



January • February  
2005



### Arts & Letters Awards Celebrates 32 Years of Excellence

The Arts & Letters Awards were held October 31, 2004, in the Central Library Auditorium. Below are photos of the event taken by Marti and Andy Nodine.

The Arts & Letters ceremony included Salutations by A&L Committee Chair



Robert LaCaff with a Welcome by FOSAPL President Barbara Isner.



The Arts & Letters recipients were Rick Riordan, Kathy Vargas, and Joan Christenson.



Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

## Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 23, 2005

Central Library Auditorium  
600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas  
2:00 p.m.

For more photos, please go to page 5.

Editor: **Don Norton**

Managing Editor: **Alana Woods**

*Southwest Research Institute®  
provides partial funding for  
printing the SAPLings newsletter.*

## From the President



Dear Friends,

This is my last newsletter as your President. Thank you for the help and support you have given me.

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 23, 2005, in the Central Library Auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

Besides the elections and the vote on the 2005 Budget, the Library Foundation will make the presentation they have been presenting around the city about the options for financing the Library in the future.

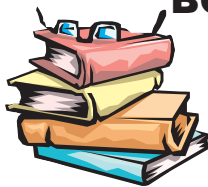
This is a very important issue—one that all of us should learn as much about as possible. We have several issues coming in the following year, and this is just one of the issues that we need to keep track of to see how we can help our Library move forward.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 23, 2005, in the Central Library Auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

*Barbara C. Isner  
President*

**Don't forget to  
renew your dues!**

## FRIENDS OF THE SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



**November 10, 2004**

*Submitted by Ronnie Retzloff, Secretary*

**Call to Order: Barbara Isner** called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**President's Report: Barbara Isner:** No report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Branch totals \$53,104.79 Overall total \$123,767.87.

**Membership Report:** Renewal letters have gone out, and people are responding.

**Newsletter: Don Norton** reports that all is running smoothly.

**Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam** reported that the Book Cellar Committee will meet on Nov. 19 to do some decision making.

**Arts & Letters Report:** The ceremony on Oct. 31 was well organized and successful with around 65 people in attendance.

**Library Administration: Beth Graham** submitted a

suggested budget request in the amount of \$36,000 for 2005. It was moved and seconded that we give the Library a check for \$30,000 right away. The motion passed. The budget committee will address the additional \$6,000 in their upcoming meeting. Nov. 20 is the Tamalada. It is likely that the Book Cellar will open at 9:30 that day to take advantage of the numerous people who will be at the library that morning.

**Library Foundation: Lucy Gale** announced a celebration of 15 years from the fall of the Berlin wall. There is a Gallery Exhibition of East and West German artists in the Central Library. The window in front of the fountain has another display. An orchestra from Berlin will be performing at the Empire Theater Nov. 19. On Dec. 2, there will be a Downtown Holiday and Luxury Apart-

ment Tour at a cost of \$50 per person that will include food, gift-making demonstrations, and wine tasting.

**Library Board: Cathy Dean** reported that the director search is drawing to a close, and there may be finalists by the end of the year. The Friends may choose a liaison as a representative on the Planning Board. It has been necessary to raise some fees. On Monday, Dec. 20, there will be "limited" automation available at "all" library facilities.

**Nominations Committee: Bettie Ward** reported that the committee nominated **Linda Nairn** for President, **Robert LaCaff** for Vice President, **Lucy Gale** for Secretary, and **Nancy Gandara** for Treasurer. Nominations will be open from the floor.

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

### Annual Meeting

Election of Officers  
Library Foundation Presentation on  
Library Financing Options

**Sunday, January 23, 2005**

**Central Library Auditorium**  
600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas

**2:00 p.m.**

### Membership Renewal Time

Renewal notices were sent out in October. If you have not sent in your renewal envelope, please do so as soon as possible. Membership envelopes are available at all libraries if you have misplaced the one sent to you. If you want to belong to a branch group, be sure the name of the branch is included on your envelope. An additional \$3 donation is needed for each extra branch you wish to support.

**BE A FRIEND! RENEW TODAY!**

# BRANCH LEAVES

(News from Support Groups)



---

## Book Cellar

---

Adult mysteries and Westerns are the two-for-the-price-of-one specials during January. The February clearance sale will feature adult and children's books in the 600s, a nonfiction category that includes health and medicine, cars, pets, gardening, homemaking, parenting, job hunting, and business management. Premium books—such as marked-up garden and cookbooks—are not included in the sale.

After thanking **Jim Wogstad** for his long service in the job, the Book Cellar Committee, at its Nov. 19, 2004, meeting, elected **Aaron Konstam** as chair for a one-year term. The Committee also promoted **Monica Hernandez** to Book Cellar manager from interim manager.

