especially **Richard Kierbow, Marilou Smith, Neal Bjornson** and others, our Texas Xeriscape plants are hanging in there . . . if not thriving, they're at least surviving. Hopefully this fall we'll see lower temperatures as well as some much needed rain.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming book sale on Saturday, October 3, starting at 10 a.m., in keeping with the new library hours. We've received some outstanding donations, both in books and media. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Richard Bowser

Carver

Carver Friends have worked diligently this year. The Friends have had successful book sales so far. Our enrollment has increased as well.

The Friends purchased a microwave oven and a popcorn machine for the Carver Library. We are also looking forward to purchasing other items for the library in the future.

Kudos to **Luberda Satterfield**, Carver Friend, who participated in the workshop "Show Me the Money: How to Raise It, Bank It, and Spend It" at Central Library. Carver Friends used this idea to raise money last year with a very successful fundraiser.

D.L. Grant, Carver Friend and assistant Branch Manager of the Carver Library, orchestrated a magnificent event. He correlated the visual art and literary art together on August 8 at Carver Library. The Carver Community Art Show featured **Mrs. Aaronetta Pierce**, San Antonio art advocate, as the special speaker. Mrs. Pierce talked about the importance of art in our daily lives and how art reflects the culture of the race depending on who the artist is. The reception began at 12:30.

Carver Friends President **Dorothy Smith** and Friend **Shirley Coleman** served as hostesses. Carver Friends also assisted in providing food for the reception. Local artists who exhibited at the Carver Library were **John A. Coleman, Ronney Stevens, Howard Rhoder Jr., Paul Hurd, Gracie Poe, Helen Montagnino**, and **George Ellis**. Other notables in attendance were **Mrs. Harriet Kelley**, San Antonio art advocate, Council Woman **Ivy Taylor**, Poets **Annie Brown** and **Aaron Doyle**, and local writer **Rhonda Sloan**. This event was well attended and quite informative to all who shared in this art and literary experience. This was the first annual event, and D.L. stated that this will be done next

year also. Kudos to **D.L. Grant** for a job well done.

Shirley Coleman

Cody

Cody library received a donation of a special limited edition of the *Tales of the South Pacific* signed by **James Michener**, Number 18 of 250, Published by Gulliver books, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992.

On July 29, a brunch was held in honor of **Carol Van Cleave** to commemorate her term as president from 2006–2009. Her dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Cynthia Talboys was elected as the new president at the June 16 Cody Friends Board meeting.

Cynthia Talboys

Collins Garden

A REMINDER: National Night Out is October 6. Come on out and support your area neighborhood crime and drug prevention event. For more information check out the SAPD web site at: <http://www.sanantonio.gov/sapd/nn02009>.

AN INVITE: Come on down to the Collins Garden Branch Library at 200 N. Park for National Night Out. Starting time will be at 5:30 p.m. on October 6. The Collins Garden Friends will be accepting new members for 2009 and 2010. Collins Garden Friends will also give away one hundred (or more) books donated by The Book Cellar and other parties.

Richard O. Morales

Forest Hills

Forest Hills displays for July and August include Hurricane Season, Great Outdoor Month, and Travel the World with Books. In addition, the Contrarian Viewpoints Book

Club met twice to discuss two different titles. Neighborhood associations such as the Woodlawn Hills N.A. and the Thunderbird Hills N.A. continue to use the meeting room on a monthly basis. The Feral Cats group met August 2 at the library as well.

Forest Hills continued to have good customer turnout at the B.A.C.K. Pack and Story time programs. Customers enjoyed making crafts and listening to stories. KLRN visited Forest Hills on Tuesday, July 21, and brought Maya and Miguel with them. Customers enjoyed playing games, making crafts and taking pictures with Maya and Miguel. The last story time of the Summer was especially magical because **Ronald McDonald** came to visit. Kids and adults enjoyed his magical show. Some children gladly participated being assistants to **Ronald McDonald**.

At the end of the Summer Reading Program, Forest Hills had about 735 children registered. The total number of children that completed the program was not available.

Forest Hills is losing its Director, **Roberto Zapata**, as he will become full time Director at Great Northwest branch. He had been dividing his time between the two branches previously. **Jimmy Jimenez** of the Memorial Branch will now be dividing time between Memorial and Forest Hills.

The members of Forest Hills Friends are looking forward to our upcoming book sale to raise funds to support the library.

