

From the President

Dear Friends,

Wonderful news!
The Library is now open. Beginning April 13, San Antonio Public Library (SAPL)

will reopen for Brisk Browsing at all locations except Central Library, Forest Hills, McCreless, Memorial, and San Pedro Branch Libraries (they are undergoing renovation). For more details, visit the Friends website (friendsofsapl.org) or mysapl.org.

I trust this edition of *SAPLings* finds you well and enjoying the beautiful spring weather . . . especially after our frozen February! Unfortunately, several of our libraries suffered damage from burst pipes during the storm. As the renovations were nearing completion at Forest Hills, the branch was flooded with several inches of water. Central Library also had water damage from the storm.

FOSAPL is excited to announce that **Tom Bugg** is the new online book sales manager. Since accepting the job on March 1, Tom has been busy inventorying and posting books. The best news is that people are buying, including \$225 for Dr. Seuss' *Scrambled Eggs Super!* View the inventory at <https://tinyurl.com/FOSAPLBookCellar>. Thanks to **Nancy Gandara** for overseeing this project.

Looking forward to seeing you soon at the library.

John Costello



Online Book Sales Have Started!

Tom Bugg and Nancy Gandara

Like so many retailers in the past year, the Friends' BookCellar has moved online! Although the store in the lower-level of the Central Library has been closed since mid-March 2020, an Amazon store in the name of the "Friends of SA Library" has recently been established; you can view the varied (and constantly changing) selection at <https://tinyurl.com/FOSAPLBookCellar>.

The first two sales were *On the Path of Marigolds: Living Traditions of Mexico's Day of the Dead*, which sold for \$36.65, and *The Jazz Age: American Style in the 1920s*, which sold for \$39.28. Because the title *Scrambled Eggs Super!* by Dr. Seuss was recently controversial, it sold for \$225.

Other pricey treasures for sale include a first edition of *The Vegetable* by F. Scott Fitzgerald from 1923 (which also makes it the oldest book) for \$179, and a signed first edition of *Big Wonderful Thing: A History of Texas* by Stephen Harrigan for \$125, however most of the titles being listed are competitively priced in the \$10–20 range.

The Friends have hired **Tom Bugg** to oversee the marketing, sales, and shipping of these books. A native of San Antonio, he grew up helping out (and shopping!) the Tobin Branch at Oakwell Library's seasonal book sales. A recent graduate of Colorado College, Tom plans to attend SMU Law School in the fall. Feel free to email fosaplbookcellar@gmail.com with suggestions of the genres or subjects that you would like to see listed next. Our online store is open 24/7/365, for your convenience!



From the Library Director



Greetings Friends,
As the summer months approach, I hope that you have been able to enjoy visiting your local branch library since the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) welcomed patrons back into the buildings for

Brisk Browsing on April 13, 2021. I have certainly enjoyed seeing patrons browsing our collections once again. I'm happy to inform you that San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) is in preparations for an eventful summer with plenty of opportunities to safely connect with each other as a community.

SAPL will be commemorating National Preservation Month in May. Since 1973, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has led preservation groups, historical societies, as well as business and civic organizations nationwide in supporting efforts to preserve our country's historic and archeological resources. Throughout the month, SAPL's Texana & Genealogy Department will showcase interesting moments, people, and places in San Antonio history. Head to mysapl.org/Services/Collections/Texana for more information.

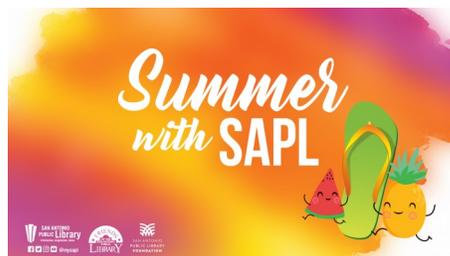
Additionally, SAPL staff is eager to launch our annual Summer Reading Program, which will begin June 1. The theme this year is Summer With SAPL. We're excited to continue this yearly tradition in the San Antonio community by encouraging San Antonio area residents of all ages to continue learning and exercising their minds during the summer months by reading books from SAPL. You can learn more about the program by visiting guides.mysapl.org/SRP.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at SAPL, I'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for your continued dedication and service to our Library. We are happy to see that the COVID-19 environment is improving throughout our city as we continue progressing toward normalcy. We greatly appreciate everything you do and are excited to continue offering our patrons an exceptional library experience, thanks to your contributions.

Respectfully,
Ramiro S. Salazar

Summer with SAPL!

