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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What do you think of when you hear the expression, "The Dog Days of Summer?" I imagine a scene on a hot summer day; I'm hanging out in a lawn chair, with a good book and a glass of lemonade while my dog Tonka is stretched out and panting in the nearby shade. I have nowhere I need to be, and nothing important I need to do. As I said, I'm imagining all this.

Actually, the expression has nothing to do with dogs. The phrase originally referred to the period of time between July 3 and August 11, when the Dog Star, Sirius, appears, rising at dawn and setting at nightfall. Its usage goes back to the Greeks and Romans. The following as noted in Wikipedia, is a far cry from my bucolic imaginings:

Dog Days were popularly believed to be an evil time "the Sea boiled, the Wine turned sour, Dogs grew mad, and all other creatures became languid; causing to man, among other diseases, burning fevers, hysterics, and phrensies." according to Brady's "Clavis Calendaria," 1813. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog_days)

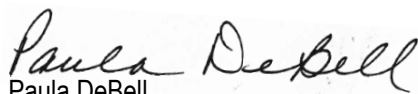
The author obviously didn't spend his summers in Oceanside. Between hitting the beach, celebrating 90th birthdays, and enjoying all the out of town visitors, my Dog Days have been action packed. OK, perhaps some slight "hysterics and phrensies" have been mixed in with all the fun.

The Board of Directors held our Trivia Bee fundraiser on July 19 and it was a hit! With 14 teams and over 100 supporters, the excitement and laughter that filled the room indicated it was a great success. The amount of money raised will be available soon; as of press time, we still have funds coming in. Competition was fierce, but friendly, and team names such as: The Bee-Spectacled Librarians, Dewey and the Decimals, The Quizards of Oz, and The Crazy Cat Ladies + One, showed great imagination. Congratulations to the winning team, The TERi Trivia Titans. Feedback from participants indicates they totally enjoyed themselves and will be back for the next one.

Organizing a fundraiser takes lots of planning and detailed timelines. Heartfelt thanks go to the Trivia Bee Committee who worked so hard to combine former trivia traditions with modern social media and technology. My Co-Chair Ashley Simpkins, as well as Jay Bretney, Alberta Thomas, Mary Lou Elliot, Suzanne Williams and Genevieve Wunder are amazing. We had wonderful volunteers join us on the day of the event, many who are looking forward to helping next year.

But why wait until next year? Our next large fundraiser is the ever popular Holiday Home Tour and Gift Boutique. Planning will start in September. We are asking our membership to consider volunteering for the event. There are many areas in which to become involved. Would you like your home to be part of the tour? Would you like to serve as a docent at one of the homes? How about helping to coordinate the Crafters, or would you like to work on the auction committee? If interested, please finish enjoying your summer, then contact the Friends in September. And thanks for supporting the Oceanside Public Library through your membership in the Friends.

Best wishes,

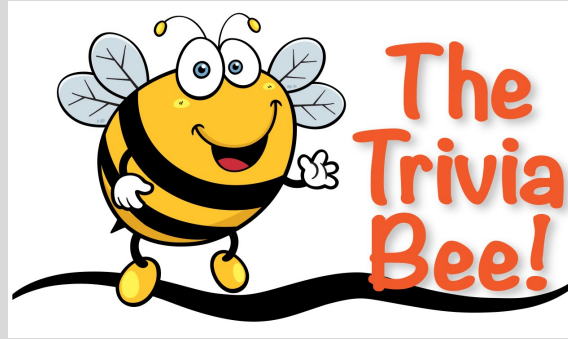


Paula DeBell

President, Friends of the Oceanside Public Library



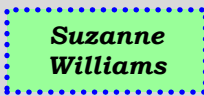
Ken Harrison from the San Diego Reader served as the event's host



2015 Winners TERi Trivia Titans



Oceanside Fire Inspector and Trivia Bee Master Ron Owens



The TERi Trivia Titans team took home the trophy. Pictured on right (left to right) are Allan Norton, Rob DeZania, and Team Captain Clarence Taylor. Pictured far left are Ron Owens and Paula DeBell, Friends of the Oceanside Public Library President.



