



## News from the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Volume 28, Number 1

January–February 2016



[www.friendsofsapl.org](http://www.friendsofsapl.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-San-Antonio-Public-Library/363234420407307>

### *From the President*

Dear Friends,

This holiday season is not only a time to celebrate, but also to reflect upon the past year's events and recognize those individuals who made them memorable:

- Thank you to the committed individuals at the San Pedro and Encino Branches for their work in electing officers, writing their bylaws, and planning unique fundraising opportunities for 2016. We look forward to hearing from them in the future!

- While I was at the "wall-breaking" of the new Potranco-YMCA branch, I was approached by some enterprising people who expressed excitement about starting a branch there.

- I hope you were able to attend the Arts & Letters Awards. Thank you to **Jose Duran** and **Bob Mason** and the members of the Arts & Letters Committee for making this event memorable.

- Thanks to all of you who contacted your City Councilperson and wrote letters. The library received extra funding for technology: **We did make a difference!**

- According to FOSAPL Treasurer **Bev Duran**, FOSAPL will donate more than \$62,000 to the Library. **Those used book sales, your donations, and memberships add up!**

- And speaking of memberships, please remember to re-new yours. According to FOSAPL Membership Secretary **Linda Cheatum**, our roster is currently over 1,100! But we welcome more. Your dues and donations help your Branches purchase the extras that the city budget does not include.

- An expression of appreciation is due to the FRIENDS who helped make the "Next 50 Year Celebration" a huge success: **Mike and Lyn Belisle**, **Nancy Gandara**, **Bev Golden**, **Beth Graham**, **Christi Smith**, and **Keri Moczygemba** (Branch Manager-Encino). Many enjoyed renewing acquaintances at the luncheon and then continuing their visit at the cupcake reception and Board Meeting at Encino Branch.

Stay tuned for exciting news about the BookCellar's planned 25th Anniversary celebration! **Linda Arronge**, Immediate Past President of FOSAPL, will chair this event.

Mark your calendar to attend the FRIENDS' annual meeting set for January 10 at 2 p.m. at Central Library. **Kathy Donellan**, Assistant Library Director, will be our guest speaker.

Happy New Year!

In FRIENDship,

*Karen Matson*



## Nominating Committee Report

Nancy Gandara

Election to the Board of Directors will be held at the Annual General Meeting on January 10, 2016, at the Central Library at 2:00 p.m. The floor will be open for additional nominees. If you want to nominate someone, you must have his or her approval. The following Friends members have accepted the Committee's nomination to serve their first term on the 2016-2018 FOSAPL Board of Directors:

**Kimberly Cauthon**  
**Linda Cheatum**  
**Linda Janney**  
**Liz McLeod**

**Landon Middleton**  
**Veronica Rouse**  
**Sandra Wilkinson**

Three former directors who are eligible to serve again are also nominated, and they are:

**Vera Banner**  
**Shirley Coleman**  
**Robbie Rupert**

The following current Board members have agreed to stand for election to another term:

**Arline Braswell**  
**Jose Duran**  
**Rowena Rodgers**  
**Beverly Harris**

**Jill Zimmerman**  
**Antoinette Franklin**  
**Mary McAfee**

The following members are in the middle of their term (not standing for election in Jan. 2016), with one year remaining:

**Karen Matson**  
**Bob Mason**  
**Beverly Duran**  
**Nancy Gandara**  
**Pat Konstam**  
**Ronnie Retzlöff**  
**Patricia Mendiola**  
**Beth Graham**

**Ann Springer**  
**Pat Peak**  
**Elizabeth Bircher**  
**Beverly Golden**  
**Stephanie Serrata**  
**Christie Smith**  
**Delia Trimble**

Deep appreciation for her service is extended to **Yolanda Kirkpatrick**, who will have served three two-year terms in January 2016, and is not eligible for re-election. Thanks, also, to **Marshall Mundorff**, who will have completed one term on the FOSAPL Board, but is not standing for re-election at this time.

Respectfully submitted by members of the Nominating Committee: **Vera Banner**, **Shirley Coleman**, **Nancy Gandara**, **Eddie Patino**, and **Delia Trimble**.

**Make plans to attend the  
FOSAPL Annual Meeting  
January 10, 2016 • 2:00 p.m.  
Central Library**

# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting

Sunday, November 15, 2015  
Submitted by **Nancy Gandara**, Secretary

The Board of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library met on Sunday, November 15, 2015, at the Encino Branch Library. Vice-President **Robert Mason** called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Secretary **Nancy Gandara** called the roll, and declared that a quorum was present.

Board members present were: **Robert Mason**, **Nancy Gandara**, **Linda Arronge**, **Arline Braswell**, **Rita Corey**, **Jose Duran**, **Antoinette Franklin**, **Bev Golden**, **Beth Graham**, **Beverly Harris**, **Pat Konstam**, **Mary McAfee**, **Pat Mendiola**, **Pat Peak**, **Ronnie Retzlöff**, **Rowena Rodgers**, **Stephanie Serrata**, **Christie Smith**, **Delia Trimble**, and **Jill Zimmerman**.