It's that time of year! Are you ready for summer and summer reading? San Antonio Public Library is planning fun online programs, activities, and events for kids, teens and adults. This summer, we invite you to join us for a *Summer With SAPL* beginning June 1! Visit mysapl.org/srp to learn more.



Call for Event Committee Members for 2021 Arts and Letters Awards

Marcie Anguiano



Each year, the Arts and Letters Awards honors artists who have made a significant contribution to the artistic culture within San Antonio. Hosted by the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, an event committee is crucial to the success of this long-standing event.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the committee for 2021, please submit an email to **Marcie Anguiano** at mrsanguiano17@gmail.com, subject: ALA 2021.

Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

In Memory of _____ *by* _____

Betty Branson Ward	Bonnie & Ed Carpenter
Doris Clark	Emily McKown Schingle
	Betty Waters

Donation _____ *by* _____

Mission Branch Library Friends	TJX Foundation, Inc
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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:

Marcie Anguiano • Julia Castellano-Hoyt • Barbara Chavez • Linda Janney • Pat Mendiola • Napoleon "Eddie" Patino • Veronica Rouse • Mandy Simpson • Ann Springer • Sandra Wilkinson • Sylvia Zamarripa

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 • March 28, 2021 • 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by **Karin Pedersen**

Call to Order: President **John Costello**, called the meeting to order at 2:03.

Board Member Introductions/Roll Call: Secretary **Karin Pedersen** announced that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: as printed in *SAPLings* March/April 2021 issue, moved by **Don Castellano-Hoyt**; seconded by **Pat Mendiola**. Passed unanimously.

President's Report: **John Costello** reported that he had a meeting with bookkeepers to discuss timelines and Drop Box and to set up a separate book account for online book sales. He attended two Foundation meetings and a trustee meeting. He discussed safety protocols and options related to accessing the BookCellar to manage online book sales. Needs for reopening in the future will be evaluated, and will be monitored as summer progresses. No indoor lunches for volunteers. Thanks to the library for some initial supplies for cleaning and infection control. Big thanks to **Nancy Gandara** and **Barbara Morrow** for assistance in updating bank accounts. We are looking for a new membership secretary. New board orientation will be held this summer, hopefully in person if safely possible.

Treasurer's Report: **Barbara Morrow** stated that branch accounts and the Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Liaison Reports

Board of Trustees: **Marcie Ince** reported that the Board of Trustees meeting will be held Wednesday, April 28, at 4:30. The meeting will be video conference, no in-person option available. Details about how to attend this meeting

may be found on the events page, <https://www.mysapl.org/Events-News/Events-Calendar>. **Marcie** thanked and congratulated the new Friends officers and our continued support.

San Antonio Public Library Foundation: **Amy Hone** was not available for the meeting.

Library Administration: **Dale McNeill** reported that he is looking forward to in-person meetings. We do not yet know when in-person events and in-person browsing will be possible again. Will still be providing contact-free pick-up. COVID-19 numbers are decreasing here, but not everywhere so we still need to be cautious. Working with city leadership and MetroHealth to determine timeline for in-person patrons.

Forest Hills project was almost done before winter flooding caused significant damage. Working on funding sources. No timeline for reopening.

McCreless: work is looking great and should be open for May. Meeting room will be open in time for early voting.

Construction has begun at Memorial and will continue through Fall.

Las Palmas and Central: capital project will begin next year. Some services will still be available.

Branch anniversaries will be celebrated virtually. 40 years for Cortez in April. 40 years for Memorial in May. 40 years for Johnston in August. 10 years for Mission in April. 10 years for Parman in May. 5 years for Potranco in November.

San Antonio Book Festival will happen and be all virtual. April 9–11. Registration is free. More than 175 writers for

all audiences. Go to sabookfestival.org to register and learn more details about the festival.

Early voting will begin on April 19 and last until April 27 with election day May 1. All dates and locations online.

Thanks for all the support in the past and the future.

Committee Reports

Online Sales Task Force: **John Costello** and **Nancy Gandara** reported that an RFP was issued at the end of January to build and manage online book sales. Two great applications were received. Interviews were completed for both and they were extremely impressed. **Tom Bugg** was selected. His mother is the President of the Tobin Friends so he knows very well what the Friends do. Three books have already been sold! Some great rare books will be posted online for sale. **Nancy Gandara** is spearheading the efforts. Nancy gave an update regarding the process for selecting books and will share the link for the online sales site.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

SAPLings content: Please continue to submit information regarding the events at the branches, even if it is not a

long submission, even a small paragraph about what is going on. Share so we can publicize in the *SAPLings*.

