Dear Friends,

“Fitness is not about being better than someone else...it’s about being better than you used to be.” —Anonymous

The note was posted on the door of a local gymnasium. One way to stay fit is to volunteer. The experts tell us that volunteering is a leading factor in optimum mental and physical health. Volunteering as a FRIEND is an avenue toward achieving that goal. Our organization has an exemplary 50-year history with a proven track record supporting our library and its 27—soon to be 29—branches.

The role that the FRIENDS plays is a benefit that should not be taken for granted. In the space remaining, I want to mention some noteworthy activities:

- **Arts and Letters Awards Program**—I hope you were able to attend the awards ceremony on October 25. Bob Mason and Jose Duran co-chaired this event and were assisted by committee members Lyn Belisle, Beverly Harris, and Christie Smith. This year’s recipients were: Bernice Appelin-Williams, Carol Coffee Reposa, Craig Sorgi and Enedina Casares Vasquez. It was thrilling to meet and visit with these creative geniuses up close and personal.

- **FOSAPL Nominating Committee**—This year’s Nominating Committee chaired by Nancy Gandara will include Delia Trimble, Shirley Coleman, Vera Banner, and Eddie Patino. This committee is seeking members to fill two-year terms on the FOSAPL Board. If you want to be considered for one of these positions or to nominate a friend, please contact one of the committee members.

- **The Next Fifty Years Celebration of Friends**—There is still time to make your reservation for the luncheon celebrating the next 50 years. Committee members Mike Belisle, Lyn Belisle, Beth Graham, Christie Smith, and Karen Matson have put together a luncheon at La Hacienda de Los Barrios Restaurant. The event is free for those who pay their 2016 dues by November 8. See more details in this issue.

As FRIENDS, it’s not that we are better than anyone else, it’s just that we are better than we used to be. Congratulations on the next 50 years!

In FRIENDship,
Karen Matson
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
Board Meeting
Sunday, September 20, 2015
Submitted by Nancy Gandara, Secretary

The Board of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library met on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2015, at the Westfall Branch Library. President Karen Matson called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Secretary Nancy Gandara called the roll, and declared that a quorum was present.

Board Members Present—Karen Matson, Robert Mason, Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Arline Braswell, Jose Duran, Antoinette Franklin, Beverly Harris, Pat Konstam, Mary McAfee, Pat Mendiola, Marshall Mundorff, Ronnie Retzloff, Rowena Rodgers, Stephanie Serrata, Christie Smith, Ann Springer, Delia Trimble, and Jill Zimmerman. Dolores Huber and Shirley Coleman, voting representatives of the Guerra branch and Carver branch, respectively, were also present.

Approval of Minutes—Mary McAfee moved and Antoinette Franklin seconded to accept the Minutes of the meeting of July 19, 2015, as printed in the Sept/Oct 2015 issue of SAPLings, and the motion passed unanimously.

President’s Report—Karen Matson thanked board members for their advocacy in support of the library’s budget request and mentioned that the “21st Century FRIENDS” workshop had been postponed until the spring in order to collect more information about topics that would benefit our members.

Treasurer’s Report—Treasurer Beverly Duran presented the Treasurer’s Report of Aug. 31, 2015. As of Aug. 31, FOSAPL had total assets of $228,921.16, of which $102,599.67 was designated for branch groups, and checks in the amount of $1,343.24 were outstanding. It was noted that income from the BookCellar for July and August was almost $15,500, due to the hard work and enthusiasm of the BookCellar volunteers.

LIAISON REPORTS

Library Trustees’ Liaison—Lupe Ochoa urged FOSAPL Board members to participate in programming planned for Hispanic Heritage Month (funds for which had been provided from two grants) and to join the Mayor’s Fall Book Club, which would be reading The Boy Kings of Texas.

Library Administration Liaison—Kathy Donellan, assistant library director, reported that the FY2016 city budget included an 8% increase in funding for the library, which reflected the costs of opening two new branch libraries (Shaeffer branch and one on Potranco Road). Also included are an additional $1 million for technology; $125,000 to complete the makeover of the Collins Garden branch; and funding for deferred maintenance projects at the Pan American, Maverick, and Guerra branches. Technology infrastructure improvements are planned for Landa, Las Palmas, Great Northwest, and Semmes branches that will be completed by Sept. 2016.

