From the President

Dear Friends,

Well, summer is drawing to an end. I do hope you got to enjoy at least one good book this summer! Fall is on the way—with much needed cool, crisp weather. The kids are going back to school; football games are starting again; and the holidays will be here before we know it.

Bazan Branch has a Friends group starting. They have met a couple of times and are getting organized. If you use this branch library (it is on W. Commerce), talk to Raymond Villarreal, the branch manager. Tell him you want to be a charter member of this group.

If you have not yet attended one of the "Grassroots Coffees" given by the SAPL Foundation, there is still time to do that. The coffees are scheduled as follows:

- September 17, 11:30–12:15, at Oakwell Branch Library
- September 18, 2:30–3:15, at Las Palmas Branch Library
- September 21, 6:00–6:45, at Landa Branch Library
- September 26, 2:00–2:45, at Thousand Oaks Branch Library
- October 3, 7:00–7:45, at Cody Branch Library
- Reagan and Brook Hollow Branch Libraries are still TBA.

These coffees are planned to inform the public about the proposed Library District and to get input from all of us. The coffees are open to everyone, not just to the Friends. The Library District is an important issue coming up, and as library supporters, we need to understand it.

Last but by no means least, everyone mark your calendars and plan to attend our Arts and Letters Awards presentation. This will take place at the Central Library Auditorium on Sunday, October 30, at 2:00 p.m. This is a wonderful chance to meet and greet some of San Antonio's creative best. (Some past winners have been Max Lucado, Jay Brandon, Sterling Houston, Tommy Lee Jones, Rosita Fernandez—the list goes on!) A reception will follow. Bring your family and friends!

Your Friend,
Linda Nairn, President

News from the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Volume 17, Number 5
September • October 2005

Summer Reading Program
SummerFest

On July 30, approximately 700 attended the wrap-up party for the Summer Reading Program, SummerFest, at Central Library.

Pete Penguin from SeaWorld Adventure Park and Little Read Wagon’s Denise Trabucco at SummerFest

Joe McDermott and fans at Reagan High School and Public Library Partnership. Joe McDermott's lively songs and activities were among the Summer Reading programs sponsored by FOSAPL.

Representatives from the South Texas Herpetology Association at a Summer Reading appearance. The educational live reptile program was one of the Summer Reading activities sponsored by FOSAPL.

Arts & Letters 2005
by Lucy Gale

The honorees for the 2005 Arts & Letters Awards are two prestigious San Antonio authors and one very talented artist.

Diana Gonzalez Bertrand is a children's book author who has written a number of books for children as well as young adults. Her books mainly feature Latino culture, and characters come to life as Diana lets readers explore the beautiful traditions of her Mexican heritage. Some of the books she has written include The Empanadas That Abuela Made, Family, Trino's Choice, and Estrellita Says Goodbye to Her Island. These bilingual stories have received several recognitions including the Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award, finalist for the ForeWord Magazine's "Book of the Year" Young Adult category and finalist for the Writers' League of Texas. Gonzalez Bertrand has always been a great supporter of

Continued on p 6.
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
July 17, 2005

Submitted by Ronnie Retzloff

Attendees

Board members: Linda Nairn, Robert LaCaff, Nancy Gandara, Barbara Isner, Alan Cutler, Bruce Gill, Pat Konstam, Ronnie Retzloff, Maria Pfeiffer, Pat Mendiola, Don Norton, Lee LaCaff, Aaron Konstam, Cathy Dean, Lora Eckler, Betty Berry, and Bettie Ward

Library Board of Trustees: Gloria Malone from District 2
SAPL Staff: Beth Graham

Linda Nairn called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. The minutes for the board meeting were reviewed and approved with minimal corrections.

Treasure’s Report. Nancy Gandara reported that a line has been added to reflect the newly organized Memorial Branch. A portion of the Texana group funds is held specifically for the care of the symphony collection.

Reports

Library Board, Gloria Malone.
- The Board is still working to lease the Hertzberg building to house a Western Art collection.
- The Board is working on the budget and appreciates all FOSAPL members who came and addressed the Council on behalf of libraries.
- Coffees will continue to be held summer and fall. Member attendance is requested.

