

From the President

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the honor of serving as your President for the next two years. Growing up in San Antonio, the library has been an important part of my life...starting with the book mobile! For the past several years, I have been the President of the Tobin at Oakwell Friends, and have also worked with several of the board members on the Arts & Letters Awards committee.

While this past year has been challenging for all of us, the Friends had many successes, and 2021 will be no different. As the BookCellar remains closed, the Friends will begin selling books online. In the near future, the Friends will hire a coordinator to create this online system. The Friends are excited as the online sales will complement the revenue from the BookCellar when it reopens. With these revenue sources and a very lean expense budget, the Friends anticipate a \$30,000 gift of support to the Library.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to lead you.

John Costello



Noon Time Helping of Cooking Thursdays at Noon



San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) Virtual Kitchen

**Co-Hosts
Jeannette Davies & Carlos Loera**

Sign up via mysapl.org

Jeanette Davies and **Carlos Loera** mix it up in SAPL's virtual kitchen with banter, broth, and batters to share their latest culinary capers. Able and willing to slice and dice, these co-foodies get their hands dirty kneading dough, whipping meringues, and adding spice to the local online cooking scene.

Davies conceptualized the program during the pandemic to assist library patrons who are spending more time in their kitchens than ever before. Patrons are invited via Zoom to spend their lunch hour exploring recipes from cuisines around the world. Davies dishes up tales of baking with her mother and recalls how her grandmother's pressure cooker left indentations in the ceiling above the stove.

Noon Time Helping of Cooking is written and produced by Davies whose all-time favorite chef is Julia Child. Like Child, Loera and Davies cook what piques their curiosity, from seasonal harvests and healthy eating to celebratory desserts, the duo has a cultivated enthusiasm for food. Log in to hear Davies borrow Child's signature phrase "Bon Appetit" and encourage everyone to step into their kitchens.

Noon Time Helping of Cooking in SAPL's Virtual Kitchen is an ongoing program on Thursdays at noon. A two-part series on fish, salmon, and blackened cod, concludes the February episodes and Shepherd's and Cottage Pies are on the menu for St. Patrick's Day in March. Sign up via www.mysapl.org or call 210-207-2500.

- Thursday, March 4, 11, 18, Noon, Irish Foods

Feel free to call Davies at 702-769-7225 if you have further questions.

For more information about the San Antonio Public library see mysapl.org or call 210-207-2500.

Davies, a self-proclaimed FOODIE, is manager at San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) Collins Garden Library Branch. Davies has master's degrees in library and information sciences (MLIS) from the University of North Texas (UNT) and in Communication Arts from University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Davies has a background in Journalism and has written for major newspapers in Nevada and California.

Loera offers BBQ tips and shares stories of successfully finagling family recipes from his siblings. Loera's a library assistant at the San Antonio Public Library, holds a Master's of Fine Arts from the University of Wisconsin and is co-founder of Voces Cosmicas Poetry Group. Loera is an adjunct faculty member at the San Antonio College (SAC) where he teaches Art Appreciation.



From the Library Director



Greetings Friends,

I hope your 2021 is off to a good start. I continue to be filled with hope and optimism for a brighter year to come. I'm pleased to report that many new and exciting capital improvement projects are scheduled

to occur throughout the library system this year. These projects include renovations of the McCreless, Memorial, and Las Palmas Branch Libraries, as well as renovation and painting of the Central Library. For more information about the status of these projects, visit guides.mysapl.org/Bond2017. These improvements will add a warm welcome to you and our community when we reopen our doors to you once again.

As we approach the one-year anniversary since the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to close our library buildings, I'm proud of our team's efforts to continue providing our patrons with service in modified ways. We are eager to welcome patrons back into our locations again when it is determined safe to do so. Until then, Library events, celebrations, and programs continue to be held virtually in accordance with state and local public health guidelines.

Throughout March, SAPL is celebrating Women's History Month, which recognizes the amazing contributions of women in our society. More information about Women's History Month and other programs can be found at mysapl.org.

Additionally, we look forward to the 9th Annual San Antonio Book Festival, which will be held virtually on April 9, 10, and 11. More than 100 authors will be featured this year. I invite you to visit sabookfestival.org to learn more about this year's festival and to sign up for a session once registration is available.

