Dear Friends,

JOB WELL DONE!! The Friends have done a great job in, oh, so many ways. It has been a very successful summer. The numbers for the summer programs show that many people, young and old, love the libraries. Staff has provided a lot of options for the public using the Friends funds, and the results show that San Antonio appreciates all our efforts.

We are proud to announce that the Library did very well at the budget hearings. We did not suffer any loss and will continue to grow in 2015. Thanks to everyone who attended the hearings. It really helped to see all the great support from the FRIENDS.

I got to visit with several Friends groups. I attended the Igo meeting. John Igo gave each person at the meeting a copy of The Amulet and the Ring. We really appreciate the great contributions to the libraries that Mr. Igo has made. I also visited Semmes, and they are busy planning their next book sale.

Many of us attended the Media Event that revealed the Library Digital Wall at Central Library. The Friends paid for the first two Walls and Ports. They will be at the San Antonio International Airport. The project has expanded, and now the Digital Walls will also be located at the YMCAs, the Briscoe Museum, the Convention Center, Haven for Hope, and other locations. What a great project this has turned out to be. Digital projects are very expensive but truly the way of the future.

I also attended the Library Board monthly meeting. The Library Foundation announced that the Third Book Festival will be on April 11, 2015. In August, the Board will meet at the new library in the Encino area on Evans. The library still does not have an official name. The Evans location was originally a Mexican restaurant. It will be the first library to have a drive thru. Visitors will be able to pick up their books at the drive thru but no tacos.

This year has given us many opportunities to express our opinions. We will have another chance to vote November 4. Please remember the date when you are planning your fall book sales. Many community rooms at the libraries are used for the absentee voting so we cannot use the rooms during that time.

Linda Arronge

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The 2014 Arts & Letters Awards Recipients

Robert Mason

The Arts & Letters Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the A&L Awards for 2014. We invite all our FOSAPL membership, as well as the general public, to celebrate with us as we honor these outstanding San Antonio artists at the Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony to be held in the Gallery of the Central Library on Sunday, October 26, at 2:00. A wine and cheese reception will follow. This year’s recipients are:

- **Rick Casey**—a San Antonio journalist
- **Cakky Brawley**—a San Antonio sculptor
- **Dr. Richard Bruce Winders**—a San Antonio writer, Historian and Curator at the Alamo

**Rick Casey**

Rick Casey has been introducing the world to San Antonio and interpreting San Antonio to itself since he began his journalism career at the St. Mary’s University student newspaper in the 1960s. His early work included freelance reporting for several national magazines and newspapers and editing two San Antonio city magazines. From 1984 to 2011, he was a lead news columnist at three major Texas newspapers: the Light and then the Express-News in San Antonio, followed by the Houston Chronicle. The Texas Associated Press Managing Editors twice named him the state’s best general interest columnist. Now in semi-retirement, the St. Louis native is back in his adopted hometown as host and commentator on KLRN-TV’s TexasWeek news show.

Casey’s writing is known for its wit, good storytelling, and incisive conclusions, backed by careful research and a deep appreciation of the unique nature of San Antonio.

**Cakky Brawley**

Cakky Brawley is a well-known artist in San Antonio who produces impressive sculptures on public display throughout the city. You may have seen her statue of St. Anthony at the Convention Center, or her elegant framing of the Donors Wall at the Witte Museum, as well as the “Iluminaria” at Palo Alto College where she is a faculty member. Her specialty is working with aluminum and other metals, adding light and color, and turning them into beautiful artistic forms that enhance buildings and spaces on view to the public.

**Dr. Richard Bruce Winders**

Dr. Richard Bruce Winders, a celebrated writer, historian, and curator of the Alamo, earned his Ph.D. in History from Texas Christian University in 1994. Dr. Winders is the author of several books on southwestern history, including *Mr. Polk’s Army: The American Military Establishment in the Mexican War, Crisis in the Southwest: The United States, Mexico, and Arts & Letters cont on p 5.*
The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library met on Sunday, July 20, 2014, at the Parman Branch Library. The meeting was called to order by President Linda Arronge at 2:10 p.m. The roll call of members of the Board was read by the Secretary, and a quorum was declared with 19 members present.

