



From the President



Dear Friends,

Did you know that three out of four worthy charities go out of business every year? Their failures are due to:

- Lack of followers (18%)
- Lack of awareness (26%)
- Lack of money (57%)

This just proves how important it is for **you** to send in your membership renewal envelope, encourage your family and neighbors to become Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, and shop at the BookCellar or branch book sales to increase Friends' revenues!

During 2011, FOSAPL gave more than \$50,000 to the Library to support the Summer Reading Program and to subsidize expenses related to staff development and continuing education. Branch groups contributed another \$84,000 through purchases to augment the programming, furniture, and equipment available at their branch libraries. The goal, as stated by one of our Friends' groups, is to "Enhance the Landa Library experience as a cultural center for the community"—and our contributions do that, for branches all over San Antonio.

We will stay busy in 2012, as we:

- Vote for Library improvements proposed in the May 2012 Bond Election
- Continue to develop our new website, www.friendsofsapl.com
- Expand our email address list, although paper issues of *SAPLings* will be sent to those who request it
- Hold the celebration/fundraiser to recognize the twentieth anniversary of the BookCellar, and the many volunteers who have contributed to its success
- Support the Strategic Plan by developing our Memorandum of Understanding with the Library's Board of Trustees
- Gather for a workshop to share ideas among Friends about member recruitment and retention, fundraising, and publicity

I hope to see you at the **Friends' Annual Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 2 p.m. at the Central Library**—it's an exciting time to be a Friend, and we look forward to **your** membership support and participation.

Cheers,
Nancy Gandara

Annual General Meeting Sunday, January 15 ★ 2:00 p.m. Central Library, 600 Soledad St.

All members are encouraged to attend this important event. In addition to our guest speaker, award-winning mystery author Jay Brandon (*see p.4*), we will elect new Board members for 2012–2014.

A reception will follow with refreshments and a chance to meet and talk with Jay. Parking tickets for the Library Garage will be validated for Friends members.

SAPLings Greening Up!

The newsletter will transition to an online version to conserve resources and expand content after the January/February issue of 2012. You will receive a notice the moment the newsletter has been published on our website at www.friendsofsapl.com. Besides the usual entertaining articles, Branch Leaves, and reports to members, you'll find extras such as videos from special events, photos that didn't fit in the print version, and updates on book sales. PLUS, everything is in color!

There are forms on every page to contact us with questions or suggestions. The online newsletter and website will keep the Friends in closer touch than ever. And the best news of all is that we are saving money for the organization that can benefit the San Antonio Public Library.

If you expressly wish to continue receiving a paper copy by mail, please let us know.



Please continue to Mail the paper version of the *SAPLings* Newsletter to me.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Library Branch _____ Tel # _____

I understand that I will only receive *SAPLings* via U.S. Mail if I send in this form to remain on the mailing list.

Fill out this form and mail to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
P.O. Box 461523
San Antonio, TX 78246

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Board Meeting

November 20, 2011

Submitted by *Anne Long*

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library met on Sunday, November 20, 2011, in the meeting room at the Cortez Branch Library. Board members present were: **Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Judy Wilson, Anne Long, Evelyn Bonavita, Jackie Fremming, Bruce Gill, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Claudia Kohler, Pat Konstam, Karen Matson, Mary McAfee, Josie Martinez, Bob Mason, Ronnie Retzloff, Ann Springer and Virginia Wong.**

Jackie Fremming moved we accept the minutes of the September 18, meeting as printed in the Nov./Dec. 2011 SAPLings. Mary McAfee seconded and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report—Judy Wilson reported the net assets for FOSAPL as of October 31, 2011, were \$67,012.33. The Branch Group funds were \$92,842.72. **Mary McAfee** moved and **Claudia Kohler** seconded the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, and the motion was approved.

Library Board of Trustees Report—Jean Brady thanked FOSAPL and all the branches for the impressive amount of funds spent at all the libraries. She gave a brief breakdown of \$16.8 million in the 2012 Bond Election that has been proposed for the Library: \$5.8 million is proposed for deferred maintenance, \$4 million for interior redesign of the Central Library and approximately \$7 million for two new libraries (in District 9 and District 2). Jean also mentioned that Congressman Gonzales wanted to nominate SAPL for the Institute of Museum and Library Science award. However, SAPL is not eligible as we received the award 5

years ago. It is nice to be considered.

Library Administration—Kathleen Donellan distributed copies of a summary of the Strategic Plan and the 6 areas of strategic focus. The committee is now trying to take the "big picture" and plan the details. She brought us up to date on the status of the \$8 million Weatherization Project for the exterior of the Central Library. The final stage will be construction and upgrading in the outdoor courtyard. Completion is scheduled for Feb. 2012.

Library Foundation—Carol Black gave us a brief review of the Foundation's fundraising activity for the months of September and October. There was a luncheon at the Pearl Brewery for the author **Dominique Browning** who talked about and signed her book, *Slow Love*. The Foundation and the *Express News* presented a Children's Book and Author program featuring **R. L. Stine** and his illustrator **Xavier Garza**. In conjunction with Art San Antonio, the Foundation brought us **Hal Holbrook** and his monologue, "Mark Twain Tonight."

BookCellar—Aaron Konstam's term as chair of the committee will conclude at the end of December. **Linda Arronge** was elected by the committee members to be the new chairperson starting in January 2012. The projected income for the BookCellar this year will be about \$70,000. Aaron reminded branches that leftover books from branch sales should not be sent to the BookCellar unless approved by the BC manager. A possible contact for leftover books is **Celina Montoya** at celina@literacysanantonio.com

Membership—Christie Smith presented very positive

numbers for our membership drive. We stand at 943 members total and have received 49% of the envelopes we mailed out for membership. We have 253 new members, and the number of renewing members who were new members last year stands at 10%. More email addresses are coming in as well.

