

**From the Interim
Library Director**



Dear Friends,
Happy end of Spring! This season of renewal is usually paired with an intensive period of work at the San Antonio Public Library as we prepare for the annual City of San Antonio

budget process and ramp up for one of our signature system-wide programs: Summer with SAPL.

With this in mind, I extend an enormous thank you to the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library for approving our location-based donation plans in concert with our location managers. These plans respond to the needs of the individual branches and Texana at the Central Library. These resources help us add to the relevant, interesting, and entertaining programming and services to our community. In total, the donation plans will give approximately \$100,000 in cash to the San Antonio Public Library for the specific needs documented on the approved plans.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to the entire Friends organization for recently transferring a significant installment of this year's gift for the locations in one lump sum totaling almost \$75,000. Your hard work and dedication to the Library provides us with necessary support to continue improving the Library and its services for our community. By having the bulk of the cash gift in hand, our staff can plan the rest of their programs for the year and begin using the funds to fulfill the donation plans right away. In order to report back to the Friends about the status of the spending of these funds, I will be providing periodic reports to the Friends leadership. I know this is important to transparency about the status of the spending.

Your efforts to support the San Antonio Public Library system create a lasting, positive impact, and we are extremely appreciative.

I wish you all an exciting start to your Summer.

With gratitude
Kathy Donellan
Interim Library Director

SAPL's "Online Branch Library" offers services 24/7 from anywhere

Over the past two decades, San Antonio Public Library has built a robust digital library with valuable resources accessible from anywhere via the internet. Like our physical library locations, SAPL's digital library provides a wealth of services and resources to customers. Our digital library services are available 24/7/365 through SAPL's website, MySAPL.org, and a suite of mobile applications.

Through the SAPL website and apps, patrons can sign up for a temporary library card, search the catalog, borrow a book, watch a movie, place holds, renew checkouts, view account details, pay fees, chat with a librarian, or find events to attend. The **MySAPL** app, available for both Android and iOS, is a great first step to exploring many of the Library's online services. To delve deeper, **Libby** and **Kanopy** offer direct access to ebooks, eaudiobooks, and streaming video after a few simple steps to connect these apps to a library card account.

SAPL also offers a variety of online learning opportunities. **Brainfuse** offers live, year-round online tutoring for all ages in nearly every school subject. **Craftsy** delivers thousands of videos on demand for a wide variety of crafts and hobby interests. **Udemy** offers in-depth boot camps on a vast array of topics from technology to business and beyond.

A SAPL card also provides online access to the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *San Antonio Express-News*, and a large assortment of other news and historical database resources. SAPL's newest app, **Ground News**, allows readers to assess media bias in news stories from multiple publications at the same time.

Every one of these services is free with a SAPL card, and the Library continues to explore and add more services and resources to increase access to informative and entertaining content for library patrons. To get started, simply visit mysapl.org/digital to explore SAPL's dynamic and growing digital branch library.



Friends of the Great Northwest Library President **Julie Chase** has set up a puzzle table.



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

- John CostelloPresident
- Nancy Gandara Vice President
- Daniel Garza Secretary
- Barbara Morrow Treasurer
- Beth GrahamImmediate Past Pres

MEMBERSHIP

- SECRETARY.....Vacant

BOARD MEMBERS

2023-2025

- Cammi Brantley • Kim Cauthon • Barbara Chavez • Linda Cheatum • Beth Crabb • Laura Glueck • Ann Springer • Betty Walters

2024-2026

- Paula Allen • Stephen Barnes • Katie Ferrier • Nias Harris • Barbara Ma'at • Mykenzie McAlister • Pat Mendiola • Napoleon (Eddie) Patino • Karin Pedersen • Theodora "Lolly" Salazar • Mandy Simpson

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 saplinseditor@gmail.com.

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting

Saturday, March 24, 2024 | Encino Branch Library

Submitted by **Daniel Garza**

Call to Order: **John Costello**, FOSAPL President, called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

Roll Call: Presented by **Daniel Garza**, FOSAPL Secretary. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes of the January 27, 2024 meeting:

Liz Alves moved to amend the minutes to recognize HEB as the donor for the \$2,000 to each branch library. The motion was seconded, and all in attendance approved.

