



NEWS EXCHANGE

SPRING 2021

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



ANN BLANTON

We moved to Santa Barbara 35 years ago with our 9-month-old son, who now lives in Austin, and our daughter, who was born here and now lives in D.C. I taught special education as an infant specialist with Santa Barbara County Schools for 20 years and then was in administration, IEP Chair, for 10 years. I retired 5 years ago.

I love the outdoors, especially swimming, walking and lawn bowling. My husband Gary and I like to travel and have been to some amazing places over the years: Antarctica, Africa twice, Egypt, New Zealand and National Parks around the U.S.

I have always loved spending time in libraries. They hold wonderful childhood memories.



MONICA HEMMAH:

I've been living in Goleta for almost 40 years and have 2 fabulous children, Cori and Cody; 3 grand dogs, 1 grand cat, and too many grand chickens and turkeys to count. I have worked at Maravilla Senior Living Community for 17 + years. I'm a lawn bowler, pickle baller, love the Hallmark Channel (because I can), and am currently reading Ernest Hemingway's *To Have and Have Not*. I'm truly honored to be asked to be on the Friends of the Santa Barbara Library Board and look forward to meeting all of the Board members personally in the near future.



TWO ANSWERS TO TWO QUESTIONS FROM OUR DIRECTOR, JESSICA CADIENTE

Q: The library has continued to offer many programs and services to the community throughout the Covid pandemic. If you could only select one accomplishment, which would it be?

A: SBPL immediately got to work to look for ways to positively support our community during this challenging time. We never missed a beat. We transitioned to virtual programs, launched SBPL Delivers! and then transitioned to Side Walk Service and then ultimately to Grab N' Go inside all locations. We balanced the safety of our team and the needs of the community in every decision. When every other public counter was closing, our library team showed up. Safety was always first, but they showed up to serve and in many instances showed our community a better way to live, work and help others. We are a team at SBPL and so it is not any one person or program but the whole that makes the impact. Being a member of the SBPL team is what makes me most proud.

Q: If you were given unlimited funds to design your budget, what would you like to see the library offer?

A: Services, collections, programs and classes are only limited by staff capacity and money. The more we have the more we can do and if we could design our own budget we would be unstoppable! The Library does all it can to fill gaps in formal education at all stages of life. I would love to see an expansion of our Adult Education Division so that we could help people obtain their educational goals more quickly and help more people at the same time. That being said, early education and the need for kindergarten readiness classes also continues to increase and I would love to see us be able to support more in this area as well. Ultimately, our budget priorities are driven by community need and so this will ebb and flow as our community changes.



OFFICERS

- President: Barbara Cronin Hershberg
Past President: Michele Allyn
President Elect: Patricia San Filippo
Vice President: Jane Giffin
Recording Secretary: Marsha Barr
Treasurer: Yolanda Lopez
Admin. Secretary: Linda Love

BOARD

- Ann Blanton
Marsha Barr
Jane Giffin
Monica Hemmah
Anna Lafferty
Marianne Robinson
Kim Shingle

LIBRARY REP

Jessica Cadiente, Director

WEB SITE

www.friends-sblibrary.org

E-MAIL

Contact@friends-sblibrary.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we ease into the Orange Tier, and with more and more people getting vaccinated, I think we are all feeling a bit more optimistic about the future and even planning some potential trips and gatherings with family and friends.

If you receive the weekly digital Newsletter from the library, I'm sure you are as impressed as I am with all of the projects and programming that are going on despite the restrictions of the pandemic. Be sure and read the article on the Library on the Go in this newsletter.

One of the programs we help fund is the Summer Reading Program. This year the theme is "On the Same Page." We are hoping that the library will be able to do some in-person events, but that remains to be seen. As a retired classroom teacher and believer in the importance of reading over the summer, I was always delighted with how many of my students participated in the summer reading program. The children loved the incentives and prizes, but also just loved spending time in the library discussing the books they read with a volunteer or staff member.

We are sad to say that both Sallie Coughlin and Jean Lemberger have stepped down from the board. Sallie has been involved since 2012 and was a tremendous asset serving as Secretary, working on the website and various events. Jean has served on the board for the last few years, but has recently relocated to North Carolina to be closer to family. She also worked on the website and was a constant source of new ideas. Both women are strong supporters of the library and promise to continue to help out in any way they can.

We enthusiastically welcome our new board members, Ann Blanton and Monica Hemmah. They are both positive energetic women and they will be a great addition. Their bios are in this newsletter.

We have recently begun inviting local businesses to become Friends of the Library. Deckers, Santa Barbara Pet Hospital, the Book Den and one anonymous donor have joined thus far. The library offers several programs that help prepare people for the workplace and support our business community including SPBPL Works, One Million Cups, English Conversation Groups, Vets Connect and Adult Literacy. If you are the owner of a business or work for one that might be interested, please check out our business brochure on our website at www.friends-sblibrary.org

Lastly, we are hoping to hold a non-competitive fundraising Mah Jongg event in October, depending on if indoor restrictions have been lifted by that point. We will let you know as we get closer to the date.

