



Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library

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President's Message

As we enter 2021, and reflect on the past year, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all of you, our members and donors, for helping the Friends support the Pacific Grove Public Library and our community.

Thanks to you, we survived a pandemic year – together – while staying apart. Your online and phone messages to Council helped reinforce the importance of Library services last spring, as remaining Library staff struggled with COVID closures, staff cuts and City furloughs.

Your membership contributions supported online children's programs, free school lunch paperback book giveaways, and hybrid crafting activities when Library staff were furloughed and

schools were closed. Your financial support (matched by the Foundation) helped pay for one year of part-time clerical staff to begin and maintain curbside holds pick-ups. Your purchase of "Books by the Bag" and donations to Monterey County Gives! will pay for hundreds of new books and materials for check-out this year.

It takes a community to care for a community, and thanks to you, our community's eager readers, lifelong learners and Library users of all ages have the resources they need to get through this pandemic time.

You made this possible! Thank you for being a member and donor and Pacific Grove Public Library supporter.

With gratitude,
Kim Bui

Annual Meeting Report

Our January 2021 Annual Meeting, held on Zoom, rather than in-person, was an adventure! We missed those who were unable to attend, and look forward to 2022 when we hopefully can meet in person again.

Our Board election was entirely by Written Ballot, so we thank each of you who took the time to fill out and mail or deliver your votes. Your new Board (all but one continuing) is listed in the Newsletter, along with an introduction to your newest Board Director, Sandy Robeson.

Over 60 members joined us online, receiving a PowerPoint presentation on the past year, our Annual Financial Report, and a glimpse of what's in store for the Library and Friends in 2021. Once the business portion of the meeting concluded, Alka Joshi, author of *The Henna Artist*, longtime member of the Friends' Author Committee and a warm, vibrant and engaging speaker, answered

audience questions and shared her amazing journey as a first-time author during the pandemic. She spoke about her 10-year journey to success, the upcoming TV mini-series based on the book, her experiences appearing at more than 300 book club meetings, and writing *The Henna Artist* as a "love letter to my heritage." Now internationally celebrated, with books two and three underway, you can keep up with Alka's latest at thehennaartist.com.

Thanks to the wonders of Zoom, Alka was able to take the following photos of our online time together. A copy of our Annual Financial Report is available at our website www.pglibraryfriends.org. Thanks to the expertise of Nikita McKinder, at the City of Pacific Grove, the FOL Annual Meeting 2021 video can be viewed from the Playlists section of the [Pacific Grove Public Library's YouTube Channel](#).



Zoom snapshots of members at the Friends Annual Meeting

Hello and Good-bye (To Sandy, Linda and Diane)



Left, New Friends
Director Sandra
Robeson



Right, Linda Pagnella
served as Friends
Board VP throughout
the Renewal Project.



Left, Self-portrait by Diane
Grindol. Diane has edited the
Friends newsletter since 2006.

Welcome Sandy Robeson, new Friends Director elected in January. Sandy is a longtime resident of Pacific Grove (50+ years!) and has been enjoying the Pacific Grove Public Library for most of those years. She brings her background in Organizational Behavior, with a BS from the University of San Francisco, and decades of knowledge and experience in Product Development and as a Systems, Software and Solutions Engineer. Sandy also worked for over twenty years as an Adjunct Community College Professor in Computer and related technologies.

Sandy is a volunteer at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, with iHelp and the Monterey County Elections department, and has served on the Boards of the Gathering for Women and the Monterey History and Art Association.

In her application for a Board position Sandy described taking her daughter, and now granddaughter, to the Pacific Grove Public Library, noting, "Now in my retirement, I would love to join the Friends in helping to support this amazing resource of our community and ensure its long-term utilization for many generations to come."

The Friends Board says a fond and heartfelt farewell to past Board Vice President Linda Pagnella - who served the Friends so well these past several years. Linda brought her years of knowledge and expertise as a former library employee, her love for our community and years of volunteer "know how", her passion for sharing the joy of reading and learning with all ages from babies to seniors, her dedication to the Pacific Grove Library, and the Friends, and her sense of joy, fun and wonder to everything she did. Happily for us Linda will be staying on as the Friends' Dine Out liaison. Thank you Linda! You are missed!