Nominating Committee—Claudia Kohler thanked the members of her nominating committee: **Shirley Coleman, Ronnie Retzloff, Sue Ratliff and Edward Sagebiel**. The following members have accepted the nomination: **Walter Ague, Denise Barlow, Arline Braswell, Patricia Peak, Jacqueline Willaivize, Jill Zimmerman and Antoinette Franklin**. The following current members have agreed to stay for another term: **Pat Bjornson, Dolores Huber, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Bob Mason and Robbi Rupert**. Current members with one more year on their current term are: **Evelyn Bonavita, Shirley Coleman, Jackie Fremming, Bruce Gill, Claudia Kohler, Robert LaCaff, Karen Matson, Mary McAfee, Pat Mendiola, Larry Purkey, Ronnie Retzloff, Ann Springer and Virginia Wong**. Voting will be at the annual meeting in January. Nominations will be taken from the floor but one must have the permission of the nominee to nominate.

OLD BUSINESS

SAPL Strategic Plan—A discussion of the Strategic Plan was tabled until the January meeting as printed copies are not available yet. Visit the web site at www.mysapl.org to review the complete plan.

Minutes cont on p 4.



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 Gandara President
Linda Arronge..... Vice President
Anne Long..... Secretary
Judy Wilson..... Treasurer
Linda Nairn... Immediate Past Pres

BOARD MEMBERS

2010–2012 Term

Pat Bjornson • Shirley Davis • Dolores Huber • Yolanda Kirkpatrick • Pat Konstam • Josie Martinez • Bob Mason • Robbi Rupert • Dorothy Smith

2011–2013 Term:

Evelyn Bonavita • Shirley Coleman • Jackie Fremming • Bruce Gill • Claudia Kohler • Robert LaCaff • Karen Matson • Mary McAfee • Pat Mendiola • Larry Purkey • Ronnie Retzloff • Ann Springer • Virginia Wong
Christie Smith, Membership Chair

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

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Bruce Gill • Nancy Gandara, *Ex Officio* • Claudia Kohler • Pat Mendiola • Linda Nairn, *Distribution*

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

The deadline for submitting articles and photos to *SAPLings* is the 10th of the even months (February 10, April 10, June 10, August 10, October 10, and December 10).

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file. Please email files and photos to Alana Woods, alana005@yahoo.com. Printed articles and original photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, TX 78238.



Collins Garden

Contact **Richard Morales**
(210-639-8549 by voice or text)
for information.

In an effort to recruit more members, the Collins Garden Friends held a "Friends Fiesta" on Saturday, Dec. 3. Thanks go to staff members **Cristiane Yamada** and **Leigh Bedford**, Friends **Richard** and **Dora Morales** for publicizing the event in the community. Children's Services Coordinator **Viki Ash** entertained the children while adults browsed through a selection of books available for free to any new Friends' member (and three signed up!). **Marshall Munderff** built a secure box for a new Book Sale cart, which has been so popular that \$60 was taken in during its first two weeks.

Nancy Gandara

Igo

Igo Fibbers meet the first Saturday morning of each month except when there is a holiday conflict.

At our December meeting, the FIBBERS elected officers for 2012. Our new President is **Tom Hill**, Vice-President is **Jackie Fremming** and Secretary/Treasurer is **Bev Duran**. We also voted for a Best Friend. The awardees' name will be revealed at the January FOSAPL meeting.

Barbara Kwiatkowski, teen librarian, and **Nancy Rodriguez**, children's librarian, filled in for **Kathy Claspill**. They gave us an update on December's programming. In that they are both new to the Igo staff, we were able to orient

them regarding the process for requesting funds from us.

The Book Nook continues to bring in about \$66 a month. People are taking note of it and beginning to make suggestions as to the type of books we include.

Hard plastic containers for storing books between sales have been donated by a company in Hondo, thanks to **Tom Hill**. They are proving to be quite successful because they are more sturdy, easy to move, hold the equivalent of about two to four cardboard boxes and take up less room when stacked. We look forward to more donations in the future.

Our Spring Book Sale will be Saturday, Mar. 24, 10-5, and Sunday, Mar. 25, 1-4. Set up will be from 4-6 on Thursday, Mar. 22 and 10-4 on Friday, Mar. 23. Those interested in helping are invited. We plan on tapping the high school and middle school students in the teen program to help move boxes.

Happy New Year, congratulations and good luck in 2012 to **Tom Hill** as he takes over as President of the FIBBERS.

Kathleen McCloskey

Maverick

The Maverick Friends meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Maverick Friends recently sponsored two musical events at the library: On Nov. 5, the Fiesta Flutes received an enthusiastic greeting from their audience. If you have an opportunity to hear this group, do plan to attend. The Fair Weather Winds Brass Quintet first appeared at the library in Dec. 2009. They were such a success that the Friends were happy to support a return engagement on Dec. 17.

Following our usual custom, the Friends cancelled our December meeting in favor of our holiday dinner. As always, we enjoyed the opportunity to get together, share a meal, and vis-

it with Friends old and new. As several members remarked after the next day, "a good time was had by all!"

As we move forward into 2012, the Maverick Friends extend our best wishes to all for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

The Friends of McCreless Library had a great 2011 and look forward to many exciting events in 2012. Our last meeting of the year had a good turnout of members and guests to hear the author, artist, and historian, **Mel Brown**, share his books on San Antonio history. Mr. Brown spoke on a wide array of topics that all led back to the amazing history of San Antonio. (Photo on page 7 and <http://www.friendsofsapl.com/>.) The refreshments committee outdid themselves by providing treats that added to the evening of discussion and sharing of memories of growing up in San Antonio. In addition to the guest speaker, group business was also taken care of with new business including elections of officers and voting on expenditures supporting the library staff.