Library Foundation Liaison—Brianna Kirk reported that the Library Foundation is concentrating on raising funds to supplement the Schaeffer branch, the new branch to be built in District 6 (Potranco Rd. area), and the expansion of the Central Library’s Latino Collection. In response to a question from Pres. Matson, Ms. Kirk said that funding for the shade structure to be erected above the Carver branch playground had been acquired.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts & Letters Awards Committee—Jose Duran thanked the other committee members, Beverly Harris, Lyn Belisle, Christie Smith, Bruce Gill, and co-chair Bob Mason and recognized Ronnie Retzloff for her design of the program for the awards event that will be held Oct. 25. He noted that this year’s award winners are not only well known in San Antonio, they have won national recognition as well.

BookCellar—Richard Morales reported that the BookCellar Committee members recently revised the BookCellar manager’s job description and the Policies & Procedures document and that $537 had been received in the “donation box,” year-to-date.

Membership—Stephanie Serrata presented the membership report that had been prepared by Linda Cheatum, membership secretary: the current roll shows a total of 957 “active members,” of which 190 were “new” in 2015. The report also shows that 146 people did not renew their 2014 memberships, representing 130 households.

OLD BUSINESS

Celebration of the “Next 50 Years”—Christie Smith reported that a celebratory luncheon will be provided on Nov. 15 at La Hacienda de los Barrios, prior to the FOSAPL Board meeting at the Encino branch. The luncheon will be gratis for all who have paid their Friends’ membership dues for 2016, and who have

Minutes cont on p 3.
RSVP’d by Nov. 8 (by telephone or through http://www.brownpapertickets.com/)

Fiesta 2016 Medal—Pres. Matson reported that production and distribution of a medal for the Friends had been postponed to provide adequate time for planning, design, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratify action taken on 8/01/15 based on an electronic vote of the FOSAPL Board, which authorized payment to SAPL for staff travel and training in 2015—Jose Duran made the motion, which was seconded by Delia Trimble; the motion carried.

Consider approval of the BookCellar “Policies & Procedures” document (approved by the BookCellar Committee on 7/16/15)—Stephanie Serrata moved that the document be approved without change, and Antoinette Franklin seconded the motion. During ensuing discussion, Christie Smith expressed a concern about the fiduciary procedures as laid out in the document, and after more discussion, Jose Duran moved for postponement until the meeting of Nov. 15, and Pat Mendiola seconded the motion. The question was called, and the motion to postpone passed.

Authorize members of the Budget Task Force to plan and propose a FOSAPL budget for 2016—Bev Duran made the motion, which was seconded by Ronnie Retzloff. The Friends who have agreed to serve on this task force are: Bev Duran, Grizzly Cloud, Dolores Huber, Karen Matson (ex-officio), Richard Morales, and Delia Trimble. The motion carried.

Authorize members of the Nominating Committee, who will propose FOSAPL Board members for the 2016–2018 term—Karen Matson said that she had asked Vera Banner, Shirley Coleman, Nancy Gandara, Eddie Patino, and Delia Trimble to serve on this task force. The motion was made by Dolores Huber; Stephanie Serrata seconded it, and the motion carried.

Consider authorizing employment of Sara Craddock for the position of BookCellar manager, as requested by the BookCellar Committee—After sharing some information about Ms. Craddock, Ann Springer made the motion; Jose Duran seconded it, and, after considerable discussion, the motion carried. (NOTE: Ms. Craddock subsequently declined the position.)

ADJOURNMENT

Following announcements of future book sale dates and members’ news, President Karen Matson thanked the Friends of the Westfall branch for providing refreshments for the meeting and adjourned the meeting.

Looking for Stephanie Serrata’s column in the next issue of SAPLings.

