



**FRIENDS
OF THE
ARROYO
GRANDE
LIBRARY**

The Library Insider

Sept. 2026

*All you need in life is truth and beauty and you can find both in the
Public Library—Studs Terkel*

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

On August 9th, the Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library was the featured non-profit organization for that day's summer concert in Heritage Park. This event required a lot of organization, which was provided by our co-fundraising chairs Vince Petrie and Grace Merritt. Vince proved to be an excellent public speaker, and we thank him for being so brave. Thank you, too, to Sandy Stellway and Lorraine Brewster for helping us stay organized. We were happy to hear from our many patrons about how important the library is for our community and reassured them that the library WILL open again.

We held a raffle throughout the concert, and it proved to be very popular. Of course we couldn't have done this without the generous donations we received from our local businesses: Talley Vineyards, Trader Joe's, Monarch Books, Whiz Kids Toys, Halcyon Farms, and Rooster Creek Tavern. In addition, we received several donations from our members which we would like to acknowledge: Cheryl Barton-Petrie, Kim Elston and family, Donna Pritchard, John and Tammy Prizio, Jan Wellman, Norman and Janet Baxter, Alma Quesnel, Jim Pennell, Carolyn Scheeff, Nan Fowler, and Rich and Kersti Lasiewski. A big thank you to all of you.

We continue to meet monthly at the Oceano Library. Our librarian, Margaret Kensinger-Klopfer has been keeping us apprised of the continuing remodeling project of our library. There has been a considerable amount of work that has been done, and the planned improvements will make our library more comfortable and functional.

Kersti Lasiewski, President



Members who helped at the summer concert, from left to right: Rich Lasiewski, Vince Petrie, Kersti Lasiewski, Karen Reinecke, Peggy Heinrichs, Janet McWilliams, Jerry Stanley, Stephanie Kolm, Sandy Stellway, and Grace Merritt.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Arroyo Grande Construction project began at the end of July 2025 and is now at the halfway point. We know you miss us and we miss you, too.

Here are 5 ways to keep in touch during the AG Library construction project:

- 1) Visit our Arroyo Grande temporary library, located next to the AG Library. You can pick up requested items, return items, get a library card, or renew your existing library account at this branch.
- 2) Keep an eye on the County of SLO Library's website for updates on our construction project: <https://catalog.slolibrary.org/arroyo-grande-library-renovations>
- 3) Update your digital collection. This is the perfect time to try out Libby, now that we have added 14 partner libraries to share digital items with. This is also a great time to try *Kanopy*, our digital movie and TV app or *Press Reader*, our app for digital newspapers and magazines.
- 4) Visit a new County of SLO Library. There are many libraries that are close to the AG Library, so don't be shy and drop by the Oceano, Shell Beach, or Nipomo Library. There are 14 library branches in our system, so this is a good time to visit them all.
- 5) Drop in at our storytime in the park. Did you know that our big blue outreach van brings Ms. Sallie to Rancho Grande Park every Tuesday at 10:30 (weather permitting). Bring your favorite little ones and a blanket to the park and join in the fun.

Want an inside look at the Library's construction project? Take a look at our YouTube video to see where we are at and what is to come:

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/oINFR2UQ1Tk>

NEW TO OUR CREW

Quincy the Quail, Library Mascot

The smartest quail in the world!

Our very own walking, talking, huggable Quincy mascot made his debut at our Back-to-School Extravaganza August 1, at Cuesta College. Thanks to the Friends of the Arroyo Grande Library for donating over \$150 worth of school supplies to the event that were given as prizes to the over 800 kids that attended.

New items in the County "Library of Things" collection:

- 2 Handheld Sewing Machines
- 2 Digital Microscopes (also handheld, and cool)
- 4 Soil Testers
- 1 Horseshoes Game Set
- 2 Cajon Drums

You can request Library of Things items through the **County of SLO Library** app or through your online account to pick up from the Arroyo Grande Temp location.



Back to School Outreach

Did you know that Ms. Sallie, will be heading to out to community schools in Arroyo Grande with our big blue outreach van to check out books and share information about Library services? These visits keep crucial connections to our area school kids who don't have school libraries.

Our outreach van also makes regular stops every month at local senior centers, high schools, community and school events. Have a connection with a good outreach stop? Email us at arroyogrande@slolibrary.org with your ideas!

Margaret Kensinger-Klopfer
South County Regional Librarian



All County of San Luis Obispo Libraries will be closed for holidays on the following dates:

Friday, September 25, 2026

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Friday, November 27th, 2026

Friday, December 25, 2026

Friday, January 1, 2027



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FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

Mar 21, 2026 – Aug 20, 2026

New Members:

Jan Wellman

Donors:

Sandra Mason
Donald and Margurite Erickson
Diane Brenden
Jacqueline Carroll
Canada Ah
Matthew Scrudato

Total membership: 264

Life members: 144

Annual members: 98

Complimentary members: 21

Teen members: 1

Vince Petrie

Membership Chairperson

Renewals:

None