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The Friends Board also reluctantly says farewell to the multi-talented Diane Grindol, past Board member and so much more. Diane is the perfect example of what happens when you say "Yes" to a friend who asks a favor! It was 2006 when a fellow member of her church, an avid reader and Library supporter, asked Diane if she would consider editing the Friends' newsletter. Fifteen years later... she has served on the Board and as staff photographer, contributed many appetizers at Library events, and published almost 60 newsletters, taking the lead at formatting, proofreading and editing.

Diane's first visit to a library was with her mother; it was located in a house in the young community of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. She volunteered at her school libraries, then at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in the 1980s, and worked for the Monterey Public Library. Of her devotion to books and libraries, she says, "Reading leads to a deeper understanding of the world, and can help you understand lives and times that are not possible to comprehend in other ways."

A few years ago, Diane returned to art after a 25-year hiatus since earning her BA in Art. She started with a drawing class at adult school, eventually was filling in as a substitute art teacher, and now teaches several Pacific Grove Adult School classes of her own. Her goals are "to launch students into the world of drawing and watercolor painting, and to guide their exploration of acrylic painting, the almost forgotten art of scratchboard, and the wondrous art that can be achieved with colored pencils."

Diane participates in ArtWorks@Pacific Grove, an art cooperative located in the American Tin Cannery, where she maintains a studio and displays her photographs, photo notecards, drawings and paintings. In November 2020, the Arts Council for Monterey County commissioned Diane to submit a painting that became the design for a mask distributed at Chamber of Commerce locations.

This newsletter is Diane's final issue as our editor! We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Diane for dedicating her skills, expertise and artistic talents for so many years to support the Friends and the Pacific Grove Library. Best wishes from all your Friends!

Like Us on Facebook!

Visit the Friends Facebook page:
facebook.com/FriendsOfPacificGroveLibrary/

Calling All Bookworms!

With more and more people ensconced at home during the pandemic, this just might be the perfect time to join a book club. Fortunately, the Friends Book Club is open to new members! A few of the advantages include reading books you may never have thought to pick up, camaraderie and lively discussions with other book lovers, and a break in the middle of the day to talk about the latest book. Books include both fiction and non-fiction; selections from a wide variety of genres are made by members each December for the coming year.

A few of the upcoming titles include *Midnight Library* by Matt Haig, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexi, *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes, and *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. Happily, most books can be found at the Library.

Please consider joining the Friends Book Club on the **2nd Monday of the month from 1:30-3:00 pm via Zoom**. For more information, please email pgplbookclub@yahoo.com.

Catching Up with a Few Volunteers

All of the Friends' fundraising and friend-raising activities depend on our talented volunteers. Last year's "Pandemic Pause" closed most volunteer opportunities. Board member Sonja Millings checked in with a few to see what they've missed and why they volunteer.

Refreshments Chair

If you've ever attended an author event, no doubt you've noticed the beautiful tables, perhaps snacked on delicious homemade cookies (Thank you, volunteer cookie bakers brigade!) and enjoyed a refreshing beverage. Someone has to pull everything together to make that happen and that someone is our Refreshments Chair, Betty Matterson.

"A pretty table with flowers invites people to partake, which encourages them to stay and visit with friends, discuss the author-speaker, and enjoy the Library setting," explained Betty. "And a big plus as a server at the table is the opportunity to greet old and new friends."

We look forward to being able to host author events again in the future in our beautiful newly refreshed building.

Events and Meals on Wheels Coordinator

As both a volunteer and Friends Board member, Stephanie Herrick combines two things she loves: books and parties. Stephanie is the Friends' liaison for Meals on Wheels at the Sally Judd Griffin Senior Center. Maintaining the book cart for people who pick up meals there and cashiering at the monthly Saturday Book Sale supports her commitment to nurturing lifelong reading for all. Stephanie is also on the committee for event planning. Back in the day of live Annual Meetings and other Friends' events, Stephanie was involved in planning, coordination, set up, and clean-up for Friends' events.