Johnnie Spraggins

Igo

The Friends of the Igo Library are proud to assure

Branch Leaves cont on p 4.

the library community and citizens that **John Igo** is not only a Library, but also an active member of the Friends of the Igo Branch—FIBBERS. John continues to support and attend our friends meetings. His gifts come not only in the form of contributions of puppets and books to the library—plus doughnuts, candy, and cookies at meetings—but with contributions from his devoted friends and followers. The friends recently received a generous gift of \$500 from the San Antonio Area Foundation Advised Trust of **Dr. John V. & Mrs. Judy Jay Mumma. John Igo and Judy Jay Mumma** are close friends; he was her advisor throughout her theatre directing career. This gift will go a long way in supporting the outstanding programs the library presents. We heartily thank them for their acknowledgement of the value of libraries and for the tribute to their friend, **John Igo**.

Speaking of library programming, the library's fabulous staff continues to WOW the library bean and usage counters. For June and July, **Kathy Claspill** reported that the Igo Library summer programs had 5,099 participants—the most participants in the entire system, including the Central Library. In circulation statistics, Igo came in second to Central with 43,562 items circulated. OUTSTANDING!! The Friends were proud to be able to support refreshments, programming and bags and magnets for prizes and participation. The fall programs will include a Christmas ornament craft project and celebration of Hispanic heritage with a Brazilian dance group.

At our last meeting, the Fibbers discussed funding for San Antonio Libraries. We decided to send a copy of our minutes

to the New District 8 Council person **Reed Williams**. Hopefully this will draw his attention to the library and how friends are needed to provide support for valuable programs. Councilman Williams will be holding regular town hall meetings at Igo this fall.

We ordered about 300 Igo Library bags as a fundraiser and promotions/gifts in May. They are going like "hot cakes." Our next order will probably include a different type of bag. Depending on how many sell at our next book sale we may order again soon.

Speaking of Book Sales, put September 12–13 on your calendars. We'll have set up on Thursday (10th) from 5–9 in the evening and Friday (11th) from 10–4. The sale will be Saturday (12th) from 10–4 and Sunday (13th) from 1–4. All "helpers" are invited and appreciated. Hope to see you then.

Kathleen McCloskey

Maverick

The Maverick Friends are happy to report that the two benches we bought have been installed in front of our library. We were a bit uncertain about purchasing them, but they may be one of our best gifts to library customers. They are seldom empty, even in the heat of summer.

We are also excited about the two DVD/CD Browsers that were delivered recently. As you may remember from the May–June issue of *SAP-Lings*, this purchase was facilitated by a very generous donation from **Julia Orynski Maverick**, trustee of the Maury Maverick Jr. Testamentary Trust.

Of course summer is a busy time at all of our libraries, and Maverick is no exception.

Younger children have been involved in the Summer Reading program. More than 1,300 registered for the program, and 508 had completed it as of August 12. In addition to the regular Teens Book Club, the teens also enjoyed video game contests. There was even a special Christmas in July crafting program for the adults.

Looking ahead, there are plans for contra dancing at 2 p.m. on September 20. There will also be a series of three Tejano dance classes at 7 p.m. on October 6, 13, and 20. Please register at the Reference Desk or call the library at 210-680-9346 for more details.

The Teen Book Club will discuss *The Hunger Games* by **Suzanne Collins** at 6:30 p.m. on September 15. At the October 20 meeting, the book will be *Haters* by **Alisa Valdez-Rodriguez**. As always, the Friends will provide free pizza and soda.

Remember our book sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on October 10 and 1 to 4 p.m. on October 11. We will have plenty of 25¢ paperbacks and 50¢ hard bound bargains plus many more at our regular prices of 50¢ for small paperbacks and \$1.00 for trade [large] paperbacks and hardbound books. We expect to have a large selection of CDs, DVDs, and audio books as well.

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

McCreless Friends group sends a huge "shout out" to **Gail and Leonard Long** for donating all the delicious "fixin's" for the Make-Your-Own sundaes that the Friends provided at the McCreless staff luncheon on July 6. Another big thank you goes to the Highlands Southeast Optimist Club for co-sponsoring the au-

thor **Florence Weinberg** and sharing their meeting night and Gevers Hall with us during renovations of McCreless Library. A November field trip to see the new library at Alamo Colleges–St. Philip's College is in the works. Stay tuned for additional information as it develops. Mark your calendars. Our next book sale will be September 26 and 27 at McCreless Library. On Saturday, the sale will be from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m. Volunteers and book donations are always welcome.