Our new officers are: President, **Tom Nemeth**; Vice-President, **Paul Frisch**; Secretary, **Mary Swanson**; Treasurer, **Mary Gallagher**; Members-at-large, **Christel Villarreal** and **Elizabeth Garcia**. Congratulations and gratitude to all who volunteered to run for office and accept the responsibilities of the office. Planning for the November book sale was briefly discussed, and volunteers were sought to assist. The last book sale of 2011 went extremely well and netted \$1,100 for our treasury. This allowed us to fully fund **Cammie's** Wish List. Funding for four new staff chairs, programs for adults, teens, and children were supplemented, and sup-

plies for the DVD cleaner were made available.

A huge THANK YOU goes to **Mary Gallagher** for bringing holiday joy to the McCreless library staff on behalf of our Friends group. Mary not only purchased the staff gift cards, but took advantage of a sale on poinsettias to purchase three for the price of two, and then personally delivered the cards, the plants, and the group's donation to the staff's holiday party. That involved a lot of running around town; we appreciate the dedication Mary has to the library and the Friends Group.

We wish everyone a most Happy New Year and look forward to seeing everyone involved in the McCreless Friends Group in 2012.

Jill Zimmerman

Semmes

Next Semmes Friends meeting is Wednesday, Mar. 7, 10:30, in the Semmes Quiet Room.

Semmes Friends have had a busy Fall both collectively and individually. Our Fall Book Sale was held Oct. 22 with our usual pre-sale on Oct. 21. As we've noticed in the past, each sale is different—in composition of books donated, what the customers are looking for, and the volume of traffic during the sale. Though our overall sales were down from what we've experienced in the past, we still consider the sale a success because of our tidy sum of earnings, steady traffic, happy customers, and NO BOOKS left over to redistribute! All things considered, as technology advances, it may be useful to watch the sale trends more closely so that we can continue to have resources available to support our branches. Observations and comments on sales welcome!

One side event that occurred coincident with our October book sale was the donation of our 12-foot Christmas tree to

Branch Leaves cont on p. 4.

NEW BUSINESS

Bonus Authorization for 2011 work—Mary McAfee made a motion we give Alana Woods a bonus of \$250 for the outstanding work she does on our SAPL-ings newsletter. Jackie Fremming seconded, and the motion was approved. Aaron Konstam made a motion we give Monica Hernandez, BookCellar Manager, a \$150 bonus for her work during 2011, and Claudia Kohler seconded. There was discussion that Monica’s bonus is less this year due to a raise in her salary. The motion was approved with two opposed.

Consideration of Revised Bylaws for Landa Friends—The revised Bylaws for Landa Branch Library (previously distributed with the Agenda) were presented. Ronnie Retzloff moved they be accepted as revised, and Jackie Fremming seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

FOSAPL Budget for 2012—Treasurer Judy Wilson presented two documents: a 2012 FOSAPL proposed budget and a 2012 proposed budget with revisions. Her revisions included a projection that FOSAPL would have an excess of funds of approximately \$26,000 at the end of 2011. Judy recommended that, due to the surplus, we add \$15,000 of those funds to the \$50,000 that she had originally proposed for the 2012 contri-

but ion for Library Support. After much discussion, Mary McAfee made a motion we approve the proposed budget as presented with the exception of the Library Support item, which required further discussion. Ronnie Retzloff seconded, and the motion was approved with a vote of 15 to 8. After further discussion, Ronnie Retzloff made a motion we give \$50,000 to the San Antonio Public Library, as in the original budget proposal and consider the possibility of adding more funds if available at the March meeting. Jackie Fremming seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Best Friends of 2011—Due to the decline in participation by the branches in our Best Friend Award, it has been suggested we try something different for a while. One suggestion was a more detailed interview with a photo to run in the SAPLings.

Adjournment—Nancy Gandara reminded everyone to take a look at our new web site (www.friendsofsapl.com) now in the growing stages, thanks to Lyn Belisle.

There being no additional business, Mary McAfee made the motion we adjourn. Jackie Fremming seconded, and the meeting was adjourned, after which the FOSAPL members enjoyed the delicious refreshments that had been prepared by the Friends of the Cortez Branch.

Madison High School. Semmes Friends purchased the 12-foot tree the first year the branch was open. At that time, there was quite a bit more open space in the library (and it was much easier for us Friends to assemble!). As the library has grown over the years, though, the available space for the tree has decreased, and there has been an increasing demand for the floor sockets that were occupied by the tree light plugs (and the Friends have become less spry in assembling the tree!).

Through the efforts of Friend Ivy Durnell, we learned of Madison High School’s interest in the tree. Madison has expanded significantly over the past few years, and we were delighted when they told us that they could use the tree. So, on Oct. 21, when we were setting up for our Fall Book Sale, we also helped cart the 12-foot Christmas tree over to Madison. In addition to supporting Semmes Branch with our sales, programs, and staff appreciation events, we are delighted this time around to acknowledge some personal achievements of several Friends and staff.

Nov. 6 was an exceptionally busy day for Semmes friends! Mary Margaret Rode held a book signing event at the Twig Bookstore to mark the publication of her poetry collection, Morning Songs. Mary Margaret received published accolades from Cary Clack and Naomi Shihab Nye (both past recipients of the FOSAPL Arts and Letters Award) for her poetry and songs. Alas, we were not honored with M2’s music but still did enjoy a happy event. Morning Songs is a delightful collection of verse and art that celebrate nature, music, relationship and life.

June Fitzsimmons-Esparza held an open house on Nov. 6, also, to promote the first novel in her “Etania Trilogy,” Tiny Seedlings, which was published in 2009. Tiny Seedlings is described as, “an intense and col-

orful read.” It is a book about, “a land where time and color meet,” and a good read for teens through adult. The second book in the trilogy, Soil has just been published electronically and launched at her December open house. June’s novels are only one component of her unique literary and artistic achievements and offerings that can be viewed at www.jasperstone.net. Lastly, we extend most heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS to Semmes Senior Circulation Attendant, John Segura and his wife, Jennifer on the completion of the adoption of their son, Cameron, which has been a multi-year process. John’s glow and grins are a real outward sign of the joy that his and the Semmes families are feeling right now.

