

See Gull

Newsletter

Volume 50 Issue 3
July/August/September 2021

**EXCLUSIVE
★ OFFER ★**

EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR FRIENDS OF OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY MEMBERS, LIBRARY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to a very generous donor, the Friends have two vacation stays to offer in an electronic auction exclusively for Friends, library staff and volunteers.

This will be a Reverse Auction starting in mid-August; members, volunteers and staff should look for an email with more information at that time.

For Family and Friends to Stay – Or, for You, to Get Away!

Aquamarine Villas, One-Bedroom Suite
711 S. Myers, Oceanside, CA
December 23-30, 2021 (*Christmas Week!*)



What Happens in Vegas...Is You Having Fun!

The Cliffs at Peace Canyon, Two-Bedroom Suite
4550 S. Grand Canyon Drive
Las Vegas, NV
December 3-10, 2021



BECOME A MEMBER AND JOIN THE AUCTION!

Annual Individual Membership:	Individual – \$10	Family – \$25	Booster – \$50
	Patron – \$100	Organization – \$250	Benefactor – \$500

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

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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

To return by mail: Friends of the Oceanside Public Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside, CA 92054-2824
For a Friends Business Membership form, please see page 8.

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If you have an article idea or suggestion for the *See Gull* newsletter, please email the editor at larnsbarger@oceansideca.org.

Laura Arnsbarger
See Gull Editor/Designer

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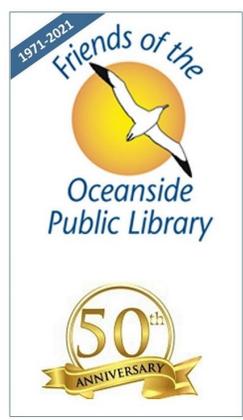
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Friends of the Oceanside Public Library
Celebrating 50 Years of Community Service



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.

VOLUNTEER GAIL WELLS RECEIVES CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION

In conjunction with National Volunteer Month, 49th District Congressman Mike Levin recently honored Gail Wells, a powerhouse Friends of the Oceanside Public Library book sales volunteer since 2005. The award recognizes volunteers who have generously contributed time and talent in support of their organization.



Gail’s time – often more than 2,000 hours/year – and her leadership talents have led the Friends’ book sorting, book sales, Farmers Market and Amazon sales. The sale of donated books, DVDs and other items is a critical source of revenue, and Gail and her team’s hard work has brought over \$100,000 per year to the Library for materials and programs.

Gail was nominated by City Councilmember Peter Weiss, and presented her award by Joe McCluskey, Friends Board member and Public Relations Chair. We congratulate Gail on this well-deserved recognition – and thank her for her inspiration!

WHO WE ARE AND WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

As the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library celebrate our 50th Anniversary throughout 2021, we're introducing our Board members in the See Gull. We like to think of it as a Friends-style meet and greet – in their own words.



I have a tax office and accounting business and enjoy numbers...maybe a little too much? A friend approached me, knowing I was in accounting, and asked if I would join the Board. I was skeptical at first – I wasn't sure if I had the time that was needed for this job. I'm now in my third year on the Friends Board as Treasurer, and I'm responsible for presenting financials to the Board on a monthly basis. I'm happy to say, I'm glad I said yes.

I've lived in Oceanside my whole life and really did not know that much about the Library and all they provide to the community. My eyes are open now. I'm happy I can give my time to the Library, making sure the Friends' financials are in order. I've learned so much in my time on the Board and think all that the Library does for adults, teens and children is amazing. I'm proud to say I am a part of helping the Library make our community a better place.

Samantha Hall, Treasurer/Volunteer since 2019

I arrived in San Diego in the late '50s and embarked on a 25-year Naval officer career. I left the Navy in the mid-80s and took a position with PacBell/ATT helping bring the California communications systems into the fiber optic age. I took an early retirement and settled in Fallbrook, where I continued consulting with the telephone industry and embarked on an active volunteer career and supporter of libraries and children's reading.



