



**FRIENDS
OF THE
ARROYO
GRANDE
LIBRARY**

The Library Insider

Volume 31, Issue 6

December 2023

When I discovered libraries it was like having Christmas every day—Jean Fritz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have recently learned that the start of the library remodel will be moved to July of 2024. That means we will be able to host a few more book sales. We are planning sales in February, April, and May of 2024. Donations will not be accepted after March 31. Thank you all for your patience and understanding. We are doing our best to keep up with all the changes.

Our membership committee has decided to extend current memberships through 2024 for free since the library will be closed for half the year. The individuals on this committee have worked hard to keep up with the latest plans and to keep our members informed. Thank you, Vince Petrie, Carolyn Levesque, and Lorraine Brewster. We do not know what will happen in 2025, but we will make sure to communicate any changes with you. You are appreciated!

The Friends board will continue to meet during the remodel and closure of the library. We will do our best to keep you informed about the various aspects of the remodel as we learn about them. Our newsletter will come out less frequently, but when there is important news, we will be sure to let you know. Thanks again for all your support.

Kersti Lasiewski,
President



Membership committee - Vince Petrie, Lorraine Brewster, Carolyn Levesque

LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know that you can now check out board games from your local County of San Luis Obispo Public Library? Look for our “Library of Things” page in the online catalog to request up to two board games at a time. If you need help placing a hold, you can always ask one of our amazing AG Library staff members.

This winter we will be hosting some wonderful activities for adults at the Arroyo Grande Library. From January 1st – February 10th the Arroyo Grande Library will be hosting a “Cozy Winter Reading” program for readers of all ages. For this program, readers collect a bookmark, a ‘checkout card,’ and Reading Guide, and track and rate the books they read. Three books read gets them a stamp, a sticker, and an entry into the grand prize drawing. On December 16th we will be hosting a poetry event from 2-4 at the Historic Price House in Pismo Beach. Finally, Wednesdays from January 17th to February 7th, adults will have the opportunity to drop in and learn how to crochet from 10-12 with our Winter Crochet Club.

You may have seen the Arroyo Grande Library represented at the Harvest Festival Parade in September, including our staff, family members, and Friends of the Library members that marched with the library outreach van.

Watch out for South County Library staff at the San Luis Obispo, Grover Beach and Nipomo Christmas parades in December. We will also have our outreach van at the December 9th Art in the Park event at Heritage Square Park. Please come by and say “hello” during this wonderful all day event.

The Arroyo Grande Library staff would like to express their gratitude this season for all of the generosity of our Friends of the Library and the AG Library community.

This season the Oceano Elks Club distributed over 370 new jackets to children through the Oceano and Arroyo Grande Libraries through their Operation Warm Project. Arroyo Grande Library community members donated over 300 jackets and coats to THMA for adults in need. We had to empty our donation box three times!

Finally, the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition will be collecting unwrapped toys through December 14th, and we expect the generous donations to continue. Thank you to everyone for their support for the Library and our greater community during these winter months.

We are still in the planning phases of the 2024 Arroyo Grande Library Remodel, so please stay tuned for more updates in the new year!

- Margaret Kensinger Klopfer

South County Regional Manager



YOUTH CORNER...

Thinking about gratefulness as we approach the holidays, I realize that this group of Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library is one that I am very thankful for.

I appreciate all of the art and other supplies, book sales, events, books, furniture and other ways that you support our library, but two purchases that you made for the children's area stand out to me. These two items are the Lego table and the art cart. They are most beloved by the local children.

The Lego table is the destination for our youngest visitors and for the kids who are budding engineers and builders. They can spend hours organizing, arranging, rearranging and playing with the Duplo blocks on the table. While I have my monthly Lego Club with their older siblings, the younger kids can build with larger Duplo blocks on the Lego table.

We have gone through several generations of blocks, but the table is up to the challenge. One of my favorite features is that it has wheels, so it can be pushed out of the Storytime area on indoor Storytime days. The kids get so excited to find it in a new location.

The art cart is a newer Arroyo Grande Library fixture, but it is just as popular as the Lego table. The cart contains coloring sheets, crayons and colored pencils, glue sticks and scissors but also a rotating seasonal craft as well. Sometimes there is washi tape and coffee filters to create with. Or there might be pom poms, googly eyes, felt, stickers or egg cartons to use to make a masterpiece. One family reported that they visited a library in Canada and their child asked where the art cart was. The library staff had no idea what they wanted. My favorite is when the kids make art and leave it for me or attach it to the art cart. I just have to take pictures of all of my favorites! The next time you come to the library stop by the art cart and see what we are creating.

As always, thank you to the Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library for your support for our local children.

- Sallie Tonascia



FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

New Members:

Mike Willis
Keaton Brown
Caren C. Herbert family
Isabel Crow & family

Donors:

Barbara Levenson
Madeleine L. Shaw
Junk Girls

Renewals:

Thien Ng family
Mark Mahler

Total membership: 266
Life members: 150
Annual members: 90
Complimentary members: 20
Teen members: 6

-Vince Petrie, Membership Committee



**FRIENDS
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FRIENDS BOOK SALE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Members 9:30 am - 3, Non-Members 10 – 3

\$2 Bag Sale 1 - 3

Book Sales next year will be Feb. 10, April 13, May 11

Donations will be accepted until March 31, 2023

ASSISTANT TREASURER WANTED

The Friends of the A.G. Library are in search of a volunteer to serve as Assistant Treasurer. Do you love your library? Can you donate 10-20 hours of your time a month to support our wonderful library? We'd like someone who is willing to dedicate themselves on a long-term basis because of the training required. To find out more about this rewarding volunteer opportunity please call Sandy at 805-474-9293.

From 1/1/2023 - 10/31/2023 the Friends have given to the Library:

Library Materials \$695

Library Programs \$8,755

Furniture & Equipment \$93

Total \$9,483

Sandy Stellway, Treasurer