Jill Zimmermann

Semmes

Semmes Friends have had a quiet summer as we prepare for our fall book sale on Saturday October 3rd from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All members of the Friends are invited to the preview sale on Friday, October 2, from noon until 2 p.m.. We have received lots of donations of nice books in a large range of categories so we hope to see you in October!

Christie Smith

Thousand Oaks

Hats off and a big thank you to all the people who made our latest Book Sale a great success: **Ginger Hobbs**, who did such a fine job organizing and supervising the sale, all her volunteer helpers, and those who donated the books. And of course, thanks to all the loyal customers who came with their bags and checkbooks to pick up the bargains. Together, they make it possible to continue to provide materials and programs for our library.

One of those programs was the Kickoff Party, sponsored by the Friends to help get the summer reading program off to a great start. About 175 chil-

dren and parents came to enjoy the storytelling, crafts, and refreshments. The balloon creations provided for every child by the balloon lady from Balloonamations were a big hit.

The Thousand Oaks staff and Friends also hosted and provided refreshments for the June Library Board meeting.

Our library had a wonderful facelift this summer, with new carpet, inside painting, parking lot improvements, and a handsome flagpole. The new air conditioner was especially appreciated during this summer's record-breaking heat wave. And soon there will be a long-wished-for lighted sign, the better to identify the building both day and night.

Renee Hermanson

Fobin Library at Oakwell

We are pleased that the little Mexican Oak Tree we planted in memory of **Jim Balogh** last February has done very well in spite of this summer's scorching heat and drought. This must be due to the diligent care that our custodian has taken in seeing it has enough water. Thank you, **Antonio Caballero**.

Staff member **Richard Reeves** is beaming with pride again—this time because his son **Ben Reeves** received the rank of Eagle Scout at a ceremony August 16 at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church. Congratulations to Ben and to his parents Richard and Susan.

The Friends group was happy to provide funding for a

presentation by **Susan Frigge** of The Snake Connection. An audience of over one hundred enjoyed her talk. Each child had a chance to sit in a special chair and hold an African Ball Python. The children loved the whole experience and learned a lot about the care of snakes and why they are important to our environment.

Janet Goddard and **Dan Goddard**, our new book sale co-chairpersons, have been collecting books all summer in preparation for our Fall Book Sale Saturday, October 10. There will be a preview sale on Friday afternoon, October 9, for members of all branches of FOSAPL. Memberships will be sold at the door.

Our Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers will be held Saturday after-

noon November 14. The slate of officers to be elected is:

President: **Dan Goddard**

Vice President: **Janet Goddard**

Secretary: **Arline Braswell**

Treasurer: **Edward Sagebiel**

Author **Florence Weinberg** will speak and sign her books.

Joan Hildreth

Westfall

Westfall Branch is closed for renovations and scheduled to reopen August 30. Projects included are new carpeting and redoing the parking lot to make it more handicapped accessible.

Westfall Friends purchased some badly needed shelving, which is already been put to good use.

Westfall Friends fall book sale is scheduled for Novem-



Maverick Brings the Community Together

The three youngsters (above left) are members of a daycare class that was wrapping up a tour of the library. Don't they look comfy on our new benches!?!?

The other photos were all taken during the Christmas in July craft classes. The Maverick Friends provided the funding for the classes.



Getting to Know Your Friends

Jose Duran

Claudia Kohler

Jose Duran is a member of the Igo Friends of the Library branch. He and his wife, Beverly joined at the very first meeting.



Before moving to Texas, the Durans were very active with the Grayslake Illinois

“Friends”, who not only put on used book sales, but held Monopoly tournaments, and sold Memorial bricks as fundraisers.

Jose is a retired Senior Consultant for the National Science Foundation, and is still working part time. He was formerly employed by Kraft Foods who had 630 plants world wide, and 230 plants in the United States. During his career with them, he went to every U.S. plant and has worked overseas extensively. Jose inspects food-processing plants of every imaginable kind for quality control, safety, structural engineering, and chemical handling.

Jose also is retired from the US Army as a Sergeant Major after serving 4 years of active duty and 21 years in the reserves. Along with the many ways he helps out as a “Friend”, Jose is an active volunteer for the Veterans of Foreign Wars .

