



News from the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Volume 28, Number 6

November–December 2016



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-San-Antonio-Public-Library/363234420407307>

From the President

Dear Friends,

*"No matter what, there is always,
always, something to be grateful for."*

—Anonymous

As we move into the final two months of 2016, I want to mention some people and events that have contributed to the success and sustainability of our San Antonio Public Library and for whom we can all be grateful.

I hope you were able to attend the Arts and Letters Awards ceremony this past October 23. Sponsored by the FRIENDS, this event recognized **Bill Gundry**, **Susie Monday**, and **Anson Seal**, three local artists who have inspired and entertained us through their performances, their art, and their photographic innovation. Thanks to **Jose Duran**, **Robert Mason**, and their outstanding committee for selecting this year's recipients and planning a classy afternoon event.

Thanks to **Beth Graham** and **Nancy Gandara** who designed the eye-catching membership/coupon post card you will be receiving in the mail very soon. It is a reminder that our 2017 Membership Drive has begun! With each paid-up 2017 FRIENDS membership, this post card will entitle you to one free regular-price book at the BookCellar located in the basement of Central Library. It's our way of saying "Thank you" for being a FRIEND and our invitation for you to browse among the 20,000 books, CDs, and audio tapes. We hope you will find something to purchase there as well.

We can all be grateful for the significant progress toward completion of the Schaefer and Potranco branch libraries. The grand opening for the Potranco Branch Library is set for Friday, November 4, beginning at 4:00 p.m., followed by family friendly activities. The Schaefer Branch Library is progressing with the grand opening date of Winter 2017.

Please mark your calendars to attend the Annual Meeting set for Sunday afternoon (2:00 p.m.), January 22, 2017, at Central Library.

Thanks to the work of the Nominating Committee (**Robert Mason**, Chair; **Denise Barlow**; **Grizzley Cloud**; and **Diane Duesterhoeff**) we will be electing officers and several enthusiastic board members.

We will also vote on changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules and have a noteworthy address from **Ramiro Salazar**, Executive Director of SAPL.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

In FRIENDSHIP,

Karen Matson



BookCellar 50% Off Holiday Sale

Saturday, November 26, through Sunday, December 11

**Central Library Basement
Open 11–3 every day plus 3–7 Thursdays**

Check out our mysteries, histories, science fiction, paperbacks, record albums, books on CD, DVDs, romances—you name it.

Everything will be on sale
*except commodities, easy readers, cabinet vintage books, and
juvenile Spanish books.*

This is your chance to stock up on gifts for
everyone on your list.

3 hours of free parking

Telephone (210) 227-9519

2016 Arts & Letters Awards



Photos by Jill Zimmerman

Following the Arts & Letters Awards, a lovely reception was held in the Central Library Gallery. More photos will be posted on friendsofsapl.org as soon as they are available.

Board Meeting Locations, 2 p.m.

November 20, 2016 – Semmes

January 22, 2017 – Annual Meeting – Central Library Auditorium

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting

Sunday, September 18, 2016
Submitted by *Nancy Gandara, Secretary*

The Board of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library met on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016, at the Igo Branch Library.

President **Karen Matson** called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Secretary **Nancy Gandara** called the roll, and declared that a quorum was present.

Board members present were: **Karen Matson, Robert Mason, Beverly Duran, Nancy Gandara, Kimberly Cauthon, Shirley Coleman, Jose Duran, Beth Graham, Beverly Harris, Pat Konstam, Pat Mendiola, Mary McAfee, Rowena Rodgers, Veronica Rouse, Stephanie Serrata, Ann Springer, Delia Trimble, Sandra Wilkinson and Jill Zimmerman. Lori Gonzalez** (San Pedro) and **Delores Huber** (Guerra) were present as voting liaisons of their respective branch Friends' groups. Also in attendance were Correspondence Secretary **Sheila Figueroa** and **Al Rakus** of the Friends of the Igo Branch Library.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved and seconded to accept the Minutes of the meeting of July 17, 2016, as printed in the Sept/Oct 2016 issue of SAPL-ings, and the motion passed unanimously.