Thank You

Sponsors



The Queen Bees



The Bee-Spectacled Librarians



OPD's The Nerdlings



Refreshment time for Dewey and the Decimals



Scorekeepers Suzanne Williams, Ashley Simpkins, and Lola Sherman



2015 Runner Ups
The Crazy Cat Ladies + One

-- Awesome photos courtesy of Cheri Bailey --

SUMMER REFLECTIONS

By Alma Sisco-Smith



Summertime, summertime. It is the time when ALL plan on doing the things held at bay during the year. A time for fun and freedom – from school or work – to relax, travel; to visit and gather with family or friends not seen for too long; reading and writing. Just being and enjoying our freedoms.

This 4th of July in the early hours, I sat by the rocks at the beach with Roxie – our four-legged beauty queen – who is on watch of people, squirrels, and rabbits. I began to reflect about this See Gull's issue, and as I settled back, quickly my solitude bubbled up with emotions and images, and reflections began to flow.

It was wonderful to see the diversity – cultural and generational – and to hear the genuine chatter amongst the people, and the courteous exchanges between strangers passing by. That gives true meaning to the purpose of Independence Day. If we could transform that bit of humanity into our everyday interactions, how powerful this could be.

It was sobering to reflect upon the recent unimaginable tragedy in the South Carolina church, the loss of those innocent lives, and the unimaginable ability of so many to find forgiveness in their hearts. What possibly could Independence Day mean for those loving souls?

That reflection led my focus to a segment of my family: the grandson preparing to graduate from college with so many options ahead; the granddaughter and recent high school graduate, who will be coming to San Marcos for college, and the youngest high school senior granddaughter preparing for the two of us to go to El Salvador next year with a missionary group. She shared a quote from the movie *That's What I Am*, which she got from the library. "Human dignity plus compassion equals peace," – a statement on humanity. That line certainly gave me some perspective on those loving souls in South Carolina.

Then my solace was broken when two women walked by and admired my Roxie. After some considerable discussion about the loss of a dog that belonged to one of the women, she inquired if we liked to travel and could use a sitter. She offered that it is unlikely she will get another dog and knew that the expense of animal care can alter travel schedules. She shared her information, and a genuine offer to follow up with her, and gave Roxie another loving rub. As she headed off she turned her head and said, "My daughter is a vet so I am knowledgeable about animal care, especially dogs."

I may have shared some time ago in this spot a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us." I couldn't help but think once again about the meaning of Independence Day on a level above the celebrations and hoopla. I thought about the freedoms we have as individuals, and the freedom of choices we can make to love as Pearl Cleage expressed, "truer, better and deeper." As my reflections came to this ending point, I felt the lift of heart, the hope for more meaningful human interaction, and the prevailing need for strong educational and library partnerships. These are the two portals that can help enrich the humanity within us.



Spotlight on Tom Frankum: *Living the Good Life*

by Alma Sisco-Smith

And Tom Frankum lives it with great zest, vitality, and appreciation! – and a love for his community of libraries, rails, and trails. He cycles along the San Luis Rey River, two to three times per week - 8 miles - and straight to the Library. He may be meeting, with a particular focus on the El Corazon project, with the Parks and Recreation Commission, or he may be off to Sacramento lobbying for better rail service for the North County Transit District (with whom he has volunteered for seven years). So where do we begin? What created these passions?

Last year, the See Gull covered the work Tom did for the Little Free Libraries, which he calls Little Free Neighborhood Libraries, and he is about to build two more upon request of Del Rio Elementary School. Of equal interest, is his history of building not only little edifices, but large custom homes, as he says he has always dreamed of building one of his own.

For a brief two years, when Tom was between the ages of two and four, his father moved the family of four children from Minnesota, to Martinez, California where work at government shipyards was plentiful. It was apparent that his father would be recruited to go abroad, but his mother's wisdom in persuading the importance of his presence in raising the four children prevailed. So the adventure ended with a railroad trip back to Minnesota, which became a memorable family trip and the beginning of a family passion.

Born in the small town of Wells, Minnesota, where he lived until he was 12, before moving to Pleasant Hill, California, he reflects that "moving to California was the best thing that ever happened to me." He attended Junior High and High School in Pleasant Hill, graduating in 1959. "Yes, I am old and loving it," he exclaims. In 1963, he married his wife Jan and moved to Sacramento to later graduate from Sacramento State College as it was then known. His teaching career began in Elk Grove, near Sacramento, and soon thereafter he took a position in Palo Alto where he remained until 1989.