Jose did not have many books available to him at home as a child. He helped out at the school library and he was rewarded by gifts of books, beginning his love of reading. He feels this was a prime event in his life, pushing him to pursue a higher education and it is his desire to give back to his community in the hopes it might change the life of another child as it changed his.

Thanks, Jose, for being a Friend indeed!

Evanleen Schmueckle

Anne Long

Evanleen Schmueckle has been an active and priceless member of the Friends of McCreless Library since 1996. At that time,



Evanleen retired from her position as Purchasing Agent for the State School here in San Antonio. She was very interested in find-

ing a few worthwhile activities where she could contribute to and serve the community and also stay active and busy.

While visiting the McCreless Mall for lunch at Luby’s, she discovered a used book store right next door that was run by the Friends of McCreless Library. Evanleen was captivated and impressed by what was to her a new concept of bringing in used books and buying others. She visited the bookstore several times and was always met by enthusiastic and friendly people. There were always envelopes available for people to join FOSAPL, so Evanleen took one home one day and the rest, as they say, is history. Evanleen joined the Friends of McCreless and has been connected and busy ever since.

The McC Friends no longer have a used bookstore but, thanks in great part to Evanleen, have at least two or three sales at the McCreless Library every year. She has served as President of the organization for two years and also as the Membership Chairman for several terms.

When asked what she enjoys most about being a Friend, Evanleen said she loved the commitment and help she is giving to the library and especially loves the getting together with other Friends. She loves the “staying involved”!

From the Library Director

Ramiro Salazar

As Director of the San Antonio Public Library, I would like to thank the Friends of the San Antonio



Public Library for offering me this opportunity to communicate with you. The members of the Friends, and those who may not be members but who support your work in many

other ways, contribute to the strength and vitality of the Library—and that means a better community for everyone.

I thought it would be appropriate to use my first column to give you an overview of the Library and what we do. This will give you an idea of where your contributions go. Succeeding columns will focus on the many services the Library has to offer.

The San Antonio Public Library, founded in 1903, is a department of the City of San Antonio, supported by the City General Fund and a contribution from Bexar County, supplemented by donations from organizations such as FOSAPL and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

The chances are that wherever you may be, you are not far from a branch of the San Antonio Public Library. The Library has 24 locations around the city: the Central Library, 22 branch libraries, and one public school-library partnership. There are two new branches beginning construction and scheduled to open in early 2011, and a second school-library partnership is scheduled to open in October 2009. These libraries, together with a bookmobile, serve all of Bexar County, an area with a population of around 1.5 million people. The Library’s collection houses more than two million items, including books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs, CDs, videos, and databases, in several languages.

One way in which libraries have changed is by incorporating more technology into their resources and services. The Library

From the Director cont on p 8.

Book Cellar News

Pat Konstam

Good news for people who collect videos and books on tape: Central Library is thinning its stock of video movies, instructional videos and books on tape and donating them to the Book Cellar. The store's media shelves are running out of room so we've put them on sale. Popular video movies cost \$1. Lesser known films and nonfiction (exercise, travel, sports, etc.) are two for 50¢. Books on tape (both fiction and nonfiction) are buy one at the regular price and get a second one of equal or lesser value free. The regular price is 25¢ per cassette, typically \$1 to \$2 for a complete recorded book.

The buy-one-get-one-free clearance sale on books (the printed kind) in September and October includes hardback adult fiction of all kinds—novels, mysteries, science fiction, westerns, and large print—and the 800 Dewey Decimal series. The 800s cover literature: plays, poetry, humor, anthologies, authors, literary his-

tory and criticism, and books on how to write or make speeches.

Nine people who joined the Book Cellar volunteer staff during the past year received purple aprons embroidered with their names and their first 50-hour patches at a Volunteer Appreciation Potluck Supper on July 27. They are: **Virginia Bowden, Faye Hallford, Gail Long, Andrea Mason, Robert Mason, Sue Mersinger, Chuck Olson, Judy Olson, and Ann Springer.** "Together they donated 1,100 hours during the year ended June 1," said **Jim Wogstad**, who calculates volunteer hours. The store's longer-term volunteers earned 143 additional 50-hour patches, representing 7,150 hours donated during the past year. Four volunteers who have donated more than 2,000 hours each to the Book Cellar over several years received gold aprons. They are **Jim Wogstad, Jeanne Papa, Richard Morales, and Aaron Konstam. Lucille Teeter and Linda Arrange or-**



ganized the celebration, which was attended by 33 volunteers and spouses.

