WANTED
BOOK CELLAR
MANAGER

The Book Cellar Committee is seeking applicants for Book Cellar manager. The job is part time, 11 AM to 3 PM, five days a week. Starting pay is $500 a month. It allows 10 days of paid leave a year. The main requirements are a love of books and good people skills for working with volunteers and customers. For more information or to apply, call Lucille Teeter at 494-7074 or e-mail her at lucyteeter@sbcglobal.net.

TALA Annual Conference in San Antonio Convention Center
March 17–20, 2004

The Texas Library Association’s Annual Conference is in San Antonio this year (March 17–20, 2004). Exhibits-only passes will be sold onsite for $18.00, good for all three days the exhibit hall is open. The exhibits are great fun, and some Conference presentations are held on the exhibit floor—high-tech products demonstrations, 12 aisles of authors and books, a showcase of diversity in Texas libraries, food and drink areas—plus there’s no telling who you will run into there.

Exhibits hours:
Thursday, 10:15 AM–5 PM (Refreshments served during "Rush Hour with Exhibitors," from 4–5 PM on Thursday.)
Friday, 9 AM–4 PM
Saturday, 9 AM–Noon

For more information, call Cathy Dean (333-3343) or Lee LaCaff (545-6855).

FOSAPL Board Complete

With the election of officers and directors at the Annual Meeting, January 25, 2004, we begin the new year with a complete and larger than usual Board of Directors. Elected to fill vacancies were Ronnie Retzloff, Secretary; Pat Cummins, Treasurer; and Directors Betty Berry, Shirley Horner, and Rowena Rodgers. Their terms will expire in January 2005. Remaining on the board through this year are: Barbara Isner, President; Lucy Gale, Vice-President; Vera Banner, Pat Brown, Edie Hophan, Lou Harris, Lillian McPherson, Linda Nairn, and Lee LaCaff, Immediate Past President.

Those elected for the two-year term, January 2004-January 2006, include: Lollie Boudrie, Alan Cutler, Bruce Gill, Pat Konstam, Robert LaCaff, Lucille Lammert, Josie Martinez, Pat Mendiola, Yulanee McKnight, Dr. Mark Prange, Robbie Ruppert, and Jim Wogstad.

Some are new Friends, some have been active in their branch organizations but are new to the board of main Friends, and some are at-large members returning to board duty after a long hiatus.

In addition, each branch with an affiliated Friends organization has the option of electing a voting member to the main board of FOSAPL.
Dear Friends:

I would like to say Thank You to some hard working folks. I would like to say Thank You to Vera Banner for the fine work that she and her committee did in finding our new Board Members. I would also like to take this time to give everyone that was part of our Board last year a big handshake for the great job that you did in the support of our Library. Without your help we could not have done half of the things that we did, so THANK YOU!

I need to let you know about the FolekLife Festival that is coming up, June 10–13. I do not know if they are going to have the Author’s Corner again this year, but I just wanted to get the date out so you could keep it in mind.

The Texas Library Association is going to have their annual conference in San Antonio this year from March 17–20, and we will have our Board Meeting the following week on the 24th. I will try to have a report for you to let you know what the other Friends Groups are doing around the state.

Hope you had a great Valentine’s Day and a safe St. Patrick’s Day. Do not let the leprechauns get you.

Barbara C. Isner
President
Appreciation Week at Brook Hollow. A large sign featuring photos of the entire staff encouraged patrons to let the staff know how much they appreciate all our busy, helpful staff does. On Thursday, Feb. 26, the Friends honored the staff and their spouses at a dinner at Bambino Huey's restaurant. Guests included Joyce Ince, our Library Board representative.

Our next used book sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, with setup for the sale on Friday the 14th. All Brook Hollow Friends are encouraged to help; we always enjoy our sale weekends.

Officers for 2004–2005 were elected at our last meeting, Jan. 26. They are Pat Bjornson, President; Dick Bowser, Vice President; Ronnie Retzloff, Secretary; Beth Crabb, Treasurer.

**Pat Bjornson**  
**President**

**Oakwell**

Oakwell Library has new blue Slatwell panels with clear acrylic display shelving installed at the end of each aisle. The staff have displayed interesting books on these shelves for our interest. This is a wonderful addition for Oakwell.

A good number of children and parents attended George the Dinosaur Man presentation. It was full to capacity, and others were turned away. Thanks to our staff for a wonderful event.

An interesting series has been held at Oakwell by Shelley Henderson and Carol Costello regarding self improvement. These were well attended and may continue. Keep in touch with Oakwell for future dates.