**Approval of Minutes:** It was moved and seconded to accept the Minutes of the meeting of Sept. 20, 2015, as printed in the Nov/Dec 2015 issue of **SAPLINGS** and the motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report:** Although **Karen Matson** had been taken ill and could not attend the meeting, she had given Vice President **Robert Mason** notes of some of her activities over the past two months, which he presented. Robert also recognized the presence of former FOSAPL President and current Vice President of the Board of Trustees **Linda Naim** in the audience.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer **Bev Duran** presented the Treasurer's Report of Oct. 31, 2015. As of Oct. 31, FOSAPL had total assets of \$222,556.98, of which \$112,621.77 was designated for branch groups, and checks in the amount of \$1,816.74 were outstanding. It was noted that recent book sales

at the branch libraries had been quite lucrative.

**Membership Secretary's Report:** **Linda Cheatum** reported that 298 people had paid their 2016 dues, of which 210 are new members. Newsletters are sent electronically to 55 honorary members. Currently, the total number of Friends (for both 2015 and 2016) exceeds 1,000.

## LIAISON REPORTS

**Library Administration Liaison:** **Ramiro Salazar**, Library Director, reported the result of recent elections held by the Trustees: **Paul Stahl**, Chair; **Linda Naim**, Vice Chair; **Loyce Ince**, Secretary; and **Judy Cruz**, Treasurer. The City Council approved a budget amendment that provided \$40,000 to have shade structures erected for the playgrounds at the Carver Branch Library and Lions Field. An additional \$150,000 was designated to create a Field Office for District 7 at the Maverick Branch Library. The Library and the Library Foundation are partnering in the relocation of the Latino Collection (from the sixth floor to the first floor of the Central Library), and donors who contribute \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a "donor wall."

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Arts & Letters Awards Committee:** **Bob Mason** thanked the other Committee members, **Beverly Harris**, **Lyn Belisle**, **Christie Smith**, **Bruce Gill**, and co-chair **Jose Duran**, and recognized **Ronnie Retzlöff** for her design of the program for the Awards event that was held on Oct. 25. He also thanked **Ramiro Salazar**, **Jessica Zurita**, **Caitlin Cowart**,

and **Ana Farr** for their support, especially the design and creation of a poster that showcased all the award winners since 1972. Each of this year's awardees was presented with smaller versions of the poster, which could be framed.

**BookCellar:** **Richard Morales** reported that the BookCellar Manager **Marina Rhodes**, started work on Oct. 26 and reminded the Friends to come and shop during late-November's "50% off" sale.

**Budget Task Force:** **Bev Duran** reported that the members of the Budget Task Force had met to discuss the FOSAPL operating budget for 2016, which would be presented for consideration during New Business. Members of this Task Force were: **Bev Duran**, **Grizzly Cloud**, **Dolores Huber**, **Karen Matson** (ex-officio), **Richard Morales**, and **Delia Trimble**.

**Nominating Committee:** **Delia Trimble** reported that members of the Nominating Committee (**Vera Banner**, **Shirley Coleman**, **Nancy Gandara**, **Eddie Patino**, and **Delia Trimble**) met to assign contacts to be made of current, former, and potential board members. Those who are eligible and wish to be on the FOSAPL board for the 2016–2018 term will stand for election at the Annual Meeting, January 10, 2016.

**Bylaws Revision Task Force:** **Jose Duran** reported that the members of this Task Force met and discussed possible revisions to the bylaws and the Standing Rules. Since only changes to the bylaws (not the Standing Rules) need to be approved by the general membership at the Annual meeting, the

*Minutes cont on p 3.*



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote public use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Karen Matson** .....President  
**Robert Mason** ..... Vice President  
**Nancy Gandara** ..... Secretary  
**Beverly Duran** ..... Treasurer  
**Linda Arronge** ..... Immediate Past Pres  
**Linda Cheatum** ..... Membership Secretary

## BOARD MEMBERS

### 2014–2016 Term:

**Arline Braswell** • **Rita Corey** • **Jose Duran** • **Antoinette Franklin** • **Beverly Harris** • **Yolanda Kirkpatrick** • **Mary McAfee** • **Marshall Mundorf** • **Rowena Rodgers** • **Jill Zimmerman**

### 2015–2017 Term:

**Liz Alves** • **Elizabeth Bircher** • **Bev Golden** • **Beth Graham** • **Pat Konstam** • **Karen Matson** • **Pat Mendiola** • **Pat Peak** • **Ronnie Retzlöff** • **Mark Robinson** • **Stephanie Serrata** • **Christie Smith** • **Ann Springer** • **Delia Trimble**

## SAPLINGS

Managing Editor..... **Alana Woods**

Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at [www.friendsofsapl.org](http://www.friendsofsapl.org).

Deadlines for submitting articles and photos are February 10, April 10, June 10, August 10, October 10, and December 10.

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file emailed to **Alana Woods**, [alana005@yahoo.com](mailto:alana005@yahoo.com), or mailed to her at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, TX 78238.

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

**Lyn Belisle** .....Chair  
**Nancy Gandara** • **Stephanie Serrata** • **Alana Woods**  
**Karen Matson** .....Ex Officio

FOSAPL Board will only be asked to consider proposing changes to two (2) bylaws under New Business at this meeting. Jose explained the context of the changes, which are: in Art. VI, drop the phrase “and qualified;” and in Art. X add the words “regular or special.” These will be addressed at length in the next newsletter.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Celebration of the “Next 50 Years”:** **Christie Smith** reported that the celebratory luncheon held earlier today was well-attended and enjoyable, and served as a great kick-off to the Friends’ future.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Ratify action taken on October 24** based on an electronic vote of the FOSAPL Board, which authorized hiring **Marina Rhodes** as the BookCellar Manager. The motion was made and seconded; the motion carried.

