



Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library

The NEWSLETTER is published quarterly by the FRIENDS OF THE PACIFIC GROVE LIBRARY, a non profit organization that retains sole responsibility for editorial content and policy.

Volume 26 ♦ Number 3 ♦ Summer 2013

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Making a Bequest?

You'll need the Friends of the Library tax ID number to complete your paperwork. It is 77-0055748.

To donate securities, contact Edward Jones Investments at 650 Lighthouse Ave. 656-9767

President's Message The Three Legs of the Stool

The Pacific Grove Library is in the happy position of having three different volunteer organizations offering support: the Library Board, the Foundation, and The Friends. Each of these organizations has a distinct role to play in keeping the Library healthy, but it can be difficult to keep them straight. I thought it would be useful to devote this President's letter to discussing their respective roles.

A public library is supported with public money, i.e., money generated by taxes, fees, and other community income. As such, many public libraries also have public oversight. The Library Board is Pacific Grove's vehicle on this score. One of four boards created by the Pacific Grove City Charter (the others are the Planning Commission, the Museum Board, and the Recreation Board), the Library Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Council and City manager in matters pertaining to the Library's operation. The five members of the Library Board are appointed by the City Council.

Unfortunately, public money may not be sufficient to keep a library in healthy working order. The 1974 Articles of Incorporation for the Friends acknowledges this fact in identifying as one of its purposes "to solicit and encourage gifts, endowments, and bequests to the library." The impact of the Friends in this area is clear. Records from the early years of the Friends show an income of \$1000 to \$2000 per year, with money being spent on cosmetic improvements such as carpeting and drapes. Roughly thirty years ago, the Friends began its on going support of the summer children's reading program. In recent years, the Friends has contributed an average of over \$40,000 annually, some of which has gone for basic operations, books and materials. But this is only one of the functions intended for the Friends. Another is "to focus public attention on the library," and a third is "to support and cooperate with the library in developing library services and facilities for the community." In this role, the group spearheaded the 2009 and 2010 campaigns to pass a parcel tax dedicated to the Library, has relentlessly lobbied the City Council on the Library's behalf, and has sponsored efforts to help the Library adapt to new realities.

In 2010 the Friends Board determined that fundraising needs were swamping its other responsibilities to the Library and the community, and that the Library's fiscal needs were likely to stay at a level above what its annual income could reasonably support. The Foundation was established in 2011 with the sole purpose of providing a stable long-term source of supplemental funding. Although the Foundation will support some Library needs in the near term, its major focus at the moment is to build its assets. If the Foundation had assets of \$2 million, it could assure the Library of \$80,000 annually; if the Foundation had assets of \$5 million, it could assure the Library of \$200,000 annually.

In short, the PG Library is supported by an organization devoted to its operation, an organization devoted to developing and channeling community support, and an organization devoted to its long-term fiscal health. You can participate. When the City asks for Board member applications, apply. If you're a member of the Friends, ask your friends to join. When you plan your estate, think of the Foundation.

Susan Steele





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Library Board News

The Pacific Grove Library Board has been focusing its priorities in two main areas:

1. The Library's Strategic Plan. We now have a framework for the Plan, and are proceeding to break down the key tasks, work, items and schedules. Next we will be asking for volunteers to lead each task, and then getting input from key stakeholders such as the library staff, the Friends of the Library (FOL), the Foundation, and of course the community.
2. The Library Board published a Space Needs Assessment and received bids from two professional companies. The goal was for a formal evaluation of the Library, as well as assistance with the community input area of the Strategic Plan. The cost of professional involvement from these vendors was prohibitive, so the LAB is working on an alternative plan with the interim Library Manager, City Council Representative Casey Lucias, and other City employees.

The Library Board continues its liaison activities with the library and city, as well as the FOL and the Foundation. A new member, Kristin Cushman, joined Carol Greenstreet, Larry Telles, Michael Cunningham, and Karin Locke on the Library Board in March.

Library Foundation News

The Pacific Grove Public Library Foundation (PGPLF) is finalizing its annual report for the calendar year 2012. An announcement will be forthcoming after it has been printed. The PGPLF board is also creating a brochure to be used as part of a donor campaign to be held in the fall.

The PGPLF board has applied for a grant from the Community Foundation for Monterey County to create a website that will provide information about the foundation, including its purposes and goals. We hope to have the site up and running later this year. In order to further define and clarify how the PGPLF, the Friends, and the Library Advisory Board can support the library and one another, the chair of the LAB and the presidents of the Friends and the PGPLF have instituted a program of periodic meetings to enhance communication about each group's activities and their respective goals. The head librarian is an integral part of these meetings. Working together, we can make our library stronger and enhance the services it provides to our community.