Oakwell is especially proud of our special volunteer Norma Oppenheimer. She has been a presence at Oakwell many days for more than 18 years. Her knowledge and energy are tremendous, and it makes a difference with such caring. "Thank you, Norma."

**Fern Burke**  
**President**

**Texana/Genealogy**

The Friends of Texana/Genealogy book sale on January 17th was a great success! We made about $2,000, which will be used to help the Texana/Genealogy Department purchase materials and provide services not funded through the Library's operating budget. Many thanks to all who helped including Pat Brown, Margaret Lecznar, J.O. Wallace, Fred Pfeiffer, George Farias, Bob and Lou Harris, Sissy Braunig, and Becky Braunig Haag. Also, special thanks to the library staff, especially Frank Faulkner and Matt DeWaelsche, and to the security and facilities personnel who are always so nice and helpful.

The reproduction historical maps of Texas, framed with funds from the Friends, have been hung in the department's reading room. They are a great addition and good reference sources. Take a look on your next visit!

Upcoming workshops offered by the Texana/Genealogy staff include Researching Your Texas Ancestors on March 13, from 9:30 to 11 AM and an all-day workshop, Beginning Genealogy, on April 10. Also remember the Genealogy Fair on May 22 from 10 AM to 3 PM. Call the Texana/Genealogy Department with questions about these events and look for more news of upcoming programs and meetings.

**Maria Watson Pfeiffer**  
**President**

**Westfall**

The Friends of Westfall Branch Library will meet on Saturday, February 28 at 2:00 PM. We are happy to have Lee LaCaff, immediate past president of FOSAPL, present our program, "Colonial Best Sellers: Almanacs!" Lee promises that there are fascinating facts hiding in the historical records of these early publications.

The election of officers will also be held.

In March, we will have a staff appreciation luncheon. Marilyn Keilman will chair this activity and welcomes all volunteers.

On Tuesday, April 13, 7:00 PM at Westfall Branch, there will be a joint meeting of the Friends of Cody and Westfall Branch Libraries. They will co-sponsor the program presenting Maria Watson Pfeiffer, a Friends 2003 Arts
Val Poska

Val has never been far from the world of books. As a lifetime member of Friends of the Library, he worked as a volunteer at a city-wide book sale in 1990. This led to his being asked by David Leamon, Library Director, to chair a committee to organize a used book store in the basement of the Hertzberg Circus Museum. The Book Cellar was manned by volunteers (members of the Friends), who built shelving and gathered withdrawn books from the library system as well as donations. It has been estimated that sales have generated in excess of $200,000.00 in monies which have been used for library projects.

When the Hertzberg closed, Val was instrumental in moving the Book Cellar into the basement of the Central Library. He has remained on the committee and has continued to volunteer his time when needed. Also, Val has generously shared his collection of more than 400 miniature books in various library exhibits, as well as having published a dozen of his own.

Norma Oppenheimer

Norma Oppenheimer has been a volunteer at the Oakwell Library since 1987. As of October 2003, she has logged 6,811.5 volunteer service hours. During these 16 years, Mrs. Oppenheimer has volunteered on almost all Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, generally working 8 AM–12 noon. She has rarely asked for time off and is very reliable in maintaining her schedule. She helps by shelving all adult media materials, fiction and genre materials, paperbacks, and large print books. She also helps by sorting books on book trucks by Dewey Decimal and author, allowing library aides to reshelve materials faster.

Mrs. Oppenheimer’s dedication and commitment to her volunteer service rivals that of any other library staff employee. She takes her duties seriously and performs her duties in a timely manner. She is hard working and a pleasure to be around. Her services have enabled staff at Oakwell to better serve its customers. The Oakwell Library is appreciative of the time that Mrs. Oppenheimer has dedicated to the library.

Lee LaCaff, immediate past president of the Friends, nominated the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library organization. Using the history she and Mary McAfee had compiled, she read selected parts of the nomination. This is the Champion award we can all share, with special recognition to the Book Cellar volunteers. President Barbara Isner accepted the beautiful glass award on behalf of the Friends at the Library Board reception, and it will reside in the Book Cellar.