Library Foundation, Lucy Gale
- was ill and unable to attend.

Library Administration, Beth Graham.
- 17,000 teens, children, and adults have signed up for the summer reading.
- July 30 at Central there will be a SummerFest for children from 3–5 p.m. and Disco Inferno for teens from 5–7 p.m.
- Brook Hollow should reopen in September. There is a Bookmobile there to serve the community.
- The Semmes grand opening will be November 4–6.
- October 1 and 2 will be the dedication at Central to name the children’s area for Dr. Amy Freeman Lee.
- SAPL received an award from Alpha at the ALA convention here in June.
- Secretary-Correspondence. None.

Committee Reports

Arts and Letters Awards, Lucy Gale
- Six applications have been submitted and a meeting is being scheduled.

Audit. Robbi Ruppert was absent. The committee is moving along. Nancy Gandara will receive details about what kinds of things the committee will need to make the audit faster next year.

Book Cellar, Aaron Konstam reported on the expenses incurred so far for the Book Cellar renovation. Getting volunteers through United Way has been successful. Culligan has put in a permanent water machine at the Book Cellar, which will cost less than the former service.

By-Laws. Lee LaCaff reported on the proposed changes. A portion of the revisions recommended passed with minimal changes and will be presented at the Annual Meeting for approval. The remaining revisions will be considered at the next board meeting.

Membership. Ronnie Retzloff reported that FOSAPL has 782 total members.

Directory, Robert LaCaff. The format for the upcoming directory will be revised. A committee will be appointed for editing purposes.

Memorials, Sheila Figueroa was unable to make the meeting. More than $1,500 in memorials was recently received. Linda requested that memorials be printed in the Newsletter.

Newsletter, Cathy Dean reported Don Norton has stepped down as editor but will remain on the committee. Lyn Belisle is looking for a replacement editor among Writer Friends. Cathy reported that a masthead has been added to the Newsletter. Many thanks to Robert LaCaff for helping the newsletter committee with that project.

Old Business

Nancy provided a printed account of the costs for the Welcome Reception for Ramiro Salazar, and the actual cost was $877.05. Aaron passed around the proposed membership envelope design submitted by Lyn Belisle. A few changes were suggested.

New Business

Memorial Branch Friends have presented their by-laws for FOSAPL Board approval. The by-laws passed as amended.

There will be a meeting Tuesday at Bazan to organize a Friends group. Business Membership idea is on hold until we pass the by-laws.

The Texana/Genealogy group has an opportunity to purchase 300–500 items relating to the Menger family for $1,000–$1,500. They requested that the Friends give toward this purchase. It was moved and seconded that the Friends make a donation to Texana/Genealogy for this purpose. The motion passed.

Cathy Dean requested that the Friends make a donation for the celebration planned for Dr. Amy Freeman Lee. It was moved and seconded that we donate $500 toward the expenses of the permanent memorial for Dr. Lee. The motion passed.

Branch News & Announcements

Guerra held a successful 1st Birthday Celebration and Book Sale. They received a nice plaque from the mayor.

McCleless will be having a sale September 17–18.

Thousand Oaks had a recent sale and made $1,200. They will be hosting a luncheon in September to recognize their staff.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

The deadline for submitting articles and photos to SAPLings is the 15th of the month (February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, December 15)

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>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at SouthWest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, Texas 78238.
The two books for the price of one clearance sale in September is religion books. In October it will be adult hardback fiction, including novels, mysteries, Western and large print. Science fiction remains full price—$1 a book.

To be notified of other short-term sales, add your name to the store's email list by calling (210) 227-9519 or sending an email request to <sa_bookcellar@hotmail.com>.

Keeping the store open until 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays is popular with customers but requires additional workers to continue. Volunteers who could come one Thursday a month from 3:00–7:00 p.m. and simply sit at the cash register to take customers' money would be a help. Parking in the library garage is paid, and volunteers who work a 4-hour shift can buy books for half-price.

The Book Cellar also needs someone with a van to make periodic rounds of commercial book stores to pick up donated books, providing transportation for a volunteer who will lift the boxes. If you like to plan and put on parties, the Book Cellar Committee could use that talent for occasional tasks, or to volunteer more often, call Book Cellar manager Monica Hernandez at (210) 227-9519.