President's Report: **John Costello** reported that the Board came together in February for the Board Orientation. It was great to see new and returning Board members, review how the Friends work, and answer any questions. The Orientation was also an opportunity to share the different committees. We welcome and encourage Board participation in these committees as they do important work for the Friends. Finally, while the Library is searching for their new Director, we are pleased and grateful to be working with Interim Library Director **Kathy Donellan** and **Haley Holmes, PhD** as the interim liaison library administration to FOSAPL.

Treasurer's Report: **Barbara Morrow** reported that as of February 29, the total cash accounts were \$299,974, which includes \$175,045 as branch designated funds and \$124,928 as FOSAPL funds.

Membership Report: Presented by Acting Membership Secretary **Barbara Morrow**.

As of March 24, there were 770 members, including 545 who have renewed or joined for 2024. That leaves 225 members who need to renew or will be removed from the database at the end of March. There are 175 Life Members, and \$5 for each is sent to their designated branch. Recruit-

ment of a membership Secretary is ongoing.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Trustees: In the absence of the Trustees liaison to the Friends, **Josie Martinez, Kathy Donellan** reported that **Mary Ann Valdez-Hernandez** is the new Trustee for District 5.

Library Administration: **Kathy Donellan** reported that **Haley Holmes** will be taking over Friends/SAPL liaison duties from **Jessica Zurita** during the Library Director transition.

In February, a new strategic plan for the library system was approved.

March Board action items: Las Palmas branch bond project – there were revisions to the design and budget that will be reviewed at the Board meeting; Bazan roof project will start in April and will require a closure for 8 weeks.

Two upcoming programs: numerous programs across the Library system for the solar eclipse, including eclipse glasses being available at branches; support of the upcoming Book Festival at Central Library on April 13

The BookCellar will be selling Fiesta medals for the Library and will be splitting proceeds with the Friends. They will be priced at \$10.

Library Foundation: Liaison **Liz Alves** noted that there is an upcoming Literary Luncheon on May 5 at the Witte Museum Dawson Family Hall, and the event will include **Adam Rubin**, author of *Dragons Love Tacos*, *Dragons Love Tacos 2*, and *Dragon's First Taco*. Friends who wish to purchase tickets should contact the SAPLF office.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint the Financial Review Committee

Members **Stephen Barnes, Linda Cheatum, Kim Cauthon, Beth Crabb, Barbara Ma'at, Pat Mendiola, and Mandy Simpson** were approved to serve on this committee that reviews financial records of 2023.

Appoint the Arts & Letters Committee

Lolly Salazar and **Mandy Simpson** were approved, with additional members to be recruited to serve.

Appoint the 60th Anniversary Committee

Nias Harris, Kathy Ferrer, Kenzie McAlister, Laura Glueck, Paula Allen, and Nancy Gandara (chair) were approved to serve on a committee to plan events to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of FOSAPL.

Appoint the Membership Recruitment Committee

Mandy Simpson, Cammie Brantley, Pat Mendiola, Barbara Morrow, Laura Glueck and Barbara Ma'at were approved to serve on the committee.

Approve the revision of the by-laws of the Friends of Collins Garden Branch Library

Collins Garden by-laws revision was considered, which included a change to bi-monthly meetings (from monthly). Collins Garden by-laws revision was approved

Approve Donation Plan for Pan American Branch Library

as there is not currently an active Friends group

A 2024 Donation Plan was considered, but after discussion, a minor revision was moved and approved. The amount of \$263.89 was approved to be spent by SAPL for the benefit of the Pan American branch.

Approve Donation Plan for Texana Department

A 2024 Donation Plan, in the amount of \$3,201.93 was considered, and approved

Approve Donation Plan for Central Library

A 2024 Donation Plan for the Central Library in the amount of \$1,644.30 was considered and approved.

Approve Donation Plan for Cortez Branch Library

Administration already has an approved plan from this branch. John moved to table this item and was approved

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 pm.

Looking for Photos from Your Friends Activities?