On policy matters, the Committee decided that no discounts on regular prices will be offered to customers and reaffirmed that volunteers must work a four-hour shift to be eligible to buy books at half price. **Robbi Ruppert** and **Pat Konstam** were delegated to draft a document of standard procedures for processing books to be considered at the Committee's Jan. 21 meeting. The Book Cellar Committee also includes **Vera Banner**, **Pat Brown**, **Josie Martinez**, **Jeanne Papa**, **Rowena Rodgers**, **Lucille Teeter**, and **Barbara Isner**. Please contact any member if you have suggestions for the Book Cellar.

If you have books you don't need, the Book Cellar gladly accepts donations and issues receipts for tax purposes.

*Pat Konstam*

---

## Brook Hollow

---

The Friends of Brook Hollow Library are hosting a reception honoring Brook Hollow Branch Manager **Beverly Jack-**

**son**, who is retiring at the end of January. The reception will be held in the Brook Hollow meeting room on Sunday, January 23, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Brook Hollow had another successful book sale in November. Thank you to all the friends who helped sort, set up, sell, and clean up. And an extra-special thank you to those who fed us while we worked! Our efforts earned over \$3,400, which will be used for the library after the planned renovations are completed.

The Friends of Brook Hollow Library will have its next general meeting on March 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the library.

*Beth Crabb*

---

## Texana/Genealogy

---

Just a quick reminder that the Friends of Texana/Genealogy will host its annual book sale on Saturday, January 15, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The sale will be held in the auditorium of the Central Library. We always need more books and would appreciate your donations of materials related to Texana, genealogy, history, etc. (we always have a miscellaneous table). Please call me at 222-1586 or drop your books off at the Texana/Genealogy Department on the 6th floor of the Central Library. All proceeds are used to purchase items that are needed to make the Texana/Genealogy Department a better place to do research! We hope to see you and your friends at the sale!

*Maria Pfeiffer*

---

## Thousand Oaks Branch

---

Thousand Oaks branch of the FOS-APL was very pleased at the outcome of our November book sale. This one-day sale brought in over \$1,400 to use for our library.

In early December, we decorated the library for the holidays. Our "elves" hung wreathes, decorated trees, and strewed garlands and decorations everywhere possible. The library looks very festive, indeed! We will return at the end of the month to "undecorate."

We also hosted our annual "Potluck Luncheon" for our members and our

guests, the library staff. We used this occasion to present each of the library employees with a card thanking them for their work and with a gift certificate to a local store.

New officers were chosen for 2005. These will be: President—**Nancy Fitzgerald**, Treasurer—**Ginny Carr**, and Secretary—**Renee Hermanson**.

*Linda Nairn*

---

## Westfall

---

On October 27, the Westfall Branch Library played host for the meeting of the San Antonio Public Library Board. The Friends of Westfall provided refreshments and served as hostesses. It was a privilege to meet the board members who set the policies for the entire system and to realize the responsibilities the Board carries to meet the needs of the entire San Antonio community.

The Westfall used book sale in November was successful because of the hard work of sixteen of our members and friends who volunteered their time and energy. We also appreciated the support of the staff. During the sale, we have a sign-up sheet at the cashier's table for people who would like to be called and reminded of future sales. We have found this to be very good PR as our patrons often tell us that they really appreciate the reminder calls.

For the holiday season, we decorated the library with poinsettias, and we shared in a "pot-luck" lunch organized by the staff to thank the volunteers who work every week at Westfall Branch. (See photo on page 6.)

Happy New Year to all!

*Bettie Ward*

---

## New Newsletter Mailing Team

---

Thank you, **Bettie Ward**, for volunteering to lead the Newsletter Mailing Team.

And thank you, **Rowena** and **Keith Rodgers**, for your tireless efforts to get the *SAPLings* to the post office in a timely manner.



## Library Activities

### December 12–January 9 Just for the Art of It!

Central Library Gallery, 600 Soledad, 1st Floor, 207-2500. Join us for a special exhibit designed to celebrate the artistic talents of the staff of the San Antonio Public Library System. From a candid vacation photograph of children beating the heat to the delicate intricacies of fine metalwork, the items are as diverse and distinct as the individuals who created them.

### Donation to San Antonio Public Library by the Mexican Consul

On December 7, Ambassador Martha Lara, Consul-General of Mexico in San Antonio, donated more than 100 volumes to the San Antonio Public Library. The collection includes classics of world literature such as works by Tolstoy, Melville, Dostoyevski, and Cervantes, and works of nonfiction encompassing diplomatic history and commentaries on treaties, all in Spanish. The ceremony took place on the second floor of the Central Library.

The donation is part of an ongoing program of support of the San Antonio Public Library by the office of the Consul-General.

