

NEWS EXCHANGE

WINTER 2021

FOL BOARD SELLS USED BOOKS FOR A QUICK FUNDRAISER



FOL Board Members worked hard putting together a successful sidewalk used book sale and had fun besides! (story inside)

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

DANICA LUKASIEWICZ



Danica is originally from Southern Missouri. She then went to college in Kansas City and moved to CA about 3 years ago. She and her husband, Tim, have lived in Goleta since August of 2020. They moved to the Bay Area for a job, then to Goleta for a friend and the weather. It was the best decision! Danica currently works for an IT company in Goleta, but also worked for years as a high school business teacher. She loves reading

(obviously), running, swimming, and crafting. She is currently making some quilts to give to kids at summer camp and working on vinyl projects for her sister's business. Danica also really enjoys paddle boarding and hanging out with kids of all ages. She joined the Friends of the Library because she didn't have access to a library growing up and wants to do all that she can to make sure this beautiful library system is around for future generations.

MARISA MILLER



Marisa has lived in Santa Barbara off and on since 1975. She attended grade school, Jr. High, and graduated from Santa Barbara High School. Marisa left for 20 years for college and then lived in Los Angeles, England, Ventura, and Sedona. She has been back for 18 years to be near family.

Marisa consults on program quality and writes curriculum for after-school programs serving low-income children across California. She has worked in the film industry, public education as a classroom teacher, and in

non-profit management including 16 years in the museum and after-school fields.

Reading is hands-down her favorite hobby followed by writing novels and being active outdoors in our local beautiful surroundings. She has too many favorite books to count since she reads 150+ books a year. That said, anything by Nicola Griffith, Nora Jemisin, or Roxana Gay are winners.

She joined the Board of FOL because she is passionate about the need to develop more active support in our Santa Barbara community for the library system and staff.



BOARD - 2021

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people.

It is a never-failing spring in the desert."

Andrew Carnegie

As I walked around the outside of the library the other day reading quotes that extol the value of the library, I was struck by the disconnect of the importance of the library and the budgetary constraints the library is currently facing. There have been sharp cuts from the city officials as the city has experienced decreased revenue due to the pandemic, and as a result, hours have been cut. While at one time the library was open 7 days a week, it is now open only 5 days a week, with shorter hours. The staff has done a phenomenal job of continuing to offer programming, but the budget was cut \$150,000 in hourly wages and just over \$265,000 for the salaried positions. In addition, the library had the additional expense of buying new furniture for social distancing.

So, how do we take an active role in supporting the library until the time it is properly funded? Your donations to the FOL allow us to help support programs and book purchases. Your participation in our October 2nd used book sale not only raised much needed funds, but also allowed us to put affordable books in the hands of many community members. You can also contact your local city council members and SB County Board of Supervisors to let them know you feel strongly about making library funding a priority. Additionally, we are encouraging local businesses to become Friends of the Library, so you might want to suggest that to any business owners you know.

I am delighted to help welcome two new additions to our board; Danica Lukasiewicz and Marisa Miller. They both come with a wealth of experience and a passion for the library. You can read their bios in this issue.

Check out the website, (<https://friends-sblibrary.org/>) to read about the upcoming Mah Jongg event to be held on Sunday, November 7th. We also are looking forward to hosting a *Polar Express* afternoon for young children and their parents/grandparents sometime in December. It's in the planning stages, but more details will be disclosed soon.

As always, we are grateful for your continued support.

Barbara Cronin Hershberg

BOOK REVIEWS ON BOOKS ON BOOKMAKERS

We thought it would be fun to select a theme and have a couple of FOL members write reviews on books they've read on that theme. To start, we picked books about BOOK-MAKERS (conservators, designers, or makers of books.).

BOOK-CONSERVATION MYSTERIES: Are you looking for a new series to snuggle up with this holiday season? Check out the *Kate Carlisle Bibliophile mysteries!* This series has 16 books in it with a new one coming out next August. However you can pick up anywhere in the series and still enjoy them.

The main character, Brooklyn Wainwright, is a book conservator who has a bad habit of stumbling across books related to or causing murders. Its mainly set in San Francisco and all have titles sure to make any bibliophile happy; such as *If Books Could Kill* (#2) and *Peril in Paperback* (#6). Kate Carlisle fills the pages with all the good feelings you get when

you walk into your favorite bookstore and a cute British detective to keep the story moving. Check out these and other great mysteries at any Santa Barbara Library!

