

Friends of the Library Newsletter • Fall 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

The latest library news from the Friends



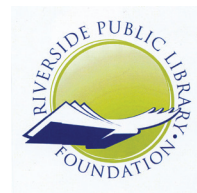
Are you a mystery fan? Well don't miss the President's report on page 2.

Catch up on the library news on Pages 3, 6 and 7



Want the latest from the Book Stores? Gayle will bring you up to date on Page 4

Want to have a great time and support the Library? Check RPLF's report on page 5.



Want some good ideas for holiday gift giving that also helps the library? See page 3.



**Friends of the
Riverside Library
2023- 2024 Officers**

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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**

email address
[friendsofrivlibrary@
gmail.com](mailto:friendsofrivlibrary@gmail.com)
website
friendsofriversidelibrary.com

Newsletter
Fall • Winter • Spring

President's Message by Doris Weingart

“Why don't you tell me more about myself, Mr. Holmes?”

Laurie R.King, *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*

This quote from Laurie R.King's *The Beekeeper's Apprentice*, is an introduction to the genre of pastiche writers - writers who have taken up the challenge of extending the “life” of the indomitable Sherlock Holmes.

A number of months ago Marcy branch received a very large donation of books related to the incomparable Sherlock Holmes. The donation includes many editions of the original Sir Arthur Conan Doyle stories, including stories other than those related to Sherlock Holmes. But much of the donation includes books written by other authors who have been inspired by the fascinating, complex character that is Sherlock Holmes. As a matter of fact, Sherlock Holmes has become something of an industry. Countless novels and short stories have grown up around the fascinating phenomenon that is Holmes. (The original Sherlockian canon consists of 56 short stories and four novels that span from 1887 to 1927.)

The brilliance and complexity of Holmes combined with a quirky personality has inspired many writers to imitate, adapt or expand his adventures in various media and genres. The canon has given them much to explore: the context of Victorian and Edwardian England, memorable characters, intriguing cases and puzzles. Well known authors such as Laurie R. King, Anthony Horowitz, John Dickson Carr and even Conan Doyle's son, Adrian Conan Doyle, have all written their versions of Sherlock Holmes.

The Friends plan to have a large sale of these wonderful books in the future, perhaps combined with a trivia quiz and maybe a Victorian tea. And please note, all money raised by the Friends goes to the support of the library with special emphasis on children's programs.

“Excellent! I cried. “Elementary,” said he.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Doris

Note: If you are considering making a donation that exceeds our normal limit of three bags or cartons at a time please contact Gayle Webb, gdwebb@att.net or Doris Weingart, dorisweingart1@gmail.com first.

We need books, magazines, CDs & DVDs and even puzzles and games. Bring your treasures to the nearest branch. We will turn them into materials and programs for the library.

News from our Library Director

by Erin Christmas

Fall in love with books!

As we turn the page from Summer to Fall, we must first thank our wonderful Friends of the Library members for their annual support of the Summer Reading Program. We had a banner year with over 2,500 people signing up to receive prizes in this year's program and as a group reading over 21,500 books. Over the course of nine weeks over 4500 people participated in programs related to the theme of Find Your Voice! This year, the Friends contributed over \$10,000 specifically to this program that helped children maintain their reading skills over the summer months while they were out of school. We could not do this program without the generous sponsorship of the Friends of the Library!

Some book news to fall in love with! Annually the Library spends approximately \$300,000 on books and other library materials. Last year, the Riverside Public Library received an additional \$600,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars to support our 2023/2024 materials budget. This brings our total Library materials budget to over \$900,000 for fiscal year 2023/2024 which is a huge investment in our libraries!

The American Rescue Plan Act dollars will be specifically used to purchase non-English Language titles to support students in the Alvord and Riverside Unified School District Dual Language Immersion programs, increase adult education and career testing materials, and update the small business collections. Funds will also be spent on new books, ebooks, and audiobooks to make sure there is something for everyone to fall in love with at the library. During the next several months, be on the lookout for these new books at all our library locations.



From the Vice President - Jim Supik

This is our last opportunity before the holidays to remind members and library patrons of a role we play in helping with your holiday gift purchases.

The FOL shelves at the seven branch libraries and our downtown bookstore adjacent to the Main Library offer an extensive selection of fiction and nonfiction works perfect for holiday gift giving, party prizes and birthdays. Look for and find anything from “coffee table” books to a personal collection of poems, memoirs or biographies. The downtown location also offers souvenir coffee mugs and book related stocking stuffers.

Don't forget to check the FOL website (friendsofriversidelibrary.com) for special sales notices and other useful information. Anything thoughtfully chosen for a friend, acquaintance or family member is likely to be more appreciated and will directly benefit Riverside's libraries.

Ask a Friends of the Library volunteer for assistance, referrals or suggestions.
Happy holidays and “buy the books”!