My interest in children reading stemmed from a neighbor's comment that so many of his daughter's first-grade classmates could not read – I remember it seems like we could all read in kindergarten when I grew up. First graders were my favorite (they're all anxious to learn) and I quickly shifted to one-on-one, letting them "read" to me. At a library where I used to volunteer, my routine was to read one story with the whole group then work with kids having the most difficulty – lots of fun and satisfaction.

John Holt, Outreach/Volunteer since 2018

(John's outreach includes meeting with Oceanside business owners to introduce them to the benefits of becoming Business Friends of the Library. Read more about Business Friends memberships on page 8.)

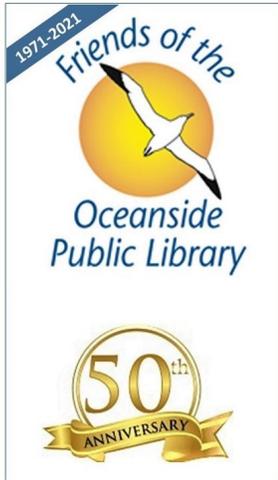


My first library card was in grade school, and throughout high school the public library was a favorite haunt. While studying biology in college I learned the value of academic libraries for classwork, and as a biomedical researcher I extensively used the university library to do literature research to write papers and grants. I viewed yet another type of library by volunteering at my son's high school library. After I got my Masters in Library and Information Science, I worked five years full-time as a science librarian, then at Oceanside Public Library as a part-time librarian for nine years.

Books and libraries have been a continuous, influential thread in my life. I became a Friends volunteer because I can't think of a better way to give back to my home community of 14 years than to help support the mission of making books, information, literacy and love of local culture available to all the residents of Oceanside.

**Marie Wilson, Membership Chair/Volunteer since 2021,
Library Staff from 2012 to 2021**

THE FRIENDS AT 50: 50 YEARS OF FUNDRAISING – AND INNOVATING



The Friends of the Oceanside Public Library have a 50-year history of supporting and promoting the services and resources of the Library, and that history is easy to find in back issues of the *See Gull* newsletter.

From the first *See Gull* up to and including this edition, the newsletters are a record of the Friends' commitment to the Library, and to something equally important:

Innovation: As the times changed, the Friends changed with them.

Book sales have been an ongoing revenue source – early on there were Mini Book Sales, Annual Book Sales, and even a few Book Sale/Bake Sale combinations. And these weren't just for books; donated magazines and record albums were sold as well. Record albums gave way to 8-track tapes which gave way to cassettes and, eventually, CDs. Movies became available on VHS tapes, then DVDs and Blu-ray. Our community generously donated them, and the Friends gratefully sold them.

See Gull newsletters record that in the 1990s, the big annual fundraiser was an event called the "Trivia Bee." July 1995: "For only \$15 you get dinner, entertainment and a chance to feel real satisfaction in helping your Library."

And speaking of dinner, for several years "Family Night Fundraisers" were held at Souplantation, Sizzler, Ruby's and Mary's Family Restaurant, with 15% of your dinner tab donated to the Friends. Other fundraisers included the Friends' first Holiday Home Tour in December 2006, and in summer 2007, when you shopped at local grocery stores a portion of your total bill could be donated to the Friends.

Over the years the Friends tested different fundraising efforts with names like "Fancies for Friends" and "Edition Dinners." Recipes were collected, and a Friends Cookbook was created and sold. Twenty years ago, the Friends became a regular presence at the Thursday Oceanside Farmers Market, selling books and other donated items, and later added book sales on Amazon to the mix.

More recently, fundraising events included "Wine, Chocolate and a Good Book" where attendees sipped wine, sampled chocolate and met an author; the "Annual Tea on the Plaza" featured a scrumptious menu, teas, a silent auction and prize drawings; and "Gifts Galore/Books and More!" was a popular destination for holiday shopping.



The Friends had every reason to envision continued success with their fundraising efforts.

What they – what none of us – could have envisioned was a pandemic.