The board notes with regret the resignation of Michael Cunningham, as he moves back to Palm Desert to be closer to his family. We will miss his sound advice as Chief Financial Officer.

Good luck, Michael!

Barbara Moore, President PGPLF

Become a Member Today! Invite Your Friends to Join, too!

- Yes, I want to join the Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library!
 Yes, Please RENEW my membership today!

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone(s) _____

City _____ ST ____ Zip _____ Email _____

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
 Business (\$50) Benefactor (\$100) Life Member (\$2000 or more)

I want to donate the following GIFT: \$ _____

In Memory of/In Honor of _____

Please notify (Name) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Gift Given By: _____

Dues and contributions are tax-deductible. Please make your checks payable to the **Friends of the Pacific Grove Library** and mail to **P.O. Box EH, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.** *For credit card donations, log on to www.networkforgood.org.*



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Business Member Spotlight



Located among a string of small locally owned businesses on Forest Avenue, Pavel's Backerei epitomizes PG's identity as the "last hometown." Its ambience has a very definite local flavor.

Its offerings are enticing—breads, baguettes, brioche, croissants, cookies, and the world's biggest donuts. New customers have been known to stand for long minutes trying to make a selection. And, the line of eager eaters can snake out onto the sidewalk, especially before Thanksgiving when dinner rolls are a specialty, or at Easter when hot cross buns make an appearance.

It is a comfortable place to sit with a blueberry scone and coffee in the morning, or a salami sandwich and soft drink for lunch. You can watch activity on the street, and if the street life pales, you can turn your gaze to Pavel's walls. They are covered with a changing display of paintings and photographs, emphasizing the owners' love for Italy and France.

Paul and Johanna have been generous supporters of the Library, contributing cookies and pastries to be served at events.

Meet the Author

An intimate crowd of about 35 attended the June 13 Meet the Author presentation, in which Alice LaPlante shared her inspiration for *Turn of Mind*. The main character—and the main suspect—in this mystery is Dr. Jennifer White, who has Alzheimer's. White doesn't remember the details surrounding her best friend's death, and the reader learns them with her as images float in and out of her memory.



In writing this book, LaPlante drew from personal experience with her mother's struggle with this devastating disease. The murder mystery in *Turn of Mind* is compelling, but the true impact of the work lies in the depth of insight LaPlante offers into the effects of Alzheimer's on those who suffer from it and those who love the afflicted.

After the presentation LaPlante signed books provided by Robert Marcum of The Works, and the audience enjoyed refreshments.

LaPlante is a creative writing instructor at Stanford and San Francisco State universities. She is the author of five books and counting. Her new book, *Coming of Age at the End of Days* is due out this fall.

New Members in the last quarter

Phyllis Burkey
Gordon and Elizabeth Ann Campbell
Bruce Hamilton
Mrs. Bessie Linvill
Susan Lueken
William Murray
Lynn E. Yaghoubian

Contributions in the last quarter

Dorothy Abeloe
Dr. Donald Donohugh – in support of electronic readers
Dr. Richard Freeman
Carolyn Griffin
Mary Lou Kissel
Robert and MaryAnn Moore
Miranda Morris
Anthony and Lary Lynn Muller Foundation
Thomas A. and Lori Rolander
Anthony and Laurie Suján – In Honor of Lisa Maddalena
Ruth Tsu – in gratitude for the PG Library
Neal Whitman

**Friends of the
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Public Library**

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Current Resident or:

Meet the Author Series — Upcoming authors:

Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m.: Ann Jealous and Caroline Haskell
Combined Destinies; Whites Sharing Grief about Racism.

Combined Destinies invites its readers to look at how white Americans have been hurt by the very ideology that their ancestors created. Ann Todd Jealous and Caroline T. Haskell are both experienced psychotherapists skilled at facilitating dialogue about racial issues.

Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.: Jana McBurney-Lin
My Half the Sky

Chairman Mao said, “Women hold up half the sky.” This novel is the story of a contemporary young Chinese woman caught between her desire to be modern and the traditions of her village. Jana McBurney-Lin, a resident of the Santa Cruz Mountains, lived over half her adult life in Asia, writing and editing fictional stories and nonfictional articles about America, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam.

The Friends would like to thank its Business Members:

Alpha Stationers, Back Porch Fabrics, Grand Avenue Flooring, Grove Market, The Hair Specialist, Jones Group Real Estate, Lee’s Salon, Marita’s Boutique and Shoes, Matteson’s Auto Repair, Pacific Grove Cleaners, Pacific Grove Florist, Pacific Grove Hardware, Pacific Thai Cuisine, Pavel’s Bäckerei, Peppers’ Mexicali Café

We are grateful for the support these local businesses have shown for our library and we encourage other businesses to join them.