Book Sales Corner by Gayle Webb

Sales have been up in all eight branch libraries, and we are thrilled! Donations are increasing (Thank You!), books are being displayed, increasing customer appeal and staff report no problems with the modest price increases. We hope this trend will continue so that we can offer our customers the latest and greatest used books at lower prices so that every adult and child can have their very own books. Best of all, the money we make goes to increase the library's budget for children's programs, craft activities and the Summer Reading Program, as well as DVD's, earbuds and books.

Since 1982, Banned Book Week continues to highlight one of the world's greatest visions of the right to free expression - our Constitution's First Amendment. This year, the Main Library Bookstore chose to participate (Oct.1-7) with a display of several banned books for sale. Many titles were a surprise to customers and volunteers alike. *Banned Books: Challenging Our Freedom to Read* compiled by Robert P. Doyle is an amazingly comprehensive list and description of all the books banned or challenged since the 1400's up to 2010. Many books and lists of banned books from 2011 to date are also available online.

There will be many special displays and sales going on this year in all our branches so be sure to stop by and see what's "new!"



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



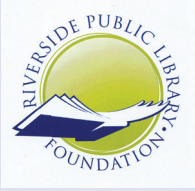
CELEBRATING OUR REGION IN WORD, IMAGE AND SOUND.

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



**Provident Bank's
Community Partnership Program
can benefit the Friends of the Library**

**If you have an account with Provident
Bank sign up to support our organization.
Thanks to those who have already done this.**



Foundation News

by Susan Toscano, President

The Foundation is busy preparing for the fall fundraiser to be held on Sunday November 5th at the Main Library from 6:30-8:30. The theme this year is **Love Letters to Donors**. Since you are a Friends of the Library member, you certainly qualify as a donor so that means you! We are celebrating all the people who donate and support our city library system.

Please come and enjoy an evening of great appetizers, fine wine, a wine auction, Bucks for Blooms, and this year instead of a silent auction we are doing a "Fund a Need" with programs and items that our Library Director Erin Christmas has identified as needed.

In other news, The Literacy Legacy Program is moving along. The Donor Wall with all the names of people who have donated so far should be on display during the fundraiser, including the name Friends of the Library. Thank you for your support.

There is plenty of space for more names to be added so tell your friends they can be part of the library's legacy.

In addition, people who donated to both the Children's Stacks and Adult Stacks will have their names up. Again, more stacks are available for naming. We also have three Prominent Spaces named and both the Molly Carpenter Innovation Center is up and the Maxine Tate Carnegie Reading Room is up. The Foundation is paying to name the Early Learning Corner. It will be the Riverside Library Foundation Early Learning Corner and we are hoping that is up for the November 5th event.

Thoughts on books...

by Marsha Loveridge

In 1940 our family moved to Millbrae - south of San Francisco - where I spent the first four years of my life. Most of us don't remember much from those early years, but I do have some vivid memories. World War II was going strong. When we planted a "Victory Garden" my job was pulling the tender carrots out of the soil and washing them for dinner.

When we heard the sirens calling for a black-out we knew what to do. My mother turned out all the lights and took us into the hallway where we sat on the floor while she read to us using a flashlight. The only book I remember was *Winnie the Pooh*. I did not understand what was going on in the world, but I felt safe and treasured the comfort of being read to. I made sure my girls were treated to bedtime stories when they were young.

Do you have a special memory of being read to as a child?

La Sierra

La Sierra Library is continually growing and increasing its service to the community. We continue to provide our bilingual storytime and our family storytime. Each storytime has seen an increase in participation from the community, and that's in large part thanks to Mr. Fredi. Children and families are always excited to come to his programs. He sings, dances, and has activities and crafts. October 25th and 31st will be a costume-themed storytime. Keep an eye out! We have now introduced the Teen program called TeenZone which will take place every other week. Each Teen program will have a different theme: teen movie night, teen craft, and teen hangout session. We will also introduce family movie night and a recurring adult program very soon.

La Sierra Library has been lucky to have a great set of volunteers. They've always helped staff maintain shelving and helped with craft preparations. In fact, one of our amazing volunteers, Cynthia, is now a member of the Riverside Public Library team! We look forward to her contribution to our libraries and our community.

Joseph Garcia, • Library Supervisor.



Orange Terrace



The heat still lingers...the leaves are changing from green to brown and the smell of pumpkin is in the air. Fall is here! Before we say hello to Fall, let's say good-bye to summer by looking back at some of the Orange Terrace Library highlights. Staff excitedly waited for summer to begin to connect with families keeping busy and cool. Summer fun began without a hitch, staff hosted Make Your own Buttons, a Teen program that encouraged self-expression. Families were amazed with Illusions by Allen and dazzled by Brettso the Great, with his balloon storytelling. Special guest readers, from the Riverside Police, Fire, and other departments surprised families during our storytimes. We ended our busy summer by partnering with Riverside Arts and Culture along with Riverside Parks & Recreation to host an open house for the community. This partnership provided us with new

art installations throughout the library and we welcome art aficionados to visit.