## In 2004, It's a New Millennium at the Library

On December 21, the San Antonio Public Library opened a new Millennium in computer service for both library users and library staff. Millennium is a state-of-the-art product from library software designer and manufacturer Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (III). The new software rollout is the first since the San Antonio Public Library was completely automated in 1995 with the opening of the Central Library. The system cost \$458,150 and was acquired under a lease-purchase plan.

Acting Library Director **Aubrey W. George** noted that advanced service features for library customers especially appealed to the Library staff and Board. The new Millennium OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) will allow users to search the library catalog, databases, and Internet from the same window. The enhanced catalog allows customers to see book covers, summaries, tables of contents, and reviews online prior to checking out the item. Catalog information will include not only the branch where an item may be found, but also in what section of the branch (for example, "adult fiction" or "children's books.") Users will even be able to limit searches to only items available at their own branches, or only items that may be checked out. As additional features are added, in the future the catalog will also reference all the periodicals in the library's collection.

Other advantages provided by the new system include email notification when reserved items can be picked up, and when checked-out materials are overdue. Additionally, ease of collecting and reporting customer usage patterns will allow the library to better customize services and materials for the communities served by the various library branches.

"We looked at a number of systems, and Millennium gave us both the features we need now and the flexibility to expand as our library grows and we need to offer more services to more users," said Mr. George.

Mr. George stated that Library staff are learning how to use the elements of the new system and assist customers through the change-over. "From December 13 through December 21, while information is being trans-

ferred from our old system to Millennium, we will not be able to place any items on hold, although items currently on hold will transfer to the new system. After the transition period, we will be able to offer our current services and more to Library customers."

### About Innovative

Celebrating 25 years of partnership with the library community, Innovative Interfaces (<http://www.iii.com>) is the leader in providing Web-powered, Java™-based automated library systems. Its flagship product offering, Millennium, is installed in thousands of libraries in 42 countries around the world. The company is headquartered in Emeryville, California, with offices in Australia, Canada, France, Hong Kong, Korea, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, and the United Kingdom.

### Books for Soldiers



**Books For Soldiers** is a soldier support site that ships books, DVDs, and supplies to deployed soldiers and soldiers in VA hospitals via our large volunteer network.

If you have old, but useable books or DVDs sitting around, collecting dust, why not send them to a soldier for a big morale boost?

Many of our volunteers have received email and letters from the soldiers they have adopted.

Help us out, help the troops out, mail them your books.

For more info, go to  
<http://www.booksforsoldiers.com/index.php>

## More A&L Photos



**Aubrey George** (left), Acting Director of the San Antonio Public Library greeted the guests and **Lee LaCaff** (right), Immediate Past President of the FOS-APL discussed the past, present, and future of the Friends.



**Lyn Belisle** (left), 2003 Arts and Letters award winner, introduced her son, **Rick Riordan** (lower left), a mystery novelist and educator.



Awardee **Kathy Vargas** (bottom left), a photographer, educator, and mentor, was introduced by **Bryce Milligan** (bottom right), poet and publisher.



**Joan Christenson** (right), Artistic Director of Musical Offerings, was introduced by Symphony Concertmaster **Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio** (upper right).



## Treasurer's Report as of November 10, 2004

Accounts	Balance
Cash and Bank Accounts . . . . .	192,644.78
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> . . . . .	<b>192,644.78</b>
Branch Funds . . . . .	55,599.79
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> . . . . .	<b>55,599.79</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b> . . . . .	<b>137,044.99</b>
BROOKHOLLOW . . . . .	16,490.49
CARVER . . . . .	1,499.23
CODY . . . . .	8,058.03
JOHNSTON . . . . .	770.53
McCRELESS . . . . .	4,241.13
OAKWELL . . . . .	7,267.73
TEENS . . . . .	55.89
TEXANA-GEN . . . . .	6,448.38
THOUS OAKS . . . . .	2,531.91
WESTFALL . . . . .	5,081.29
WRITER FRIENDS . . . . .	3,155.18
<b>TOTAL BRANCH FUNDS</b> . . . . .	<b>55,599.79</b>



*For the holiday season, Westfall decorated the library with poinsettias and shared in a "pot-luck" lunch organized by the staff to thank the volunteers who work every week at the Branch.*

### Teen Winter 2004-2005: Peace & Love

#### Teen Summit: Middle Eastern Teens

Discuss dating, friends, school and other teen stuff. All teens are welcome, and total audience participation is requested. Moderated by Sarwat Husain from the Council of Islamic/American Relations.

- Memorial Branch Library – Thursday, January 6 – 7:00 p.m.
- Carver Branch Library – Monday, January 10 – 7:00 p.m.
- Guerra Branch Library – Wednesday, January 12 – 7:00 p.m.
- Westfall Branch Library – Wednesday, January 19 – 7:00 p.m.
- Central Library – Monday, January 24 – 7:00 p.m. – Auditorium, 1st Floor
- Cody Branch Library – Wednesday, February 9 – 7:00 p.m.

