



**FRIENDS
OF THE
ARROYO
GRANDE
LIBRARY**

The Library Insider

*Volume 31, Issue 2
April 2023*

*Perhaps no place is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.
-Lady Bird Johnson*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As our annual meeting in April approaches, it is time to reflect on our accomplishments and look ahead to challenges in the future. We have had a rough couple of years, but we are back in the business of supporting our wonderful library.

Book sales continue to be a major source of revenue for our group, and we couldn't do it without all our wonderful volunteers. The big news this year is that we have obtained a QR code for those of you who wish to make your purchases with your PayPal account. This should make the check-out lines move faster. There will be a QR code posted on the lockbox in the book nook as well.

There have been some changes to our board this year, but we still have some vacancies to fill. These positions are book sale manager, volunteer coordinator, fundraising chair, and publicity. If you have an interest in serving on the board and helping us, please contact us at fotagl@yahoo.com. Better yet, come to our annual meeting on April 11th at 9:00 in the library. It can be a lot of fun.

Although we have had a successful year, there are challenges for us to tackle in the future. Obviously, we need more volunteers on our board to fill the empty positions. The biggest hurdle we will face will be the upcoming remodel of the library. There are so many unknowns at this point, that it is hard to make any concrete plans. When more information becomes available, we will do our best to work with what we have.

Kersti Lasiewski,
President

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."

LIBRARY NEWS

Many of you know that the Arroyo Grande Library staff are adept at helping our customers with a host of questions and concerns in the library, but did you know about the work our staff have done outside of the library over the past few months?

During January and February of 2023, the County of San Luis Obispo Public Library staff went outside of the Arroyo Grande Library to help with the County's FEMA flood relief programs. Our Library staff helped folks that were impacted by the heavy winter rains in Avila Beach, Oceano, San Luis Obispo, Morro Bay, Los Osos, Templeton, Santa Margarita, Paso Robles and beyond. Staff distributed packages of food and other essentials, helped with storm debris collection, and helped staff the disaster recovery center.



County Library staff distributing essentials

Local County of San Luis Obispo Libraries also provided space for a disaster loan outreach center, FEMA registration intake centers for people to register for FEMA flood assistance, and other activities to support our community members impacted by flooding. Working for FEMA is just another reminder that our work at the County of SLO Public Library is truly dedicated to the betterment of our community.

You may have also seen the Arroyo Grande outreach van out and about. This month, AG Library staff went to career fairs at Judkins and Paulding Middle Schools, handed out library cards to every freshman at Arroyo Grande and Nipomo High Schools, visited three Boys and Girls Club afterschool programs, visited the Wyndham Senior Living Facility and did programming at the juvenile services center.

Arroyo Grande Library will be hosting some wonderful programs for adults this Spring, sponsored by the Arroyo Grande Friends of the Library.

April 8th from 10-12 the Arroyo Grande Library will be co-hosting a Wellness Fair with County Behavioral Health, Homeshare SLO, Safe Haven and more community resources.

On April 29th from 11-1:30 the Arroyo Grande Library will help celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the San Luis Obispo County Poetry Festival with a reading by featured poets Amber West, Karl Kempton, and Pilar Graham. We will also be inviting community members to get up and read their own original poem.

Every Tuesday in May from 3-4pm the genealogical society will be hosting workshops on researching your family history. These workshops will teach you how to use the Arroyo Grande Library's free access to Ancestry, MyHeritage, and more.

May 13th from 1:30-3PM the University of California Master Gardeners will be providing a lecture on planting with seed balls, including a hands-on workshop to create seed balls yourself.

We are, as always, grateful to the Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library for supporting the work we do.

*-Margarert Kensinger-Klopper
South County Regional Manager*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY....

**AND MORE..... FIND OUT AT
SLOLIBRARY.ORG**

YOUTH CORNER...

Since the last newsletter the Arroyo Grande Library was able to host a plethora of successful programs for youth and teens, sponsored by the Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library. In February the Five Cities Fire Authority visited (twice) to provide stories, fire safety information, and a tour of not one, but two fire trucks. We had many a tot decked out in their finest fire gear before the programs even started.

We had a raucous visit from the San Luis Symphony and let children of all ages try out a huge sampling of musical instruments at the "Instrument Petting Zoo."

March went to the dogs with both regular visits from our therapy dogs and a "dog nosework" program. In the dog nosework program a professional dog handler came and demonstrated how dogs' noses work and how they can be trained to find just about anything anywhere. Items were hidden around the library for the dogs to display their olfactory prowess.

We hosted several programs in conjunction with the Book of the Year, *All My Rage*. The protagonist of the book is from Pakistan, so we had programs for children and teens that focused on animals of Pakistan, the tradition of henna, and Pakistani and middle eastern dance. Henna is a plant based dye used for temporary body art resulting from the staining of the skin. After henna stains reach their peak color, they hold for a few days, then gradually wear off by way of exfoliation, typically within one to three weeks.

We are looking forward to the Spring, when we will be getting a visit from the animals of the Charles Paddock Zoo on April 15th at 2PM and a messy art class for little folks on April 25th at 10:30AM, in partnership with the South County Youth Coalition.

We are ever grateful for the support of the Arroyo Grande Friends of the Library.



Some instruments in the Petting Zoo



Hands Decorated with Henna

FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

Katie Irving
John & Tammy Prize
Larry Erickson
Grace & Dennis Merritt
Tanya Peng (Life)
Jody Cook
Janette Conrad
Jenny Kompolt

DONATIONS:

Jenny Kompolt
Mary B Young
Mary Zell
Joan Palma
Anonymous

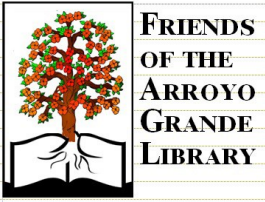
RENEWALS:

Mary Buehner Kemper	Danna Whiteaker
Donna & Grant Halley	Barbara Hoover
Susan & Mary Thronson (Life)	Ruthann Marquez
David & Lisa Karys-Schiff	Steve & Beth Fleming
Lorraine Brewster	Joan Palma

TEENS

Daniel Aubry

-Diane Colson, Membership Chair



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



FRIENDS BOOK SALE
SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 10am-3pm
\$2 BAG SALE, 1-3 PM

Friends Plan Next Book Sale

The FOTAGL has set their next Book Sale for Saturday, April 8. Doors open at 10. However, members can get in at 9:30. In addition to our usual Fiction and Non-Fiction books, we will also have DVDs, CDs, and Audio Books for sale. A highlight of our Book Sale are the Special Price Tables. In addition to many beautiful gift books, there will be various vintage books and magazines. Our Book Sale will have something for everyone. Be sure to check out our Bag Sale from 1-3. All you can put in a bag for \$2. We provide the bags or you can bring your own. If that is not a great deal, I do not know what is. Donations of nice clean books are always appreciated. A tax receipt is available on request. Get a good start on Spring by finding that special book at our Book Sale. Hope to see you there.

Kent Unsworth, Book Sale Chair