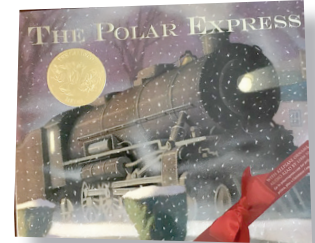
Danika Lukasiewicz

BOOK MAKING, 1400s: I've just finished an amazing book on the making and selling of books in the 15th century! Yes, even before printing there was a growing market for books that were written (scribed) and illustrated (illuminated) by hand! *The Bookseller of Florence: The Story of the Manuscripts that Illuminated the Renaissance* by Ross King brings you into the world of books just before and after Guttenberg's game-changing invention of molding lead type and printing books. It opened the way to the Renaissance and the information age! Exciting and eye-opening!

Anna Lafferty

NOTE: Our next newsletter will feature a review on books about libraries or librarians. If you'd like to participate, send us the title of what you've read on that theme and a paragraph reviewing the book. (email address above).

OUR FIRST SIDEWALK USED BOOK SALE WAS A SUCCESS!



Our first ever Sidewalk Book Sale was a success! From 10am–3pm on October, 2nd, 2021. Friends of the Library set up about 10 tables on the sidewalk out front of the downtown library. People started showing up and browsing before 10am and were pretty steady all day. A good time was had by all and a few gems were found amongst the stacks including the complete set of the New Yorker cartoons that had a retail price of \$100 that went for \$15.

We had all types of children's books and media, CDs and audiobooks, DVDs, graphic novels, and hardback and soft-cover books of all genres for adults. Cookbooks were popular, as were books on gardening, crafts, local history, and, of course, popular fiction! We even had some magazines that we were giving away for free. Alongside the

used books that were for sale, we had brand new copies of the *Polar Express* to sell as well. Most of the books were priced between \$1-\$3.

All of the books and other items were donated or collected by the Friends of the Library meaning that everything we sold or received as a donation was able to go straight to helping the library. In total we made over \$1,400 to support the library's services. Thank you all for your help and encouragement!

We will be holding another book sale on "FIRST THURSDAY" **November 4th** in the downtown library lobby from 3:00 to 5:45pm. We hope to see you there and remember it's not too early to start shopping for the holidays!

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Fewer donations came in during this year of the pandemic, but we were able to fulfill the Library's wish list of \$65,000, and have pledged to do the same for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

In the previous 2020-2021 year, the largest share of donations to FOL were as follows: Membership Renewals: \$18,088; New Members: \$1670; Business Members: \$3700; Digital Events: \$3362; Year End Appeal: \$23,915; Spring Appeal: \$11,655; and Grants: \$1,000.

Please continue to be generous with your Membership Renewal and the Year-End Appeal. The budget slashes have been deep. We are all working together to get the library open again 7 days a week. We have close to 700 current people on our membership roll and do appreciate ALL donations, large or small. Here is a shout out to the most generous donors, from July, 2020 through June, 2021.

THANKS to our growing number of BUSINESS FRIENDS!

It makes sense that increased literacy is of interest to everyone who lives and works in our community. What a wonderful response we have received from our budding efforts to get donations from local businesses. Please look at these names, give them your business, if possible, and thank them for supporting literacy and the Library:

Chaucer's Books
The Dance Network
Deckers Outdoor Corp.
Allyn & Associates Real Estate & Lending
Balanced Wealth Planning, Inc.

The Book Den
Maxwell Associates Enterprises
Andrew Rawls, The Crafter's Library
Patricia San Filippo, MA, LMFT
Santa Barbara Pet Hospital
TechEase

A SHOUT OUT to our Generous Donors!

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Leslie & Ashish Bhutani
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Terry & Pat Strahley
Mary D. Thompson
Dr. Shirley Tucker
Geof & Laura Wyatt

***“When I was young,
we couldn’t afford much
....my library card was my
key to the world”***

John Goodman, Actor



Access to knowledge is central to a free society. Our library is a treasure box. Books and resources are the gems and jewels—and there is so much more inside:

- On-line databases for research that can't be accessed on a home computer.
- Devoted volunteers who teach adult literacy.
- Computers and support for those who need them.
- Audio and E-books to download for information and reading.
- Book-club-in-a-bag selections of outstanding literature.
- Best of all, children's programs that introduce little ones to the magic of reading and a whole new world of discovery.

***A great community
deserves
a great library***



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