Visit friendsofsapl.org for photos and the latest announcements.

FOSAPL Membership Secretary Needed

Start your New Year with a new job: Friends' Membership Secretary! If you are attentive to details, experienced 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 right away!



Brook Hollow

Thirty-two Friends, staff members, and guests recently enjoyed an evening of great food and fellowship at our annual Friends and Staff Appreciation Dinner at the Casa Sol Restaurant. Special guests included our Interim Library Director **Kathy Donellan**, our Library Board representative **Marcie Ince and Ray**, and our District Nine Councilman **John Courage and Zeda**.

Georgianna Schultz, who is our newest member and also the leader of the Girl Scout Troop that meets at Brook Hollow, and **Joe Schultz** told us about their little library project, and we talked about how we could help them. **Pat Bjornson** will attend one of the Scout meetings, talk about the Friends and our book sales and suggest ways they can help.

Branch Manager **Jeannette Davies** told us about recent purchases for the library. **Pat Bjornson** and **Beth Crabb** will do some research and then purchase additional rolling shelving for our ongoing book sale.

We had a mini-mini sale in April. We had received huge donations of quilting books and vinyl records, so we contacted quilt guilds, sent emails to our members, and had a little sale of just those items one day while we were sorting books. We made a little money and had a great time.

Our next quarterly meeting will be Saturday, July 13, at 11 in the Brook Hollow meeting room.

Pat Bjornson

Encino

The Friends of the Encino Branch Library had a successful book sale on March 23, includ-

ing a “buy a bag” sale where in the last hour of the sale patrons could buy a bag for \$10 and fill it with whatever they could fit! Thank you to HEB for donating paper grocery bags to use for this purpose.

Friends continue to support many programs for both children and adults at Encino. Programs for kids that the Friends have supported include kids art programs, tween art programs, a sensory program for children with sensory processing issues, and more! Teens have been very thankful that the Friends have supplied them with healthy snacks for Teen Time. Adults have enjoyed having open-studio sessions to make beaded bracelets and shrinky dink keychains and jewelry, and learned how to do soap felting! All ages have also been able to enjoy making washcloth bunnies and bears, and creating glittery sensory bottles, thanks to the support of the Friends!

Ann Laird

Great Northwest

Friends of the Great Northwest Library President **Julie Chase** has set up a puzzle table that is very much appreciated and very actively used!

We are up to puzzle #7 since Julie started this in January.

Monique Cogburn

Landa

The Friends of Landa Library will be holding a Spring Book Sale with a members-only preview sale on Friday, May 10, from 3:30–5:30. The sale open to the general public will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 10:00–3:30.

Mary Kay Bailey

McCreless

At our March 11 business meeting, Treasurer **Helen McDaniel** reported that we had approximately \$3,306.37 in our account, minus some fees and taxes. Shortly after that meeting, we received a report from **Vicky Villalobos**

on how the library was using the funds.

So far this year, library staff used the button maker funded by Friends to make prize buttons for patrons who escaped the escape room at Pokéfest 2024 held Feb. 3. Friends funds also purchased crafts for the event that McCreless patrons loved. They designed their very own pokéballs and even tried to capture the wild Pikachu roaming the library.

Friends funding paid for presenter fees for the Lunar New Year Celebration also held in February. Patrons enjoyed a presentation by **Yaping Zhang** who discussed the history of Lunar New Year.

Friends funding also was used for popcorn and supplies for Movie Nights @ McCreless. Past Friends funding made the popcorn maker available for many library events.

A Book Sale with a plant swap and a recruitment table was held on April 6. Our Friends group got three new members, **Amada Garza**, **Rebecca Garza**, and **Laura Mora**! There were a lot of events being held around town, but we still managed to make a total of \$234.81 from sales, donations, and memberships. This income, plus \$50 collected from the Book Nook, will allow McCreless Friends to accomplish our mission of providing extra funding for our branch library’s services and programs, as well as advocating for the library!

Our next meeting is Monday, June 3, at 6, in the library’s meeting room.