President's Report: **Karen Matson** summarized the many events and meetings that she had attended during the past two months: these included "Summerfest" to celebrate the finale of the Summer Reading Program, a Back-to-School Fair, the 50th Birthday of the McCreless Branch, and two meetings of the Board of Trustees. President Matson noted that she and **Nancy Gandara** were meeting with staff and community members to reacti-

vate Friends' groups to support the Bazan, Collins Garden, and Forest Hills branches.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer **Bev Duran** presented the Treasurer's Report of Aug. 31, 2016. As of that date FOSAPL had total assets of \$229,020.81, of which \$109,055.75 was designated for branch groups, and checks in the amount of \$5,312.87 were outstanding. Treasurer Duran mentioned several expenses that had been incurred during the past two months and that branch groups had made donations to their respective branches of more than \$6,783.84 during that time. **Jose Duran** moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, pending audit, and **Beth Graham** seconded the motion, which passed.

LIAISON REPORTS

Assistant Library Director **Dale McNeill** noted that the City of San Antonio budget for FY 2016-17 that the City Council adopted on Sept. 15 was a good budget for the Library Department. It included \$1.9 million for the operation of the Schaeffer and Potranco Branches, \$715K for replacement of some public computers, \$200K for furniture replacement at designated branches, \$260K for installation of security cameras in some branches, \$370K for deferred maintenance projects at the Landa Branch, and funds to upgrade and replace the circulation and inventory computer system. As had been previously negotiated under the interlocal agreement with Bexar County, there will be a reduction of \$300K to the library materials budget. Lastly, he invited the Friends to attend the kick-off of the Mayor's Book Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Arts & Letters Awards: **Jose Duran** reminded the board that the Awards will be made on Oct. 23 at 2 p.m., at the Central Library and urged them to attend.

BookCellar: **Richard Morales** reported that **Andrea Mason** had completed her probationary employment successfully. In response to a concern about the safety hazard posed by the number of boxes in public areas of the store, he said that they had received an unusual number of large donations recently and were working hard to sort and shelve them.

Membership Secretary: in **Linda Cheatum's** absence, **Stephanie Serrata** gave the report. She noted that 87 new members had joined since Jan. 2016 and that anyone who joins or renews for 2017 will receive a postcard (via USPS) that will acknowledge their membership and act as a "coupon" for a regular-price book at the Book-Cellar.

Nominating Committee: **Bob Mason** said that the committee had met and was working to recruit candidates for the officer positions and board for the 2017-2019 term.

OLD BUSINESS

BookCellar Silver Cellar-bration: **Karen Matson** reviewed the activities of the event held on Sept. 10, which included heart-warming remembrances by former volunteers and customers, drawings for nine attendance prizes, distribution of a keepsake historical brochure (originally written by **Pat Konstam**, and updated by **Nancy Gandara**), "Texas

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 MatsonPresident
Robert Mason Vice President
Nancy Gandara Secretary
Beverly Duran Treasurer
Linda Arronge Immediate Past Pres

MEMBERSHIP

SECRETARY [Linda Cheatum](#)

BOARD MEMBERS

2015-2017 Term:

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

2016-2018 Term:

Arline Braswell • Kimberly
Cauthon • Linda Cheatum • Shirley
Coleman • Jose Duran • Antoinette
Franklin • Bruce Gill • Beverly
Harris • Linda Janney • Mary
McAfee • Liz McLeod • Landon
Middleton • Rowena Rodgers •
Veronica Rouse • Sandra
Wilkinson • Jill Zimmerman

SAPLINGS

Managing Editor..... Alana Woods

Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at 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, 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 • Bruce Gill •
Stephanie Serrata • Alana Woods
Karen Matson.....Ex Officio

Minutes, from p 2.

tea,” cookies, and silver-wrapped chocolates.

Implementation of Standing Rule 1H and Book Dealers:

President Matson asked for discussion of this item as questions had arisen during the past couple of months about it. During the discussion, it became apparent that the issues which had been problematic for the BookCellar (i.e., book dealers who took advantage of their access to items they could sell for personal profit) were not considered to be as much of a problem for the branch Friends’ groups. A Task Force, composed of **Jill Zimmerman, Bob Mason, Pat Mendiola, and Nancy Gandara** [chair], was charged with drafting substitute language for the board to consider.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 Membership Drive:

President Matson explained the objectives of the “membership drive postcard” in greater detail and noted that procedures would be implemented to track the subsidiary revenue realized from shoppers who visit the BookCellar to redeem their membership coupon. **Beth Graham’s** offer to design the postcard was gratefully accepted.