All things considered, the year 2011 has been good to Semmes Branch Library, our Friends and community, and we have great expectations for 2012. May all of you have wonderful holidays and new year!

The next Semmes Book Sale will begin at 10 a.m. on Feb. 18 (pre-sale for FOSAPL members only, Feb. 17, 11:30-1:00).

Christie Smith

Thousand Oaks

Thousand Oaks Friends will continue to meet the third Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m.

The Thousand Oaks Friends’ activities picked up with plans for a December Book Sale. The tables filled quickly on setup day and drew the interest of our new manager, Troy Hoyle, who enjoyed browsing the tables and getting acquainted with more TO Friends.

A huge “thank you” to Ginger Hobbs, who again organized the books and details of the sale so efficiently, and to the Friends who helped with all aspects of the event. As an “extra,” Ginger set up a special table with holiday books and decorations,

Branch Leaves cont on p 9.

Jay Brandon

On the one hand, author Jay Brandon is a successful attorney in San Antonio, Texas, on the other, an Edgar Award nominated mystery novelist. With a Master’s Degree in writing from Johns Hopkins University and experience as an attorney with the District Attorney’s office in Bexar County and with the Fourth Court of Appeals, Jay knows his settings. Each of his novels takes aspects of people, places and happenings in the world of law and adds Jay’s own brand of gripping suspense and excellent writing. A native Texan, he now devotes his time to writing and his law practice in San Antonio, where he lives with his wife and three children.

Life-long Friends

Nancy Gandara (nancy.gandara@sbcglobal) and **Christie Smith** (xts@sbcglobal.net)

We take this opportunity to thank those who joined as "Life" Friends long ago, and welcome those who have recently made that generous donation. When the membership Chair or any of the officers of the Friends learns that a Life member has passed away, a donation of \$100 is sent to the San Antonio Public Library for purchase of books in memory of that Friend. Current Life members are listed below; please let us know if you believe there are errors or omissions in the list so that we may make corrections if necessary.

Bob & Bea Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Adams
Charles Adkisson
Dr. Felix D. Almaraz, Jr.
Richard Alvarado
Mr. & Mrs. M. L. Alwais
Linda Arronge
Blanche Ashbrook
Ms. Jessie Bailey
Karen E. Baker
Mrs. Karen Balcom
Denise M. Barlow
Dr. George W. Beddingfield
Mrs. William A. Beinhorn, Jr.
R. W. Betts
Charles & Virginia Bowden
Mrs. Ruth McLean Bowers
Orville Carr
Charles & Nancy Cheever Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Edward V. Cheviot
Don & Dr. Betty Child
Mary F. Clee
Danee Crouch
Robert C. Cruise
Elizabeth M. Culhane
Ruth Coward Cunningham
C. Robert Daubert
Laura Albrecht Davis
William J. Dick
Ralph & Meg Domas
Craig and Pat Donegan
Deborah Douglas
Diane Duesterhoeft
Lucy E. Duncan
T. R. Fehrenbach
Sheila G. Figueroa
Alicia Zavala Galvan
Eric & Nancy Gandara
Deliley Gatson
Mr. & Mrs. Jack E. Gorman

Manfred & Mary Jane Groth
Brazos V. Guido
Thomas L. Guido
Mr. & Mrs. Cosmo F. Guido
Robert E. Harris
Jack Hebdon
Stacey Lynn Hill
George C. (Tim) Hixon
J.C. Hollimon
John N. Igo, Jr.
Sherwood & Bebe Inkley
Helen G. Jacobson
Mrs. Frank W. Jennings
Robert L. & Elizabeth Jones
Clare Marie Karabasz
Betty & Bob Kelso
Claudia Kohler
Richard Kleberg III
Graham & Anne Knight
Jade Lamb
Jonathan Lamb
Richard J. Lamb
David Liserio
Mrs. Robert M. Luby
Alice Ann Lynch
Dr. Daniel E. Macias
Paula Massengale
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Mathews
Caroline Matthews
Mrs. Mary McAfee
Martha McCabe
Mr. & Mrs. John McCamish
Mr. Oswin P. McCarty
Kathleen McCloskey
William D. McDavid
Rose Marie McElfresh
Dr. Martha M. Mead
Cora E. Meskill
John & Judy Mumma
Alicia G. Muniz
Josephine P. Myler
Linda Child Nairn
John E. Newman, Jr.
Ronald K. Obadal
David Oppenheimer
Susan Oppenheimer
Mrs. Frederick Oppenheimer
W. B. Osborn, Jr.
William A. Parker
Mary Anne Parker
Mr. & Mrs. O. S. Petty
Mary Philip
Elizabeth D. Podesta
Joy G. Price
Fonzie Quance-Fitch
B. Wayne & Sue Ratliff
Judy W. Renick
Mrs. Laura G. Richmond

Rudi R. Rodriguez
Dona Schenker
Kathleen M. Schock
Scottish F. M. Rite
Martita Seeligson
Dr. & Mrs. A. Severance
Larry Sheerin
Edward H. Slezak
Christie A. Smith
Sarah Smith
Barbara Stanush
John T. Steen, Jr.
Barbara Steinhauser
Mari M. Stolarski
Jocelyn L. Straus
Patrick H. Swearingen, Jr.
Josephine Houston Thompson

Ann Tobin
Gilbert Vara
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Vaughan
Zula Vizzard
Patsy Warncke
Dr. Ralph Wells
Nancy Glass West
Jo Ann Wigodsky
Janet C. Wilke
Ed & Judy Wilson
Mike Koets & Necia Wolff
Junette Kirkham Woller
Virginia Y. Wong
I-Tien Yeh
Sylvia Zamarripa



Thousand Oaks Friends decorated the library for the holidays.