Board members attending were: Linda Arronge, Robert Mason, Pat Peak, Nancy Gandara, Elizabeth Bircher, Arline Braswell, Shirley Coleman, Rita Corey, Antoinette Franklin, Jackie Fremming, Bruce Gill, Beth Graham, Beverly Harris, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Mary McAfee, Marshall Mundorff, Ronnie Retzloff, Ann Springer, and Jill Zimmerman.

Approval of Minutes: Nancy Gandara moved to approve the minutes as published in the July-August 2014 SAPLings. Jackie Fremming seconded. The minutes were approved as printed.

President’s Report: Linda has been in contact with members of the Johnston Library who advised they are reactivating their Friends group. Donations from Air Force Village will be made available to Johnston, and they will be planning a book sale soon. Friends of Pan American Library are also planning a book sale in the near future.

Linda also attended a Lego convention. Several Branches are purchasing Legos for programming use, and the convention provided contact information and many useful suggestions for children’s programs. Several vendors offered to help with programs and to provide discounts for purchasing materials for Lego Clubs. Contact Linda for information.

Guerra Library celebrated their 10th Anniversary on July 19. Several City Council members attended. A program called “Happy Tails” brought animals to Guerra. They have brought unusual animals to Libraries including snakes, a porcupine and an Alpaca. Brook Hollow and Bazan Branch Libraries have had a “Happy Tails” program recently and recommend it. There is a fee for this program.

Treasurer’s Report: Judy Wilson presented the Treasurer’s Report for Beverly Duran who is out of town. FOSAPL income, as of June 30, 2014, is $44,562.94. The net assets available from all accounts for FOSAPL use is $136,469.98. The Treasurer’s Report will be filed for audit.

Library Board: Jean Brady, Board Liaison, spoke about the upcoming budget process. Jean asked Friends members to watch for the schedule of meetings and to attend, especially the meetings in your Council District area to promote the needs of the Library. August 27 is the launch date for the new District 9 library branch on Evans Road, which will feature the new Public Art display project.

Library Administration: Kathy Donellan, Assistant Library Director, thanked the Friends for the $55,000 gift to San Antonio Public Library and reviewed the use of those funds that support Library programming (including the Summer Reading Program), staff training and development, as well as public information initiatives. Kathy showed a slide presentation outlining the use of a proposed supplemental Friends’ donation that will include several electronic projects. The website will recognize the gift by the Friends to help the expansion of the pilot program to provide check-out of electronic devices from the Library. Procedural details for usage and maintenance of the various devices are being developed. An early literacy program, designed for use by 2–8 year olds within the Library, is also in the planning stages. Another exciting innovation would be the purchase of a 3-D printer for teen programming. The SA Airport portal project is in the design stages at this point.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Linda Cheatum, Membership Secretary, also provided a Powerpoint presentation. As of July 12, 2014, we have 802 members, a slight decrease compared to July 2013. Nonrenewals (238) still present a dilemma to be solved, but we have added 136 new members.

BookCellar: Tom Nemeth reported total sales at the BookCellar of $47,868. The $3 for 1 fiction sale continues for now, and an extra table event for Children’s books was productive. The BookCellar continues to receive donations from several sources, including the San Antonio Express-News.

Arts and Letters: Bob Mason reported the Arts and Letters reception is scheduled for October 26 at 2:00 p.m. in the Central Library Gallery. See the reminders in the SAPLings. Some good nominations have been received, but Bob encourages members to submit names with a description of the nominee’s accomplishments, emphasizing their contributions to the SA community.