Authorize Budget Committee to Propose 2017 FOSAPL Operating Budget: **Beth Graham** made the motion to authorize **Bev Duran, Judy Wilson, Delia Trimble, Nias Harris, and Richard Morales** for this committee. **Mary McAfee** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

After expressing her appreciation for the refreshments that had been provided by the Friends of the Igo Branch, President Matson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting: the motion was made by **Sandra Wilkinson**, seconded by **Jose Duran**, and the meeting was adjourned.



Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow annual book sale, held Sept. 17, was a huge success, netting just under \$3,200. From the time set-up began on Thursday, Sept. 15, until the last unsold book was put away or packed away on Sunday, Sept. 18, we had 22 Friends (slightly more than one-third of our members!) participate in the book sale process. Thanks to everybody who helped make the sale a success – especially to **Pat Bjornson**, who has coordinated the branch’s book sales since their inception and who has made the operation run flawlessly for years! A day or two after the sale, Pat took several boxes of unsold DVDs and CDs to Half-Price Books and added another \$23 to our book sale proceeds.

We boxed up and donated several thousand of our unsold books to the PTA for their upcoming sale at Blossom Athletic Field. We’re able to donate these books because of the great support we receive from neighbors in the community, who donate their books on an ongoing basis. These books make their way onto our book cart, generating sales of \$75–80 per week.

A plaque has been placed on the very popular tiny play house in the children’s area, in recognition of a generous donation recently received from **Harriet Porterfield**, a long-time member of the Brook Hollow Friends.

The Friends of the Brook Hollow Branch Library was organized in 1997 and will celebrate its 20th anniversary

in 2017. An anniversary committee has been formed and has begun planning for the anniversary celebration, which will probably occur in April 2017.

Our regular membership meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 3, at 1 p.m. at the Brook Hollow Branch Library.
Pat Finley

Cody

Cody had a very successful sale in October! Our volunteers did a wonderful job setting up and assisting patrons in finding the genres they were looking for.

We are most grateful to our book donors. Thank you for thinking of us and making the semi-annual sales successful. Proceeds will continue to support our Cody library.

Thank you again to our many book donors and volunteers.

Thank you, also, to **Judy Malter** who has served as book sale chair for several years; **Lynette Poss** for her librarian skills and expertise in organizing; and **Diana Sanchez** and **Brenda Brumit** for their work on several key categories as well as pricing and displays.

Susan Bailey

Igo

The Friends of the Igo Branch Library invite you to visit and participate in our programs during November and December 2016.

We at the John Igo Branch are saddened with the recent passing of **Dr. John Igo**. He was a valued member of our Friends group and actively participated in several of our programs. He was especially fond of our Senior’s program, the “Elderberries.” The Igo Branch has a memorial area set up where individuals may

view several of the books, plays, and poems he wrote over his lifetime.

Need tech help or help with your mobile or e-reader device? Sign up for a 30-minute appointment. 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 or email joseph.gonzales3@sanantonio.gov to register for a 30-minute appointment.

Invite your teens to join us for the weekly teen program on Wednesday evenings at 7. Video games, board games, crafts—we have them all! Or, just come and hang out with all the other teens.

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016, 10:30–12:30, kids of all ages will be welcoming winter to San Antonio at this year’s “Winter Fest.” There may not be snow, but that doesn’t mean we can’t celebrate the season with some warm-hearted winter fun at the Igo Branch Library.

Jose Duran

Las Palmas

The “Citizenship Celebration,” coordinated by Library staff for Sept. 24 was well attended. Our Friends group did the decorations and refreshments for the activity. Of course, the pocket Constitutions we provided were a hit.

The Las Palmas H-E-B invited the Friends group to participate in their National Night Out on Oct. 4. Our thanks to the Friends who represented the Las Palmas Library at the event, alongside area businesses, agencies, organizations, and middle-school musical performers. We spoke to many folks who

Branch Leaves cont on p 4.

either learned more about Library services or who let us know they were already patrons of the Las Palmas Library. It was a great way to meet our neighbors.

The “Día de Los Muertos” program is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 2, 5:30–7:30 at the Library and the adjacent YWCA. The Library’s “partners” for this event are: student volunteers from Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU), Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, MetroHealth, and the YWCA. Plans are to have a number of stations with different activities for children and their families, to include information on the significance of this tradition in the Hispanic community.