Lastly, I want to extend my gratitude to each of you for your continued support of the Library. Without your support, we would not be able to offer our patrons the wide array of programs we currently offer.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our library system.

Respectfully,

Ramiro S. Salazar

Highlights of 2020 FOSAPL Budget

Nancy Gandara

In past years, a copy of the income and expense report for the prior year has been printed in the March–April issue of *SAPLings*. That Treasurer's Report may be found on the FOSAPL website at <http://www.friendsofsapl.org/treasurers-reports.html>. Given the complexities of the 2020 budgets, the following notes may be helpful in understanding “the two budgets of 2020.”

- The FOSAPL board approved a balanced budget on Nov. 17, 2019. Total income was projected to be \$98,150, and total expenditures were estimated to be \$98,150. Income from BookCellar sales was projected to be \$80,200; payroll expenses [for the BookCellar Manager] were budgeted at \$27,672; and \$50,000 was allocated as a gift to SAPL for public programming support and staff development.

- In mid-March 2020, the BookCellar was closed due to the pandemic. By that time, sales income was less than \$15,000. The Manager was kept on the payroll until the end of Sept. (which resulted later in a small pandemic payroll reimbursement from the IRS for FOSAPL).

- On Sept. 20, 2020 the executive committee requested board approval of a revised 2020 budget, which reflected dramatically reduced revenue and cuts to all discretionary expenditures. Total expenses were cut by more than \$28,000; the donation to SAPL was reduced by \$12,100.

- Certain expenses could not be eliminated. These included contractual bookkeeping services, tax return preparation fees, insurance for the FOSAPL board, design and editing services for the newsletter, postage and the bulk mail permit.

- As of Dec. 31, 2020, FOSAPL accounts totaled \$212,018.96, of which \$131,450.50 were designated as “Branch” group funds.

Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

<i>In Honor of</i>	<i>by</i>
Alana Woods	Nancy Gandara
Linda Naim	Nancy Gandara
Vera Banner	Paula Massengale

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>by</i>
Raymond Figueroa	Nancy Gandara Alana Woods
Evanleen Schmueckle	Paula Massengale
Debbie Morris Bender	Beverly Partney



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, pro-

mote 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

John Costello	.....	President
Nancy Gandara	.....	Vice President
Karin Pedersen	.....	Secretary
Barbara Morrow	.....	Treasurer
Beth Graham	.....	Immediate Past Pres

MEMBERSHIP

SECRETARY Barbara Morrow

BOARD MEMBERS

2020–2022 Term:

Marci Anguiano • Julia Castellano-Hoyt • Barbara Chavez • Linda Janney • Pat Mendiola • Napoleon “Eddie” Patino • Veronica Rouse • Mandy Simpson • Ann Springer • Sandra Wilkinson • Sylvia Zamarippa

2021–2023 Term:

Elena Brickman • Monica Brite • Don Castellano-Hoyt • Kim Cauthon • Linda Cheatum • Tony Moore • Betty Walters • Julia Ybarra • Jill Zimmerman

SAPLINGS

Managing EditorAlana Woods

Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at www.friendsofsapl.org.

Deadlines for submitting articles and photos are February 5, April 5, June 5, August 5, October 5, and December 5.

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file with photos as large as possible emailed to saplingseditor@gmail.com.

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Annual Meeting

via Zoom • January 24, 2021 • 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by **Karin Pedersen**

Call to Order: Beth Graham, President at 2:06 p.m.

Roll Call: Karin Pedersen, Secretary: A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes as printed in SAPLings January/February 2021 issue: The motion was presented by **Elizabeth Alves** with **Betty Walter** seconding.

President's Report: Beth Graham: Thanks to all for attendance and support – it has been a long, strange year. Your efforts helped SAPL continue to provide support to the community and this shows the good the library does and how it helps our community. The matching grant initiative was met and exceeded. The executive committee met to set today's agenda and discuss the budget. Beth met with the Library Board on January 20. Beth expressed her thanks for the trust shown to her in her election and expresses her hopes for 2021 and normal operations soon.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Cheatum reviewed branch balances and the 2020 budget and upcoming income from matching grant and PPP funds. The Treasurer's report was approved by **Sandra Wilkinson** and seconded by **Glenna Seyfer**.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Trustees: Jaspreet Kaur: The next meeting is on January 24, 2021, at 4:30, and it will be virtual but open to all, the information is on the website. Thanks for your support.

