



**FRIENDS
OF THE
ARROYO
GRANDE
LIBRARY**

The Library Insider

*Volume 32, Issue 1
February 2024*

I read for pleasure and that is the moment I learn the most - Margaret Atwood

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we enter the coming year, we face new challenges as we learn to deal with the planned remodel. The library will be closing in July of 2024 to facilitate some much-needed updates to the facility. We will still be holding book sales in February, April, and May. Donations will not be accepted after March 31.

The Friends' annual meeting will be held April 9, 2024, at 9:00 in the library. All members are invited to attend. This will be a good opportunity to ask questions about the remodel and participate in our plans for the future. We welcome new and fresh ideas! At the annual meeting, the results of the election of officers will be announced. There is a ballot in this newsletter for you to fill out, and there will be a ballot box located in the check-out area.

There will be a lot of changes ahead and we will do our best to communicate the news to you. We plan to send out the newsletter while the library is closed, although not as frequently. I hope you are all enjoying the colorful presentation of our newsletter. This is due to the hard work put in by our editor, Rich Lasiewski. Rich spends many hours organizing and enhancing our reports so that they are pleasant to view. Rich also doubles as our special projects' coordinator. Whenever there is something out of the ordinary, he is called to duty to research, acquire, or repair it. We certainly appreciate the help.

Thanks again for all your support.

Kersti Lasiewski, President



Rich repairing a leak

2024 Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library Ballot Annual Meeting April 9 at 9am—All Friends Members Welcome

President	Kersti Lasiewski	Yes	No
1st VP	Sandra Mason	Yes	No
2nd VP	Louise Clark	Yes	No
Secretary	Grace Merritt	Yes	No
Treasurer	Sandy Stellway	Yes	No

Return This Ballot to the AG Library (Look for the Ballot Box)
Before April 10
Please print your name:

Write in Candidate _____

Office _____

LIBRARY NEWS

This March brings the return of Free Tax Sundays to the Arroyo Grande Library. The United Way and the Arroyo Grande Library will be partnering every Sunday from March 3rd to April 14th to offer free tax assistance from 10-1. People with any income can come in with their documents and have a volunteer walk them through filing their taxes using the United Ways “My Free Taxes” software. There is no appointment required, by please come early to allow enough time to complete your taxes. There will not be tax assistance on March 31st.

The month of March also bring a new series of genealogy classes every Wednesday from March 6-March 20th from 3-4:30PM. The San Luis Obispo Genealogical society will offer classes on how to use the Library’s free genealogical resources, and how to learn more about your own family history.

Finally, mark your calendar for the Cuesta Book of the Year program. This year local author Myriam Gurba will be presenting her searing memoir “Creep” on April 18th from 5-7PM at the Cuesta CPAC. Tickets will go on sale On February 1st through [Tickets.cuesta.edu](https://tickets.cuesta.edu). The Arroyo Grande book clubs will be discussing this book during their April book discussions on April 6 and April 11.

-Margaret Kensinger Klopfer
South County Regional Manager

FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

New Members:

Danielle Champney

Donors:

Kathryn Eisler Lemay & Wendy Eisler
Junk Girls
Mike & Meme Cuneo
Vard A Roemer

Renewals:

Susan & Tim Heaton family
Geri Bolivar
Robin Avedesian

Total membership: 270

Life members: 151

Annual members: 93

Complimentary members: 20

Teen members: 6

Our membership committee has decided to extend current memberships through 2024 for free since the library will be closed for half the year.

- Vince Petrie



YOUTH CORNER...

Happy New Year and welcome to 2024!

Our local school kids were out of school for several weeks over the winter break. We had some fun and educational events to entertain them here at the library.

Barbara created two take home “grab and go” crafts for the kids to have some fun at home. Both crafts were gnomes: one for older kids that required more hand dexterity and one for younger kids that was a simpler gluing and coloring craft. Take home crafts continue to be very popular here.

We also hosted a visit from Pacific Wildlife Care, who brought several animals to the library on a Wednesday afternoon during winter break. They brought a bat, an opossum and William Shakespeare, who is a gopher snake. This was a wildly successful event as over 100 people attended! Animal programs are also very popular.

Hidden around the children’s section of the library were snow people, penguins and snowflakes so kids could search for them in a scavenger hunt. When they turned in their scavenger hunt sheet they collected a sticker as a prize. The hunt was up for the three weeks of winter break.

To finish off the kids’ break we had a messy art event with four different ocean painting crafts. The kids painted using objects like straws and corrugated cardboard instead of brushes. They made some beautiful underwater art.

We have some upcoming events for February and March:

Kids will make their own healthy snacks with the Master Food Preservers on February 10 at 10:30. Reservations are required.

We will host a storytime with the firefighters from Five Cities Fire Authority on February 15 and 21 at 10:30. The firefighters read to the kids, do a little education about what to do in case of a fire and then show off their gear and vehicles. Last year we had several little firefighters attend in their gear also.

On Saturday, March 2 at 10:30 the Central Coast Aquarium will visit with their mobile touch tanks. The staff will let the kids gently touch the animals and educate them about our local tide pool life.

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

- Sallie Tonascia

**FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE
LIBRARY GO TO:
SLOLIBRARY.ORG**



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FRIENDS BOOK SALE SATURDAY, FEB 10, 10-3 \$ 2 BAG SALE, 1-3 PM

IN 2023 THE FRIENDS GAVE TO THE LIBRARY

Library Materials	\$696
Library Programs	\$8,814
Furniture & Equipment	\$93
	Total \$9603
- Sandy Stellway, Treasurer	

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.

Our donations to the library in 2023 are less than previous years since we are holding a reserve in anticipation of increased needs when the library reopens after the remodel.