Interestingly, the 10 students from OLLU formalized their work on the Día de Los Muertos program through an OLLU-sponsored Service-Learning Project Agreement with the Las Palmas Library and the Friends group. In this regard, the students and their professor did a site visit to the Las Palmas Library in late September after one of our Friends’ members visited their Leadership and Civic Responsibility class at the University to explain how they could help with marketing, etc. In fact, the students prepared a colorful flyer for the Nov. 2 event, copies of which were handed out during National Night Out. The students will also assist with the different stations in November.

Veterans will be honored at our “Veterans Day Observance” on Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 6:00–7:30 p.m. One of our members is reaching out to area veterans organizations for development of the relevant program.

The holidays are fast approaching, and we’ll start planning for a staff appreciation luncheon soon.

Delia Ramirez Trimble

Maverick

Our September Book Sale kept the Maverick Friends too busy to get into any mischief.

Thanks to a great job on publicity by **Kim Henage**, we had lots of shoppers. You can see photos of some of our discerning buyers on page 7.

As all Friends know, it takes many willing hands to put on a successful sale. We couldn’t have done it without **Roe Klepac; Barbara Franklin; Benjamin Steinhauer; Amanda Dickinson; Elizabeth and James Bircher; Kim and Kaitlyn Henage; Rick Meuse; Jody Summers; and Dillon Marsh.**

Of course there wouldn’t have been a sale without the support of our library staff. They make sure the room is ready for us to set up the sale and, more important, they always greet us with smiles when we arrive before the library is officially open.

Even though Summer Reading is over, we’re still supporting special programs for all ages at the library. Providing snacks, games and other supplies for **Lucy Villa’s** Teen Time is just one of the ways Maverick Friends support our library year round.

Future projects include spending some of our book sale proceeds on furniture for the library, planning the next book sale and our annual holiday dinner.

Our group meets in the library at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month except July and December. Friends are always welcome at Maverick.

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

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

August and September were busy times for the Friends of McCreless Library. The biggest event was that McCreless celebrated its 50th anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 21. It was well attended by patrons and city dignitaries, including District 3 Councilwoman **Rebecca J. Viagran**. Other activities included face painting, crafts, and rousing games of Twister. A local Boy Scout group also participated in a flag ceremony. The Friends were asked to provide and serve the refreshments. As you can see in the photos, green punch matching the green Friends t-shirt was served, along with a fabulous cake donated by H-E-B. Thanks to all Friends who refrigerated the punch ingredients at home and brought it in chilled for the celebration.

There were a few changes in personnel at McCreless Branch as well. Children’s Librarian **Leigh Bedford** is retiring after 23 years of service to SAPL. Library Manager **Cammie Brantley** assumed management duties at another library branch but joyfully joined the celebration of McCreless Library’s 50 years of library services to San Antonio (see photos, p 7 and friendsofsapl.org).

At our August general meeting, the Friends welcomed new Library Manager **Morgan Hansen**. Treasurer **Mary Gallagher** reports that, in August and September, the Friends held a successful book sale taking in \$306.44 to add to our budget for supporting the programs and staff. In addition, Treasurer **Mary Gallagher** reported \$66.80 from book cart sales, with an additional \$177.75 taken in from t-shirt sales. This funding will all go back to the library to support another successful 50 years of

library resources and services. Special thanks from McCreless Friends President **Paula Mas-sengale** to members who handed out book sale flyers to their neighbors. A special shout out to **Christal Villarreal** for bringing children’s books and *libros en Español* from the Book Cellar for our sale (she’s a regular volunteer at the Book-Cellar on Wednesdays).

Join us on Nov. 14 for the next general meeting and to elect our new officers. The next book sale will be held in January 2017 so save up great book donations and volunteer your support of the Friends activities.

Jill Zimmerman

Parman

Parman Library celebrated National Night Out with outdoor games and musical entertainment by the School of Rock.

The Friends of Parman Library hosted a Craft Show on Saturday, Oct. 15. Local artisans shared their arts, crafts, and services.

Parman Library also hosted their annual Halloween Carnival and Spooky Walk on Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 5 to 8. The carnival included games and food trucks.

Parman’s annual book sale will be Thursday, Nov. 10, from 10–6, Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10–6, and Sunday, Nov. 13, from 10–2. A wide variety of items will be available, including CDs, DVDs, popular fiction, and special markdowns.

The library will be closed Friday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veteran’s Day.

Rhonda Matson

Thousand Oaks

We all enjoyed our summer break and are eager to start the

Branch Leaves cont on p 5.