Minutes cont on p 3.
Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends funded the first-ever San Antonio library event of the Happy Tails mobile exotic animal petting zoo for 193 children and adults at who got up close and personal with a lemur, boa constrictor, alpaca, and other animals on Tuesday, July 15.

KSAT 12, Fox, La Prensa, and the San Antonio Express News were present for the event.

You can see the video at: www.ksat.com/content/tn/ksat/news/2014/07/15/exotic-animals-visit-brook-hollow-library.html


Mark Robinson organized and manned a booth at the North Central Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association (NCTONA) spring general meeting at Bradley Middle School on Sunday, May 18, to tell people about the Brook Hollow Friends. At least one new member signed up directly as a result of the event, and more book donations have been received at Brook Hollow since.

Children’s games have been purchased and put to good use through funding of our Friends group throughout the summer.

The Brook Hollow Friends book sale will be Saturday, September 13, 10–4.

Mark Robinson and Katherine Kay

Carver

The Friends of Carver Library continue to support the branch with their time and resources. Last May, the spring book sale was a rousing success, generating funds that will go a long way to enhance services and needs of the branch. Motivated by the turnout, the group met in early August to begin planning the next book sale. The fall book sale is expected to be held October 24–25.

There was newness in the air at Carver Branch. A new slate of officers was added to the Friends of Carver Library. They are Shirley F. Coleman, president; Tray Brown, vice president; Beverly Harris, secretary; and Shirley Davis, treasurer. They eagerly welcomed a recent change in library leadership when DL Grant was appointed Branch Manager and Jodi Miller was named Children’s librarian.

Since the promotion of Mr. Grant and the addition of Ms. Miller, the Carver Friends have been working closely with staff to help out where needed. For example, in an effort to help boost Ms. Miller’s already-thriving children’s programming numbers, the group plans to donate 20 cluster bells, five sets of building blocks, and two sets of rhythm scarves. In addition, they will sponsor the October visit of professional story-teller Mary Grace Ketner who dazzles children with her Texas ghost stories.

Plans are also under way to hold a raffle to further boost funding for the library. A bicycle will be donated for that effort.

President Shirley Coleman praised the Friends for all their work over the past months, including member Grace Banks, who helped arrange for donations for the Summer Reading Kick-off Party last June. The annual end of summer reading celebration was a huge success.

Activities remain in the works. Plans are being made to have a grand reopening celebration for Carver after the renovation has been completed at the end of September.

Likely the event will take place in mid-October after staff has had a chance to get settled in.

DL Grant

Cody

The Cody book sale will be September 19–21. The afternoon of the 19th (hours to be determined) will be for Preview by members of Friends.

Summer has been a huge success at the Cody library. More than 1,400 kids signed up for the library’s reading club. Due to generous donations from the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and the Cody Friends, families were treated to a variety of entertainers throughout the summer, which included mad scientists, magicians, and animals. Adults were treated to line dancing, meditation classes, and ghost stories. Summer reading continues through August. So if you haven’t registered yet or turned in your log, you still have time.

Hayley Latshaw

Great Northwest

Great Northwest Library had another busy summer serving thousands of children in the summer programs. Our annual Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon celebrates everyone who makes the magic happen. This year about 35 staff, volunteers and Friends attended the party. To start there was a challenging word find puzzle to find 26 science words. Children’s Librarian, Cari Raley, got all the words first and won two tickets to the San Antonio Zoo. Next we decorated small mint tins and had Subway sandwiches and Bill Miller salads for lunch. The prize table offered a little something for everyone to take home, and dessert cake and ice cream sundaes were provided by the staff. All in all, it was a fun time to celebrate each other and the success of our GREAT

Branch Leaves cont on p 4.
Northwest Library throughout the year.

Denise Barlow

Igo

The Igo Friends met August 2 for the first time since May. We had a great turn out, and all seem anxious to get back into the groove. We discussed the upcoming Book/Bake sale on October 4 and 5.