Consider approval of the chair of the Arts & Letters Committee: President Costello requested board approval of **Marcie Anguiano** to chair 2021 Arts & Letters. **Don Castellano-Hoyt** so moved; **Eddie Patino** seconded. Passed without opposition.

Announcements

Barbara Morrow: 586 active members. 142 did not renew. Recommended contacting members that did not renew.

Adjournment

Don Castellano-Hoyt so moved; **Betty Walters** seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:58.

2021 Board Meetings

All meetings are virtual and start at 2:00

May 23
July 25
September 26
November 21

Attention, Branch Group Officers (where Brisk Browsing is allowed)

If you are able to manage the display of sale books and regular pickup/deposit of funds from a book cart, talk with your branch manager (the book cart may need to be relocated or extra floor decals placed to follow COVID protocols). Each branch manager will determine the date that Friends' book cart sales may be resumed.



Brook Hollow

At the Jan. 30 virtual meeting, the Brook Hollow Friends viewed a PowerPoint presentation created by Branch Manager **Heidi Novotny** illustrating the library's plans for crafts and activities in 2021.

At the library's request, the Friends purchased the supplies needed to create take-home kits. The first take-home kit was a "Fairy Soup" kit, designed primarily as a sensory activity for preschoolers and toddlers. The library branch prepared 48 kits to be sent home with children beginning in April. In the future, Brook Hollow staff will also provide children with take-home "Bubble Wand" kits and "Do-It-Yourself Paper Cricuts" kits.

The Friends have begun to purchase the requested audiovisual equipment that will be used to support programming for children, teens, and adults, both virtual programs and future live online programming. The equipment includes studio headphones, a podcast microphone kit, a USB microphone, a camcorder, ring light, and a smartphone tripod kit.

Pat Finley

Encino

The Friends of the Encino Library plan to meet again once the library has an opening date so that they may determine the date of the next Book Sale and possible Craft Fair.

Meanwhile, the Friends supported the library branch with Hobby Lobby gift cards.

In March and April, the gift cards were used for take and make crafts for children and adults, tweens, and teens.

Encino hosted early voting from April 19–27 and Election Day on May 1. This will be the first event using the stanchions purchased by the Friends.

The Encino Friends provided pizza to the Encino staff for Library Worker Day on April 6.

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

Carla Pomgar

Las Palmas

Las Palmas Library volunteer and Friends member, **Emerald Alaniz**, won second place in the teen division at this year's Pop Madness virtual convention. Her costume was the character, La Muerte, from the film, *The Book of Life*. (See the photo on page 5.)

As soon as the guidelines for the 2021 Summer Reading Program are issued, our Friends will coordinate with library staff to plan either supplemental programming or the funding for supplies for "take and make" kits.

Delia Ramirez Trimble

McCreless

McCreless Friends met via Zoom on Mar. 8. **Marisa DeBow, Jill Zimmerman, Julia Briggs, Josie Martinez, Lucy Duncan, and Christel Villarreal** were in attendance. Branch Manager **Emerson Stanley** joined us for an update on the renovations.

Treasurer **Mary Gallagher** sent in her report previous to the meeting letting us know that we have \$2,811.64 in our account plus \$100 in petty cash to be used for setting up book sales. President **Jill Zimmerman** reported on attending a meeting of the Texas Library Association's Library Friends, Trustees and Advocates (LiFTA) Round Table. Important library issues during the Texas 87th Legislature session focus on access, digital divide, workforce development, and fund-

ing. Library services are in great demand during the pandemic, even though facility use is restricted.

Emerson Stanley provided photos of the ongoing renovations, walking us through the areas and how they will be used. The renovations will take a few more weeks to be completed but are expected to be finalized by May.

Improvements include enhanced space for children and teens, new technology for meetings and programs, and updated furniture and equipment.

Discussion followed about fundraising for 2022, including having less storage space for book donations and the uncertainty of when book sales can resume. Emerson assures us that when the full staff is back in place at the library and full services return, requests for funding will come through to the Friends. We look forward to being able to support the staff and programs at the library and will work as a group to raise needed funds.

McCreless Branch Library will still be operating as a voting site during the upcoming 2021 Municipal Elections, including early voting.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 14 at 6:00, still as a Zoom meeting. Meetings will also be held in September and December.