This isn't the only photo submitted for this issue of *SAPLings*. There is so much information to share that we had to put the photos on the FOSAPL website: <http://www.friendsofsapl.com/>

**FOSAPL
Annual Meeting
Jan. 15, 2012
2:00 p.m.
Central Library
Auditorium**

Happy New Year!



I hope your holidays were happy and that you're looking forward to great things in 2012.

The San Antonio Public Library certainly has great things ahead of it.

Last year we completed our new Strategic Plan, a roadmap for library excellence over the next five years. In 2012, we will begin the hard work of implementing the plan we put together in 2011.

The world is changing rapidly, and to remain effective and relevant in our communities, libraries must adapt to those changes. In our Strategic Plan we developed six focus areas to address the issues ahead:

Support Educational and Learning Opportunities – education is the key to our community's success, and, as the recognized educational arm of the City, the Library will support early literacy education, student learning and self-directed learning.

Support Workforce and Economic Development – access to information and technology is key to creating a qualified workforce, and for business success. The Library will further develop and expand its Jobs and Small Business Center concept; proactively search for and adopt new technologies to assist our citizens in areas such as finances, health, language skills and adult literacy; and educate for online readiness, with special attention to basic skills.

Foster Community Connections – the San Antonio Public Library is already a valued community gathering place, offering space for voting, study, neighborhood activities, and fellowship through programs such as book clubs. The Library plans to grow and strengthen its role as a community center

by further customizing service to meet the needs of individual communities and anticipating and responding to the evolving needs of market segments throughout the community.

Increase Public Awareness – our research showed that, while the Library has much to offer the community, often these resources are not recognized. We will implement strategies to increase public awareness of our resources, programs and services.

Improve Organizational Health – for the Strategic Plan to be successful, Library staff must be informed and involved. Our initiative to improve organizational health is designed to create a culture of greater accountability and trust; promote staff commitment to the Library's mission and shared values; develop an employee mindset that embraces proactive problem solving, creativity and innovation; and provide more comprehensive training and professional development programs to increase employee job satisfaction, performance and retention.

Delineate Roles of Board of Trustees and Library Support Groups – the support of our stakeholders is invaluable to the library, and critical to the success of the Strategic Plan. To lay a strong foundation for that success, we will work with the Library Board of Trustees, the Library Foundation, the Friends of the Library, and other stakeholder groups to define the role of each and determine how each group can help to maximize the positive impact of the Strategic Plan.

As I have so often said, we can't do it without you! As the year goes by, you will be hearing more about the implementation of the Strategic Plan and how you can contribute to its success. We ask that you continue your outstanding support of the Library and help us move forward to a bright future. Thank you!

Ramiro Salazar

Getting to Know Your Friends

Sabrina Stewart

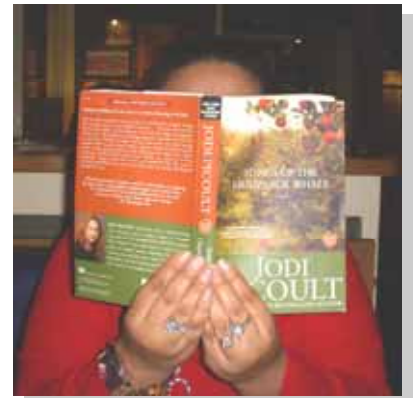
Claudia Kohler

Sabrina Stewart is a “dream” Friends of the Library member. She volunteers by helping libraries with book sale set-ups, by working on sales days, and by helping with book sale take-downs. And oh yes, she is a (part-time) book seller, and she is a good customer too. She goes to almost all of the sales at our various branches.

Sabrina is employed full-time as an educator. She has always been a book collector, and one day, after looking at her thousands of books, a friend said to her: “You have way too many books, you ought to sell some of them!” She started out by selling some of her books on eBay as a hobby. Now she also sells books to various on-line sites that cater to book lovers.

Sabrina collects cook books for herself, along with Japanese and Italian language books. The books she looks at for resale are mainly non-fiction.

Sabrina was a military “brat,” so perhaps it was only natural that she had “traveling feet” as my own mom used to say about me. She started out in England as an exchange student and was there for a year. Friends and contacts next led her to Italy where she worked first as an Au Pair in Perugia, near Tuscany. Eventually, she ended up in Japan



Sabrina was caught doing her favorite thing.

teaching English. All in all, she was overseas for 10 years.

In the meantime, her parents left the military and landed in Texas while in the private sector. Sabrina came for a visit, and is still here.

I asked Sabrina if she knew the other book sellers and if they interacted much. She said that as they are usually the first ones in line waiting for the sale or preview to open, they do chat and recognize that they are sellers.

Sabrina's philosophy is that she believes in the value of libraries and she wants to give back to her community. On that note, when her home gets overcrowded, she will donate books back to the library branches or to the BookCellar where her mother volunteers. She has donated as many as 20 boxes at a time—another reason why she is such a good “Friend.”



Great Job, Friends!

Judy Wilson

This year was a record-breaker in spending for the Friends with over \$84,000 spent by the branch groups on programs and refreshments, equipment and staff appreciation. For example:

- The Texana/Genealogy Department Friends purchased a scanner with a computer and software, and sponsored workshops on the Civil War and book repair and a genealogy booth at the Texas Folklife Festival.
- Programs at many branches for entertainment and education benefiting children and families featured Dinosaur George, clowns, puppets, animals, and snakes.
- “Manga” workshops and Teen Nights were offered for teens, with plenty of refreshments provided by the Friends.
- Equipment purchased included book carts, easels, book ends and shelf adapters for paperback book shelves.

Other items purchased were an Xbox console, chairs, book and CD racks, microwave oven and a coffee maker.

The \$50,000 given by FOSAPL to the San Antonio Public Library system was used for the Summer Reading Program, system wide programs, and staff development.

The Nominating Committee Report

Claudia Kohler

The following names will be presented at the **Annual General Meeting January 15, 2012, at the Central Library at 2 p.m.** The floor will be open for additional nominees. If you want to nominate someone, you must have his or her approval. If you have any questions, please call **Claudia Kohler** at (210) 372-0241.