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library have given almost 40 years of continuous support for the entire library system, and the effort is still going strong. During this period, approximately $650,000 has been contributed in funds, plus countless service hours at the Book Cellar, book sales, and library events. There has been steady growth of the Book Cellar and support groups over the years, and new branch groups are currently in progress in areas of the city not previously covered. Specific accomplishments include:

- **Book Sales.** Since 1991 the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOS-APL) have held city-wide and branch book sales to recycle withdrawn books that had previously been discarded, providing revenue for library support and drawing people to libraries.
- **Book Cellar.** This book store was established by FOSAPL in 1992 as an outgrowth of its successful book sales. Currently operating in the basement of Central Library, the Book Cellar’s volunteers keep it open from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM every day that Central is open. These revenues are the Friends’ primary source of income.
- **Arts & Letters Award.** This annual event recognizes local individuals for their contributions to San Antonio’s cultural and spiritual life.
Morgan Santander was born in Mexico City and spent his childhood in Mexico, Wales, Arizona, and California. Santander completed his undergraduate studies in art and scenic design at the University of California, Berkeley, on a full academic scholarship. He continued his artistic career in Cuernavaca, Mexico, working as a theatrical set designer. During that time, he continued to produce and exhibit his work in Mexico. Santander received a full academic scholarship to the University of Chicago Masters of Fine Arts program. The artist’s work has been exhibited widely and can be seen in numerous private and public collections throughout the United States, Mexico, Germany, and the United Kingdom. Morgan Santander currently lives and works in Savannah, Georgia, where he is a Professor of Painting at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

MORGAN SANTANDER, THE VOLCANO WITHIN

One essential characteristic of visual art is that it expresses something beyond color and beyond form. To be able to suggest and transmit that which lies in the depths of the heart is everything. The good painter knows how to ease the essence out of the soul and then give it physical form on canvas: To speak without having to explain. To express without anecdote. This is the only way for a refined and playful artist to communicate on canvas the profoundly indefinable quality of reality.

In Morgan Santander’s work the abstract and the representational go hand-in-hand. Both elements coexist in a judicious combination of the free and the regimented, which comprises both Santander’s world of imagination and the exterior “real” world. In literary terms this compares to the difference between prose and poetry. Both genres use the same words, but in quite a different way. Poetry breaks out of the logic of language. It rebels against narrow grammatical norms. Poetry takes a risk because it chooses the undefined path of emotion, sensation, and the unknown. Painting is no different. In Santander’s work, the basic elements are present: the human body, abstract forms, and color in its infinite combinations. Santander transforms prosaic reality into veritable poetic explosions on canvas. His generous and assertive use of color and form transports his work into a magic sphere where completely new art is discovered.

We know that some abstract art is inexpressive and obscure, as if art were some absurd, abstruse secret, which we, as mere viewers, could never begin to understand. Other abstract art, however, surprises us with emotion, and Morgan Santander’s work certainly does that. By introducing openly repre-

San Antonio Public Library
2004 Gallery Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Viewing Dates</th>
<th>Show</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 10–March 28</td>
<td>Morgan Santander with Blue Star &amp; Instituto Cultural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1–4</td>
<td>Alamo Hts./Terrell Hills Garden Club Flower Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 6–18</td>
<td>Latino Leadership Silent Auction &amp; Art Exhibit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22–May 16</td>
<td>Bruno Andrade/Carrington Gallery</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21–June 27</td>
<td>San Antonio Art Educators</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1–August 1</td>
<td>Positive Exposure/Smithsonian Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 6–29</td>
<td>Captain Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2–October 3</td>
<td>Bruni/Calvert Photographs</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 11–31</td>
<td>Friends of Dard Hunter/Paper &amp; Book Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9–December 7</td>
<td>Fall of the Berlin Wall Anniversary Exhibit</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Santander continued

sentational elements to his abstract canvasses, Santander creates a mélange filled with poetry.

Much has been said about the inner world that may be glimpsed in painting and literature. Since the Interiorista movement, Mexico has been eager to give external expression to internal images. According to Octavio Paz, images from within have truly been captured when opposites coexist. The world within is the world in which the most disparate elements appear side by side—a world in which anything or everything may happen at once—a flow of apparently contradictory elements within all of us at any given moment.

Santander gives us an intense intermingling of elements, a vital chromatic symphony heavy with suggestion. In his work we discover real or imaginary beings at play with human beings. These characters are caught in a poetic outpouring, in a blossoming of color and tone.

The often-monumental dimensions of Santander’s work, the glowing colors and his capacity to give form to the undefined, make viewers feel first as if they are yet one more element of the painting. The viewer’s next sensation is one of standing in front of an immense stained glass window blazing with a thousand colors.

All of Santander’s work overflows with a delightful enthusiasm. His inner images belong to a being capable of orchestrating a thousand voices into one harmonious theme. The particular vision of this painter indicates a volcano within.

