



Friends of the Library Newsletter • Winter 2023



Arlanza Library • Arlington Library • SPC Jesus S. Duran Eastside Library
SSgt Salvador J. Lara Casa Blanca Library • La Sierra Library
Main Library • Marcy Library • Orange Terrace Library

How the library served the community in 2022.....

509,000 circulations of materials

10,000 new library cards

112,000 digital check-Outs. Most were Press-Enterprise, cloud library and Hoopla

44 Outreach Events • 9,999 Attendees

1300 Programs • 58,000 Attendees

Door Count = 283,000 systemwide

How the Friends served the community in 2022.....

Performers for the summer reading program.

Shows included laser lights, puppets, animals, storytellers, musical instruments and bubbles

Purchase of popular movies and TV shows on DVD for pay collection

Purchase of supplies for Library programs for kids, teens and adults. Including glitter jars, gift tags using Cricut cutting machine, bubble machines and egg shakers for storytimes, Halloween slime kits, and Valentine's craft kits for adults.

Supplies for the all staff development and appreciation day to recognize staff

**Friends of the
Riverside Library
2022 - 2023 Officers**

President

Doris Weingart

Vice President

Jim Supik

Secretary

Gayle Webb

Treasurer

Jan Fratt

Board Members

Elisabeth Anghel

Judy Baumgartner

Elizabeth Hall

Marsha Loveridge

Carol Nagengast

Barbara Purvis

Linda Thomas

Purpose: the Friends of the Riverside Library is a volunteer, non-profit organization advocating a strong public library system. It assists the library in expanding its resources.

Affiliations: Friends of California Libraries, whose purpose is working toward a nation of readers and knowledgeable citizens; California Library Association, and American Library Association.

P.O. Box 468

Riverside, CA 92502

**friendsofrivlibrary@
gmail.com**

**[https://riversideca.gov/
library/friends_about.
asp](https://riversideca.gov/library/friends_about.asp)**

Newsletter

Fall • Winter • Spring

President's Message by Doris Weingart

Anatomy of a Book Sale

In a perfect world, every book donated to a Friends of the Library branch book sale area or to the Friends bookstore would go on the shelf and be sold. End of story. But...this isn't a perfect world and we don't shelve every book that's donated and we don't sell every book that's put up for sale.

It would be lovely if every book donated to us was in saleable condition but sadly that's not true. Some of the books we receive are in bad shape- torn, missing pages, heavily written in or underlined, moldy, stained, etc.,etc., and we have to discard them. But what do we do with books that are in relatively good condition and are saleable but we know from experience won't sell at our usual prices? And also, what do we do with books that linger on our sales shelves for a period of time but for whatever reason, have not yet met up with their forever owner? We sell them, of course, dear reader, or at least try to, at reduced prices.

At our branch FOL sales areas, we use pop-up sales and at the Friends bookstore we use wall sections called Bargain Books behind the desk to present these great books to you at greatly reduced prices. But we don't stop there. For books that stubbornly remain with us, we now have a new venue for large scale book sales: the BUCK A BAG BOOK SALE. That's right- the last Saturday of every month at the Friends bookstore we will hand you a plastic grocery store bag (or as many bags as you like) and you can fill it/them up with as many books as the bag(s) can hold and only pay one dollar per bag.

Don't think these books aren't worth reading just because they're in the Buck a Bag Book Sale. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are worthy books: classics in their fields, older fiction, duplicates, no longer current nonfiction- in short the wide range of human knowledge and creativity and all for the measly sum of one dollar per bag. But don't take my word for it. Check it out for yourself on the last Saturday of every month at the Friends of the Library bookstore, 11 AM to 4 PM.

News from our Library Director

by Erin Christmas

Happy New Year!!

For 2023 we are welcoming everyone back to the Riverside Public Library. If you have stayed away because of COVID, fines on your account, or you just didn't think the library offers what you need, I encourage you to come visit us this year!