Our new Branch Manager, Ashlee Chavez, attended the meeting. Ashlee gave us a report of how the summer had been progressing and what was coming up in the near future.

The Elderberries had their annual Ice Cream Social on August 7, and it was well attended. The Elderberries will have their September meeting the first Sunday of September to celebrate Grandparents Day. They request that all Grandparents attend and their admission is “Grandchildren.”

The Summer Programs are coming to an end, and the fall programs will commence in September.

It seems like just yesterday the new year started, and now we are into the fall/winter programs.

Tom Hill

Landa

Landa Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) helped co-write a Spur Foundation grant with San Antonio Public Library Foundation (SAPLF). Part of their funds went to providing a day to give back by creating a children’s writing workshop for the San Antonio Children’s Shelter. The workshop was a great success with twenty children ages 5–11 attending from the shelter. This shelter community service collaboration was the brainchild of the Landa Teen Council. Tracey Bennett (SAPLF) and Bea Canales (Landa Teen Services Liaison) worked together with the TLLC to bring this program to the community. The rest of the funds are for monthly science demonstrations for young children led by teens in the TLLC. Beatrice Canales

Las Palmas

Las Palmas Friends are helping to sponsor and/or promote the following activities at the Library:
• Sept. 2—The 10:30 a.m. weekly Bilingual Story Time is beginning and will continue through the fall. We’d be happy to pick up any bilingual, young children’s books if any branch library has some they can share.
• Sept. 6—Habitat for Humanity will hold an information session on “Building Dreams in San Antonio” from 2–4 for anyone interested in learning who qualifies and how to apply for this affordable, home ownership program.
• Sept. 8—The 6:00 p.m. weekly chess program kicks off and will focus on learning/reinforcing the basics. A chess tournament is tentatively planned for December, with a trophy and awards for the champs.
• Sept. 9—The Lego Club will meet the second and fourth Tuesdays at 4. We plan to purchase/acquire more sets for the Lego “builders.”
• Sept. 13—Barbara Renault Gonzalez will read from her book, Boy Made of Lightning: Willie Velasquez, at 3.
• Oct. 4—At 2, a representative from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service/Institute of Renewable Natural Resources will speak on the important message of water conservation, to include the harvesting of rain water.

Our next book sale is scheduled for November 7–8. We really need to obtain more children’s books, all ages, and we will be coordinating with other branches after their respective book sales.

Delia Ramirez, Trimble

Maverick

It’s been an event-filled summer at Maverick Library. Pat King has been extra busy keeping the teen programs running as usual while Lucy Villa is recuperating from a broken leg. We thank Pat and wish Lucy a speedy recovery.

Adult services librarian Benjamin Longoria brought in several guitarists for live performances. Patrons enjoyed classical and acoustic performances by Tom Spraberry in June. Rick Prieto and Jorge and Nichole in July, and Matthew Evans in August. The guitarists talked about their music and explained the mission of Guitar San Antonio. One attendee commented that she felt lucky to be so close to the musicians and enjoyed the opportunity to relax with calming, live music while catching up on some reading.

Of course Summer Reading always keeps everyone busy. Children Services librarian Amy Roberts always has lots of activities planned for the children, and the Friends are happy to help with funding and a little hands-on support. Friends Jody Summers, Barbara Steinhauser and Elizabeth Bircher helped with the ice cream social at the end of program party, Summer Fest. Children and parents enjoyed making ice cream sundaes, and the chocolate chip cookies and fruit gummies donated by Whataburger.

Our next big event is our fall book sale October 4–5 from 10–4. A lucky shopper will win a signed Charleton Heston autobiography. Raffle tickets will be available for $1 each during the sale. We will also collect Legos for the Lego Club program.

Everyone is welcome at Maverick Friends’ meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 in the library. We hope to see you there.