**Consider approval of the BookCellar “Policies & Procedures” document** (approved by the BookCellar Committee on July 16) **Pat Konstam** moved that the item be postponed until the Jan. 10, 2016, meeting, in order for the BookCellar Committee to discuss potential changes to the document. **Stephanie Serrata** seconded it. The question was called, and the motion to postpone passed.

**Consider approval of the BookCellar manager job description document** (amended by the BookCellar Committee on October 22). **Pat Konstam** made the motion, and **Rowena Rodgers** seconded it; the motion carried.

**Consider approval of the bylaws of the Friends of the San Pedro Branch Library.** **Lori Gonzalez**, the President of the Friends of the San Pedro

Branch Library, was introduced and welcomed. The motion to approve the bylaws was made by **Delia Trimble**, seconded by **Jill Zimmerman**, and carried.

**Consider authorization of a bonus in the amount of \$100 for Alana Woods, SAPLings editor and webmaster for [friendsofsapl.org](http://friendsofsapl.org).** **Delia Trimble** made the motion, which was seconded by **Beth Graham**. During the ensuing discussion, it was recommended that there be criteria for receipt of bonuses in the future. The motion to authorize the bonus of \$100 carried.

**Authorize an Operating Budget for FOSAPL for 2016.** **Bev Duran** made the motion, which was seconded by **Mary McAfee**. **Bev Duran** explained some of the line item expenditures and pointed out that a “balanced” budget was being proposed: \$90,500 in anticipated income from all sources, and \$90,400 in total budget expenses, of which \$55,000 was identified as the contribution to SAPL for public programming and staff development. After a brief discussion, the motion passed.

**Authorize presentation of proposed revisions to FOSAPL bylaws at Annual Meeting.** **Jose Duran** made the motion that the two changes previously explained be proposed for action by the general membership at the Annual Meeting, and **Mary McAfee** seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## ADJOURNMENT

Following announcements of future book sale dates and members’ news, Vice President **Robert Mason** adjourned the meeting.

**Happy New Year!**



## Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends met on Nov. 7 to discuss the results of the successful October book sale and to distribute proposed revisions to the Brook Hollow Friends’ bylaws. Branch Manager **Charity Gallardo** reported on the purchases that had been approved during the last meeting and presented the staff’s requests for funding related to specific items as well as funding for future programs.

During a meeting held on Dec. 5, the following individuals were elected to serve as officers through Dec. 2017: President **Pat Finley**, Vice President **Sue Bowser**, Secretary **Veronica Rouse**, and Treasurer **Neal Bjornson**.

The proposed bylaws were discussed and approved by those in attendance, and they will be presented to the FOSAPL Board at their meeting in Jan. 2016. **Pat Bjornson** provided a list of activities for which volunteers were being sought. **Veronica Rouse** volunteered to serve as Chairperson of the Staff Appreciation Dinner (tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2016), **Gwen McLeod** offered to serve as the Social Chairman, **Becky Benesh** volunteered to serve as Historian and maintain the Branch’s scrapbook, and **Ronnie Retzlöff** offered to serve as the Membership Chairman. There are other activities for which volunteers are needed, including book sales and the semi-annual Brook Hollow newsletter. Members are encouraged to volunteer for these

or any other activities that interest them.

Manager **Charity Gallardo** described the Teddy Bear Sleepover, funded by the Friends and hosted by the library staff in November. Children delivered their teddy bears or other stuffed animals to the Library on Nov. 19 for a sleepover. Charity presented a slide show featuring highlights of the activities the animals participated in, including eating pizza, riding in cardboard cars, and generally having a good time. The animals returned home the next day, with photos (taken by library staff) for their mommies and daddies (View the slide show on [friendsofsapl.org](http://friendsofsapl.org)).

The Brook Hollow Friends recently received a sizable donation of vinyl LPs – popular, classical, rock, etc., from the 1940s through the 1970s. They’re being sold for \$1 each. If you’re interested, contact **Pat Bjornson** at 210-497-3279 for additional information; these LPs may not last long.

**Pat Finley**

## Carver

Carver Friends had a very successful year, attracting a number of new members, eager to support all projects. The new members stepped right in and went to work. As a way of saying thanks for all of the support received by the organization, **Shirley Coleman** and husband **John** opened their doors for a holiday open house on Dec. 5. “It was an evening of fun, great conversation, and delicious food,” she said.

The Carver group announced new leadership for 2016-2018. Coleman won reelection and will continue as president. Other officers are: **Tray Brown**, vice president; **Beverly Harris**, secretary; and **Shirley Davis**, treasurer.

*Branch Leaves cont on p 4.*



## Branch Leaves, from p 3.

In other news, artist and Carver friend **John A. Coleman** patented a new board game that premiered recently at the branch. Betjec-O, reminiscent of chess or checkers, is designed for two players. The format lends itself to tournaments, which the branch expects to launch soon on Thursday evenings. In their recent business meeting, the Carver Friends voted to purchase items on the branch staff wish list, including a new office shredder, a laminator, and signage to display Dewey call numbers. Shirley took time to reflect on the success of 2015. But she quickly pointed out it could not have been done without the help and support of the community. She wished to thank businesswoman **Laura Thompson** who donated three large boxes of materials to be sold during the fall book sale last October. Thompson then handed out nearly 60 books to students who turned out for a special library program. Also, she extended gratitude to FOSAPL President **Karen Matson** for her generous donation of \$150 to the Carver Friends in memory of her husband, **James**. Funds will be used for children's and teen services at the branch. The Book Nook, a collaborative effort of the Carver Friends and library staff, brought in additional funds to support library services and resources for the branch.