Stephanie shared that "I thoroughly enjoy helping with Friends' events. For me, it is the perfect melding of community, Library,

Thank You Monterey County Gives! Donors

Friends Directors and a young reader created a *Thank You* video for the MC Gives wrap-up event.



The 2020 Monterey County Gives! campaign was "extraordinarily successful," said *MC Weekly* CEO Bradley Zeve, with a record number of donors—7,576—and a record total of donations—almost \$7.9 million to support 162 local nonprofit organizations! The Friends broke its donation record too, raising a total of \$16,288.89 from 97 donors!

Thank you for all your generous contributions to "Bucks for Books", our fundraising focus for the campaign. The Pacific Grove Library will receive 100% of the MC Gives! donations to purchase new books for its collection.

Library patron Laura Headley's timely quote was posted on the Friends campaign page and beautifully expresses the intention for giving to our Library:

"We need our library now, more than ever. We don't know what the world is going to look like at the end of these difficult times—both as a result of Covid-19 and the sociopolitical turmoil and strife we're enduring. What we do know is that we are all welcome at the Library, and it's there we can go to rebuild our community, our careers and our lives."

and social interactions. It is very rewarding to be working with wonderful people from our community to support our fabulous Library! Thanks to Zoom, we on the Friends board are able to stay connected and keep projects moving forward. I can't wait until we are able to enjoy and support our renewed Library in person!"

Book Sales Support

One of the first people you'll notice at our monthly St. Mary's Saturday Book Sale is Marty Dunn. Whether she's greeting visitors, tallying up and bagging book purchases, or sorting books for the sale, Marty is a true ambassador for the Friends. She describes herself as "not necessarily a sophisticated reader" but more of a "bookworm, without the slime" and never goes to sleep without first reading in bed. Her preference for books versus reading on an iPad is based on that wonderful smell and feel of a book that is missing on a device.

"Volunteering as we knew it disappeared during this past year, but in desperation for something comforting and useful to do, I was able to stay involved by alphabetizing all the fiction in our book shop. Being in that bookish milieu again was such a boost to my spirit, for which I am very thankful," Marty said. "During my time as a Friend, and later as a Foundation board member, I've had the privilege of meeting a bevy of exceptional people, both my co-volunteers as well as the PG public who support us with their donations and their patronage. The sense of this wonderful community, and of my feeling a part of it, has been yet another hearty reward for my time with both groups."



David Parker, newly elected
PGPL Foundation President

Meet Dave Parker, New Foundation President

The Pacific Grove Public Library is fortunate to have two strong financial “investors” in the Friends and the Foundation. Begun with a sizeable bequest to the Friends, the Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization that ensures the long-term financial sustainability of the Pacific Grove Public Library. The Foundation supports the Library in three ways – through annual disbursements from its funds as required by its community benefit status, through contributions from its Fund for the Future as requested by the Library, and through long-term endowment-building for future library services, program and capital support.

Newly elected Foundation President Dave Parker is a Senior Vice President and Senior Investment Strategist in the Carmel Wells Fargo Private Bank where he manages the wealth of high-net-worth individuals and non-profit organizations. His life and career took him to Hawaii, northern and southern California, and Europe before he decided to settle permanently on the Monterey Peninsula, where his family has roots dating back to the late 1800s.

Dave described his hope that “the Pacific Grove Library Foundation can grow and steward our assets so that we can continue to provide support to the Library for many years to come. I would like to see the Foundation’s assets grow significantly over the next 5-10 years in order to help meet the Library’s continued growth in services, technology and community access and to help it retain its status of one of the premier community libraries in Central California.”

“In these challenging times, I look forward to reopening the library to the public and building upon its role as an incredible and central resource where the community can come to be inspired, entertained, educated and enlightened,” Dave explained. “Additionally, I’d like the Library to be viewed and appreciated as a gathering place and hub of the City of Pacific Grove and neighboring communities. I believe this is the primary purpose of community libraries, and with the recently completed renewal project, we are in a better position than ever to fulfill that role and expand its capabilities and community reach like never before.”