To make it easier for all community members to use the library, we have gone Fine Free! That's right, no fines for overdue materials will be collected, and if you had overdue fines on your account, they have been forgiven. We hope this encourages all residents to come back and enjoy the Riverside Public Library.

ARPA funds will bring some new opportunities for our customers this year. There will be new laptop kiosks added to every location, library pickup lockers installed at the Main Library and three community centers, the launch of an app-based checkout system for customers to check out books on their phone, a significant investment in children's materials, and social work interns deployed to five locations to help customers experiencing mental health challenges.

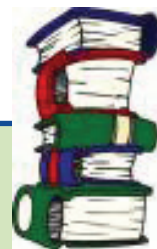
Over the last six months you may have noticed a few new faces working at our libraries, and we are excited to welcome several more team members, including a new Main Library Supervisor, very soon. Continuing the successful programs from 2022, we are looking forward to increasing the number of programs and activities offered at all library locations. Desks with outlets for customers to plug in laptops and other digital devices were added to the adult areas at the SSgt. Salvador J. Lara Casa Blanca and Arlington Library locations in 2022 and this year we plan to make similar improvements at all locations.

From the Assistant Library Director...

"I'm excited to join the Library Administration team as Assistant Library Director and expand my role at the library. My goals are to provide equitable services and resources to the community, be supportive of staff by helping them reach their potential, and I strive to always provide excellent customer service to our community and supporting organizations. I'm looking forward to working with the Friends on upcoming projects and assisting in any way I can to achieve our common goals." –



Book Sales Corner by Gayle Webb



Just a reminder that hours of operation for Friends Book Sales areas at all branches (except Main) are the same hours that the libraries are open: **Tuesday-Saturday 10 am-6 pm**

At Main, the separate Bookstore is open fewer hours:

Tuesday-Friday 11 am-2 pm and Saturday 11 am-4 pm

Books from the top shelf

review by Carol Nagengast



Mecca

by Susan Straight

Farrar, Straus & Giroux



Foundation News

by Barbara Shackelton • RPLF Board Member

The Riverside Public Library Foundation (RPLF)

The Foundation's Naming Campaign is in full swing. Called "The Literacy Legacy (LL) Program," its proceeds will provide materials and programs in all 8 Riverside public libraries:

- Print Books (best sellers; children's books)
- E-Books, E-Audiobooks, E-Reference Materials
- Technology (computers and laptops; coding workshops)
- Adult and Family Literacy Instruction
- Classes and Programs for all Ages
- Innovation Centers
- Spaces for Community Gatherings

The LL Program offers naming opportunities in the new main library:

Names on the donor wall (\$1000 or \$2500), on the Children's Stacks (\$5000), on the adult stacks (\$10,000), or on a prominent space (from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000). Names will remain displayed for at least 20 years.

We are grateful for early participants who, in recent months, have donated more than \$800,000 to the Naming Campaign – a great start toward our 5-year goal of \$10 million.

The people of Riverside LOVE the library. In 2011, 85.24% of citizens voted to tax themselves for 20 years in support of the library. And in every year, 1 million patrons visit the Riverside library – the cultural and learning center of our community.

Previously Owned" Books

Musings from the VP, Jim Supik

Although the holiday season has passed, the new year brings obligations and gift-giving opportunities with Valentines Day, birthdays and graduations. If you are determined to make and keep resolutions regarding thoughtful gifts, the FOL bookstores probably has a "previouslyowned" book, periodical or DVD to fulfill your promises thru-out the coming year.

The term "previously owned" may imply using discretion in purchasing or investing in a home, car or computer; however, when describing a book or DVD, it may suggest that the former owner shares our interest in a subject, person or idea, or represent the values of a potential mentor. Our "buy it -keep it" books occasionally bear an author's signature or have appeared on best seller lists. The downtown FOL bookstore is staffed by volunteers to assist you and answer your questions.

We are currently developing a website to promote and advance our goals of service to Riverside libraries and to the community and keep patrons and members informed of special sales and author events. Our new year's

ARTS WALK • ARTS WALK

Thanks to continuing generous support from the Friends of the Library, the Inlandia Institute will again present engaging literary programming on First Thursday Nights at the Main Library.