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

McCreless Friends group is gearing up for fall activities. Our general meeting is being held on Monday, August 25, at the McCreless Library meeting room. The next book sale is slated to be September 6–7, from 10-5:45.

Thanks to the following McCreless Friends for attending the Post Proposal Community Budget Hearing on Monday, August 11. It means so much when elected officials hear from the public on the importance of library services and resources. Paula Massengale, Mary Gallagher, Mary Swanson, Yulanne McKnight, Cathy Dean and Vera Banner got the word out!}

Jill Zimmerman

Memorial

The Memorial Amigos sponsored three very successful Children’s Summer Reading programs: Donnabelle the clown kicked off summer fun; Happy Tails exotic animals entertained and educated both children and adults; and face-painting and balloon art by Alma Païnt helped wrap things up at the end of the
summer party. At the August meeting, the group approved several purchases to enhance services at the Memorial branch including a mobile book display and an indoor book return. A book sale will be held on September 20–21. The group’s next scheduled meeting is Saturday, October 11, at 10.

Jimmy G Jiménez

Semmes

Semmes will be having its fall book sale on September 6, beginning at 10, with the preview sale on Friday, September 5, from 10:30–12.

Christie Smith

Tobin at Oakwell

Tobin at Oakwell Friends held our semiannual book sale on May 31, bringing in more than $2,200 in sales of books, Tobin logo bags, and donations. We also gained several new and renewing memberships. Janet Goddard, Friends President, thanked all who helped, with special thanks to Rita Corey, our Volunteer Chairman, for organizing the volunteers from our Friends and Altrusa members. We again had help from MacArthur High School MacTeach members who made set up and pack up very easy. Dan Goddard, Book Sale Chairman, organized our work so that all went smoothly. Thank you to FOSAPL members from other branches who attended our Preview Sale.

Tracey Knouse, our Library Manager and her staff thanked the Friends for the purchase of “Fizz Boom Read” T-shirts for all staff to wear to promote the “Summer Reading” theme and program for all ages.

Tobin at Oakwell Branch had special events for kids in July, including “Mad Science” and the “Magic Treehouse Reading Party.”

“Summerfest” for all ages was held July 26.

“Food For Thought,” Tobin’s newest book club, which delves into various cookbooks, met July 8.

Tobin at Oakwell was closed for several weeks in August for installation of new carpet, paint, and furniture. Tobin Library is due to reopen on September 2.

Tobin Friends board will meet on September 9 at 1:30.

Our next book sale is planned for November 22. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Arlene Braswell

Many more photos are on line at friendsofsapl.org

Arts & Letters, from p 1

the Struggle for Texas, and Sacrificed at the Alamo: Tragedy and Triumph in the Texas Revolution. He has served as an advisor on numerous documentaries and has appeared in documentaries aired on the History Channel, the Discovery Channel and on PBS. According to Dr Winders, history should not be confined to the classroom, and as a public historian and Curator of the Alamo, he has developed a wide range of living history programs for the Alamo in order to engage visitors. Those individuals who have had the pleasure to see Dr. Winders in “costume” leave with a renewed interest in our local and national history.

Landa Teen Library Leadership Council (T LLC)
Greetings,

At the San Antonio Public Library, one of our goals is to generate new and innovative ideas that help us better serve you. I’m happy to introduce the Digital Library Community Project, an initiative that helps make access to the library’s digital resources even easier. To facilitate access to the Library’s digital collection, a number of “digital library walls” were deployed in partnership with local service agencies. These walls, designed to look like bookshelves, will be installed at various community centers and other public venues over the next several months.

Here’s how they work: Each title on the digital library wall has a special QR code associated with it. Simply point a QR code reader directly at the code, and the device will open to that particular title’s location at mysapl.org. It’s there that you can either borrow the title or place it on hold. The QR codes also provide direct access to millions of eBooks, eAudio-books, movies and music titles within the Library’s digital collection. Visit your iTunes Store or Android market and download any free QR code reader.