Dave is currently reading *Paris: The Novel*, by Edward Rutherfurd. “Paris is my favorite large city, and one in which I have spent a lot of time (and in which I became engaged to my wife, Patty). The book tells centuries of history of the city through the eyes of many fictional and non-fictional characters, and while I find it an entertaining read, it is also informative and educational on an historical level.”

Donations to the Friends November 2020 to February 2021

Gary Bales
Michelle Barat
Catherine Bazley
Norma Bell
Craig and Cheryl Beller
Judith Cabral
Pam Cain
Lois Carroll
Gina Gianfalia
Candace Ingram and Don Freeman
Harold William Keland
Richard and Renee Kezirian
Jane Leatham
Julie and Glenn Leon-Guerrero
Susan Lueken
Peter and Kay Mehren
Barbara Moore
Bobbie Morrison
Anthony and Lary Lynn Muller
Deana Myers
Bette Ranagan
Stephen Smaby
Sigrid Stokes
Neil Williams
Lynn Yaghoubian

In Honor Of

Bobbie Morrison by Torie Thacher

In Memory Of

Tom Demko by Abby Pfeiffer

Ellie McGuire by Elisa Maddalena

Dorothy B. Nielsen by Carol Young

Tom Okuma by June Okuma

Jacqueline Phillips by Manning and Lucy Phillips

In Memory of Dorothy Abeloe

Kim Bui and Steven Silveria

Forest Hill Manor Residence Association

Peggy Hansen

Judy Wills

In Memory of Joseph Rock

Louis Balicki

Kim Bui and Steven Silveria

Kevin Cartwright

Carmen DeVida

In Memory of Joseph Rock (cont'd)

Dominguez Family

Tia Gindick and Ritch Lewis

Scott Hall

Gail Higginbotham

Christine Hunsley

Nan Johnston

Richard and Renee Kezirian

Marta and Patrick Lynch

Laura and Don Newmark

Linda Pagnella

Ellen Gill Pastore

Sandy Rader and Terry Wilson

Lois Rock

Peggy Schmidt

Inga Silva

Gary Smith and David Ligare

Kevin and Linda Smith

Kathleen Stallworth

D. C. Storkan and J.M. Storkan

Laurie and Andrew Sujan

Carol Venuti

Tom and Judy Wills

Debbie and Larry Winderman

Jennifer Wood



Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library Board of Directors

Kim Bui	President	Peggy Hansen	Volunteers
Lucy Moore	Vice-President	Stephanie Herrick	Events
Judy Wills	Treasurer	Sonja Millings	Events
Abby Pfeiffer	Secretary	Sandra Robeson	Director
Dennis Mar	Membership		
Gail Abeloe	Facilities	Barbara Moore	Meet the Author

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LIBRARY

Our membership has questions! Friends President Kim Bui has updates to share about the current state of the Library, as of the end of February. *Please note: information below may be subject to change due to COVID-19 requirements, restrictions and delays.*

When will the Library re-open?

We don't know yet. Three things need to happen before the Library can reopen.

1. Monterey County Health and the City of Pacific Grove must approve restoring in-person library services, per State guidelines.
2. The Library must have an approved plan to put in place, following State guidelines for a) a detailed risk assessment and site-specific protection, b) training for employees on how to limit the spread of COVID-19, c) implementing individual control measures and screening, d) implementing disinfecting and cleaning protocols and e) physical distancing guidelines.
3. The Library must have sufficient, trained staff and personal protective equipment to implement the above plan.

Can PG Library books be put on hold for check out? Where can I pick them up?

Holds can now be placed through the PG Library website (<https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org/slide/using-catalog-pacific-grove-public-library>) AND picked up at PG Library during their Library-to-Go hours: Monday and Tuesday 3 pm to 6 pm, Wednesday 10 am to 1 pm, AND the first Saturday of each month 10 am to 1 pm. Need help placing holds? Please call 831-648-5760.

Can I donate books to the Library? Or the Friends?