The following Friends members have accepted the Committee’s nomination to serve on the 2012-2014 FOSAPL Board of Directors:

- **Walter Ague**
- **Denise Barlow**
- **Arline Braswell**
- **Antoinette Franklin**

- **Patricia Peak**
- **Jacqueline Willaivize**
- **Jill Zimmerman**

The following Current Board members have agreed to stay for another term:

- **Pat Bjornson**
- **Delores Huber**
- **Yolanda Kirkpatrick**
- **Bob Mason**
- **Robbi Rupert**

These Board members are in the middle of their term, with one year remaining:

- **Evelyn Bonavita**
- **Shirley Coleman**
- **Jackie Fremming**
- **Bruce Gill**
- **Claudia Kohler**

Nominations cont on p 9.

Membership Update

Be one in a Thousand!

Christie Smith

Happy New Year, Friends! As this issue of *SAPLings* goes to press, I have some very good membership news to give you. Our present FOSAPL membership count is at 952! Since our renewal campaign began in early October, 412 of us have renewed for 2012 (43%), and we have 44 brand new members! The renewal number includes those Life members only who have sent in their membership envelope for 2012. Remember, Life Members, we need an annual designation of the branch(es) with which you want to affiliate so we can transfer \$5.00 to the branch account. Sending in your membership envelope is also a great way for us to update your contact information whether you want to affiliate with a branch or not. Quite a few members have also sent in email addresses for which we had none on file. Right now we have email addresses for 69% of our members! Remember that FOSAPL does not sell or share our list with any outside agency and email addresses help keep you informed of current activities throughout the library system.

“Where is my membership card?” some of you are asking. Earlier this fall, the Board voted to discontinue the distribution of membership cards. The discussion around this decision noted that the only practical use of the card was for access to branch pre-sales of their book sales. The pre-sales are open only to FOSAPL members. However, since each branch that conducts a pre-sale gets a current list of FOSAPL members, there is no need for anyone to have a membership card. In the interest of saving time to process the membership cards, and the cost of mailing the cards, the Board voted to discontinue their use. I am happy to mail anyone a

membership card if you still desire one until our remaining supply of cards is depleted - just let me know (653-4103; xts@sbcglobal.net).

Keep your contact information current! Please send us any changes to your contact information (postal and email addresses and phone numbers) right when the change occurs. The Postal Service does not forward your newsletters even though they may have a forwarding address because that requires more postage. We get the newsletters back but the return is slow and not always in time to make the necessary changes before the next newsletter is mailed. Sometimes there is also a cost to forward or return the FOSAPL mail and the best way to avoid this is to have current information in our database.

Lastly, BE ONE IN A THOUSAND! We will only meet our mark of 1000 members at the end of the renewal campaign if each one of us renews our membership. Please let me know if you did not receive your renewal letter and envelope in the mail. If you renew before the end of January you will save us the time and expense of sending you another renewal packet and keep our coffers more full for support to the library and its branches. Thank you everyone who has already renewed and thanks also to you who have been able send in additional donations with your membership fees. The renewal fees, increases in new members and additional donations help us keep the membership fees at their current level and continue with our strong support to the Library and its programs. Your contribution is tax deductible. May we all have a wonderful 2012.

Donations and Memorials

Submitted by **Sheila Figueroa**

In Honor of

Anne Long

By

Jill Zimmerman

In Memory of

Markay Cheney

By

Edith S. Speert

Donations

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Allison
 Ms. Esperanza Calderon-Jones
 Mr. Charles E. Cheever, Jr.
 Ms. Jacquelyn Cocheres
 Mr. and Mrs. Manfred Groth
 Ms. Patricia J. Jordt
 Los Vecinos De La Misiones
 Mr. and Mrs. Rick Malone
 Mr. David R. Muniz
 Ms. Mary Philip
 Mr. and Mrs. B. Wayne Ratliff
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rode
 Mr. and Mrs. Earl Schoolfield
 Mr. Patrick H. Swearingen, Jr.
 Ms. Charlotte R. Wenger
 Mr. Bill Wolff

Ms. Karen Baker
 Ms. Janice Cayton
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Chudy
 GNW Quilting Group
 Mr. Tim Hixon
 Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lammert
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry W. Luckett
 Ms. Natalie Masino
 Ms. Katherine Perce
 Ms. Patricia Porter &
 Mr. Kurt W. Steuck
 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Schneider
 Ms. Ruth Eilene Sullivan
 Ms. Bettie B. Ward
 Ms. Lucy R. Wilson
 Ms. Sylvia Zamarripa



Visitors to the Central Library may notice construction work being done in the area between the Central Library and Augusta Street, where a courtyard will be built. This area (originally the site of Bradford Pear trees that did not survive) was recently used as a staging area for construction equipment during the Weatherization Project. It will soon have new irrigation, power, and lighting systems installed. Also to be installed is a new “hardscape” (stonework, walkways, and a platform) and landscape. As **Teresa Jensen**, Central Library Manager, says, “A short list of great things to come in the space include WIFI, bench seating, programmable/rentable areas, xeriscaped plantings, and a raised platform for performance space.” Security cameras will be installed to monitor the space. The project is scheduled to be completed in February, although weather might affect that timeframe. Also of note at the Central Library is the closing of the Java-Nook coffee shop in late Dec., which will be missed by staff and patrons alike.

Celebrate Dr. King with San Antonio Public Library

Cynthia DeLeon

Come celebrate Dr. King’s birthday by joining the San Antonio Public Library as we participate in the 2012 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative March on January 16. Join us at 10 a.m. for the start at MLK Academy (3500 MLK Drive). The march proceeds down MLK Drive ending at Pittman-Sullivan Park, 1101 Iowa. Look for the purple San Antonio Public Library banner.