Pat Brown, one of the Book Cellar's longest active volunteers and member of the Book Cellar Committee, has retired. Her fellow Tuesday volunteers are planning a lunch in her honor at a date to be announced. Pat also is a past president of FOSAPL.

For email notification of special sales, ask to be included on the Book Cellar's email list by sending an email to bookcellar1@gmail.com. Information about the Book Cellar can be found on the Library System's web page at guides.mysapl.org/support. Click on "BookCellar."

Virtual San Antonio Public Library Adds New Latino Resources

Beth Graham

The Latino Collection at the San Antonio Public Library now has an online counterpart - open 24 hours a day! The Library has added subscriptions to the Latino Literature and the Latin American Women Writers databases from Alexander Street Press. Both collections feature thousands of pages of fiction, poetry, essays and plays, much of it never before published. To see what's included, go to www.mysapl.org and click on "Databases" at the top of the page, then click on the name of the database.

The Latino Collection is a cultural and educational resource which chronicles and celebrates the literature, heritage, and contemporary life of Latinos in the United States. Though the majority of this collection focuses on the Mexican American or Chicano experience, materials about Puerto Rican, Cuban American and other Latin American heritages are also included in the collection. The collection was established in 1996 and currently includes more than 7,000 volumes.

SAPL Audiobooks Now in iPod and Mac Formats!

Beth Graham

iPod users can now download and enjoy almost every single audiobook on Overdrive! That's right—Overdrive struck a deal with the vast majority of publishers allowing the conversion of .wma file audiobooks for a variety of Apple products.

Macintosh users can utilize a special Mac-compatible version of the Overdrive Media Console and download and enjoy the mp3-file audiobooks from Overdrive and NetLibrary—a total of over 1200 audiobooks to choose from.

To get started, you'll need a San Antonio Public Library card. Go to "[Downloadables](http://www.mysapl.org)" on the San Antonio Public Library home page (<http://www.mysapl.org/>), then click on "Digital Media Downloads" under the "OverDrive Digital Library" header. Follow the instructions to start downloading books, music and more to your Apple-compatible device.

Don't have a library card? All you need is proof of residence in Bexar County and a photo ID. Stop by any location of the San Antonio Public Library and you can leave with your own library card!

Can't visit a library just now? Go to "[How do I get a library card?](#)" You'll be walked through signing up online, and will be able to access most of our online resources, including downloadables, right away! Come by a San Antonio Public Library location within 30 days to get your hard-copy library card.

(Of course, if you have an MP3 or other device, you can get the same great stuff! Just click on the "Downloadables" link above and follow the directions.)

And the best part? All of this is free! Happy reading—or listening!

has more than 463 public-access computers. This is especially important in our community—for many San Antonians, the Library is their only access to computers and the Internet. The Library’s computers are used by students to do homework, by job-searchers to look for employment and prepare their résumés, by entrepreneurs to research their businesses, by genealogy enthusiasts to do family research, and by travelers to check their email. In 2007 we added Wi-Fi capability, so that customers can use their personal wireless-enabled devices to access the Internet at any Library location. RFID (radio-frequency identification) and self-check-out have improved security of library materials and shortened lines at the circulation desks.

Overseeing all these services, and setting policy for the San Antonio Public Library, is the responsibility of the City-Charter-created Board of Trustees. The eleven members of the Board are appointed by the Mayor and City Council and serve, not just in an advisory capacity, but as a governing body, responsible to the community and to the City Council for the success of the public library.

Among other responsibilities, the Library Board of Trustees submits a budget request to City Council each year during budget deliberations. For Fiscal Year 2009, the Library’s operating

budget was \$29.885 million. Even though recent years have seen increases in the Library’s budget, San Antonio’s per-capita expenditures on library services still place it almost at the bottom of the list of major cities in Texas, behind Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston.

Unfortunately, the current economic downturn has had an effect on San Antonio, as on so many cities across the nation. We are in better shape than many other municipalities, but loss of revenue will affect the Library’s Fiscal Year 2010 budget. For the upcoming fiscal year, the Library Board and staff decided our main priority would be keeping the book budget intact, and we worked very hard to develop other budgetary measures that would have as little impact on public service as possible. I am proud to say that I believe we achieved that goal, and, while some hours may be cut at branch libraries, if City Council approves the proposed budget we will be able to open all libraries seven days a week, an improvement that many customers have requested.