The Book Cellar Committee is trying to reach teachers to encourage them to use the store for classroom resources or as a field trip destination. If you work in a school or have contacts with teachers or school librarians, and could help spread the word, please contact committee Chairman Aaron Konstam at (210) 656-0355 or <akonstam@trinity.edu>.

The Book Cellar always needs book donations, for which it gives tax receipts. Right now, it also needs plastic grocery bags to sack purchases. Bring in your bags and buy a book.

Library centennial posters are still available at the Book Cellar. Friends groups that want to sell posters at their branch sales may pick some up and keep the proceeds, the Book Cellar Committee has decided.

Pat Konstam

Guerra

We had a very successful first book-sale, first awards ceremony, and first birthday. We could not have done all this without the help and support of the library staff and many volunteers. Many thanks to all of them.

Our book sale had the additional help of Angel McNeil of Great Northwest, Virginia Gill of Lackland Terrace, Shelia Kline of Johnston Friends, and Delores Huber of Meadow Village. Without their help we could not have covered three events at once. Thanks also to our own Friends who worked so hard for setup, sales, and pack up. Mark your calendars for our next book sale on Oct 15 and 16.

Many thanks to Evelyn Thomas who worked hard to organize the refreshments, food, decorations, and the awards for our special guests. We really enjoyed recognizing those people who had supported the library both before and after it was built.

Hedi Hoecker gave a short speech about what each had done for the Guerra Library.

And finally, our first birthday. All the library staff and volunteers came out to man frog races, face painting, and assorted crafts. The staff held a cookout of hotdogs, cookies, and cake for patrons. We really enjoyed recognizing those people who had supported the library both before and after it was built.

Yanira Vegerano took lots of photos to help remember our day. Thanks also to Joe O'Brien for the pizza for staff and volunteers to start our long day.

Lora Eckler

Memorial

The Memorial Library Amigos (Friends) Association is still in the beginning stages of development, and we are trying to increase our membership. We are planning, in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month, a membership drive, mini book sale, and other activities for adults and children on Saturday, September 24, from 1–3 p.m. We hope, on this day, to make our presence known to the surrounding community.

Henry Oosterveen

Thousand Oaks Friends

September will be a busy month for the Thousand Oaks Friends. We will furnish an Appreciation Luncheon for our library staff on Wednesday, September 14. We plan to host the next FOSAPL board meeting on Sunday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m.. Then on Monday, September 26 at 2:00 p.m., we look forward to having the SAPLF "Grassroots Coffee."

The Thousand Oaks Branch Friends had a successful book sale on Saturday, July 9. When our branch manager presented her "Wish List" to us, we were happy to tell her she could buy whatever she wanted for the library! Our next book sale is planned for November 19 and 20. This will be a great opportunity to start your holiday shopping! There will be a wonderful variety of books at bargain prices. Mark your calendars and plan to come!

Linda Nairn

Westfall

In July, the Westfall Friends sent out notices to all members encouraging them to attend the meeting entitled "All About Choice" presented by the San Antonio Library Foundation at the Westfall Branch. Dennis Martinez, Chairman of the Foundation, gave an interesting presentation concerning urgently needed increased funding for the San Antonio Library System and different options for reaching that goal. We were pleased that around seventeen people attended, the majority of whom were Westfall Friends.

A nominating committee has been appointed to present a slate of officers to be voted on at the January meeting in 2006. Committee members are Rowena Rodgers, Chair, Eddie Patino and Sue Turner.

Westfall Library's Summer Reading Program was a big attraction for kids in the neighborhood. Participants included 616 kids, 129 teens, and 49 adults. The Westfall Friends helped finance the Kick-off Party, which jump-started the summer activities. There were several very interesting programs that visited the different

Continued on p 4.
The San Antonio Public Library seeks entries for the 2005–2006 Young Pegasus Poetry Awards Competition!

Submit entries to any San Antonio Public Library location between September 1 and December 15, 2005.

Selected poems will be published in the 2006 Young Pegasus Poetry Anthology.

All selected poets will be recognized at an awards ceremony.