INLANDIA
INSTITUTE



CELEBRATING OUR REGION IN WORD, IMAGE AND SOUND.

For information about Inlandia's exciting programs please visit their website - inlandia institute.org

First Thursdays • 7:00 p.m. • Main Library

September 1, 2022 Not So Elementary: The Nuts and Bolts of Writing for Children

How many times have you read a children's book and thought, I could have written that? So many of us have thought about writing for children, but it's not as easy as it might seem. Hear from a panel of experienced children's book authors on their road to writing and publication.

October 6, 2022 Say Yes to the Small Press

The gatekeepers of "traditional" publishing let comparatively few new authors in. What are the other ways a writer can bring a book into print? Hear from authors who have published with micro, small, and independent presses who are changing the face of publishing today.

November 3, 2022 Writing Culture: Appropriate or Appropriation?

When is it okay to write about a culture that is not your own? Can it be done, or should you avoid it entirely? Why or why not? Hear from leading voices on multiculturalism, literature, and community, and learn how to avoid pitfalls to write with sensitivity and respect.

Starting September 6, Inlandia will be offering more writing workshops than ever before! Explore poetry, prose, nonfiction, and memoir. Learn to appreciate Black art or discover the deliciousness of writing about food. Classes will be offered in writing for children and young adults, and workshops for seniors will also be available. Make THIS the season you commit to a regular writing practice. Grow as an author and become part of the Inlandia community of writers. Register today! All workshops are free and open to the public. Most workshops will continue to be held remotely or offered hybrid. Registration is required: Register today: <https://tinyurl.com/Fall2022CWW>

The Friends of the Library is a totally volunteer organization, depending on willing workers to raise money for library needs and programs by selling used books and other related items.

**Contact us at friendsofrivlibrary@gmail.com
Follow [friendsofrivlibrary](#) on Instagram and Facebook!
https://riversideca.gov/library/friends_about.asp.**

Thoughts on books...

by Marsha Loveridge

Cookbooks find a place in almost everyone's home. One of the wedding gifts we received in 1961 was the Betty Crocker loose-leaf binder—a popular source of information which still sits on my pantry shelf bearing signs of age and use. The book is quaint beyond belief with its instructions to the mid-century housewife. For example: *Eat proper food for health and vitality. Every morning before breakfast, comb hair, apply make-up, a dash of cologne, and perhaps some simple earrings. Does wonders for the morale.*

Nevertheless, several times a year those battered pages come to life: the Easter bunny cake needs the 7-Minute Icing as does the Christmas birthday angel food cake. Thanksgiving requires a traditional pumpkin or pecan pie. And who doesn't love her pineapple upside-down cake? Betty comes through.

Over the years other cookbooks have been added, and more recently, discarded because unlimited recipes are available on the internet, ready for printing. Of course there is still the trusty card file of shared and valued recipes gathered from friends and relatives.

Are there some cookbooks you just can't part with—even to the Friends of the Library?

PS: Cookbooks are good sellers at our Friends Bookstores

Books are the carriers of civilization.
Without books, history is silent, literature dumb,
Science crippled, thought and speculation at a standstill.
Without books, the development of civilization would have
been impossible. They are the engines of change, windows
on the world, and (as a poet has said)
"Lighthouses erected in the sea of time."
They are companions, teachers, magicians,
bankers of the treasures of the mind.
Books are humanity in print.

Barbara Tuchman, Library of Congress, 1979

Orange Terrace

The Orange Terrace Library has been hopping! Preschool Storytime attendance has grown to 100 participants every week, with families joining Miss Abby for songs, books, play, dance, and a creative craft. OTL staff received kudos from customers for their creative “passive programming”, including an interactive Chicka Chicka Boom Boom display, where families were invited to color the first letter of their name and staff then taped it up on the wall behind the information desk for all to see. Currently, there is an interactive Pete the Cat display and a craft for families. Customers utilize the study room daily, and seem to enjoy the new online reservation system for reserving the room up to a week in advance. OTL also has a group of teen and adult volunteers that have been incredible in helping staff keep up with shelving and craft preparations. And, last but certainly not least, OTL’s Friends of the Library have been hard at work keeping the Friend’s Bookstore well stocked with donations from the generous community.