Clearly, we have many challenges ahead. Like so many libraries across the country, the San Antonio Public Library is in an era of transition. We can meet our challenges with greater confidence because of your support. Thank you and stay tuned for updates.

High Tech Book Sales

Sue Ratliff

Have more fun preparing for book sales: Scan them!

Friends groups that pre-sort for sales can easily increase their fun and fund\$ with very little extra effort if they scan while sorting.

Since January 2008, Maverick Friends have sold 266 books to Box 5, Inc. for \$672.39 plus postage, or an average net of \$2.57 each. The best price on a single book was \$11.05, and the lowest was 52¢.

Scanning is easily added to your sorting routine. Just unpack the books, make it easy to see the ISBN on the back, scan the books, put those that are “hits” aside, and continue sorting as usual.

At the end of the day, make a Scanner Tally Sheet that includes the following (this will be helpful later):

- ISBN
- Title
- Book Price [or Book Price and Postage Allowance; or the Total of the two]
- The scanner's chip date
- The date the scan was completed

Using the information from the tally sheet, create a record like the Scanner Tally for your Treasurer. This makes it easier to decide which books to mail and

creates a record of what was shipped and when, and the expected price for each item.

Pack the books tightly. Fill “holes” with paper or clean plastic grocery bags. Bags are lighter than paper and just as effective. NO PEANUTS!!! Enclose a packing list. Use enough tape to seal the box securely—it will be thrown, dropped, shoved against hard objects, and moved with equipment that can snag an opening or loose flap.

Try to keep the boxes between 29 and 40 pounds. Lower weights cost your group more than Box 5 pays for mailing. Boxes over 40 pounds are harder for you, postal employees, and Box 5 personnel to handle.

The \$185 deposit for the scanner is fully refundable when it is returned in good working condition. The scanner uses a secure digital memory card that must be updated according to Box 5’s schedule. The updates require a Windows PC with broadband (DSL, Cable, T1, etc.) internet access.

Box 5, Inc. is on the web at <http://www.box5inc> and <http://www.bookrecycler.org>

Cash4Books.net online at <http://www.cash4books.net> and BookTurtle.com online at <http://bookturtle.com> are two more examples of internet book buyers. Unlike Box5, they do not offer a scanner. To sell books to them, go to either website and follow the instructions for entering an ISBN to find out whether they are currently buying the books you want to sell.

For more information, contact: **Sue Ratliff** at s-ratliff@sbcglobal.net

FOSAPL 2009 EXECUTIVE BOARD & DIRECTORS

Nancy Gandara, President
Bruce Gill, Vice-President
Linda Arronge, Secretary
Judy Wilson, Treasurer
Linda Nairn, Immediate Past-President
Sheila Figueroa
Denise Barlow
Evelyn Bonavita
Shirley Coleman

Shirley Davis
Jackie Fremming
Dolores Huber
Claudia Kohler
Aaron Konstam
Pat Konstam
Robert LaCaff
Mary McAfee
Josie Martinez
Pat Mendiola

Ronnie Retzloff
Robbi Rupert
Evanleen Schmueckle
Dorothy Smith
Ann Tobin
Lyn Belisle
Cathy Dean
Bruce Gill
Rowena Rodgers



MEMBERSHIP NOTE!

Claudia Kohler



Your renewal letters will be coming out in October.

It is very helpful if you renew before the end of the year so we do not have to spend extra money for printing and postage—money that could be used to help the library. Membership cards will be mailed after the first of the year as we save a lot of money by doing bulk mailing.

Life members, branches appreciate your continuing support, but in order for them to get that yearly stipend, you must send back your envelope choosing a branch, each year.

Thanks to all of you for keeping us up to date with your current address. We are charged for each piece of mail that gets returned.

If you choose to support more than one branch, you must send an extra \$5 per person for each additional branch.

Your phone number will appear in the directory unless your envelope designates that it is to be unlisted. If we have a phone number and it is not written on the current year's envelope, we will move it to unlisted.

Questions about your membership? Please call the treasurer if it is a money question, **Judy Wilson** at 210-656-9409. If it is a question regarding your membership, call the membership chair, **Claudia Kohler** at 210-372-0241 or email mytexas-room@satx.rr.com.