There is no entry fee, just a deadline for entries.

For complete rules, call (210) 207-2621 or your nearest San Antonio Public Library, or go online at <www.sanantonio.gov/library/>.

City of San Antonio
San Antonio Public Library

July 19, 2005

Ms. Linda Nairn
President
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Dear Linda,

Now that my schedule has slowed down a little, I am writing to thank you and the entire Friends organization for the welcome you extended to me at your reception on June 12. I know many people worked very hard to make the event a success, and I appreciate their efforts. In many ways, coming to San Antonio feels like coming home, and to be received with such warmth only increases those feelings.

It was a pleasure to see so many Friends and friends!

Sincerely,

Ramiro
THE SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY: A RICH LEGACY
Part II—Growth and Diversity

A speech presented by Maria Watson Pfeiffer to the Friends of Texana/Genealogy on May 23, 2005

San Antonio's Carnegie Library, the city's first public library facility, opened at the corner of Market and Presa Streets on June 15, 1903. Because the library opened at a time when all public facilities were segregated, the issue of serving the city's African American population was a topic of ongoing discussion. The San Antonio Public Library board minutes reveal that just before Carnegie opened, the library board had made arrangements "for a branch of the Carnegie Library for the benefit of the colored citizens of San Antonio." The branch would be located at Riverside Colored High School and stocked with several hundred volumes from the Carnegie. In July 1903, the board hired A.S. Pryor to run the "Colored Department" at a salary of $15.00 per month.

The Carnegie branch library at Riverside School (later renamed Douglass High School) remained open only a few months. Years later, board members asked "why the library for the colored people in the Douglas (sic) School which was maintained for several months in 1903, had not been used." A representative of the African American community, Reverend Brown, answered that "he was not in San Antonio at the time, but he had understood that the quarters were small and undesirable."

When the question arose again in July 1905, board member, E.H. Terrell, reported that "he had not addressed Mr. Carnegie about the colored branch." This discussion was revived in 1907 when African Americans again petitioned the board for a library facility. Reverend Brown presented a petition and letter stating "the needs of the colored people for library facilities." Unfortunately, these documents are not included in the minutes, and the names of the petitioners have been lost.

Not surprisingly, the board's discussion was inconclusive. Reverend Brown told the library board that "he thought the colored people would be disposed to patronize a branch library if one were established." The discussion included possible sites including Douglass School and the Santa Clara School, another African American institution. Once again, the discussion ended and was not taken up by the Library board until the early 1920s. In the interim, private citizens organized the Colored Library Association. The discussion was inconclusive. Reverend Brown told the board that "he thought the Colored people would be disposed to patronize a branch library if one were established." The discussion included possible sites including Douglass School and the Santa Clara School, another African American institution. Once again, the discussion ended and was not taken up by the Library board until the early 1920s.

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The center was a collaborative project of the War Recreation Board and the Colored Library Association.

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**Arts & Letters**

Libraries and of San Antonio. She is currently a writer in residence at St. Mary's University.

**Dr. Steve Kellman** is the Professor of Comparative Literature at The University of Texas San Antonio. He is an author, editor, essayist, columnist, feature writer, and film critic! Even though Dr. Kellman has been very busy editing books, publishing essays, and reviewing films, he somehow found the time to write seven books. His most recent book is *Redemption: The Life of Henry Roth*. This educator has received a number of recognitions throughout his illustrious career including the S.T. Harris Foundation Grant, finalist of the Citation for Excellence in Reviewing, *Who's Who in the World* and was a board of director for the National Book Critics Circle.

If you come across curious creatures and imaginative furnishings from carved and painted wood—there may be a chance its one of **Jaime Maverick's** masterpieces. This Texas artist has delighted viewers over the years with her creations that can be found in places such as the Dallas Crippled Children's Hospital, the Junior League Tea Room, and the Hilton Hotel of San Antonio. She is now forging new frontiers by working on a children's book, *Geraldine the Holstein* and creating a line of greeting cards—Cow Cards by Maverick.

*Please mark your calendars for Arts & Letters Award Presentation and Reception October 30 at 2:00 p.m. Central Library Auditorium*

During the event you will get to meet and hear more about these amazing honorees as well as see some of their works. FOSAPL members and the general public are highly encouraged to attend.