Thanks went to **John A. Coleman** who constructed the Book Nook, which was installed last summer and has attracted generous donations.

*DL Grant*

## Igo

The Friends of the Igo Branch Library invite you to visit and participate in these

and other programs during Jan. and Feb. 2016.

The Igo Friends will be conducting our next Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, Feb. 13, 10–5, and on Sunday, Feb. 14, 1–4.

Need tech help or help with your mobile or e-reader device? Sign up for a 30-min. appointment on Jan. 4 or 18 between 5–7:30. Library staff will assist you in learning how to use your mobile device, tablet, or new laptop in conjunction with downloading digital content (such as eBooks, eAudiobooks, movies and music) from SAPL. Call 210-207-9080 or email [joseph.gonzales3@sanantonio.gov](mailto:joseph.gonzales3@sanantonio.gov) to register for a 30-minute appointment.

*Jose Duran*

## Las Palmas

Election of officers—Those re-elected to serve this term, for 2016-17, are President **Delia Ramirez Trimble**, Vice President **Linda Arronge**, Secretary/Treasurer **Vicky Enciso**.

The holiday celebrations at the Library included decorating Christmas trees donated by the Friends plus welcoming a new Assistant Manager and then saying goodbye to the staff members from Collins Gardens Library who are going back to their newly renovated “home.”

The Las Palmas Library is also welcoming a new Manager in January. We're looking forward to meeting and making additional plans for 2016.

To capitalize on the promotions accompanying the premiere of the newest Star Wars movie, Teen Librarian **Connie Hejl** organized a timely program entitled “Star Wars: the Library Awakens” that invited persons of all ages to come and celebrate the Star Wars universe. Our Friends group

provided some treats and snacks for the event.

One of our newest members, **Gloria Almaraz**, wrote an article for a Westside community newspaper. The article focused on “Christmas at the Library.”

Next month, our Friends group will start sorting books from our storage area for the Book Nook that continues to be one source of income for us. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for this venture.

*Delia Ramirez Trimble*

## Maverick

SAVE THE DATE! On Saturday, Feb. 13, join the Maverick Friends and staff as we celebrate Maverick's 10th Anniversary.

We're planning a day full of activities for everyone, starting with a Gerald and Piggie puppet show at 11 a.m. Dinosaur George will start his presentation for all ages at noon. A Balloonamations artist will work magic with balloons from 1–2:30. The King William Jazz Quartet will round out the day with an appearance starting at 3.

**Rick and Janice Meuse** from the San Antonio Police Department Volunteers in Policing will be on hand to offer free fingerprint and DNA records for children. The children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian who will be given the kit to take home for safekeeping.

Weather permitting, San Antonio Pets Alive will host pet adoptions during the anniversary party. You could go home with a new family member!

Other performers or activities may be added as we get closer to the date.

Since no party is complete without some nibbles, the

Friends will be serving light refreshments throughout the day.

We hope to see many of our Friends at the party.

*Sue Ratliff*

## Mission

The Friends of Mission Library purchased a toddler play-scape to enhance the program. Once set up, our smallest visitors quickly gravitated toward it. Toddlers climbed, crawled, and explored the feature. Others browsed board books while sitting in it. For some, the play-scape created a cozy, personal reading nook. It was a big hit.

On Nov. 19, Mission Library held a Thanksgiving Day luncheon provided by the Friends of Mission Library. A menu of turkey, ham, gravy, and stuffing from the local restaurant Snoga's BBQ was enjoyed.

*Josie Martinez*

## Parman

Parman Library has enjoyed a busy fall season! We kicked it off with our National Night Out event, which was a great success. The School of Rock performed while patrons played yard games and enjoyed hot dogs and sweets. This was followed by our Halloween Carnival & Spooky Walk. More than 2,000 visitors enjoyed games, food, crafts and spooky fun. In Nov., Parman hosted a Market Fair, the first of this type of fundraiser for Friends groups. Local artisans of all varieties offered their handmade creations to the public. Patrons and staff alike had fun shopping for the holidays. The following weekend, Parman held its annual fall book sale. Patrons enjoyed the wide variety of books, CDs &

*Membership cont on p 7.*

DVs offered through generous public donations.

**Rhonda Matson**

## Thousand Oaks

Thousand Oaks Friends were pleased with the results of our book sale on Saturday, Dec. 5. Although we are a small group, we always seem to have a solid group of Friends turn out for the set-up on Friday and the one-day sale on Saturday, making it a social event as well as a sale. THO's manager **Troy Lawrence** came on his Saturday off to support the sale and brought coffee and donuts for the volunteers. Thank you, **Troy**. We appreciate you. We're looking forward to supporting the Library's events for children, and we will be giving gift cards from the Friends for distribution to the staff at their Christmas celebration.

We treated ourselves on Dec. 17 at Los Patios with a Christmas luncheon for Friends members.

In a quick survey at the checkout desk at our book sale, we asked shoppers if they were members of FOSAPL, and about 75% said they belonged to a Friends group. So, thanks Friends, for supporting other group book sales. It's great to be part of an organization that supports each other.