While living in near Palo Alto in Mountain View, he worked on a city bond measure to build a new library. The measure lost by the small margin of 120 votes, but that slim margin energized the City Council and within one year a ruling passed to build the new library.

About 12 years before retiring in 1989 from his position as a social sciences teacher at Henry M. Gunn Senior High School, on the Stanford University campus, he began to think about building his own home and prepared by taking every course and class available through the Owners Builders Center in Berkeley. He was hired by a prominent

contractor and began building homes in Gold Country, Wine Country, Tahoe Basin, and the Sacramento area. Many, many homes, but not his own.

In 2007, the Frankums left northern California and moved to Rancho Pensauquitos, and then Oceanside, to be near their daughter Leslie (also a teacher). Tom resumed his interest in the railways and began serving on the Board of Directors of the Train Riders Association of California, lobbying for high speed rail and for more rail service along the Oceanside to San Diego corridor. He notes that this corridor is equal in length to the corridor in the Bay Area where Cal Trans runs four times the number of trains. "We have a need here for more trains, and people would use them. We just can't seem to marshal the resources to bring more trains into the system."

Owing to his lifelong interest in libraries and education, as well as a desire to improve people's lives, he joined the Friends of OPL three years ago. And that brings us full circle - but wait. Travel looms high on the Frankum's schedule.

Over the past 40 years or so, Tom and his wife have shared their homes with foreign students, and now get to share their lives with many of them. They have visited all 50 states, and 58 counties of California, and dozens of countries several times. When we spoke, they had just returned from Australia and New Zealand, where they and friends were "treated" to an apartment in the Finnish Embassy as guests of one of their past students. Living the good life, indeed, that keeps on giving to someone who pays it forward. And time does not permit a look at their long term love affair with roller coasters! He laughed, "Well, they run on rails don't they?!"

His bucket list? At first he said there would be nothing he hasn't already done. No, wait, "I'd like to ride a high speed train in California. That may take another 15 years, but I plan to stick around."



Bookstores Upgrade the Customer and Volunteer Experience

by Ashley Simpkins

The Friends of the Library Bookstores, located inside both the Mission Branch and Civic Center Libraries, have been making lots of updates to improve the customer experience. Open during Library hours, the Bookstores offer high-quality used books for \$2 each or less, and, as with all Friends' fundraising, proceeds benefit the Oceanside Public Library.

Paula DeBell, current President of the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library and Manager of the Civic Center Library Bookstore, has been focused on 'curating' special interest sections as well as sales. "Each month the Civic Center Bookstore is putting together a collection of books following a specific theme. July was American History month, with presidential biographies and nonfiction books about the Depression and Civil War," says Paula. "Upcoming featured sections will include international mystery writers, science fiction and fantasy, and biographies."

Paula is also excited about the store's "dot sales." Each of the books has a colored dot on the spine. At the beginning of every month, one dot color will go on sale. Every Tuesday, as those books are sold or rotated out, new regular priced books are rotated in from the sorting room." This way, the store constantly has new material to sell to its customers. Shoppers would have to visit at least once a week in order to not miss anything.

Kathy Christy, Manager of the Mission Branch Library Bookstore, has been both a dedicated employee, and volunteer, of the Library during the last ten years, having served in leadership roles on both Boards of the Friends of the Library and the Trustees. She just recently took over management of the Mission Branch Bookstore, and enthusiastically describes how thankful she is for the volunteers. "They're really great people, and so dedicated to the Library."

Kathy's first priority was to reach out to her volunteers and ask their ideas for making the Mission Branch Bookstore a more pleasant experience for both the patrons and the volunteers working there. Ideas that have since been implemented include a new magazine display, alphabetizing the trade paperbacks by genre, and a book request form. "We just started with the book request forms last week and we've already filled two requests, so it's

working really well." Perhaps the most exciting change for the Mission Branch volunteers is the semi-regular get-togethers to get to know one another and have some fun.

Whatever your reading interests, the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library Bookstores are a low-cost alternative to feed your expensive reading habit - and you can feel great about supporting your local library while you save money!

If you're interested in volunteering at one of the Bookstores, call the Library's Volunteer Coordinator, Cheri Noel, at [\(760\) 435-5564](tel:7604355564).