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Library Lovers Event April 13, 2013

....and a good time was had by all!



April Library Lovers Event

“An Evening for Library Lovers” held on April 13 proved to be exactly that! With the talented jazz band **The Clock Stoppers** playing in the background, attendees sipped wine, munched homemade cookies, poured over auction contributions, and best of all, chatted with each other about favorite books.

Friends’ members baked, served, poured, wrapped, bundled, greeted, bid, and bought to make the event a success. Library tables were covered in blue, spiced up with Back Porch fabric lengths, and were filled with sparkly gift baskets, framed letters and photos from famous people, and wrapped bundles of favorite books of city council members, PG teachers, and library staff. Fifty-seven items were up for auction, and each one sold! In addition, as a special offering, librarians Mary Elturk and Miriam Intrator presented twelve books from the library’s rare book collection. Five rare books sold.

The fundraiser was a year in the planning, beginning with Neal Whitman’s suggestion in 2012 when he served on the Library Board. The hard work and generosity of lovers of the PG Library raised \$4,000.00, all going to the purchase of eBooks. That’s \$1,000.00 more than the Library had requested! Thank you to everyone who supported the event.



Happy winners of tea at Crema with mystery writer Laurie R. King



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Library News

Dear Friends,

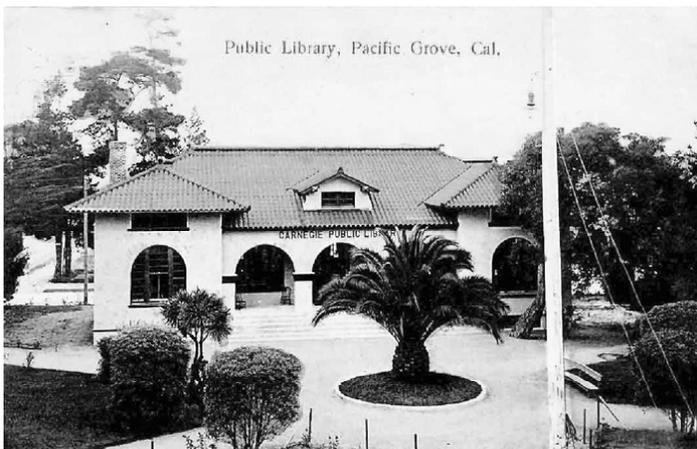
Believe it or not, it's been at least twenty years since the Pacific Grove Public Library received a fresh coat of paint. We are lucky it has held up as long as it has. On June 19, the City Council voted to award a contract for painting the outside of the Library. Because this is an historic and prominent building, the Architectural Review Board wants to ensure that the colors chosen reflect our library's rich heritage.

In researching the color of the original 1908 library building, staff found a treasure of historic documents and photos from when the Pacific Grove Public Library was still the "Carnegie Public Library." In addition to a news report from the time and photos of the building, the library has the original contractor bids and the build sheet. The build sheet specifies the finishes and formulas for the stucco and concrete, as well as the dimensions and specifications for a "fumigation closet" in the basement. It is difficult not to speculate on what purpose a fumigation closet might have served!

While these documents are fragile and require "white gloves" for handling, we would love to show them off to those interested. We hope to have a display sometime in the future.

In the meantime, keep an eye on the exterior of the building for a new coat of paint. And don't worry, unlike Tom Sawyer we won't be looking for unsuspecting passersby to help out. And, what might that fumigation closet have been used for?

Steven Silveria



Meet the Author Series — Save the Date!

Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m.: Karen Fowler

The Jane Austen Book Club

Karen Joy Fowler's writing career is thirty years old, and yet she finds it hard to stop thinking of herself as a new writer. She remembers vividly what it was like to start writing, what it was like to start publishing, what it was like to get her first reviews and to do her first readings. She was startled to learn that the writing doesn't get easier. This book shares these experiences and the lessons she has learned along the way.

Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m.: Betty Sproule

The Stuff Cure

One secret of a happy life: having just the right stuff, with no clutter. *The Stuff Cure* shows you how to achieve this goal and regain control of your life.

Good-bye, Mary!

Mary Cunningham, the Friends Vice President, is resigning from the Board as she moves back to the desert southwest to be closer to family. We will miss Mary's extensive experience with planning library events and activities and her willingness to take on whatever needs to be done. We hope she will come back to visit when she feels the need for a little fog and cool ocean breezes.

Buying or Selling a Home?

When you allow Cause Brokers to find you a real estate agent, Cause Brokers will donate thousands of dollars to the Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library.

Check it out at:

<http://causebrokers.com/partner/friends-pacific-grove-public-library>