San Antonio Public Library Foundation: Amy Hone gave a 2020 recap: The Foundation donated the old literacy caravan to the library,

and they will use it while library locations are closed for renovations. At the end of the year, they were able to access additional funds from the endowment for new programs: one was related to digital divide and included funding 100 tablets (with Wi-Fi) that can be checked out for seniors. The Foundation worked to raise a \$247K annual gift (in a combination of endowments and grants).

The Foundation has developed a partnership to create Snack Pack for Kids SA, which works to provide weekend food for kids that are food insecure.

The partnership with Born to Read has resulted in 20K books distributed. Looking forward to 2021, which includes all virtual meetings until March. The Literacy Luncheon has been cancelled. The Catrina Ball has been planned for as normal as possible for October. The Foundation is applying for \$1.5 million in grants for improvements and programs.

Library Administration: Heidi Kluber, Executive Assistant to the Library Director: 2021 Annual Gift report: funds were used for professional development, notebooks, lunches for election day, name tags, and lanyards. Funds also supported the "Crystal Book Awards" shirts which are presented to employees with service for 20+ years, in 5-year increments. 17 received this year, 79 received shirts for 5+ years. Retiree celebrations included custom plaques but no party.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Nancy Gandara, Chair: reviewed the 2021 proposed budget.

Nominating Committee: Diane Duesterhoeft, Chair: Thanks to committee, nominees were included in *SAPLings*. Thanks to past board members.

Online Sales Task Force: Beth Graham, Chair: This project was first addressed at annual meeting last year to broaden our base of revenue. COVID closure has expedited this need. Thanks to **Nancy Gandara** for creating an RFP for a contract sales position. The task force hopes to evaluate potential, build on person's experience, and reevaluate at end of contract. Questions regarding this were discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider approval of 2021 Budget: Nancy Gandara, Committee Chair

Eddie Patino so moved; **Jill Zimmerman** seconded. All in favor, none opposed – motion passed without opposition [to view the entire budget visit <http://www.friendsofsapl.org/uploads/1/4/0/4/14045832/2021-budget-1-24-21.pdf>].

Election of Board Members for 2021: Diane Duesterhoeft, Nominating Committee Chair, conducted the election. Persons nominated for the 2021–23 board were:

- Elena Brickman
- Monica Brite
- Don Castellano-Hoyt
- Kim Cauthon
- Linda Cheatum
- Tony Moore
- Betty Walters
- Julia Ybarra
- Jill Zimmerman

There were no additional nominations from the floor. All those nominated were elected without opposition:

Election of Officers: Nominated were **John Costello**, President; **Nancy Gandara**, Vice President; and **Barbara Morrow**, Treasurer [**Karin Pedersen**, Secretary, is still serving during 2021–22]. There were no nominations from the floor. The motion to elect those named passed without opposition.

President-Elect **John Costello** thanked all for the faith and support and looks forward to working with the Board to reach our common goals. Looking forward to a positive impact and year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Monica Brite moved, **Pat Peak** seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

2021 Board Meetings

All meetings are virtual and start at 2:00

March 28
May 23
July 25
September 26
November 21

The Branch Leaves and other news can be found on the website:

www.friendsofsapl.org



Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends used Google Meet to hold a virtual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021. We were pleasantly surprised to have what we consider “a good turnout” - 12 Friends participated.

Branch Manager **Heidi Novotny** created a power point presentation illustrating the Branch’s plans for crafts and activities in 2021. Heidi was unable to attend the Friends meeting but Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot used the power point slides to describe the Branch’s “Wish List” -

- Supplies for themed take-home kits for spring and summer, including “Fairy Soup” kits, Bubble Wand kits, and DIY Paper Cricut kits.
- Supplies for various Teen crafts
- Brook Hollow would like to invest in a new gaming system – a Nintendo Switch and a Nintendo Switch Game Console, as well as various equipment including controllers and games. This equipment could be used by the teens during Teen Time and could also be used for virtual programs and to prepare the Branch for future in-person programs.
- Brook Hollow would like to purchase virtual programming equipment to support programming for children, teens, and adults, including 3 sets of studio headphones, a microphone and microphone kit for recording conversations and podcasts, a camcorder, a ring light, and a smartphone tri-pod kit.