The Library closed in March 2020 and brought an abrupt end to the Friends' face-to-face activities.

If there was ever a time for innovating, this was it. And the Friends did exactly that.

Friends of the Oceanside Public Library
Oceanfront Holiday Home Tour
Sunday, December 9, 2018 1:00 - 6:00 PM

Stroll through four adjacent oceanfront homes all dressed up in holiday décor.

Enjoy complimentary holiday refreshments and music in each home.

Silent Auction
Sedona Vacation,
2BR condo May 25-June 1

Prize Opportunity Drawings

Members \$25
Non-members \$30

Tickets can be purchased with cash or check at the Civic Center Library Administration Offices or with a credit card at <https://hht-2018.eventbrite.com>

(Continued on page 5.)

(Continued from page 4.)

Not long after the Library closed, the Friends' team at the book sorting facility introduced the Buy-the-Box Drive-Through Book Sale, and invited the public to buy boxes of books sorted by category for just \$5, or \$7 for oversized books. Buyers were required to wear face masks and stay in their cars, and the boxes were placed in their car trunks by masked volunteers. The Friends then added a Made-to-Order option, so buyers could request a box sorted by author or category. **(Please note: As of this publication, the Friends are hoping to begin accepting donations around September 1.)**



The Friends innovated again with "Tea for One," a large mailing that included a tea bag and an invitation to "enjoy the tea and reflect" on how the Friends' support of the Library has "enriched your life." Donations to help the Friends with that vital support were encouraged – and the community generously responded.

Online efforts have included enrolling in AmazonSmile, with Amazon donating a percentage of your purchases to the Friends, at no extra cost to buyers. And in May, the Friends sponsored a photography contest, with all photos submitted – and the entry fees paid – through a website set up for this purpose. (See the winner and runner-up on page 7.) To raise awareness, the Friends continue updating their own website (oplfriends.org), and maintain a presence on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oplfriends) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/oplfriends).

Wine, Chocolate, and a Good Book



- Entertainment
- Guest Author

Tickets: \$35 each
\$60 per couple

Ticket Purchase:
Library, Cheri Noel
760-435-5564
Online: Eventbrite
<https://wecb2017.eventbrite.com>

Attendance is Limited!

Silent Auction -
3 Vacation Stays - Wine Country, The Ridge Sierra, Big Bear Lake - A New Year's Escape.

This fundraiser will benefit the many programs for the Oceanside Public Library.

Date: August 26, 2017
Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Location: with ticket purchase
Private beach front home in Oceanside

For more info: Genevieve Wunder:
760-717-7151 • 1ndrwmn@sbcglobal.net

Sponsored by:

Friends of the
Oceanside
Public Library

In early 2021, the Friends' innovation continued with their commitment to encouraging greater community involvement by creating a new level of membership: Business Friends of Oceanside Public Library. You can read more about this program on page 8, and we encourage you to patronize these Business Friends.

And on the subject of memberships...With all these changes over the past 50 years, here's something that hasn't changed: Friends memberships continue to be another critical source of revenue. The *See Gull* newsletters have always included an invitation to become a member, or renew memberships. Your support of the Friends has been and continues to be a big part of the \$2.1 million the Friends have raised for the Library since our founding.

are regularly offered, always considered and – if feasible – implemented.

And even when the Library fully reopens...and the bookstores reopen...and it's once again safe to host face-to-face events...

The Friends will continue their commitment to innovating new ways to help ensure that our Library continues to thrive, with all its myriad resources and services available to the children, teens and adults in our community.

You can become a Friend for as little as \$10, or a Business Friend for just \$50. Enrollment forms are available on pages 1 and 8.

And for the future? Whenever two or more Friends Board Members meet on Zoom or face-to-face or text or email, rest assured that new fundraising ideas



Friends Business Members receive a decal to display in their front window – and they do!