Now that Fall is here, staff are looking forward to cool days, spooky treats-or-tricks, and holiday seasons. New staff joined the library and have already made an impact on services. Our Thursday 11am storytime is flourishing, averaging sixty people every week, and keeping families happy. People are getting cozy and checking out hundreds of books each week; keeping many of our volunteers busy to put them all back. Orange Terrace staff is looking forward to all the new adventures the fall season will bring.

Yesenia Littlefield, Library Supervisor.

Main

The Main Library had a fun and eventful few months! The amazing staff hosted diverse programs for all age groups. During the Summer Reading Program, there were performers, special programs, and weekly children's events. Two magicians were part of the special performances and the Wild Wonders Animal Show brought live animals to the library drawing in a large crowd of families. Critters varied from a bunny to a snake! Teens enjoyed painting, crafts, and a biweekly comic drawing program titled Finish the Comic. The Imperfect Poets group also hosted an Open Mic night for teens and young adults to share their work. Adult programs included a monthly Cricut demonstration in which staff show customers ideas for crafting and decorating, a Tech Assistance program, and an Author Open Mic. A Bilingual Open Mic for all ages gave community members a chance to share their talents. Poetry, writing, singing, and guitar performances were enjoyed by attendees.

Two special events were hosted by the staff. The Spiderman Event in August gave children a chance to participate in games and do crafts that were themed after a favorite superhero. In September the Library Wonder program gave families a chance to play life-sized games in the outside breezeway and enjoy a day exploring the library.

Upcoming programs include cultural and holiday celebrations. A special altar will be set up for Dia de los Muertos. There will be a Harvest Celebration for families to enjoy crafts and celebrate the season. Teens will have the opportunity to make holiday décor at the Thanksgiving Citrus Garland and Polaroid Ornament programs. Adults will have the chance to get into the spirit with a DIY Holiday Gift Wrap program.

Ashley Horton • Main Supervisor

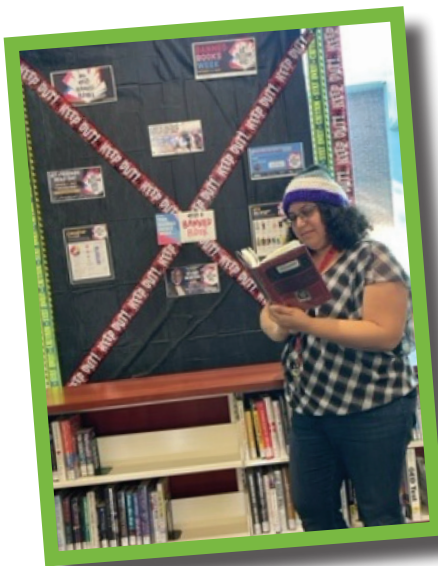


Arlington

As usual, Arlington Library's summertime was packed with performances, activities, prizes, and, of course, lots of reading. Some favorite activities were Thor's Animal Reptile Show, creating paper flowers for the children, and Teen Bad Art Day, which resulted in some very impressive creations!

Moving forward into Fall we are enjoying an influx of new staff members with fresh eyes and creative talent. In addition to the popular Baby Bee Storytime, Writing Boxes (writing just for fun), and Tech Help for adults, we have added a Family Chess Club (ages 3+) and STEAM programming. Staff have been collecting and posting the children's artwork to an 'art gallery' in the children's room where kids are proud to see their contribution on the wall. A Banned Books Week display greets customers as they enter the library. Come join us!

Jessica Herdina • Assistant Library Director



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

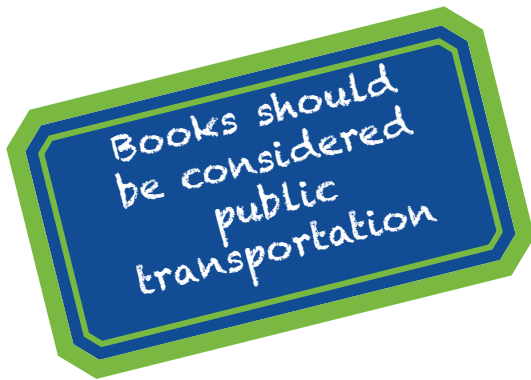


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Become a Friend to the Library

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 _____

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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

November

2..... Arts Walk

5RPLF Fund Raiser

December

7..... Arts Walk

January

4 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.

Hours of Operation for Friends Book Sales areas at all branches (except Main) are the same hours that the libraries are open: **Tuesday-Thursday 10am-8pm and Friday-Sunday 10am-6pm.**

At Main, the separate Bookstore is open fewer hours: Tuesday-Friday 11 am-2 pm and Saturday 11 am-4 pm.