The Brook Hollow Friends approved \$1900 to purchase the supplies and equipment requested by the Branch. The Friends will hold their next quarterly meeting on Saturday, April 10, at 11am. This meeting will be conducted virtually using Google Meet as was done during the January 2021 meeting.

Pat Finley

Encino

The Friends of the Encino Library supported the Library Branch with gift cards to Hobby Lobby to be used for children and adults take and make crafts.

Encino branch patrons have participated in the weekly children’s Take-and-Make kits that librarians **Ms. McDonald** and **Ms. Dillard** created especially for the branch. These kits have included: Make Your Own Felt Story, Make a Movement Dancer, Make a Tooth Fairy House, and special crafts for MLK day and Winnie the Pooh Day. Over the next several months, the branch kits will continue to focus on special days with corresponding curated book lists. These crafts are available each Tuesday.

Ms. Laird has also been busy developing monthly branch level Take-and-Make kits for adults. These craft kits are available at the drive thru on the 1st Friday of each month. In November, Encino gave out toilet paper pumpkin kits. In December, Encino patrons could pick up kits for marshmallow snowflakes and/or melted crayon ornaments. In January, kits were available for “forcing bulbs.” On the 4th Friday of each month, the library will offer a “Spice is Right” kit with a sample of spices/herbs, information, and recipes. On Friday Jan 22, the spice was Herbs de Provence with a recipe for Beef Stew.

Keep up with all the Encino Library activities on the Friends of the Encino Library Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EncinoFOSAPL/>

Carla Pomager

Las Palmas

We’re saying farewell to **Patricia Perez**, a Las Palmas staffer and one of our Friends, who has transferred to the Bazan Library after 23 years at the Las Palmas Library. Friends are very grateful for her support and generous sharing of institutional knowledge, especially during the years when our group was getting established, and in gathering information for the Library’s 50th Anniversary observance in 2019.

Welcome to **Brenda Sanchez** who has joined the Las Palmas staff from the Cody Library.

Food insecurity continues to be an issue in our community at present. So, after coordination with Library staff, our Friends group is planning to prepare “healthy” snack bags that will be distributed during Spring Break in March.

Delia Ramirez Trimble

McCreless

Thank you to all members who have renewed for 2021! The next business meeting of the McCreless Friends group will be March 8, 2021, at 6. A Zoom link will be sent to all members. Meetings for 2021 will be held in March, June, September, and December.

Our branch library is still closed for remodeling with limited services being offered. The last update was that construction is expected to be completed in March. No recent update has been received, but the Friends group is looking forward to the first look of the remodeled facilities.

Thank you to Paula Massengale who made two donations to the McCreless Friends in recognition of two people who helped set a strong foundation for our group. The first donation was in memory of Evanleen Schumeckle, who served as the group’s president in 2007 and 2008. The second donation was in honor of Vera Banner, chartering president of McCreless Friends, serving in 1993.

Financially our group is doing well. The donation plan goes through September 30, 2021. We are planning to hold a yard sale in late Spring or early summer to set up funds for 2022 to help support library programs and library staff needs. We are looking for a member who has a yard location that has good foot traffic. If you are willing to volunteer your yard, please contact Jill Zimmerman.

Please plan on coming to the meeting so we can make plans for 2021!

Jill Zimmerman

Parman

Happy Spring from the Parman Friends! I think March and April are the prettiest months in San Antonio; wildflowers and nice temperatures.

The Friends continue to support our branch any way we can. The Parman Children’s librarians have created a Storywalk along the trail for the kids to read and follow as they walk. It is updated every month. We were able to help with the supplies they needed to make the stories come to life.

The Friends are also looking forward to the Parman Branch 10th Anniversary and looking at ways we can assist the branch.

We are currently working to improve our membership and looking at dates in March to

Branch Leaves cont on p 5.

Branch Leaves, from p 4.

have a general meeting via Zoom.

Finally, I want to thank, **Corie Taylor**, our Parman Friends Secretary. She has been instrumental in keeping our Facebook page updated with lots of good information about what we are doing and what is happening with SAPL

and the Parman branch. We have seen more views and likes and hopefully this will help with our membership goals. We are so glad Corie is part of our team and I can't wait to see what other great ideas she will bring to the group.