Save the Date

Annual FOSAPL Meeting
Sunday, January 10, 2016

• Election of Board Members
• Vote on ByLaws Revisions
• Special Speaker – Library Director Ramiro Salazar

Brook Hollow

Mark the dates of these important meetings of the Friends of Brook Hollow Library:

On Saturday, Nov. 7, at 1:30, the Friends of the Brook Hollow Library will hold a meeting that will be chaired by Neal Bjornson. Information to be covered will include:

• Recent changes in the group’s leadership
• A successful October book sale!
• Purchases for the library approved in April
• A report of the Bylaws Review Committee and distribution of proposed revisions

New Business will include authorization of members of a Nominating Committee that will prepare a slate of officers. Positions to be filled are president and secretary (to serve from Dec. 5, 2015–Dec. 31, 2017) and Vice-President and Treasurer (to serve from Jan. 1, 2016–Dec. 31, 2017). Persons interested in serving on the Nominating Committee should contact Pat Bjornson, Acting Secretary, pmbjornson@gmail.com.

On Saturday, Dec. 5, at 1:30, the meeting will include two important ACTION items:

• Discussion and voting on the Proposed Bylaws distributed at the Nov. meeting
• Election of officers, for terms described above

Meet new Library Friends—Come to the meetings!
Nancy Gandara

Cody

Cody library held a successful semi-annual book sale October 9–12. We thank our generous book donors and all those who volunteered to help make this such a successful event. We also thank all the patrons who attended! Welcome, too, to the new members of Friends who joined during this book sale. Photos from the sale are on page 6.

Susan Bailey

The Igo Friends invite you to visit and participate in these and other programs during October and November 2015. The Igo Friends held a successful book and bake sale in October. On November 7, you have the opportunity to meet John Igo, for whom our library is named. He will be reviewing his new book, A Stone for Plot Four: Or Mendez, a Quest. The book is a biography of a writer named Mendez Marks, who vanished at the height of his success. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing by Mr. Igo.

The Elderberries, our senior group, will be having a Thanksgiving potluck luncheon on Friday, November 20, 12:30–3. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to accompany the provided meats and drinks for the Thanksgiving luncheon. All seniors are invited to attend this and other senior activities at the Igo Library.

Jose Duran

Las Palmas

The book sale initially scheduled for November 9–13 at Port San Antonio (together with some other City Council Districts 4 and 5 branch library Friends groups) has been canceled. The Port SA representative has indicated there may be another fundraising opportunity in the future.

The Friends reached out to the Student Volunteer Coordinator at Our Lady of the Lake University when we were looking for volunteers for the November book sale. While that particular project didn’t work out, we did establish the groundwork for possible volunteer support for future activities.

Adding to the Las Palmas and OLLU relationship, we
were happy to learn that Patricia Perez, who directs the Las Palmas Library Bilingual Storytime Program, recently collaborated with the OLLU Library and Barnes & Noble at La Cantera. She read stories in Spanish to the children and talked to customers about obtaining library cards and the library services available.

The Friends received some funds from generous donors and has had a small, but steady, income from our Book Nook. As a result, we were able to purchase several items on the Las Palmas Library “Wish List” for the children’s programs: a magnetic white board with accessories and an LCD projector.

Holiday celebrations are in the planning stages, especially as we say good-bye to the Collins Gardens staff working at the Las Palmas Library while their own library has undergone extensive renovations.

Della Ramirez Trimble

Maverick

It’s hard to believe Summer Reading ended more than three months ago. Eighty eager readers attended the Friends-funded kickoff party, and 106 enjoyed Dinosaur George’s presentation, also funded by Friends. Altogether, 1,007 children signed up for Summer Reading at Maverick. Prizes were awarded to the 403 who completed the program.

The Braun Station East Book Club gave our group a generous donation in memory of Connie McCoy. We wish to extend our sympathy to everyone joining us as usual, Branch Manager Jeff Martin, ferried books from the storage area and generally helped out as needed.

Sharon DeLong was the winner of our book sale raffle. She received a signed copy of Jan Jarboe Russell’s The Train to Crystal City.

Most Friends groups seem to have a special offer during book sales. At Maverick, we give coupons good for 50% off on the second day of the sale to everyone who makes a purchase on the first day. For this sale, 20 of the coupons were returned. We’re always glad to have folks come back for a second look at the offerings.

After a brief breather in October, we’ll be back to work in November. Our regular meeting will be at 7 p.m., November 3, at the library. Come prepared to plan our annual holiday dinner, the library’s 10th anniversary party, and our next book sale. The dinner will replace our December meeting.

If you happen to be in our area and would like to share ideas, please join us at any of our regular meetings. Friends are always welcome at Maverick.

The Maverick Friends wish everyone a joyous and safe holiday season.