**ALMA'S THINGS CONSIDERED:
BETWIXT AND BETWEEN IRONIES**
by Alma Sisco-Smith, President,
Library Board of Trustees

“Betwixt and between” is an old idiom – perhaps younger generations might consider it ancient or know not of it at all. Yet it adequately describes what I faced as I wrote this article. There is much I wish to address about dealing with betwixt and between ironies.

Where are we left as COVID-19 begins to lift away from our air and souls? In response we hear a chorus of thanks! At the same time, we also know the lamentations of so many who suffered losses. COVID has left us betwixt and between. Yes, we rejoice and yet we feel remorse; there is a spot for gratitude and thanks as well as resentment and perhaps even anger.



And here we are. As an individual who lost a family member in the early months of 2020 when COVID was raging, and who received the second vaccine shot on Valentine’s Day 2021, I have experienced the irony of betwixt and between. The emotional swing has given me many moments of fragility, relief, and wonderment. And, I hope, more thoughtful and balanced reasoning.

So why share this if there are no answers to be brought forward? Perhaps it is not so much a matter of providing answers, as that this seems to be the nature of a conundrum or betwixt and between ironies. Rather, let it be a call for us to look more closely at the many aspects of our humanity, where we need to focus a light on matters and situations that affect human lives – deeply. Life situations where we need betterment: Be it equal educational opportunities; gender or racial equity; social and restorative justice; police reforms; financial opulence.

These present conundrums in the lives of many, great social imbalances; betwixt and between ironies. Let us seek the potential for better life balance for more of us, especially where we can take more resolute steps.

**FRIENDS’ ANNOUNCEMENT:
NEW SORTING FACILITY FOUND**

The Friends of Oceanside Public Library are delighted to announce that they have found a new sorting facility in the Oceanside Blvd./College Blvd. area.

A sorting facility is critical to the Friends’ fundraising efforts – this is where books, DVDs and other items generously donated by the community are organized to sell in the Friends’ Bookstores at the Civic Center and Mission Branch Library, on Amazon, and at the Thursday Farmers Market in Oceanside. These sales were bringing more than \$100,000 per year to the Library to purchase materials, and support programs and events.

Since 2004, the sorting facility has had a temporary location in a building leased from the City of Oceanside, with the understanding that the building would eventually be replaced by a new Fire Station #1. In mid-2020 the City advised that it was moving forward on the fire station, and the Friends began an extensive search of available properties.

After the Friends take occupancy in September, the new location will enable us to ramp up our fundraising efforts, which were severely impacted during the pandemic.

Note: The Friends are looking forward to once again accepting donations after they’ve moved into their new location. Thank you for patiently holding on to your valuable donations, and please continue checking the [Friends’ website](#) for updates.

**WANT ANOTHER REASON TO LOVE YOUR
LIBRARY? HOW ABOUT 40,000+ REASONS?**

Home deliveries March 2020 through December 2020: More than 20,000 items!

Home deliveries January 2021 through June 2021: More than 22,000 items!

Home deliveries are made possible in part with support from the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library. If you’re enjoying your home deliveries, please consider becoming a Friend or making a donation – visit oplfriends.org or use the enrollment form on page 1.

Memorial, Honorarium and Gift Book Donations April-June 2021

The Hill We Climb: An Inaugural Poem for the Country (Six Copies for Book Club in a Bag Kit)
Donated by: Tom and Jan Frankum Family Trust

In Memory of Betty DeBoer
A More Perfect Union (Audiobook)
Downfall (Audiobook)
Sins of the Fathers
Sins of the Fathers (Audiobook)
Without Due Process
Donated by: Deanna Lorson

In Memory of Kathy Goodson
The Bear in My Family (2 copies)
King & Kayla and the Case of the Golden Rings (2 copies)
Turtle Walk (2 copies)
Where's Baby (2 copies)
A World of Opposites (2 copies)
Yasmin the Scientist (2 copies)
Donated by: Reynolds Birthday Group

Special Note: Kathy Goodson was a first-grade teacher who spent 33 years in the Oceanside Unified School District, mostly at Reynolds Elementary. To honor her memory, the Reynolds Birthday Group recently donated 12 children's books (above), and said,

Kathy was loved by her students and their families, and much admired by her colleagues. She was quick to sign up for various workshops offered by the district and was willing to learn new teaching techniques to benefit her students. Reading was very important to Mrs. Goodson, who encouraged her students to read books for enjoyment and at their own pace. We know the kids will enjoy coming to Oceanside Public Library and seeing the books with Kathy's name inside on the bookplate.