Jill Zimmerman

Schaefer

2024 has started with a new project for Friends of the Schaefer Branch Library. The Friends met and approved making book Bundles for Easter and Fiesta. This was a success and we are getting ready to fill our table for the third time with more book bundles. The children’s book bundles are doing very well! We could not

keep enough of those bundles made up. Schaefer Branch Library had their 7th Anniversary on March 25. The Friends handed out cookies, talked about the book bundles and what the Friends group does at the library and joining our group. Our new look for our Friends of the Schaefer Branch Library tote bag was revealed that evening too. On March 26, the ESCISD Artwork Show was held in the evening and we handed out cookies and talked about joining the Friends. Both days were exciting and busy. The donations for the book bundles and tote bags have been wonderful.

Liz Alves

Thousand Oaks

Many thanks to **Michael Bennett** for his help to maintain the Book Nook in the Thousand Oaks library.

We said farewell to **Patricia Peak** at the end of December as our Coordinator for our Thousand Oaks group. As a retired librarian and volunteer coordinator president, she has earned her retirement. Thank you, Pat. The new coordinator is **Janet Latiolais** who has been a faithful patron and helper at our library. Friends of the library meet the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Our annual book sale will be Saturday, Nov. 23, 10–3.

Janet Latiolais

Tobin

Tobin Friends is excited about events coming up in May and June. All of the events are supported by Tobin Friends in some way (program supplies, refreshments, speakers, etc). Come check out these events:

May 8 — “Sound Bathing” — come find out what Sound Bathing is!

May 10 — “Shakespeare Out Loud” — come read from Shakespeare’s works.

May 11 — “Sit, Stay, Learn” — Animal Care Services event on

Branch Leaves cont on p 5.

Branch Leaves, from p 4

dog training (note: DO NOT bring your own pet please).

May 14 & 28 — “Sit and Stitch”— bring a project to work on and enjoy chatting with others who attend.

May 31— End of the year celebration for our neighboring Garner Middle School students and their families.

June 1— The tentative date for Tobin Library's Summer Reading Program.

Also happening this Summer, Tobin librarians are working with NEISD to plan the NEISD Summer Lunch Program, which will be held M–F during the Summer in the Tobin Library meeting room. Lots of additional, to-be-announced programming will be planned around the built-in audience who will be attending those lunches.

Summer will be busy at Tobin Library as we serve our patrons!

Alethea Bugg

McCreless Happenings

Patrons designed their very own pokéballs and even tried to capture the wild Pikachu roaming the library.



Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

IN MEMORY OF

Jan Conner
Helen Valencia Aubert
Catherine W. Dean

BY

Valerie Dillon
Frances J. Valencia
Anita Schenk

DONATIONS

Sue Hudnall

Sally Sohn



A Book Sale with Plant Swap was held Apr. 6.

Patrons enjoyed a presentation by **Yaping Zhang** who discussed the history of Lunar New Year.





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San Antonio, Texas 78246

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CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES & SPECIAL EVENTS

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

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| May 8 | Sound Bathing, Tobin. |
| May 10 | Landa Friends Book Sale members-only preview, 3:30–5:30. |
| May 10 | Shakespeare Out Loud, Tobin. |
| May 11 | Landa Friends Book Sale, 10–3:30. |
| May 11 | Sit, Stay, Learn, Tobin. |
| May 14 | Sit and Stitch, Tobin. |
| May 19 | FOSAPL Board Meeting, Pan American, 2. |
| May 28 | Sit and Stitch, Tobin. |
| June 1 | Tobin Summer Reading Program begins (tentative). |
| June 3 | McCreless Friends meeting, 6. |
| July 13 | Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 11 |
| Nov. 23 | Thousand Oaks Annual Book Sale, 10–3. |

Brook Hollow Library
530 Heimer Road, 78232
210-207-9030

Landa Library
233 Bushnell, 78212
210-207-9090

McCreless Library
1023 Ada Street, 78223
210-207-9170

Pan American Library
1122 West Pyron Ave, 78221
210-207-9150

Thousand Oaks Library
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233
210-207-9190

Tobin Library at Oakwell
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209
210-207-9040

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.