No donations are being accepted at this time, either for the Library or the Friends book sale. Please hold onto your books until the Friends can gratefully receive them again. And the Friends always donate any new or popular book titles and authors to the Library, to add to the collection. We promise!

Can I volunteer to help the Library?

At this point the Library can use only very limited volunteer help, due to COVID-19 restrictions and staff limitations. Once the Library meets State guidelines, its plan is approved and the Library is able to re-open, staff hope to increase use of trained volunteers in previous Library volunteer positions.

How can I find out more, or find out when things change?

Current and updated Library information can be found on the Library website, <https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org>, Facebook page and Instagram account (pacificgrovelibrary), as well as the City's Weekly Newsletter (cityofpacificgrove.org).

Current and updated Friends information can be found on the Friends website, <https://www.pglibraryfriends.org>, and Facebook page.

Donations to the Foundation November 2020 to February 2021

Anonymous (4)
Betsy Buchalter Adler
Judy and Tom Archibald
Joe and Joy Asling
Soe and Sarah Aung
Max and Barbara Boyer
Marilyn Brown
Cannery Row Company/
Foursome Development
Company (Renewal Project)
Earl and Christina Cory
Christa Dahl
Robert and Donna Daunt
Marty Dunn
Bob and Pat Gray
David Groll and Betty Crowder
Roger Magyar
Maureen Mason
Lowell and Wilda Northrop
Dave and Patty Parker
Ellen Gill Pastore
Alison and Alan Pomatto
Lori and Tom Rolander
Steven Rose and Deborah
Thacker-Rose
Anne and Dan Rudolph
David and Maureen Russell
Jennifer Sechrist
Ann Smallwood
Ben and Mary Ann Whitten

In Honor Of

Kathy Kirtley by Dorothy Kino
The Reimers by James and
Michael Ann Mitchell
Mary Ann Whitten by (Betty)
Jean Stallings

In Memory Of

Diane Harmon by Sirie
Thongchua
Erna Morris by Don and
Noreen Nance
Meg Morris by Sirie Thongchua
Lilly Ponce by Barbara Moore
Joseph Rock by Kevin Causey
Joseph Rock by Karen and
Michael Gunby
Michael Williams(Anonymous)
Michael Williams by Salinas
Valley Foot and Ankle, Inc.
Michael Williams by Dr. Laura
M. Solorio

Donations to PGPL Fund for the Future November 2020 to February 2021

Jeffrey Swank
Robert and Rosemary Tintle
Linda and Bruce Vogt

**Friends of the
Pacific Grove
Public Library**

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The American Library Association's theme for National Library Week promotes the idea that Libraries extend far beyond the four walls of a building—and that everyone is welcome to use Library services. Explore new worlds through access to books, technology, multimedia content, and educational programs. Welcome to Your Library!

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Again this year, the Friends Board is pleased to spotlight ALL our Business and Dine Out members during this time of disruption and business loss. We appreciate their generous support. Our community benefits when we shop, dine and spend locally. As our City's economy rebounds, Library staff and services will grow and return. We'll be highlighting our Business members in our next Newsletter. It's not too late to join the Friends as a business and add your name!

This spring, as you enjoy take-out or socially distanced dining, remember to thank and support our

2021 Dine Out Friends:

- Beach House at Lovers Point (Kevin Phillips)
- Il Vecchio (Carl Alasko)
- La Mia Cucina (Michael & Paula Scanlon)
- Max's Grill (Max & Yuko Muramatsu)
- Pacific Thai Cuisine, Inc (Lex Juntaradarapun)
- Peppers Mexicali Cafe (Lisa Weiman)
- Petra Restaurant (George Nimri)
- Taste Bistro (Sue & Bill Karaki)
- The Red House Cafe (Chris & Laura D'Amelio)
- Victorian Corner Restaurant (Mary Allioti)
- Wild Fish Restaurant (Liz & Kelvin Jacobs)



Special thanks to La Mia Cucina for their February 24th and 25th hosting of a "Dine In" for the Friends. The Scanlons generously pledged a portion of their take-out proceeds on both nights to the Friends, and we are very grateful.