With appreciation of your support of the Friends of the Library,

Barbara Cronin Hershberg

FINANCIAL REPORT

There is a lot of belt-tightening going on in our community because of the pandemic, but our membership has been loyal in their support. Our fiscal year started on July 1, 2020, and the total income from membership renewals and new memberships, thus far, is \$14,378. The Year End Appeal brought in \$23,915, general donations, \$1,563, and our digital Storytelling Event raised \$3,362. Business memberships contributed \$2900. Three quarters of the library's wish list of \$65,000 has been paid, thanks to YOU! Because we are not able to hold fund-raising events, we hope you will contribute to this Spring Appeal so that we can make our last payment of the wish list in June.

Every donation, large or small, is important and appreciated. Here is a list of our wonderful, generous donors from July, 2020 through March, 2021:

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!

- Allyn & Associates (Michele Allyn)
Anonymous
Ann & Art Ayres
Leslie & Ashish Bhutani
Darcie Burk
Deckers Outdoor Corp.
Les & Zora Charles
Paul Gawronik
Frank & Joseph Gila Fund
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Cecia & Milton Hess
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Phyllis Myers
Barbara Rubin Foundation
Fred & Aliza Shima
David & Julie Siegel
Terry & Pat Straehley
Maryan Schall
Mary D. Thompson
Dr. Shirley Tucker
Joy Winer
Barbara & William Wood
Geoffrey and Laura Wyatt



LIBRARY ON THE GO!

Some of you may remember the old Book Mobile, but now the Santa Barbara Public Library will be adding a new mobile library branch with more than books for those with limited library access. They plan on being out and about sometime this summer. The library has done an impressive job in taking library programs and services out into the community the past few years including visits to local schools, senior living facilities, community events, and Storywalk in the Park, but this will add one more opportunity for people to avail themselves of learning experiences.

The library director, Jessica Cadiente and the staff are always looking for ways to support early literacy and provide library services to underserved residents not able to visit the Carpinteria, Eastside, Montecito, or Santa Barbara locations. The van will be equipped with technology as well as a browsing collection of popular books. The staff will offer Stay and Play programming for children and caregivers, and SBPL's Works! a program which helps job seekers find jobs and build workforce readiness skills. They will also help people who want to learn more about using their mobile devices

The Women's Fund of Santa Barbara provided a \$100,000 grant, which allowed the Library to move forward with the project. The Santa Barbara Public Library Foundation also contributed some funding.



Getting the Van ready to become the new mobile branch of the Santa Barbara Public Library! The van will contain books to browse through and technologies which will provide a wide range of programs and workshops for the local visitors!



HERE'S MY DONATION TO THE SANTA BARBARA PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2021

Enclosed is a gift for: \$25 (book prizes) \$50 (10 arts/crafts kits) \$200 (materials) \$300 (summer camp experience) Other - \$

Name: _____

Address: _____

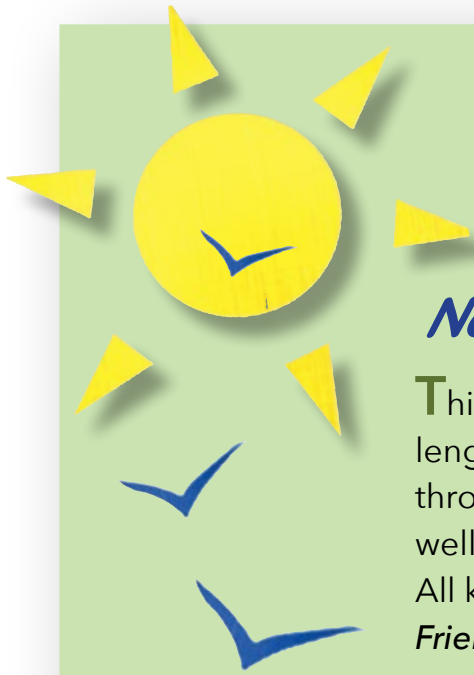
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for your gift! Please make checks out to Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library
Mail this form to: P.O. Box 1019, Santa Barbara, CA 93102
OR DONATE online: www.friends-sblibrary.org





WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

Our 2021 Summer Programs Need Your Support More Than Ever!

This Summer, the Santa Barbara Public Library will be challenging readers to set their own goals by tracking their reading through our online system, or through a paper coloring sheet, as well as other virtual challenges throughout the coming months! All kids who participate will receive **a free book, courtesy of the Friends of the Library.**

SUMMER VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING at the Santa Barbara Public Library will include a full schedule of:

- **Take home STEAM ACTIVITY KITS**
- **VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION Opportunities**
- **OUTDOOR EVENTS throughout the community (limited in person) in conjunction with our new LIBRARY ON THE GO VAN!**

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS will include:

- **STORYTIMES IN THE PARK**
- **ART and MAKER CLASSES**
- **READERS' THEATER EVENT**
- **COOKING and ROBOTICS CLASSES**

All in person events will be subject to public health guidelines.



YOUR CONTRIBUTION COULD HELP SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING:

\$25 - 7 children's book prizes for the Summer Virtual Reading Challenge.

\$50 - 10 arts/crafts kits

\$300+ - Summer camp experience



Please donate online by going to:

www.friends-sblibrary.org

OR cut out the coupon on page 3,
write a check and mail to:

Friends of the Santa Barbara Public Library
P.O. BOX 1019, SB 93102

The Santa Barbara Public Library will also distribute craft and activity kits at Foodbank youth summer meal sites.