Leslie Cavill Burns

It's Not Too Late to Join the (Virtual) Party!

Nancy Gandara

If you have any funds left from your latest coronavirus economic impact payment (a.k.a. the "stimulus check") you could renew your membership in the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, make a donation "in honor of" someone you admire, or make a contribution "in memory of" a departed loved one. Although a couple of years ago almost 1,000 people were counted as Friends, the most recent count shows a dip of several hundred people. The San Antonio Public Library is still providing books, programs, and computers and still counting on support from Friends like you. Join or renew your membership by check (just \$15 per person!), or by PayPal or credit card: click on the "Become a Member" link on the website Home page, www.friendsofsapl.org.

Let us hear from you!

fosaplpresident@gmail.com

John Costello

fosaplvp@gmail.com

Nancy Gandara

fosapltreasurer@gmail.com

Barbara Morrow

fosaplsecretary@gmail.com

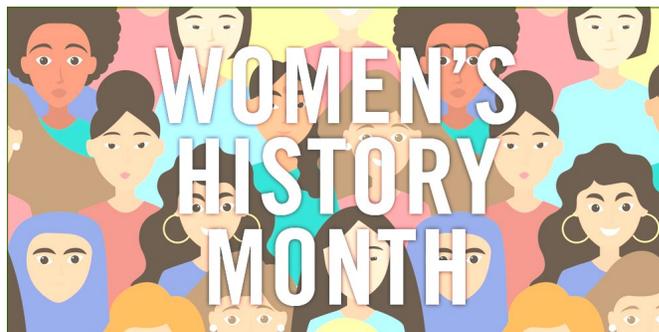
Karin Pedersen

fosaplmembershipchair@gmail.com

vacant



Celebrate Women's History Month with SAPL!



March is Women's History Month, and the San Antonio Public Library is honoring the women who have shaped America's history and future.

Throughout the month of March, the Library will be offering special online programs and events celebrating women's contributions throughout history.

For more information on ways to celebrate Women's History Month at SAPL, visit mysapl.org.

San Antonio Book Festival Is Going Online!



The 9th Annual San Antonio Book Festival is right around the corner, and for the first time ever, it will take place completely online! From April 9 through 11, participants will be able to join the festivities and celebrate national and local authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas, and imagination. Learn more at sabookfestival.org.

SAPL Events Calendar

In accordance with guidance from local health officials and to protect the health and safety of our patrons and staff, all programming is currently available online only.



We have many of the same programs you know and love and look forward to connecting with you online!

All events are free and open to the public. Registration required where noted. Please visit our Contact-Free Pickup and Computer Access page (<https://guides.mysapl.org/covid-19/how-to>) for the latest information about our reopening plans.



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Notes about the FOSAPL Budget for 2021 Approved on Jan. 24, 2021

Nancy Gandara

The 2021 FOSAPL budget that was proposed to the membership was predicated on a few (hopeful) assumptions:

- that a contractor would be recruited to set up online book sales from March 1–July 31, with net revenue to FOSAPL of \$2,000/month (total \$10,000);
- that a manager of the BookCellar & online sales would be hired by July 1, with a salary of \$15/hr for 30 hrs/week,
- that under the direction of the BookCellar & online sales manager, the online sales would generate at least \$2,000/month from Aug.–Dec. 31 (total \$10,000);
- that volunteers would be recruited and trained in July and August, and that the BookCellar would be open for in-person public use in Sept., with revenue of \$5,000/month (total \$20,000).

While all expenses will be kept as low as possible, the donation to the San Antonio Public Library is expected to be approximately \$30,000.

To view the entire budget, visit <http://www.friendsofsapl.org/uploads/1/4/0/4/14045832/2021-budget-1-24-21.pdf>

FOSAPL Membership Secretary Needed

Nancy Gandara

Congratulations to **Barbara Morrow**, who was recently elected as FOSAPL Treasurer following her past two years of service as the Membership Secretary. “It’s an interesting job,” Barbara said, “and it’s perfect for someone who wants to make a meaningful contribution (without having to attend meetings!).”

If you are attentive to details, competent in use of an Excel spreadsheet/database, and would like to work cooperatively with the FOSAPL Treasurer, this could be the ideal volunteer job for you!

Contact **Barbara Morrow** at fosaplmembershipchair@gmail.com for more information as soon as possible.