For even more great book buying opportunities, don't miss the Friends' Big Book Sales, which are held quarterly, across the street from the Civic Center Library at 602 Civic Center Drive.

The logo features the word "Big" in a large, bold, light green font with a blue outline. Below it, the words "Book Sale" are written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

**Saturday,
AUGUST 22
10 AM to 4 PM
602 Civic Center Dr.**

**Friends' members
admitted at 9 AM**

- **Hardcover Books**
- **Paperback Books
and Magazines**
- **DVDs, CDs, and VHS**

Remembering Jane Cheadle

The Library and the community lost one of its biggest supporters when Jane Cheadle passed away on June 27. Library staff and volunteers will miss Jane's big smile and her never-ending enthusiasm, and will not soon forget her generosity and giving spirit.

Jane began volunteering with the Friends of the Library in 1985. During this time, she served as President and Treasurer on the Board of Directors, and managed and supported the Bookstores and Book Sales for many years. In 2004, Jane approached then Library Director, Deborah Polich, about forming a Foundation for the Library. She then served as its Treasurer until the organization got on its feet.

It is very clear today, that both the Friends and the Foundation's success were made possible, in part, by Jane's amazing talents and dedication.

Jane leaves behind her husband George and their three children, Allen, Anne, and Nancy. Jane and George had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary when she had a major stroke on June 18.



Memorial, Honorarium and Gift Book Donations May-July, 2015

In Memory of Jim Brown Sr.

I Am Because You Are
Ruhlman's Twenty

In Memory of Jane Cheadle

Survival of the Beautiful

In Memory of Mildred Gordon

Human Anatomy: The Definitive Guide
The Perfect Egg
Revealing Mexico

In Memory of Donna McClintock

Cash Donation
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In Memory of Edith Swaim

People Over Profit
Smithsonian's History of America in 101 Objects

Donated by:

**Cathie and Larry Hatter
Cathie and Larry Hatter**

David Rothenberg

**Demetra Wilkerson
Demetra Wilkerson
Demetra Wilkerson**

**Cheryl Barker/Barker Blind & Shade
Bonny Bruner/Bruner & Rosi Mgmt.
Kathy and Bob Christy
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Fred and Peggy Downing
Susan and William Edwards
Blake and Jerry Kern
Peggy and Norm Machado
Ted Marioncelli
Mary Ellen Reese
Lee and Jackie Russell
Ashley Simpkins
Casey Stackawitz, Jr.
Crystal and Arlister Tillory
Gail Wells
Suzanne Williams**

**Cathie and Larry Hatter
Cathie and Larry Hatter**



Adult Services: Community-wide Reads Rounding Up Our Reading Posse!



As we wrap up another successful Adult Summer Reading Program, we are excited about two upcoming community-wide reading programs - The Big Read in September, and One Book, One San Diego in October. We are proud to be the recipient of the highly competitive National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant for the fourth time.

Only about 75 libraries across the nation are selected to host The Big Read every year. This year, we have chosen the classic western novel *True Grit* by Charles Portis. This is a remarkable tale of 14-year-old Mattie Ross who, with the help of two lawmen, seeks to avenge her father's death. In reading *True Grit*, one is struck by Mattie's wit and tenacity, her character has often been compared to Huckleberry Finn. We will be hosting a series of programs inspired by this incredible and spirited book. Our kickoff event will take place on September 4, and will feature complimentary copies of the book, readings by the Cowboy Poet, Gary Robertson, costumes from the era loaned by the California Women's Museum, and a display of photographs from UCR Museum of Photography's Keystone-Mast collection. Pony rides will even be available for children! After an exciting month-long series of special events and book discussions, we will hold the Finale Event on October 3, where Jay Jennings, writer and longtime friend of Charles Portis, will explain why *True Grit* is not just a great genre story, but great literature as well.

This year will be the first time Oceanside Public Library will participate in One Book, One San Diego, as the entire county reads Spanish author Carlos Ruiz Zafón's international bestseller *The Shadow of the Wind*. Set in post-Spanish Civil War Barcelona, young Daniel Sempere is taken to the Cemetery of Forgotten Books to select a book to protect for the rest of his life. Daniel chooses *The Shadow of the Wind*, a decision that irrevocably changes his life as Daniel becomes a detective in the mystery surrounding the book. *The Shadow of the Wind* is beautifully written and underscores the power of the book. As part of One Book, One San Diego, Oceanside Public Library is partnering with San Diego County Library to bring author Carlos Ruiz Zafón for a special visit!