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

Something new under the sun—the McCreless Friends will hold a “boutique” sale on Saturday, December 12, from 10:00 a.m.–5:45 p.m. This special sale will be narrow in focus but broad in selection, offering a large selection of cookbooks and L.P.s—jazz & classical. Our September book sale brought in $426.40, $25.30 in donations, and $28 from book cart sales. These funds were put to good use supporting services at the library. The Friends purchased a book case for the library and funded programming and staff events through the end of the year. A gift card was provided by the Friends for purchase of fall & winter plants. Early voting was held at McCreless library the last two weeks of October. Branch Manager Cammie Brantley, attended the Highland Hills Elementary National Night Out event. Plan now to get involved in McCreless Friends during 2016!

Jill Zimmerman

Parman

Friends of Parman Library are gearing up for their annual book sale November 6 and 7. Sale hours are 10 a.m.–6 p.m. We encourage you to come out and find a treasure or two! Cash, credit cards, and donations are welcome.

Parman Library is hosting the Parman Market Fair on Saturday, November 14. We encourage local vendors and crafters to apply at https://parman.wufoo.com/forms/parman-market-fair/.

Rhonda Matson

Thousand Oaks

Our Friends have had two short meetings with our new President Pat Howell. After brief business meetings, we enjoyed a visit with the Tween Librarian Steven and his plans for programs for his group. The book sale date for our library is December 5. We are waiting on the appointment of a new manager before making too many plans.

Ginger Hobbs

Tobin at Oakwell

The Tobin at Oakwell Friends Board met on September 15 and were treated by a visit from Cheryl Sheehan, Tobin’s Public Service Administrator, who praised our Friends’ support of library programs. We also saw a video presentation by Library Manager Tracey Knouse, showing us the many programs Friends help to support and thanking us on behalf of the Tobin community and library staff.

Our new Teen Librarian Karen Barton, is stressing STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) with our teen groups.

September 11–13, more than 45,000 visitors stopped by the SAPL booth at Alamo City Comic Con, manned by our Assistant Library Manager Rhonda Woolhouse. They enjoyed crafts, story times, a reading lounge, and having green screen photos made.

On September 22, Friends sponsored an evening of book readings by Margy and Norman Bernstein with music provided by Craig Anderson. This was a delightful evening organized by Rhonda Woolhouse. More than 20 people attended and thoroughly enjoyed the program and refreshments.

On October 31, from 2–4 p.m., Tobin Library presented “A Halloween Dark and Grimm,” a Grimm themed Halloween party. There were games, crafts and food for all ages. We also had a costume contest.

On November 7 from 2–4, Tobin will celebrate the release of the new Star Wars movies with “Star Wars: The Library Awakens.” There will be games, food, light saber training and more with special guest appearances by R2D2 and Jose Medina of the Central Texas Droid Builders and by the Sith Shadow Council of Texas.

Tobin at Oakwell fall book sale will be November 13–14. We are expecting a big sale because of the many donations we received during the summer, including a record number of DVDs. We welcome FOSAPL members to our preview sale from 4–6 p.m. on Friday, November 13.

The next Tobin at Oakwell Friends Board meeting will be held November 10 at 1:30 p.m.
Clockwise: (L-R) Enedina Vasquez & Carol Reposa; (L-R) Karen Matson & Bernice Appelin-Williams; (L-R) Vicky Enciso, Mary McAfee, Chris Love, Nancy Gandara, & Delia Trimble; (L-R) Ramiro Salazar, Bernice, Enedina, Karen, Carol, & Craig Sorgi; (L-R) Bryce Milligan & Mo Saidi; (L-R) Co-Chair Bob Mason & Craig; (L-R) Bob & Co-Chair Jose Duran; and the crowd waiting in anticipation. Photos by Beverly Harris and Lyn Belisle.
The San Antonio Public Library invites the public to participate in the Mayor’s Book Club, which kicked off on October 9. The fall selection, *The Boy Kings of Texas* by Domingo Martinez, is a gritty and lyrical memoir that takes readers to the border town of Brownsville, Texas, to experience this authentic coming-of-age story. To help engage the public in this city-wide reading club, the book is available for check out at all San Antonio Public Library locations. It’s also available for download as an eBook at mysapl.org. For more information about the book and the Mayor’s Fall Book Club, visit mysapl.org/mbc.