**Pat Peak**

## Next 50 Year Celebration

**Christie Smith**

Fifty-eight Friends gathered at La Hacienda de Los Barrios on Sunday, November 15, to celebrate 50 years of Friends' service to the San Antonio Public Library (more photos on [friends-ofsapl.org](http://friends-ofsapl.org)). Just about every branch was represented by the lively group, including a nice contingent of current and past BookCellar volunteers. La Hacienda provided a delicious buffet, and the wait and management staff were very gracious and attentive. Though our President **Karen Matson** was taken ill at the last minute and unable to attend, she sent favors of commemorative pens for the attendees, which were a big hit. Though we can't offer *gratis* social gatherings like this regularly, the camaraderie and conversation experienced suggest that future "all-Friends" gatherings would be welcome. Many thanks to Karen for spearheading this event and to **Mike Belisle** and **Beth Graham** for their assistance with the event.





## From the Library Director

Dear Friends,

The San Antonio Public Library announced the public opening of a world class exhibit by an innovative artist at the Central Library Gallery in December. "The Book Garden" by Taiwanese artist Long-Bin Chen – who's based in New York City – is a series of sculptures, appearing to



be stone, that are actually carved from books, newspapers, and magazines. This innovative artist uses printed materials for medium as he embarks in a transformational journey that blends East and West, by incorporating Asian iconography with imagery from other cultures. I hope that hosting this exhibit will inspire our community and encourage artistic expressions in all its forms. It is the Library's goal to continue to play a pivotal role in the growth of the arts in San Antonio.

In addition, we invite the public to join the Library in commemorating Dream Week 2016 – from January 8 through January 19 – in San Antonio. This is a special time to promote the exchange of ideas on universal issues that face multicultural communities and promote the voices of tolerance, equality and diversity – advancing the teaching of Martin Luther King, Jr. The Thousand Oaks Branch Library will recognize Dream Week with an interactive display where patrons will be able to write out their dreams. Also, the Carver Branch Library will hold an M.L.K. Celebration on January 9. Please, visit [mySAPL.org](http://mySAPL.org) and [dreamweek.org](http://dreamweek.org) for more information.

Finally, the Library celebrates the important role of African Americans in our society during Black History Month in February. A variety of events and programs will take place at several branch locations throughout this month that offer a contemporary look at Black History Month while addressing historical narrative. Visit [mySAPL.org](http://mySAPL.org) for more information.

Come and visit us to start your year inspired by the transformational programs the Library holds to celebrate our diverse community.

**Ramiro Salazar**

## Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

### *In Memory of by*

Brian Eckler	Lora Devlon Eckler
Larry Kirkpatrick	Juan Alvarado, Nancy Gandara, Karen Matson, Barbara Wilkinson

### *In Honor of by*

Julia F. Pouliot	David and Irene Pouliot
Jessica Zurita	Nancy Gandara

### *Donations*

Lita Anderlitch	Dale McNeill
Roberto and Rosie Anguiano	Rick and Diane Malone
Tom and Margaret Aslakson	Natalie Masino
Karen Baker	Carol Myers
Rebecca Baker	Joyce Obos
Josie Cannon	Carolyn Petersen
Christine Chemell	Patricia Porter and Kurt Steuck
Donald and Betty Child	Reuben and Sally Rendon
Jose and Beverly Duran	Marlene Richardson
Paul Fitzpatrick and Susan C. Daubner	Paul Rode
Bonnie Flake and Francisco O. Garcia	Jim and Denise Schneider
Nancy Gandara	Joanne Seymour
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Gracy	Douglas Smith
Carol and Donald Graves	Veronica Stevens
Manfred and Jane Groth	Patrick Swearingen, Jr.
Pat Hammond	Enrique and Earline Valdez
George C. Hixon	Dru Van Steenberg
Patricia Jordt	Bettie B. Ward
Michael and Michelle Kershaw	Mary Allyn Watson
Lucille Lammert	Jill Zimmerman
Patsy Light	

## Mission Friends Activities

*The Mission Library Table Tennis for Adults program continues to be a popular feature. The Friends made the initial purchase of equipment and added equipment as the program grows in popularity. Novice and expert players mix it up during a doubles game.*



*Mission Library was excited and proud to host a traveling art show sponsored by the San Antonio Parks and Recreation. ArtAbility offers the opportunity for Senior artists to showcase their beautiful works of art.*



*Learning through play is an important component of Baby Time and Toddler Time. The Friends of Mission Library purchased a toddler playscape to enhance the program. It was a big hit.*

## The BookCellar Internet Sales Project

Linda Cheatum

The BookCellar is trying to grow sales by increasing its presence on the Internet. We have a Facebook page, use Twitter, etc. and maintain a mailing list of customers to notify about sales. We are looking for FOSAPL members who might want to offer guidance and support as we attempt to reach customers interested in our higher priced vintage and new items.