Don’t feel like walking, but still want to take part? The Texana/Genealogy department is looking for volunteers to help with an African-American History and Genealogy booth at Pittman-Sullivan Park before, during, and after the march.

For more information, please call **Cynthia de Leon** or **Sylvia Reyna** at Central Library at (210) 207-2500.

How the Parman Branch “Found” New Friends!

Don’t we all love generous friends? Under a cooperative venture with the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, donors who made contributions to the library Foundation’s “Founding Donors” Campaign for the new Parman Branch at Stone Oak will receive a year’s membership in the Friends’ organization. Through this initiative and contribution of funds, the Friends of the Parman Branch expand their membership by 75 people, and FOSAPL is pleased to add their names to our mailing list. Benefits to our new Friends include an invitation to attend the Arts & Letters Award ceremony, an invitation to the celebration to recognize the twentieth anniversary of the BookCellar, and copies of *SAPLings* as well as information about activities of the Parman Friends.

Special thanks go to Library Foundation President **Kaye Lenox** and Vice President **Tracey Bennett**, and we look forward to additional shared projects in the future.



Happy Holidays from Parman Library

See more of this photo on the FOSAPL website: <http://www.friendsofsapl.com/>

Branch Leaves, from p 4.

along with coffee mugs filled with "treats" and wrapped in plastic wrap to sell for gifts.

Among the ways our book sales have benefited the staff and patrons in the past year are the purchase of a new microwave for the staff kitchen, a projector for use in library programs, and new office chairs. Just approved is the purchase of several electronic reading devices that will be used to help patrons learn how to use this new technology.

After setting up for the sale, the Friends crew went about bringing some holiday cheer to the main library room with greens, decorations, and a traditional Christmas tree.

More holiday merriment was shared when the Friends met at President **Linda Nairn's** home for a lovely ham and potluck luncheon.

Santa was expected to bring the long-awaited benches that the Friends purchased to provide seating for people waiting outside, a welcome addition for the New Year.

Renee Hermanson

Tobin Library at Oakwell

New furniture for the teen area, a special three-tier book display and a moveable wall for use in the community room are recent purchases approved by the Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell.

Poinsettias were purchased from the Lions Club to use as holiday decorations, an annual tradition coordinated by **Joan Hildreth**.

Plans are underway to set up a used book sales cart, which will offer books for sale during all regular library hours. Sales will be on the honor system with suggested donations of \$1 for hardbacks and 50 cents for paperbacks.

The next Tobin Library at Oakwell Book Sale is set for Feb. 10-11. Preview hours have moved to 4-6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 10. Regular sales hours will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Any Friends group interested in any books left over from our regular sale is invited to start picking them out at 3 p.m. during the last hour of the Saturday afternoon bag sale.

Take care and have a joyous holiday.

Janet Goddard

BookCellar News

Pat Konstam

The BookCellar Committee has elected **Linda Arronge** as committee chair. **Aaron Konstam** retired as chair at the end of 2011, after seven years on the job.



The one-week After-Thanksgiving Half-Price Sale took in \$2,852, helping boost sales totals for the year.

Seven volunteers have received purple aprons personalized with their names in recognition of completing at least 50 hours of work in the BookCellar. They are: **Dee Barfield, Shirley Barker, Anna Cleve, Fleet Lentz, Alejandro Marez, Thelma Stewart, and Deena Watts. Lucille Teeter** took care of getting the aprons ordered and embroidered.

The aprons were presented at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at Azuca Cocina Latina restaurant on Nov. 11. **Linda Arronge** handled arrangements for the luncheon, which was attended by 47 volunteers, spouses, and guests.

The buy-one-get-one special in January is regularly priced adult hardback fiction, including novels, mysteries, sci-fi, westerns, and large print. February's BOGO sale will be adult and children's books in the Dewey Decimal 600 classification. This broad series includes health and medicine, pets, gardening, fashion and style, dating and marriage, child rearing, job hunting, business management, and marketing.

Books to help with New Year's resolutions (diet, fitness, self-improvement) are on special sale in January. A Presidents' Day special and a Black History special will run in February. Marking Valentine's Day, paperback romances will sell for 25 cents in February.

Nominations, continued from p 7.

- **Robert LaCaff**
- **Karen Matson**
- **Mary McAfee**
- **Pat Mendiola**
- **Larry Purkey**
- **Ronnie Retzloff**
- **Ann Springer**
- **Virginia Wong**

Thank you to the members of the Nominating Committee:

- **Shirley Coleman**
- **Ronnie Retzloff**
- **Sue Ratliff**
- **Edward Sagebiel**
- **Claudia Kohler**



Igo Friends celebrated Christmas with a White Elephant gift exchange.

More photos are on the FOSAPL website: www.friendsofsapl.com.



*Author **Mel Brown** visited McCreless.*

See the FOSAPL website: www.friendsofsapl.com for more photos.

~~ Honors, Memorials and Gifts Form ~~

Honor a loved one, family or friends with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, other special occasions, or a "just because." Doing so can also be a wonderful, thoughtful and lasting way to honor the memory of relatives or friends. If you like, add a brief note about the recipient of your honors on the back of the form. No donation now? Save the form for future use.

<p align="center">I would like to make the following donation of</p> <p align="center">\$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In honor of <input type="checkbox"/> A special event <small>Birthday, Anniversary Graduation, a Gift, etc.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> In memory of</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p>	<p align="center">Please send a Memorial Friends Acknowledgement to:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p>
<p align="center">Please fill out the form, make your check payable to Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and mail the form with check to: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library ATTN: Honors, Memorials and Gifts P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, TX 78246</p>	<p align="center">My name and address is:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p align="center"><i>~ All Donations Are Tax Deductible ~</i></p>

Friends Membership Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ UNLISTED DO NOT PUBLISH

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I'M INTERESTED IN:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOOKSALES
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTEES (Budget, Arts & Letters, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> FOSAPL Board of Directors
<input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALITY
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION | <input type="checkbox"/> STAFF APPRECIATION EVENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICAL ADVOCACY
<input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEERING IN THE BOOKCELLAR
<small>(Volunteers receive a discount on their purchases when working a full 4 hour shift.)</small> |
|---|--|

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL (Adult) | \$15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DUAL (Adult) | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL (Teen, Ages 13-18) | \$5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PATRON (Per Person) | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTRIBUTING (Per Person) | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE (Per Person) | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS | \$25 |

STATUS/PAYMENT:

- NEW MEMBER**
- RENEWAL**
- BRANCH GROUP:** _____
- ADDITIONAL DONATION:** _____
- How would you like your additional donation applied? _____

The **BookCellar** is located in the basement of the Central Library and is open Friday - Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursday from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM (when the Library is open).