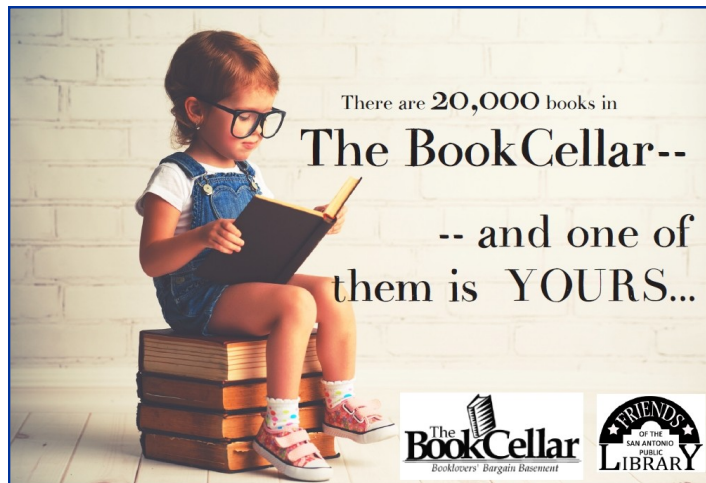
Branch Leaves, from p 4

new year at Thousand Oaks. **Pat Howell** gave a brief overview of events and activities at the library during the past few months, and **Betty Waters**, our new treasurer, brought us up to date on our funds. Our Branch Manager **Troy Lawrence** gave us an overview of the new finance plan the library has developed for the Friends group, which should make it easier for reimbursements.

We discussed our book sale set for Dec. 3 from 10–3, and we discussed several ideas to publicize the event.

This has been a sad year for our group as we said good bye to **Robbie Ruppert**. Robbie was a founding member of this group, and her enthusiasm and wisdom will be missed by all.

Ginger Hobbs



There are 20,000 books in
The BookCellar--
-- and one of
them is **YOURS...**

The BookCellar
Booklovers' Bargain Basement

FRIENDS OF THE
SAN ANTONIO
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

...as our **THANK YOU** for joining the
FRIENDS OF THE
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY!

Present this postcard to receive one **free**
regular-price* book per Friends member.

The BookCellar is open daily
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
and
Thursdays
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

3 hours free parking in the
Library Garage

Offer expires May 31, 2017.

*Excludes rare, antique, and specially-priced items.

BookCellar
Central Library Basement
600 Soledad
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Special Gift for Your Membership Renewal

Linda Cheatum

This year's renewal mailing includes a special reward (see above).

As a thank you for a prompt response to the 2017 renewal effort, members returning their payment will be sent an acknowledgement card granting their choice of a free regular-priced book from the BookCellar.

Details will be included in the mailing to members.

Also, any person who joins as a new member will be granted this reward. Membership will begin right away and extend through December 2017.

So, please return your membership envelopes as soon as you can. This will help us save the cost of a second reminder mailing.

*See photos of the BookCellar
Silver Cellar-bration on friendsofsapl.org*



*The doors just opened! These **Cody** book sale patrons were ready and waiting.*



Book Hollow Book Sale

*Above: Just
before sale
closing, people
were still shop-
ping. Right:
Cleaning up*



*Photos by **Pat Bjornson***

*after a sale is hard work, so we took a break for a pizza and salad lunch. Left to right: **Neal Bjornson, Pat Finley, Noreen Barsh, Becky Benesh, Pat Hawkinson, Sue Bowser, and Sabrina Stewart.***

Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

In Memory of

John Igo
Adam Serrata

by

Jose and Beverly Duran
Karen Matson

In Honor of

The Friends of the McCreless Library Karen Matson
The Friends of the Mission Library Margarita A. DeLeon

by

Donations

Dale McNeill
Maurisa L. Perotti

Paul Rode



Dear Friends,
We have just wrapped up a very successful Voter Registration campaign branded “Feed Your Freedom”. It was very well re-

ceived and played a large role in the record number of voter registrations in Bexar County this election year. As required by the state of Texas Election Code Chapter 20, every San Antonio Public Library location serves as an official voter registration site. Many of our locations will also serve as early voting sites and polling locations. Please encourage your friends, family, and neighbors who would like to vote early to visit elections.bexar.org for a list of early voting locations.