The donation of a book, audiobook or movie is a lasting way to remember or honor someone, and it truly is a gift that keeps on giving – to the many Library patrons who borrow and enjoy your donation. For information about the Library's Gift Book Program, on the Library homepage "Support the Library" tab, click "[Book Donations.](#)"

FRIENDS ANNOUNCE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RESULTS

The Friends' Amateur Photography Contest invited participants to submit photographs taken in Oceanside that showed their interpretation of what Community and Joy meant to them. The Friends received many wonderful entries, and are pleased to share the images from the winner and runner-up:

Winner (left): *Pure Joy*, photographer: Heidi Gauthreaux, location: Buddy Todd Park.

Runner-up (right): *Honoring Her Family*, photographer: Michael Wallace, location: Mission San Luis Rey.



See more Photography Contest entries on the [contest website](#) and [Instagram](#).

THE FRIENDS OF OCEANSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY WELCOME OUR NEW BUSINESS FRIENDS!

Please join us in welcoming these new Business Friends, and thank them for their support by patronizing them, and encouraging your family members and friends to do the same:

New Silver Business Members



HR PLUMBING

JOHN  BERAN



Mission Asian

Current Business Friends Members

Silver Business Members
Core Association Management
101 Marketplace

Bronze Business Members
Harbor Fish & Chips
Buena Vista Landscaping
Rim Talay Thai Cuisine
Johnson Furniture & Interiors

50/50 Club Members
Johnny Mañana's
Oceanside Ace Hardware
Security Public Storage

New Bronze Business Members



Tracy Creighton, Realtor
Oceanside, CA

Windermere
HOMES & ESTATES



New 50/50 Club Members



STUDIO ACE | Arts
Community
Education



To become a Friends Business Member, please visit oplfriends.org or use the enrollment form below.

Annual Business Friend Membership:

50/50 Club – \$50 (2021 Only)
Business Gold – \$500

Business Bronze – \$100

Business Platinum – \$1000+

Business Silver – \$250

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

PLEASE PRINT

Business Name _____

Contact _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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

To return by mail: Friends of the Oceanside Public Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside, CA 92054-2824
For a Friends Individual Membership form, please see page 1.



For Families and Children Ages 0-5

Library Announces August Grand Opening Of Early Learning And Community Information Hub

Oceanside Public Library is excited to announce the grand opening of an Early Learning and Community Information Hub within its Civic Center Library in early August.

The Hub offers unique and diverse programming and resources geared towards families and children ages 0-5 to foster a lifetime love of reading, and ensure that they are ready for success including:

- Early Learning Programs
- Family Literacy Programs
- Early Learning Concept Collections
- Parenting, Pregnancy and Homeschooling Resources
- Autism-Friendly Books



With the help of our local community partnerships, the Early Learning and Community Information Hub strives to ensure our local families have the best resources and information available to them including:



- Parenting Workshops
- Take-home Kits for Children and Caregivers
- Family Programming
- Local Information and Resources

In February 2021 the Library did a call-out to local artists who wanted to showcase a piece that would complement the Early Learning and

Community Information Hub services. The final mural selected, *Fishies* (pictured), was created by local artist Amanda Oswald.

The Hub grand opening is scheduled for early August, but some programs are available now, along with items for check-out. To register for upcoming programs, and for information about Hub services, click "[Early Learning Hub](#)" on the "Kids" tab on the Library homepage.

The Early Learning and Community Information project is supported in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library, and the Oceanside Public Library Foundation.