The project launched on Thursday, July 24, with an official program that included remarks by District 3 Councilwoman, Rebecca Viagran and Jill Giles, Chair of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

The initial locations of the digital library walls include placement at D.R. Semmes YMCA, Bob Ross Senior Center, Alicia Treviño Lopez Senior Center, Haven for Hope, and Connect at Central. Multiple additional locations throughout the Library’s service area will be announced in the coming months as additional partnerships and locations are finalized. You can learn more about the Digital Library Community Project at http://guides.mysapl.org/digitalquickstart. The digital collection has been available online at mysapl.org since 2007, and new materials are added each week. It’s available to you 24/7 at mysapl.org.

The Library partnered with the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, YMCA, Haven for Hope, Department of Human Services, and Convention and Sports Facilities Department to strategically place these digital library walls. I want to express a special thanks to all of our partners for helping us increase the public’s awareness and improve access to our digital library collection!

If you visit any of these locations, try out our new digital library and let us know what you think.

Sincerely,

Ramiro S. Salazar, Library Director
September is Vintage Book Month at the BookCellar. Antiquarian books and collectible out-of-print editions in the $5 to $10 range are displayed on a table. Rarer and more highly priced books are in a newly purchased cabinet with glass doors across from the cashier’s desk.

During the summer, a three books for $1 sale of fiction for adults and young adults and a 10-day patio event featuring excess juvenile inventory generated extra income for the store and reduced the backlog of books in storage.

The 3-for-$1 pricing was so popular with customers and productive in selling books that it will be used for the monthly special deals in September and October. September 3-for-$1 sales are regular-priced books in the 200 and 700 Dewey Decimal categories. The 200s are religion. The 700s are cover art, crafts, decorating, music, TV, movies, theater, dance, games and sports. These monthly markdowns do not apply to premium-priced books.

The October 3-for-$1 special will be regular-priced books in the 300s. This category ranges from politics to folklore and money management to true crime. For announcements of other special deals in the weeks ahead, watch the BookCellar’s social media.

Recent private and corporate donations of materials to the BookCellar have included new review books from the San Antonio Express-News, five boxes of classical sheet music, books from the library of the late U.S. Representative Henry B. Gonzalez, and 40 plastic tubs filled with books on art, Mexican and Spanish history, and more. Donations like these are put out for sale as volunteers are able to sort them. If you would like to be one of the volunteers who helps process such surprises, call store manager Monica Hernandez at (210) 227-9519.

The BookCellar donated a selection of books on the American West to the Briscoe Western Art Museum, which is housed in San Antonio’s first public library at 210 W. Market Street. In appreciation the museum gave BookCellar volunteers a free guided tour, an offer several people were able to accept. Store volunteers are continuing to watch for books on Western literature, history, and art that the museum might want.
CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Because dates and times change occasionally, please call to verify information.

Sept. 5–6  Semmes Fall Book Sale, 10, Preview Sale Friday, 10:30-Noon
Sept. 6–7  McCreless Book Sale, 10–5:45
Sept. 9    Tobin at Oakwell Friends meeting, 1:30
Sept. 13   Brook Hollow Book Sale, 10–4
Sept. 15   Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 7
Sept. 19–21 Cody Book Sale, Preview Sale Friday
Sept. 20–21 Memorial Book Sale
Sept. 26   FOSAPL 50th Anniversary celebration, 6:00 p.m., Central Library
Oct. 3–6   Guerra Book Sale, Friday, 4–6; Saturday & Sunday, 10–4
Oct. 4–5   Igo Book/Bake Sale
Oct. 4–5   Maverick Autumn Book Sale
Oct. 11    Memorial Friends meeting, 10
**Oct. 26**  **Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony, 2 p.m., Central Library**
Nov. 4     Elections
Nov. 7–8   Las Palmas Book Sale
Nov. 22    Tobin at Oakwell Book Sale

**Note:** Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.