BUILDING AN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Pat Bjornson

Immediate Past President of the Brook Hollow Branch Friends

Jump on those contacts! We try to keep the plastic membership display filled with envelopes, and we stamp BH on the branch line before putting them out. Whenever a patron asks staff members about the Friends, they get the person's name and e-mail address, give it to me, and I contact him/her right away.

Newsletters for Quick Outreach to Members

I started doing our newsletter a year or so after we organized our branch group. I was the next president after that, (4 years) and since then **Richard Bowser** and I have been doing the newsletter while he's been President. It's basically the same every time—book sale information, a treasurer's report, renewal reminder in the fall one, etc. I write the book sale article and a few other things and then e-mail it to him to finish up. We e-mail it

to about half our members and mail out the rest. I have the newsletter set up on my computer with the heading and columns, so it doesn't take me more than a half hour or so to write it. We do them just twice a year, about three weeks before each book sale. (We also have our library board rep., city council person, and FOSAPL president on the list so that they all get our newsletter but no phone calls.)

Can You Hear Me Now?

We also have a telephone committee: we count up the members, excluding those with e-mails and also the callers, divide into three parts, leave the lists in our closet at the library, and the callers pick them up. Three people call all our members (except those with e-mail addresses) to remind about helping with the book sales, meetings, and the yearly staff appreciation dinner. The rest of the members

are notified by e-mail. We have a large percentage of renewals, even among members who never come to meetings, etc., and I think this is because we do a good job of keeping in touch with everyone.

Usually they just leave messages on answering machines. For several years we had a member who was pretty much housebound because he was taking care of his wife who had Alzheimer's.

Email

I get an update of the membership from **Claudia Kohler** about a month before a sale or our dinner for the staff and update my computer list. We have membership lists available at our meetings and at book sale set-up times for anyone who wants one. The landscape committee and the now-defunct kitchen committee really made use of the e-mails!

September Is Library Card Sign-up Month

This is the time when the American Library Association and libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. Libraries play an important role in the education and development of children. Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

Source: <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/>

*4th Annual
National Friends of
Libraries Week is
October 18–24*

Form for Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

Honor a loved one with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, or "just because." It can also be a wonderful, thoughtful, and lasting way to honor the memory of a relative or friend.

If you do not want to make a contribution at this time, clip this form and save it for the appropriate occasion.

I would like to make the following donation:

- In honor of In memory of
- Special event (birthday, graduation, etc.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Amount \$ _____ (All donations are tax deductible.)

Acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

My Name and Address:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
and mail to: **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair, Gifts, Donations,
& Memorials

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)
P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, Texas 78246

FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

___ Individual (Adult) \$ 15

___ Dual (Adult) \$ 25

___ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18) \$ 5

___ Patron (Per Person) \$ 50

___ Contributing (Per Person) \$100

___ Life (Per Person) \$250

___ New Member

___ Renewal

Branch Group _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

___ Do not include my phone number in the Friends' directory.

___ I'd like to volunteer at the Book Cellar (used book store).

___ Please call me: I'd like to be an active participant.

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (or FOSAPL).
Your contribution is tax deductible.

and mail to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)

P.O. Box 461523

San Antonio, Texas 78246

(Note: Membership is from Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Members receive a renewal notice in early Dec.)

Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2009
Submitted by **Judy Wilson**