We have also kicked off the fall 2016 edition of the Mayor’s Book Club with Mayor **Ivy R. Taylor**. Her book choice this fall is a groundbreaking and powerful collection of essays and poems about race in the United States. We hope you will consider joining or starting a book club at your local branch.

We’re also excited to announce the opening of the Potranco Branch Library and Mays Family YMCA at Potranco. We will celebrate the grand opening on Nov. 4 at 4 p.m. with a ribbon cutting, family-friendly activities, and a movie screening. I invite you to visit and check out the unique and exciting co-location and partnership.

Speaking of grand openings, staff is hard at work preparing for the opening of the Schaefer Branch Library early next year. Stay tuned for more information in the next edition.

We hope everyone has a safe and joyful holiday season. Don’t forget to check out a book or eBook if you’ll be traveling. As always, thank you for everything you do to support the mission of your San Antonio Public Library.

Sincerely,

Ramiro Salazar

Getting to Know Your Friends Sheila Figueroa

Stephanie Serrata

I’ve heard **Sheila Figueroa’s** name many times over the last few years, but I haven’t had the pleasure of meeting her until recently. Several people have requested this interview, so here it is.

Sheila was born and raised in San Antonio. She graduated from Phillis Wheatley High School (aka Brackenridge H.S.) in 1977. During her senior year, Sheila was the first female colonel of a Junior ROTC Army program and is the first female corps commander of a high school program in Texas. She attended St. Mary’s University and became a sister of the Delta Phi Omega sorority. This organization helped raise funds during the Labor Day Telethons and held several functions that brought about community awareness about educational issues and promoted children’s literacy. Sheila earned a B.A. in Public Justice. She is a veteran of the legal field and began her legal career with Miller & Miller, a firm that specializes in worker’s compensation, personal injury, wills, and family law. After 11 years with Miller & Miller, Sheila joined Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company, which handles insurance defense for its policy holders. After an additional 11 years with Fireman’s Fund, Sheila joined The Law Office of J. Bradford Camp. Mr. Camp is a prominent San Antonio attorney who handles probate, oil and gas, and real estate cases. When I asked Sheila about what piqued her interest in the legal profession, she stated she’s always been fascinated by the fine-tuned inner workings of the justice system, and she wanted a career where she could see our legal system in action.

Aside from an extremely hectic schedule, Sheila finds time to mentor young women with InterVarsity, a Christian organization located on several college campuses nationwide. InterVarsity “recruits, trains, and helps care for college graduates who are called to minister to other students, and it also provides Bible studies for the campus ministry.”

Turning our conversation to her involvement with the library, Sheila informed me she is a current member of the Landa Friends. She is both a past vice president and secretary of the FOSAPL executive board, and was chairperson of the Arts and Letters Committee in 1999 and 2008. She stated that one of the most memorable guests to receive this prestigious award was Cary Clack, a former columnist for the San Antonio Express News. Sheila also served on the Arts and Letters Committee in 1998 and 2005 and said the task of going through all of the submitted applications is a difficult one because there are so many gifted artists within our community who deserve to have their talents and contributions recognized. Sheila said that “any future Arts and Letters Committee definitely has their job cut out for them. It’s not going to be easy by any means. I wish them good luck, and I’m certain they’ll do an amazing job.” Sheila is also the chairperson of the Honorariums and Memorials Committee. She said there are so many wonderful people and organizations who generously donate their money to the library, and it’s only right that the Friends show their appreciation in a public and respectful manner. Sheila began writing thank-you letters for

honorariums and memorials in the 1990s and attributes her writing abilities to her years in the legal field, as those skills are an integral part of the profession.

It was at this point in the interview that we shifted gears from education, career, and volunteer work to the more personal side of Sheila Figueroa. She enjoys cooking, baking, and going to the Majestic. I don’t mind saying that I was surprised to discover that she also enjoys hard rock music. She is a voracious reader and said Stephen King is one of her favorite authors. Sheila also shared with me that she loves animals and said her husband Raymond was an animal trainer with the San Antonio Zoo for 47½ years. I then asked my signature question: what do you want the readers to know about you? Her answer was simple and unassuming. Sheila told me that her dear friend **Lisa Burkhardt-Worley** once said, “if only we could live knowing we are in full view of our Savior, it would change the way we respond to many situations.” Sheila agrees with her friend, and I believe it’s a lovely thought.