A special thank you goes to all the committee members who put in so much of their time and effort in making this event happen, **Sheila Figueroa, Lou Harris, Barbara Isner, Robert LaCaff, Lucille Lammert, Pat Mendiola, Linda Nairn, and Maria Pfeiffer**. If you have any questions or want more information, please call Arts & Letters Chair, **Lucy Gale**, at 375-5302 or lgale@satx.rr.com.

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**FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY Membership Application**

Name ____________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________

City, State, Zip _____________________________________

Telephone __________________________________________

___ Individual (Adult) $ 10 ___ Dual (Adult) $ 20 ___ New Member

___ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18) $ 5 ___ Patron (Per Person) $ 50 Branch Group

___ Contributing (Per Person)$100 ___ Additional Donation $  

___ Life (Per Person) $250 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 461523  
San Antonio, Texas 78246

(Note: Membership is from Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Members receive a renewal notice in early Dec.)
Treasurer's Report
as of June 30, 2005

Submitted by Nancy Gandara

Accounts Balance

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INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS – JUNE 30, 2005

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<td>1,378.66</td>
<td>3,471.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>296.00</td>
<td>708.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Appreciation</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water service at BookCellar</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>144.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>75,950</td>
<td>5,915.73</td>
<td>44,227.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PART-TIME HELP WANTED

The Book Cellar is seeking volunteers who can give 4 hours a month to one of the following tasks:

- Sit at the desk and take customer payments from 3–7 p.m. one Thursday night a month.
- Drive your van to commercial book stores to pick up donated books on a half-day of your choice, transporting another volunteer who will do the heavy lifting.
- Plan and put on occasional publicity events, including an open house for teachers this fall.

For more information or to offer your help, call Book Cellar Manager Monica Hernandez at (210) 227-9519.

Donations and Memorials
Sheila Figueroa, Chairman
As of August 15, 2005

In Memory Of: By

- Catherine Bragg Ruthann Wenzel-Gall
- Ron Boyer Ruthann Wenzel-Gall
- William B. Lecznar Joe and Martha Tarpley
- Stephen Mortensen The Book Discussion Group, Ginny Cardwell, Secretary

September–October 2005
# CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Please refer to the Branch Leaves for Friends 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Writer Friends meeting, “Evening with Cary Clack,” 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Central Library Auditorium</td>
<td>210-207-2534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17</td>
<td>Grassroots Coffee, 11:30–12:15, Oakwell Library</td>
<td>Oakwell Library</td>
<td>210-696-6396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 17–18</td>
<td>McCreless book sale. Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00–4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Oakwell Library</td>
<td>210-696-6396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td><strong>FOSAPL Board Meeting, 2:00 p.m., Thousand Oaks</strong></td>
<td>Thousand Oaks Library</td>
<td>210-657-5205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>Grassroots Coffee, 2:30–3:15, Las Palmas Library</td>
<td>Las Palmas Library</td>
<td>210-432-6783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Grassroots Coffee, 6:00–6:45, Landa Library</td>
<td>Landa Library</td>
<td>210-732-8369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Memorial mini book sale and other activities for adults and children, 1–3 p.m</td>
<td>Thousand Oaks Library</td>
<td>210-657-5205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26</td>
<td>Grassroots Coffee, 2:00–2:45, Thousand Oaks Library</td>
<td>Thousand Oaks Library</td>
<td>210-657-5205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1–2</td>
<td>Dedication to name Children’s Area for Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, Central Library</td>
<td>Central Library</td>
<td>210-207-2534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Grassroots Coffee, 7:00–7:45, Cody Library</td>
<td>Cody Library</td>
<td>210-207-2534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 15–16</td>
<td>Guerra book sale</td>
<td>Guerra Library</td>
<td>210-532-4254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td><strong>Arts &amp; Letters Awards Presentation, 2:00, Central Library Auditorium</strong></td>
<td>Central Library Auditorium</td>
<td>210-207-2534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4–6</td>
<td>Julia Yates Semmes Library Grand Opening</td>
<td>Semmes Library</td>
<td>210-828-2569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.