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Note: Your Contribution is Tax Deductible
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Treasurer's Report

October 31, 2011
Submitted by **Judy Wilson**

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

FOSAPL INCOME	BUDGET (Projected)	FOSAPL YTD	FOSAPL SEPT-OCT
BookCellar sales	80,000.00	59,636.87	6,764.28
BookCellar sales tax withheld		(3,831.08)	(508.30)
Donations and memorials	1,000.00	2,903.00	1,935.00
Interest	300.00	448.56	79.17
Membership	8,000.00	8,175.00	3,555.00
FOSAPL INCOME	89,300.00	67,332.35	11,825.15
BUDGET EXPENSES	BUDGET	YTD	SEPT-OCT
Accounting	2,400.00	375.00	
Arts and Letters	400.00	178.16	178.16
Bank charges	100.00		
FOSAPL Committee expenses	200.00	136.70	54.04
Friends recognition	100.00	21.27	
Insurance		2,000.00	1,660.00
Membership recruitment	900.00	924.08	542.88
Newsletter prep/editing & printing	4,350.00	2,513.41	600.00
Office supplies	100.00	160.92	24.69
Parking		no budget amt	564.00
Postage (bulk mail, post office box, postage)	1,500.00	530.76	57.32
President's expenses	300.00		
Seed money for new groups	200.00	200.00	100.00
"Show me the Money"/fundraising program	450.00		
BookCellar Expenses			
Advertising	1,000.00		
Book sale(s) expenses/office supplies	300.00	831.45	
Commodities for resale	1,800.00	1,353.41	201.98
Equipment and maintenance	2,500.00	509.95	
Printing and copying	200.00	20.00	
Recruitment of volunteer workers	200.00		
Salary and benefits	7,100.00	6,856.29	1,480.60
Volunteer appreciation	1,250.00	219.58	
Library Support			
Public programming & staff development	42,000.00	21,051.00	20,691.00
Donations from FOSAPL members	no budget amt	290.00	25.00
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life members	no budget amt	300.00	
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	69,350.00	38,695.98	23,955.67
FOSAPL BRANCH & SUPPORT GROUPS INCOME		SEPT-OCT	YTD
Donations		1,140.55	3,532.75
Income from book sales, Book Nook sales, fundraisers		19,375.48	60,380.65
Memberships		1,420.00	3,035.00
BRANCH & SUPPORT GROUPS EXPENDITURES		SEPT-OCT	YTD
Branch Friends group operating expenses		2,640.32	5,886.19
Branch group purchases for Library Branches/departments		20,867.34	84,364.27

Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

Bank Accounts	
Compass Money Market *****8659	
BookCellar deposits	91,257.97
Compass Money Market Gold ***-***4644	30,206.54
Compass Checking ***-***8736 (as of 11-3-11)	43,736.46
Total Assets	165,200.97
Branch Designated Funds (-)	(92,842.72)
Branch Designated Funds, unclaimed (-)	
Checks outstanding (-)	(5,345.92)
Net Assets for FOSAPL Use	67,012.33

Branch and Support Group Fund

Bazan	1,666.32
Brook Hollow	19,757.37
Carver	3,856.31
Central	457.73
Cody	2,740.21
Collins Garden	436.66
Cortez	1,172.83
Forest Hills	1,848.64
Great Northwest	3,312.70
Guerra	3,985.69
Igo	6,264.28
Johnston	3,019.13
Landa	3,953.83
Maverick	5,539.56
McCreless	2,220.53
Memorial	1,688.06
Mission	765.05
Parman	110.00
Semmes	5,022.46
Texana/genealogy	7,905.53
Thousand Oaks	4,124.84
Tobin Library at Oakwell	7,563.18
Westfall	1,985.97
Writers (currently inactive)	<u>3,445.84</u>
 Total Group Funds	 <u>92,842.72</u>

BE ONE IN A THOUSAND!

Renew your FOSAPL membership for 2012 TODAY! Please call (210) 653-4103 if you haven't already received your membership renewal letter in the mail!



P.O. Box 461523
San Antonio, Texas 78246

Return 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.

January 7	Landa Friends meeting, 10 a.m.
January 15	FOSAPL Annual Meeting, 2:00, Central Library Auditorium
February 11	Tobin Library at Oakwell Book Sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Preview Friday, Feb. 10, 4-6 p.m.)
February 18	Semmes Book Sale, 10 a.m. (pre-sale for FOSAPL members only, Feb. 17, 11:30-1:00)
February 24	Brook Hollow Friends Staff Appreciation Dinner
March 18	FOSAPL Board Meeting (place TBD)
March 24	Brook Hollow Friends Used Book Sale – 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
March 24-25	Igo Book Sale, Saturday, 10-5, and Sunday, 1-4. Set up Thursday, 4-6, and Friday, 10-4
March 26	Brook Hollow Friends meeting – 7 p.m.
May	Bond Election

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

Central Library
600 Soledad Street, 78205
210-207-2500

Igo Library
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249
210-561-6113 (also TTY)

Landa Library
233 Bushnell, 78212
210-732-8369

Semmes Library
15060 Judson Rd., 78247
210-650-9540

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

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.