Sheila, thank you so much for taking time out of your busy schedule to sit and speak with me. Like you, I spent many years in the legal field. The need is constant, the expectation is perfection, and the stress is intense. You never need to apologize to me for anything you say or any thought you have, my friend. We’re more alike than you think. *Vamos a Benjamin’s cuando tengas tiempo.*

Until next time....

McCreless Library Celebrated 50 Years!



Las Palmas



Our Lady of the Lake University students' site visit to the Las Palmas Library

BookCellar News

Evelyn Bonavita

**The BookCellar
Central Library Basement
Open 11–3 every day
plus 3–7 Thursdays
(210) 227-9519**

The holidays are coming! And this means the BookCellar will be holding its very popular 50% Off Holiday Sale. Cellar manager **Andrea Mason** has announced that everything will be on sale with the exception of commodities, easy readers, cabinet vintage books, and juvenile Spanish books. We are well stocked with mysteries, histories, science fiction, paperbacks, record albums, books on CD, DVDs, romances—you name it. They won't last forever at these low prices so don't wait until the last minute to stock up on gifts. The sale dates are Saturday, November 26, through Sunday, December 11, 2016. Store hours will remain the same unless we have to modify them for Rock n' Roll Weekend (call to check).

Holiday closing dates for the BookCellar will be November 11 for Veterans Day, November 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving, and December 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 and January 1, 2017.

November 11 is the date for the annual Volunteer Luncheon



in honor of the hard-working Cellar volunteers who keep the store humming along. This year it will be held at the Asian Kitchen, on SW Loop 410, a new venue for the event.

We have added three new volunteers to our ranks: **Arthur Hanna**, **Lexy Paden**, and **Bob Teague**, who work on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday respectively. **Mary Chance** has returned after a long trip, and **Pat Konstam** is back part time on Wednesdays.

The BookCellar nominating committee has been meeting, and when you read this, the BC Committee will have chosen new folks to replace departing members.

Thanks go to FOSAPL president **Karen Matson** and her committee for the successful Silver Cellar-bration Anniversary party. Attendees were very complimentary, praising the hard work and creativity that went into planning the event. Hard to believe the Cellar is 25!

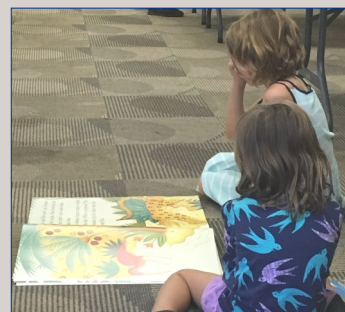
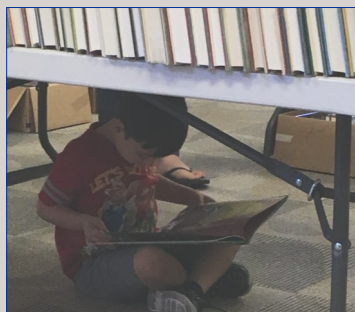
Have a happy holiday season, everyone!



www.facebook.com/BookCellarSA

Maverick

Discerning buyers at the Maverick Fall Book Sale.



Photos courtesy of Rosalie Klepac



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CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

- Nov. 2 Las Palmas “*Día de Los Muertos*” program, 5:30–7:30 at the Library and the adjacent YWCA.
- Nov. 9 Veterans will be honored at the Las Palmas “Veterans Day Observance,” 6–7:30.
- Nov. 10–14 Parman’s annual book sale will be Thursday, 10–6; Saturday, 10–6; and Sunday, 10–2.
- Nov. 14 McCreless general meeting and election of officers
- Nov. 20 FOSAPL Board Meeting, Semmes, 2.**
- Nov. 26-Dec. 11 BookCellar 50% Off Holiday Sale, regular store hours.
- Dec. 3 Brook Hollow regular membership meeting, 1 p.m.
- Dec. 3 Thousand Oaks book sale, 10–3
- Dec. 10 Pan American book sale, 10–3.
- Dec. 17 Igo “Winter Fest,” 10:30–12:30 for kids of all ages
- Jan. 22 FOSAPL Annual Meeting, Central Library Auditorium, 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.

Brook Hollow Library
530 Heimer Road, 78232
210-207-9030

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

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

Las Palmas Library
515 Castroville Road, 78237
210-207-9200

McCreless Library
1023 Ada Street, 78223
210-207-9170

Pan American Library
1122 West Pyron Ave, 78221
210-207-9150

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

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

Thousand Oaks Library
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233
210-207-9190