#### Peace & Justice: What It Is & How to Get It

Memorial – Thursday, January 13 – 6:30 p.m.

#### Sahaja Yoga/Meditation for Teens

- Guerra – Tuesday, January 4 – 6:00 p.m.
- McCreless – Call 532-4254 for date & time
- Thousand Oaks – Saturday, January 8 – 2:00 p.m.
- Central Library – Monday, January 10 – 6:30 p.m.
- Brook Hollow – Saturday, January 15 – 2:00 p.m.
- Great Northwest – Tuesday, January 18 – 6:00 p.m.
- Oakwell – Tuesday, January 25 – 4:00 p.m.
- Carver – Saturday, January 29 – 1:00 p.m.
- Cortez – Thursday, February 3 – 6:30 p.m.
- Westfall – Monday, February 7 – 7:00 p.m.
- Pan American – Tuesday, February 15 – 6:30 p.m.
- Johnston – Saturday, February 26 – 1:00 p.m.

*For more information, call 207-2678 or visit the Youth(wired) website at [www.sanantonio.gov/library](http://www.sanantonio.gov/library)*

### Telephone & Web Guide

Book Cellar . . . . . 227-9519

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/Library/friends/cellar.asp>

Central Library Administration . . . . . 207-2630

Central Library Information . . . . . 207-2500

Central Library Volunteer Office . . . . . 207-2502

#### Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/Library/friends/>

President, **Barbara Isner** . . . . . 533-1867

Vice President, **Lucy Gale** . . . . . 452-2320

Secretary, **Ronnie Retzloff** . . . . . 490-4337

Treasurer, **Pat Cummins** . . . . . 737-7863

San Antonio Public Library Foundation . . . . . 225-4728

---

---

## Form for Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

Honor a loved one with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, or "just because." It can also be a wonderful, thoughtful, and lasting way to honor the memory of a relative or friend.

If you do not want to make a contribution at this time, clip this form and save it for the appropriate occasion.

I would like to make the following donation:

- In honor of     In memory of
- Special event (birthday, graduation, etc.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (All donations are tax deductible.)

### Acknowledgement to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### My Name and Address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to:

*Friends of the San Antonio Public Library*  
and mail to: **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair, Gifts, Donations,  
& Memorials  
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)  
P.O. Box 831174, San Antonio, Texas 78283-1174



---

---

## FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Individual (Adult)            \$ 10  
\_\_\_\_ Dual (Adult)                 \$ 20  
\_\_\_\_ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18)    \$ 5  
\_\_\_\_ Patron (Per Person)            \$ 50  
\_\_\_\_ Contributing (Per Person)       \$100  
\_\_\_\_ Life (Per Person)               \$250

\_\_\_\_ New Member  
\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Branch Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_ Do not include my phone number in the Friends' directory.  
\_\_\_\_ I'd like to volunteer at the Book Cellar (used book store).  
\_\_\_\_ Please call me: I'd like to be an active participant.

**MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (or FOSAPL).**  
**Your contribution is tax deductible.**

*and mail to:*

*Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)*  
*P.O. Box 831174*  
*San Antonio, Texas 78283-1174*

(Note: Membership is from Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Members receive a renewal notice in early Dec.)





Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
San Antonio, Texas  
Permit No. 865

P.O. Box 831174  
San Antonio, Texas 78283-1174

**Address Service Requested**

## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

*Please refer to the Branch Leaves for support group meetings. It's a good idea to call and verify information before setting out for a meeting or program. Sometimes dates or times change after newsletter publication.*

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| January 15        | Texana/Genealogy Friends book sale, Central Library, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.  |
| January 21        | Book Cellar Committee meeting, 1:00 p.m., Book Cellar  |
| January 23        | Brook Hollow, Open House honoring Beverly Jackson, 2:00–4:00 p.m.  |
| <b>January 23</b> | <b>Annual Meeting, Central Library Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.</b>   |
| February 5        | Westfall Friends Meeting featuring Karin Ireland, author of <i>Learning to Trust Myself: Lessons from Cancer and Other Life Dilemmas</i> . Meeting–1:00, Program–2:00. |
| March 7           | Brook Hollow Friends, general meeting, 7:00 p.m., Library meeting room   |

Brook Hollow Library  
530 Heimer Road, 78232  
(210) 496-6315

Central Library  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
(210) 207-2534

Westfall Library  
6111 Rosedale Court, 78201  
(210) 344-2373

**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 these meetings.

## DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER COPY IS FEBRUARY 15, 2005

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos to **Alana Woods** at <awoods@swri.org> with a cc to **Don Norton** at <dorisonorton@satx.rr.com>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78238.