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

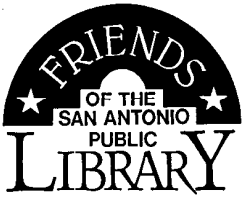
INCOME	Budget	FOSAPL May/June	FOSAPL YTD	Groups May/June	Groups YTD
Book Cellar sales/ Group book sales	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 10,679.40	\$ 33,211.67	\$10,715.23	\$34,054.56
Donations	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,055.00	\$ 1,515.00	\$ 385.00	\$ 4,240.50
Interest	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 129.67	\$ 454.98		
Membership	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 7,760.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 3,225.00
FOSAPL Income	\$ 93,000.00	\$ 12,674.07	\$ 42,941.65		
Transfer from Compass, \$35,575. 5-26-09					
Assets to be used during 2009	\$128,375.00				
Branch groups income				\$11,265.23	\$41,520.06
EXPENSES					
Accounting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00		
Arts and Letters	\$ 400.00				
Bank charges	\$ 50.00	\$ 36.00	\$ 51.00		
Book Cellar Expenses					
Advertising	\$ 1,000.00				
Book sale(s) expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 24.98	\$ 153.27		
Commodities for resale	\$ 500.00	\$ 198.30	\$ 563.58		
Equipment and maintenance	\$ 2,500.00				
Internet and software	\$ 100.00				
Printing and copying	\$ 100.00				
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$ 500.00				
Salary and benefits	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 869.50	\$ 3,256.50		
Volunteer appreciation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 670.46	\$ 670.46		
Branch group operating expenses				\$ 523.37	\$ 2,371.62
Bulk mail	\$ 1,500.00		(\$180.00)		
Directory 2009-2011	\$ 3,000.00				
FOSAPL Committee expenses	\$ 100.00	\$ 19.93	\$ 19.93		
Friends recognition	\$ 100.00				
Insurance (bonding)	\$ 125.00				
Library Support					
Programming for public	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 20,000.00		
Staff development and training	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 29,025.00	\$ 29,025.00		
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life members	no fund amt				
Various branch group purchases				\$13,064.19	\$28,716.30
Mail box	\$ 75.00		\$ 27.00		
Membership recruitment	\$ 1,000.00				
Newsletter prep/editing	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 900.00		
Newsletter printing	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 663.08	\$ 996.99		
Office supplies	\$ 600.00		\$ 390.85		
Parking	\$ 4,525.00	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 2,880.10		
Postage	\$ 300.00	\$ (50.24)	\$ 207.67		
President's expenses	\$ 350.00		\$ 100.00		
Sales tax (Book Cellar & branches)	\$ 11,100.00	\$ 1,558.34	\$ 3,548.32		
Seed money for new groups	\$ 300.00		\$ 100.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$128,375.00	\$ 34,990.35	\$ 62,960.67	\$13,587.56	\$31,087.92

Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

Accounts	Balance
CompassBank Money Market Account	\$ 36,984.32
Guaranty Money Market Gold Account	\$ 37,842.15
Guaranty Checking Account	\$ 33,030.49
Certificate of Deposit (4% APY) matures 11/07/09	\$ 75,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 182,856.96
Branch Designated Funds (-)	\$(112,281.92)
Net Assets for FOSAPL Use	\$ 70,575.04
Branch and Special Interest Group Funds June 30, 2009	
Bazan	\$ 1,984.06
Brook Hollow	\$ 7,893.27
Carver	\$ 3,030.44
Cody	\$ 8,275.58
Collins Garden	\$ 185.72
Forest Hills	\$ 3,787.16
Guerra	\$ 4,721.80
Igo	\$ 3,003.24
Johnston	\$ 1,202.69
Landa	\$ 410.00
Maverick	\$ 9,050.50
McCreless	\$ 3,461.11
Memorial	\$ 4,663.07
Tobin at Oakwell	\$ 19,935.24
Semmes	\$ 5,868.17
Texana/Genealogy	\$ 19,025.56
Thousand Oaks	\$ 6,485.04
Westfall	\$ 5,643.43
Writers (currently inactive)	\$ 3,645.84
Las Palmas (no group formed)	\$ 5.00
San Pedro (no group formed)	\$ 5.00
Total Group Funds	\$ 112,281.92



Johnston Branch Friends has an on-going book sale called "BookNook."



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.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| September 12–13 | Igo Fall Book Sale |
| September 20 | FOSAPL Board meeting at the Great Northwest, 2 p.m. |
| September 26–27 | McCreless Book Sale |
| October 3 | Brook Hollow Book Sale |
| October 3 | Semmes Fall Book Sale. Preview Oct. 2 |
| October 6 | Nat'l Night Out! Collins Garden |
| October 10 | Tobin at Oakwell Book Sale. Preview Oct. 9 |
| October 10–11 | Maverick Book Sale |
| October 25 | Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony, Central Library Auditorium, 2 p.m. |
| November 7 | Westfall 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.

Central Library
600 Soledad Street, 78205
210-207-2500
Collins Garden Library
200 N. Park Blvd, 78204-2434
210-225-0331
Great Northwest Library
9050 Wellwood, 78250
210-684-5251
Igo Library
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249
210-561-6113 (also TTY)
Maverick Library
8700 Mystic Park, 78254
210-680-9346
McCreless Library
1023 Ada Street, 78223
210-532-4254
Semmes Library
15060 Judson Rd., 78247
210-650-9540
Tobin at Oakwell Library
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209
210-828-2569