Hayden Birkett • Library Supervisor



La Sierra



Have you seen the La Sierra Library’s Friends of the Library bookstore? It is well stocked, organized, and well loved by the community, thanks to wonderful FOL volunteers. La Sierra also has a host of teen volunteers helping staff keep up with shelving, library upkeep, and craft preparations! And in October, Mr. Fredi added weekly Bilingual Storytime on Tuesdays at 4pm, where he reads bilingual books, sings bilingual songs, and families play, dance, and participate in a fun craft. Additionally, the community is invited to STREAM activities twice a month, where they

build fun, science-based projects such as leaf fossils out of modeling clay! Staff also prepared a large, interactive Sudoku puzzle for customers to solve during International Game Month in November. Magazines are back on the shelves again along with the Press-Enterprise, delighting both staff and customers alike!

Hayden Birkett * Library Supervisor

Arlington

Here at the Arlington Library, we've been packed with Storytimes, crafts, and offerings including a special program featuring a creation by one of our youngest community members. During the library's popular Writing Boxes program, where children are encouraged to enjoy the writing process, an interesting idea emerged. 13-year-old Levi decided to write his own board game, including instructions and a cleverly written backstory.

Levi worked with his mom and library staff member Sarah on his concept and game design. Utilizing the library's 3d printing service, and assistance from library staff member Daryl, Levi created game pieces. His innovative "Crystal Warriors" board game was soon completed and was the headliner for the International Games Day party. Popular with children and adults alike, great fun was had by all. Another event is planned for December and will feature Lea Kang, child author of "The Forgotten Fairy."

Nancy Walker • Library Supervisor



Main

In person programming has been flourishing at the New Main Library. If you want to pass on your love of books and libraries to the little ones in your life, join us for Storytimes with Mr. Brian. They include stories, songs, rhymes, crafts and more. Is your little one not so little anymore? Then Ms. Amy's crafting corner may be for you. Ms. Amy leads our weekly craft activities that will let your child's creativity blossom and shine. Don't forget about those teenagers...we didn't. We have crafts, book clubs and social clubs designed just for teens. What's a Cricut? It's not an insect or a sport. It's a fun and simple cutting machine for your craft project. We

offer monthly Cricut seasonal crafts and demos designed for adults. Fun family activities are happening all year long. From our Star Wars Reads day in October to Read Across America in March. We've also started in-person book clubs for adults and will have our annual Riverside Reads program starting in January. Grab your free copy of the book, *Poppy in the Wild*, at any library location and attend our author and community programs February-March.

Brian Littlefield * Library Associate



Friends of the Riverside Library
P.O. Box 468
Riverside, CA 92502



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*If you are not a
Friend - consider
becoming one.*

Become a Friend to the Library

Memberships/Donations are tax deductible

This is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization EIN 33-0025736

As Friends of the Library we:

- Conduct an ongoing book sale in each of our city libraries
- Provide funds for library programs, materials and services
- Maintain a membership dedicated to library excellence

Students, Seniors & Staff	\$15	Patrons	\$75
Individual	\$20	Super Friend	\$150
Family	\$30	Life Membership	\$500

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number () _____

Email _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by email.

Please make checks payable to Friends of the Riverside Library.

Mailing address: P. O. Box 468, Riverside, CA 92502 – Attn: Membership

Coming Events

September	
1	Arts Walk
October	
6	Arts Walk
November	
3	Arts Walk
December	
1	Arts Walk
January	
5	Arts Walk

The Library Board of Trustees meets the 4th Monday of the month at 5 p.m.. Consult the library [website www.riversideca.gov/library](http://www.riversideca.gov/library) or call 826-5213 to find out the location of each meeting.

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