We are forming a group to look into avenues in addition to Amazon such as "online garage sale" sites that might offer quicker turn-around time where customers could come in and pick up the book. If you have experience or knowledge of these sites, can recommend ways to reach high-end customers, or are interested in advising our task force, please contact

**Linda Cheatum** at  
[Lcheatum@satx.rr.com](mailto:Lcheatum@satx.rr.com).

**Happy New Year! Gelukkige Nuwejaar sretna nova godina šťastný nový rok Gelukkig Nieuwjaar**

سال نو مبارک **Bliadhna**

**mhath ur Frohes Neues Jahr / Gutes Neues Jahr**

**Καλή χρονιά טובה שנה**

**साल की हार्दिक शुभकामनायें**

**Boldog Új Évet / Buék**

**Athbhliain faoi mhaise dhuit / Bhliain nua sásta**

**Buon anno / Felice anno**

**nuovo あけましておめでとう**

**うございます 새해 복 많이**

**받으세요 С Новым Годом**

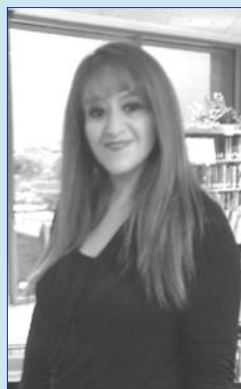
**Feliz Año Nuevo**

## BookCellar News

Pat Konstam

**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**

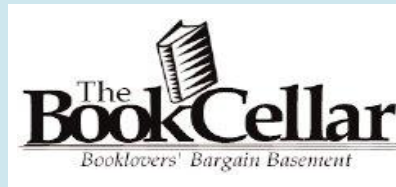
**Marina Rhodes**, the new BookCellar manager, began work in late October. Her initial focus has been understanding the store's unique operations, getting to know its staff of about 45 volunteers, and making it look more attractive to customers. A New Mexico native with long retail experience, she has managed independent stores for the last eight years.



Six volunteers received purple aprons recognizing completion of their first 50 hours of work in the store at the BookCellar's annual volunteer appreciation lunch Nov. 11. They are **Melva Alonzo-Bernal, Dennis Fortassin, Brittany Jenkins, Victoria Suarez, Linda Moore, and Betty Walters**. Four others received green aprons symbolizing more than 2,000 hours of work during their BookCellar careers. They are **Linda Arronge, Ira Lott, Andrea Mason, and Bob Mason**. For putting in more than 5,000 hours over the years, **Richard Morales** was awarded a blue apron. Many other volunteers got additional 50-hour patches to sew on their purple aprons.

**Mary Chance**, who tracks volunteer hours, recorded 9,264 hours donated from Nov. 1, 2014, through Oct. 31, 2015. That averages 26 hours every day the store is open.

The lunch at Azuca Nuevo Latino restaurant, sponsored by Friends of the Library, was attended by 50 volunteers and guests. **Evelyn Bonavita** headed the arrangements committee.



Volunteers sometimes introduce the BookCellar at events outside Central Library. **Loretta Van Coppennolle** and **Dennis Fortassin** collected, transported and sold BookCellar books on trees and landscaping at the San Antonio Arbor Day Celebration and Tree Adoption in Rosedale Park on Nov. 7. The event was sponsored by Alamo Forest Partnership, of which Loretta is a board member, and the City Parks and Recreation Department.

**Anna Cleve**, the lead volunteer on Mondays, has rejoined the BookCellar Committee.

The *San Antonio Express-News* book section has made another large donation of review copies of new books to be sold to benefit the Library System. These attractive books are popular with customers, and the store is fortunate to receive them.

The buy-one-get-one-free special this month is regularly priced adult and children's Dewey Decimal 600s. The 600s provide timely help with such New Year's resolutions as improving health and fitness, finding a new or better job, or getting organized.

An additional BOGO this month will be all adult paperback fiction, and all audio books will be half their regular price of \$1 to \$3.

The February BOGO will be regularly priced biographies for adult or juvenile readers. In addition, special sales will mark the month's many celebrations: Black History, Valentine's Day, and Presidents' Day. Additional new arrivals and specials will be announced on the store's social media sites.

Remember that you now get three hours of free parking at Central Library, giving more time to browse and shop.



[www.facebook.com/BookCellarSA](http://www.facebook.com/BookCellarSA)



<https://twitter.com/BookCellarSA>



BookCellar\_sa



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## Participate in Dream Week with the SAPL

The community is invited to join the San Antonio Public Library in commemorating Dream Week 2016 – from January 8 through January 19.

Dream Week is a special time to promote the exchange of ideas regarding universal issues that multicultural communities presently face and to promote voices of tolerance, equality, and diversity – advancing the teaching of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Thousand Oaks Branch Library will participate in Dream Week 2016 with an interactive display. Patrons are invited to write out their dreams, and the staff will post them on the display. The display will open to the public for the sharing of dreams for the duration of Dream Week.

In addition, the Carver Branch Library will hold an M.L.K Celebration on Saturday, January 9, from 2–3 p.m. A presentation and lecture will be delivered by Associate Professor **Carey H. Latimore IV**, PhD, with Trinity University Department of History.

Please, visit [mySAPL.org](http://mySAPL.org) and [dream-week.org](http://dream-week.org) to find out more information and details about Dream Week 2016.

## SAPL Hosts Transformational Art Exhibit

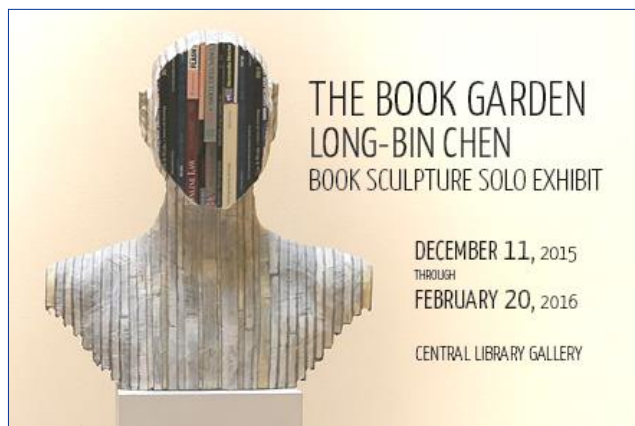
The San Antonio Public Library announced the public opening of a world class exhibit by an innovative artist at the Central Library Gallery in December.