The Mexican Cultural Institute in San Antonio is proud to show the work of Morgan Santander.

Enrique Cortazar,
Poet and Director
El Instituto Cultural Mexicano
San Antonio, Texas
August 2003

Branch Leaves continued

and Letters Award Winner. Maria is cofounder of the San Antonio Library Texana-Genealogy Department, author, historian, and preservationist. She will share with us the remarkable history of the early Ursuline Academy as documented in her book, School by the River. Y’all come and learn about your hometown!

Betty Ward
President

Writer Friends

Steve Bennett, book editor for the San Antonio Express-News, was the speaker for the Writer Friends February meeting.

Bennett was born in Houston, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to working at the Express-News, he worked in Washington State, Austin, at UTSA, the McNay Art Museum, and the San Antonio Light. He and his wife Tracey (Executive Director of the Library Foundation) are parents of a five-year-old daughter.

In 1997, when he was Features Editor at the Express-News, he took over the book page when the book editor went on vacation. When the time came and he was offered the job of book editor, he didn’t want to take it. Now he says, “I have the greatest job in the world. I get paid to read and write about books.” When he became the book editor, there were several things he wanted to do: make the book section fresher; move the section more into the mainstream; make reviews timely; have a balance with reviewing regional books and local authors; time reviews toward local book signing events; review authors coming into town; and have a greater variety of reviewers.

“I’m working more closely with those who bring writers to town,” he said. “I’m kind of partial to first-time writers. I think they don’t get the attention they should.”

Bennett says there’s not really a science to his job. “Sometimes you go by instinct.”

He thinks of himself as a clearing house and tries to match books with reviewers that have expertise in the subject. “I’ve been given a freelance budget to work with, and I have 20 to 30 people as reviewers. My youngest reviewer is in the fifth grade. My job is not to sell books, but to keep people informed.”

Bennett said that all over the country book sections are dwindling, but the book section here has great support.

“I’d like to do more features that have reader participation, perhaps one on books that have changed your life.”

He said he would like to hear suggestions from readers. His e-mail address is: sbennett@express-news.net.

The next meeting of Writer Friends is scheduled for May 11, 7:00 PM, at the Fiesta Trails Barnes & Noble Book Store. The program will consist of four or five readers. Published members of the Writer Friends who have books available are invited to participate in the sale of books. To do so, contact Careen Creech by April 9 at (210) 561-0205, fax (210) 561-0263, or crm2684@bn.com. Since there may be some limitations for getting an author’s book in, it would be best to contact her as quickly as possible.

We welcome two new board members elected by acclamation, Vera Banner and David Liss.

Junette Kirkham Woller
Secretary

Would You Like to be Mildly Famous?

Submit photos or graphics to dress up our newsletter.

Next time you go to a meeting or a Friends function, take your camera. If the photos look halfway decent, submit them to Alana Woods at the address on the back page. If published, you’ll get a photo credit. Who knows? It might be the start of something big.

For more information, email awoods@swri.org.
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 ________________________________
Phone ____________________________

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to:  
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
and mail to:  
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)
P.O. Box 831174
San Antonio, Texas 78283-1174

WANTED:

Newsletter Editor

No formal experience necessary, and it’s only 6 times a year!
The process has been in place for many years. The printer is easy to work with, and the production artist has 8 years experience with Friends newsletters.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Marti Nodine at 492-2846 or Alana Woods at awoods@swri.org.

Treasurer’s Report

As of 2/13/2004

Pat Cummins, Treasurer

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<tr>
<th>FOSAPL</th>
<th>BRANCHES</th>
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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.

February 28    Westfall meeting, 7:00
March 13    Researching Your Texas Ancestors, sponsored by Texana/Genealogy, 9:30–11 AM, Central
March 17–20    Texas Library Association’s Annual Conference, San Antonio Convention Center
March 24    Friends of the Library Board Meeting, Central, 7 PM
April 10    Beginning Genealogy, sponsored by Texana/Genealogy, all day, Central
April 13    Joint meeting of Cody and Westfall Friends, 7 PM at Westfall, Maria Watson Pfeiffer will share the history of Ursuline Academy
May 11    Writer Friends meeting, 7 PM, Fiesta Trails Barnes & Noble Book Store
May 15    Brook Hollow used book sale
May 22    Genealogy Fair, sponsored by Texana/Genealogy, 10 AM–3 PM, Central

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 APRIL 15, 2004

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos to awoods@swri.org. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78238.