Jill Zimmerman, with content from *Emerson Stanley* and *Lucy Duncan*

Mission

With the recent generous support received from Green Space Alliance, Mission Library has begun the process of installing an irrigation system within its garden. The installation of an irrigation system will help the garden take one step closer to developing a self-sustainable food system. The installation will also help reduce the amount of time needed to water the plants giving library volunteers an opportunity

to further develop other community projects. Stay tuned and watch the Mission Library garden grow this summer!

Marcie Anguiano

Schaefer

Hello Friends, we send you warm spring greetings!

In February, we encouraged our members to reach out to the library Marketing Department for Library Lover's Month and to tell what they love about Schaefer.

The Friends of the Schaefer branch met via Zoom on Mar. 16; it was wonderful to "see" our Friends. On Mar. 25, Schaefer Library celebrated four years of service to the community.

A generous donor purchased the remaining Fiesta medals, party favors, and "Birthday" goody bags were included with patron holds (contactless of course!). Inside the birthday bags, the Friends also placed envelopes to recruit new members—we are doing what we can to keep our group vibrant and active so we can continue to support Schaefer and hope the future holds big things for us all.

Our trail is also a great place to social distance, and the weather has been delightful as spring and new growth abounds and recovers from Snowpocalypse 2021. The water fountain and rock landscaping features have been installed along the trail as well. What a bright spot in a long year! Consider joining our group, making a trip out to Schaefer, or just waving hello to us virtually at our next meeting.

Looking for the bright spots.
Veronica Rouse



McCreless Renovations



This is standing in the children's area looking into the meeting room. There will be a glass wall in the giant opening and they are provisioning us with a state of the art media system (drop down projector, built in speakers, touch TV, and drop-down screen). The closet in the back is expanded a bit to fit the tables and chairs in when we need more floor space.



This is standing in the middle of the library facing the Teen area. On the left is a sliver of that reading room with shelves that I mentioned. The back exposed wall is where a TV and shelving will go, and the white pillars will encase glass to mark off this area as Teens only!



The front entrance is on the left side and the metal overhang is where the reference and circulation desk will be. The two rooms on the right side of the photo are our study/quiet rooms. Once these are complete, the front will be glass.

Let us hear from you!

fosaplpresident@gmail.com

fosaplvp@gmail.com

fosapltreasurer@gmail.com

fosaplsecretary@gmail.com

fosaplmembershipchair@gmail.com

John Costello

Nancy Gandara

Barbara Morrow

Karin Pedersen

vacant

Schaefer Celebrates 4 Years!



Mission Library Garden



Emerald Alaniz Wins 2nd Place



Las Palmas Library volunteer and Friends member, **Emerald Alaniz**, won second place in the teen division at this year's Pop Madness virtual convention. Her costume was the character, *La Muerte*, from the film, *The Book of Life*.





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Brisk Browsing Now at SAPL Locations!

Beginning April 13, San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) reopened for Brisk Browsing at all locations *except Central Library, Forest Hills, McCreless, Memorial, and San Pedro Branch Libraries* as they are undergoing renovation.

SAPL locations have been closed for browsing since March 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. SAPL's new Brisk Browsing service, which provides one-way traffic browsing of SAPL's collection, will allow visitors to explore the shelves inside SAPL locations for the first time in over one year!

Contact-free pickup, computer access by appointment, and outdoor Wi-Fi will continue, with the addition of Brisk Browsing.

Brisk Browsing & Contact-Free Pickup Schedule:

Tuesday 12 PM – 8 PM

Wednesday – Saturday 10 AM – 6 PM

Computer Appointments Schedule:

Tuesday 3 PM – 7 PM

Wednesday – Saturday 1 PM - 5 PM

Outdoor Wi-Fi Schedule:

7:30 AM to 10:30 PM daily

The following protocols will be in place during Brisk Browsing:

- Temperature check and symptom screening
- Masks required for everyone older than 10 years old
- Number of people in the building will be limited
- One-way directional signage and social distancing

Holdings can be picked up inside or with Contact-Free Pickup

Study rooms and seating inside the library are currently unavailable to allow for social distancing and to limit the number of people in the building

Full details about updated services and protocols can be found at <https://guides.mysapl.org/covid-19/how-to>.

For information on ongoing virtual programming, visit mysapl.org/events. Please note, services are subject to change based on local health guidance, and SAPL locations will be following approved City of San Antonio social distancing, mask requirements, and screening protocols.

Library staff is available by phone at 210-207-2500 or by chat at ask.mysapl.org.