“The Book Garden” by world renowned Taiwanese artist **Long-Bin Chen** is a series of sculptures, appearing to be stone, that are actually carved from books, newspapers, and magazines. This transformational exhibit is open to the public at the Central Library Gallery through February 20. Exhibit hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 4–8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Group tours are available. Those interested can call 210-207-2577 for more information.

This New York City based artist uses printed materials as medium during a journey that blends East and West, by incorporating Asian iconography with imagery from other cultures.

The hosting of “The Book Garden” in San Antonio has been possible thanks to the partnership with the International Relations Office and Economic Development

Department of the City of San Antonio, the Department for Culture & Creative Development, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Taiwan Academy of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.



Brook Hollow Friends funded a Teddy Bear Sleepover, hosted by the library staff in November. Children delivered their teddy bears or other stuffed animals to the Library on Nov. 19 for a sleepover. A slide show of the teddy bear sleepover activities is on [friendsofsapl.org](http://friendsofsapl.org).



## Cody Friends Activities



A coffee was held at the Cody Library for all the volunteers who assisted with the October book sale. We were able to mingle and get to know many of the volunteers and their areas of interest better. Book Sale chair **Judy Malter** thanked all the volunteers for their extraordinary efforts.

The new book cart for the "year round book sale" was introduced to those in attendance. Subsequently, members of the Cody Friends Board have met with all Cody Book Clubs and the Film Club to introduce the book cart. We're also holding a contest to "name the cart." After just a few weeks, we are very pleased with the results of book cart sales.

**Mark your calendar to attend the Friends annual meeting, January 10, 2 p.m., at Central Library.**

**SAPL Assistant Library Director *Kathy Donellan* will be our guest speaker.**

## FOSAPL Board Proposes Changes to Bylaws

Nancy Gandara

On Nov. 15, 2015, the Board of Directors voted to request the general membership to consider taking action to make the following two changes to our bylaws, at the Annual Meeting of Jan. 10, 2016:

— **Article VI. Officers, Elections, Duties and Powers, Section 3:** In the sentence that currently reads "Officers elected at the annual meeting shall immediately take office and hold same for two (2) years and until their successors are elected and qualified . . .", the recommendation is that the phrase "and qualified" be dropped. Since no "qualifications" or "qualifying" processes are described anywhere in the bylaws or standing rules, this phrase ("and qualified") is meaningless.

— **Article X. Amendments, Section 2:** The recommendation is to add the phrase "regular or special" to the sentence, so that it would read, "These bylaws may be amended or new bylaws adopted at any annual, regular or special meeting of the members of this corporation in accordance with the following procedures and conditions : . . ." During discussion, a case was made that the process for amending the bylaws would not be changed by adding these new opportunities for amending or adding to them, and that this change would allow more attention to the revisions that may be proposed, in the future.

For the complete bylaws, see <http://www.awacommunications.com/FOSAPL/website/FOSAPL-By-laws.pdf>.

## Las Palmas Friends Activities



Councilwoman **Shirley Gonzales** reading to the children

Playing a Star Wars game



## Interview with John Doe

Stephanie Serrata

Back in May I was walking into Central, my hands loaded with a bag of sausage biscuits and small coffees from McDonald's. As I was waiting for the main doors to open, an elderly man approached me and asked if I'd be willing to trade whatever I had in the bag for a newspaper he had stolen from the nearby Valero. I told him that I wasn't interested in a "trade" but that I'd give him a biscuit and a cup of coffee. I handed over the items and left to go work my shift in the BookCellar. The same thing happened the following weekend, and we soon developed a pattern that led to me learning little bits about him at each meeting. He's been in the BookCellar a few times to rummage through our freebies. One weekend, he asked me what he needed to do to volunteer in the BookCellar, and I explained that it was as easy as filling out the form and paying the annual dues. Not long after that, he turned in his unsealed form along with his dues. When I finally looked at the envelope, I realized that he listed himself as "**John Doe**." There was no address or branch selection. I haven't seen him since September, and I still look for him every time I'm at Central. All I know about him is that he has no family in San Antonio, and he had a son who was stabbed to death at a friend's birthday party. I did try to persuade him to let me help him contact a few organizations that could help him with shelter

and food, but he never seemed interested and I wasn't going to push the issue.

My acquaintance with this gentleman hit me in a way that I was not prepared for. I figured he had to be about my father's age (75 or 76), and every time I saw him I found myself wondering what I would do if my father needed help, and I was unable to provide it, even in the smallest way. John made me realize that I'm very fortunate. He also made me realize that I'm quick to judge people and situations of which I have no real understanding. It's one of the things I dislike about myself. John Doe shared some difficult and hurtful things about his past, and I shared almost nothing about my personal life. Perhaps sharing food with him from time to time was a defense mechanism which allowed me to give something back while keeping my distance at the same time. I have no answers and probably never will. I also wonder about why he joined the "Friends." I don't think he had a genuine interest in volunteering at the BookCellar, and I doubt seriously he was looking for any kind of recognition. What I am certain of is that he is a "Friend" of the library, and I held in my hand the envelope that proves it.

So ... did I ask John Doe if I could interview him? The answer to that question is, "yes and no." Yes, I did ask the question and he did say, "yes." He said that I could share his brief story, but that it would

only be a comment on a dull and unremarkable life. I've never had anyone say that to me before. Did I get his final review and approval? No, I did not.