Please join us in reading these remarkable books and the programs designed to celebrate them. Happy Reading!

Children's Department: Summer Reading Success!

Summer fun was had by thousands of children and teens at the Oceanside Public Library. The Summer Reading Program, "Read to the Rhythm," was interactive and engaging, with the addition of several new activities this year. Along with committing to reading each day, and reading cumulatively thousands of hours over the course of the summer, children became more familiar with the Library, and more knowledgeable about musical instruments. By completing a musical instrument scavenger hunt, the children also became better able to navigate the children's collection. Children received secret letters for completing reading levels and upon finishing the program they could unscramble the secret word to earn a bonus prize.

Interactive guessing jars filled with guitar picks, bells, puzzle pieces, and dominoes were on display at all locations to get the kids excited about visiting the Library. Children and teens took ownership of their Library by helping to decorate the various Library locations. They created displays by painting or coloring old vinyl records, CDs and printed musical notes. Every Saturday, a special event for families took place at the Library. Wild Wonders jungle animals, a singing magician, a circus act performer, a percussive storyteller, a puppet show and more all entertained and rewarded those participating in Summer

Reading.

Teens attended a guitar class, made tie-dye bandanas and pillow cases, participated in musical-themed book clubs and a poetry workshop. Our amazing Teen Partners volunteered many hours, helping to ensure that the popular reading programs were successes. Teens earned prizes for reading books and writing book reviews. Most all of the regular Library events for children and teens continued into the summer with increased numbers in attendance. The events included Minecraft, LEGO Build, Science Fun, Storytimes, tween and teen book clubs, games, movies, and crafts.

The mobile libraries participated in hands-on fun with each of their weekly stops having a music and movement Storytime during the summer. At this engaging Storytime, kids created their own musical instrument from an instrument buffet consisting of materials such as metal washers, empty water bottles and tissue boxes, paper plates, ribbon, beans, straws, and other odds and ends that contributed to making innovative and unique instruments.

The joy and learning that occurs each year among families during the Summer Reading Program would not happen without the generosity and support of the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. Thank you, Friends!

**Friends of the
Oceanside Public Library**
1971-2015
*Celebrating 44 Years of
Community Service*



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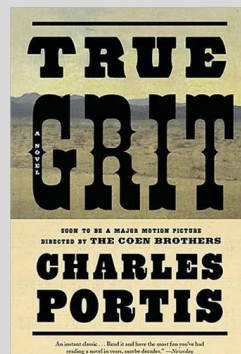
oplfriends.org



Twitter.com/OPLfriends

FriendsofOceansidePublicLibrary@hotmail.com

**THE BIG
READ**



**September 1
through
October 3**
(see inside for
more info)

The Library has Homebound Delivery Services!

Do you know any book lovers who are not able to get to the Library? The Library Homebound Service provides Oceanside residents with home delivery of library materials! You can get Fiction, Nonfiction, Large Print, Magazines, Audiobooks, CDs, and Braille Talking Book Cartridges delivered right to your door. There is no minimum age requirement, and the only qualifications are that you are physically unable to get to the Library due to medical necessity or disability, do not have someone else to regularly bring you materials, and are an Oceanside resident. We can help you get a library card if you do not have one. Contact Amy Kleman at 760-435-5583 to sign up.



Let your neighbors know about this wonderful program!

Founded in 1971 as a non-profit organization, the mission of the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library is to support and promote the services and resources of the Oceanside Public Library through community involvement, volunteer activities, and fundraising. The organization maintains a membership of persons interested in the Library, sponsors special programs and cultural events for both children and adults, and works to enhance the Library's collection and facilities.

PURCHASE OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY!



Annual Membership: Individual — \$10 Booster — \$50 Business or Organization — \$100
Family — \$25 Patron — \$100 Benefactor — \$500

Donation: I've enclosed an extra \$ _____ to help the Friends.

Make check payable to: Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. Membership and donations are tax-deductible.

PLEASE PRINT

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