In November, the Library celebrates and honors the cultural contributions of Native Americans in the United States during Native American Month. This year, the Library starts the celebration with “White Shaman Panel: The Coahuiltecan Creation,” sponsored by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation. In this presentation, Dr. Mario Garza of the Indigenous Cultures Institute in San Marcos sheds light on indigenous culture and its place in history. For more information, and other events, go to the calendar section of mysapl.org.

Finally, the Library Board of Trustees met in regular session late in September at Central Library and held officer elections. The new Library Board of Trustees Officers for FY2016 are the following:

- **Chair** – Paul Stahl (District 7)
- **Vice Chair** – Linda Nairn (District 10)
- **Secretary** – Loyce Ince (District 9)
- **Treasurer** – Judy Cruz (Mayoral)
- **Immediate Past Chair** – Jean Brady (District 1)

Come visit us this fall, take part in the Mayor’s Book Club and enjoy all fun services that the Library has to offer. Ramiro Salazar
The BookCellar
Central Library Basement
Open 11:00 a.m-3 p.m. every
day plus 3-7 p.m. Thursdays
Telephone (210) 227-9519

The BookCellar’s annual after-
Thanksgiving sale, when prices
on almost everything are cut in
half, begins Saturday, Nov. 28.
The 16-day inventory clearance
will continue through Sunday,
Dec. 13, during regular store
hours. All premium books will
be half their marked price, in-
cluding art, history, food and
other topics that would make
attractive holiday gifts. A diverse
selection for adults, children, and
teens includes popular authors,
graphic novels, books in Span-
ish, some vintage books, sheet
music, audio books, movies, and
music CDs. Most items will sell
for 50 cents or less.

The annual Volunteer Appre-
ciation Lunch for people who
keep the store going and their
guests is scheduled for Nov. 11,
when Central Library and the
BookCellar are closed for Veter-
ans Day. Funded by Friends of
the Library, the luncheon at a
downtown restaurant is one of
the perks awarded to volunteers.

If you would like to explore join-
ing the BookCellar crew and
becoming eligible for the bene-
fits and satisfactions working
there offers, please call Book-
Cellar volunteer recruiter Linda
Cheatum at (210) 888-3002 or
(214) 280-7488.

The BookCellar will be closed
for Thanksgiving on Thursday
and Friday, Nov. 26-27. It will
close for Christmas and New
Year’s on the days Central Li-
brary is closed.

If you visit the store any time
during November and December,
you’ll find holiday-related books
and music on display at bargain
prices. You can find affordable
gift books for friends and rela-
tives as well as resources for
crafting, decorating, cooking,
and celebrating Thanksgiving,
Hanukkah, Christmas, and
Kwanzaa. Up-to-date details on
special sales are posted in the
store and on Facebook.

Customers now have more
time to shop without paying a
parking fee. Beginning Oct. 1,
the Central Library Parking Gar-
age gives library users three
hours of free parking. Longer
than that, the fee is a flat $5.00.

Your Friends at the Book-
Cellar wish you happy holidays
and gifts of good books and
music.

www.facebook.com/book.cellar

MUSIC WHILE YOU COOK!
HUGE Sale, featuring
Cookbooks and LPs (jazz and classical)
from the estate of our late Friend Phyllis Massengale
Dec. 12, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
1023 Ada, just north of HEB Plus
For more info call 207-9170
Proceeds to benefit Friends of the McCreless Branch
CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

November 3  Maverick Friends meeting, 7
November 6-7  Parman Friends book sale, 10–6
November 7  Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 1:30
November 7  Igo Library. Meet John Igo who will review his new book, *A Stone for Plot Four: Or Mendez, a Quest.*

November 10  Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell meeting, 1:30
November 13  Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell Pre-view sale, 4–6
November 14  Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell book sale, 10–6
November 15  “NEXT 50 Years” luncheon at La Hacienda de los Barrios, 12:45

November 15  FOSAPL Board meeting, Encino Library, 2:30
December 5  Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 1:30
December 5  Friends of Thousand Oaks Library book sale, 10–5
December 12  McCreless Friends boutique sale, 10–5:45
January 10  FOSAPL Annual Meeting, Central Library, 2

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.