Normally, I send my finished column to my subject for any revisions, but that didn't happen in this case. I guess I'll just tell myself that John Doe would have been happy with the finished product.

To the readers: Granted, this is not my typical "Getting to know your friends" column. While I love and appreciate the fact that I'm given the opportunity to share with you the lives of very intelligent and educated people, I know that I'm not always going to hear beautiful stories with happy endings. I believe that only happens in a perfect world. After all, how can we all have wonderful and amazing stories? If John Doe's story taught me anything, it was that.

Until next time....

## Join SAPL for Black History Month

The San Antonio Public Library celebrates the important role of African Americans in our country during Black History Month.

The Library invites the community to enjoy a variety of events and programs that will take place at several branch locations – starting in January and throughout February – that offer a contemporary look at Black History Month while addressing historical narrative.

These Black History Month events include (See page 8 for addresses):

- Opening/reception for the art exhibit "Reviving Benin: The History of an African Festival," January 14, 6–7 p.m., Carver Branch Library
- Opening/reception for the art exhibit "Reviving Benin: The History of an African Festival," January 19, 6:30–7:30 p.m., Parman Branch Library
- Movie screening of "Glory Road," February 2, 2–4 p.m., Carver Branch Library
- Stranger than Fiction book group, February 11, 2–3:30 p.m., Westfall Branch Library
- Unlocking your family tree through the Freedmen's Bureau Project, February 13, 2–3:30 p.m., Central Library

Visit [mySAPL.org](http://mySAPL.org), for more information about the events and programs.



### "21st Century FRIENDS: Silver, Gold, and Green" Workshop to be held in Spring

The date is still to be determined.

Topics include:

- Raising money: use new technology, improve your book sales
- Membership: recruit and retain more members
- Spending: faster, more efficient procedures

If you want to share your ideas or make sure that certain issues are covered, contact **Nancy Gandara** at [nancy.gandara@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancy.gandara@sbcglobal.net).



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library  
2016 FOSAPL Budget  
Approved at the FOSAPL Board Meeting on November 15, 2015

<b>FOSAPL INCOME</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	
BookCellar sales	81,500.00	Estimate based on 2015
BookCellar sales tax withheld		
Donations and memorials	1,200.00	Estimate based on 2015
Interest	400.00	Estimate based on 2015
Membership	7,400.00	Estimate based on 2015
<b>FOSAPL INCOME</b>	<b>90,500.00</b>	
<b>BUDGET EXPENSES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	
Accounting	1,200.00	Payroll return, Income taxes
Arts and Letters program	700.00	Annual Program
PayPal Charges	50.00	Transaction Fees
FOSAPL Board expenses	300.00	Refreshments \$50 x 6 meetings
FOSAPL Insurance	1,000.00	Bond/Liability
Development Day	300.00	Workshop Resources
Membership recruitment	1,000.00	Membership forms/envelopes
Newsletter prep/editing & printing	3,650.00	SAPLing/Editor/PC Mailing/Bonus
Office supplies	400.00	Envelopes, Folders, Checks
Postage	1,300.00	Bulk mail, PO Box, Postage
President's expenses	200.00	
SA Book Festival	300.00	
Seed money for new groups	200.00	Proposed new library groups
Website maintenance	1,200.00	Webmaster, monthly fees
<b>FOSAPL Budget Expense Total</b>	<b>11,800.00</b>	
<b>BookCellar Expenses</b>		
Advertising	300.00	Signs/Advertising/Marketing
Book sale(s)	1,000.00	Expenses/office supplies
Commodities for resale	2,400.00	Water/Soda/Book Bags
Equipment and maintenance	1,000.00	Maintain equip/new cart
BookCellar insurance	1,100.00	Workers Comp/Accident
Printing and copying	350.00	Forms/bookmarks/flyers/cards
Salary and benefits	16,200.00	Monthly salary, benefits, bonus
Volunteer appreciation	1,250.00	Annual luncheon/aprons/badges
<b>Book Cellar Budget Expense Total</b>	<b>23,600.00</b>	
<b>Library Support</b>		
Public programming & staff development	55,000.00	
Donations from FOSAPL members		
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life members		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES</b>	<b>90,400.00</b>	



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## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Dec. 11–Feb. 20 The Book Garden, Long-Bin Chen book sculpture solo exhibit, Central Library

January 8–19 Dream Week 2016

January 9 M.L.K Celebration, 2–3 p.m., Carver Library

**January 10 FOSAPL Annual Meeting, Central Library, 2**

January 29 Friends of Landa Library Preview sale, 4–5:30

January 30 Friends of Landa Library book sale, 10–4:30

February 6 Semmes book sale 10 a.m., preview Feb 5, 10-11:30 for FOSAPL members

February 13 Maverick Branch 10th anniversary celebration

February 13–14 Igo Book and Bake Sale (10-5, Saturday; 1-4, Sunday)

**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.

Carver Library  
3350 E. Commerce St, 78220  
210-207-9180

Central Library  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
210-207-2500

Igo Library  
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249  
210-207-9080 (also TTY)

Landa Library  
233 Bushnell, 78212  
210-207-9090

Maverick Library  
8700 Mystic Park, 78254  
210-207-9060

Parman Library at Stone Oak  
20735 Wilderness Oak  
210-207-2703

Semmes Library  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247  
210-207-9110

Westfall Library  
6111 Rosedale Court, 78201  
210-207-9220