Dear Friends,

Hopefully, 2007 is going well for you! We had very good attendance at our Annual General Meeting on January 21. We elected new board members for a two-year term: January 2007–January 2009. These are Linda Arronje, Vera Banner, Betty Kelly Berry, Pat Brown, Lucy Gale, Lou Harris, Claudia Kohler, Aaron Konstam, Pat Mendiola, Rowena Rodgers, Evanleen Schmueckle, and Judy Wilson. We also elected our officers for the next two years. Nancy Gandara, Sheila Figueroa, and I are returning as treasurer, secretary, and president, and Bruce Gill was elected as vice-president. (We are all sorry to lose Robert LaCaff on our executive board, but are hoping he will continue as a Friend in other roles. He has done such a good job as editor of our directory, as "certificate-maker," and as co-chair of the Arts and Letters Committee, that we hope to continue to call on him for his expertise.)

Also at our Annual General Meeting, we presented our second annual "Best Friends" Awards. Each Friends group gets to choose their own "Best Friend." Everyone enjoyed meeting these wonderful Friends, as well as all the branch presidents, who were the presenters. What marvelous Friends we have! They form the backbone of our group. The meeting was followed by a lovely reception hosted by our Oakwell Friends.

In February, Cathy Dean and I traveled up the road to Austin for Library Legislation Day. We joined many other Texans in talking with our state senators and representatives to urge them to support bills that affect our libraries. Our state capitol building is truly a maze of offices and meeting rooms, but it has such an illustrious history and is so grand to look at that I love visiting there. Y'all can visit the Texas Library Association website at www.tsla.org to learn about the proposed legislation and how you can still contact your elected officials.

A list of dates and sites for our 2007 FOSAPL board meetings is on page 5. Please mark your calendar so you can plan to be with us. As usual, you can expect to receive an agenda, along with directions to the library a couple of weeks before each meeting date. If you are a representative from a branch group and cannot make it to a meeting, please ask another Friend to attend in your place. We do need to hear what your group is doing, and your group needs to have a voice in what we are doing!

I am looking forward to meeting with y'all in March.

Your Friend,
Linda Nairn

Vote to Support Library Funding

Saturday, May 12, 2007, is Election Day for the City's 2007–2012 million bond program. Early voting for the Bond Election (and General Election) begins Monday, April 30, 2007. The bond election will seek voter approval of five individual propositions that include 151 projects focused on infrastructure improvements and enhancements, including streets, sidewalks, drainage, parks, athletic facilities, and libraries. Out of the $550 million in proposed projects, library projects total $11,025,476—all funded from the Community Initiatives proposition that provides $5 million for each council district.

- Bazan Branch Improvements (District 5) $375,000
- Collins Garden Branch Improvements (District 5) 400,000
- Cortez Branch Improvements (District 4) 300,000
- District 3 New Branch Library 4,175,000
- District 9 New Branch Library 3,000,000
- Fine Arts Library (District 1) 1,100,000
- Johnston Branch Improvements (District 4) 300,000
- McCreless Branch Improvements (District 3) 450,000
- Memorial Branch Improvements (District 5) 300,000
- Oakwell Branch Improvements (District 10) 325,476
- Pan American Branch Improvements (District 4) 300,000

Total: $11,025,476

ANNUAL SPRING BOOK SALE APRIL 13-15 † BOOK CELLAR

The Friends of the Library Annual Spring Book Sale will be held Friday, April 13, through Sunday, April 15. Please plan to come and shop and, if possible, to help with the set-up and the sale.

The sale will be in the Book Cellar and the adjoining patio in the Central Library basement at 600 Soledad. Books will be displayed on tables under canopies on the patio as well as inside the store. Sale hours will be 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m.–4 p.m. on Sunday.

The spring sale is a major fundraiser for the Friends, netting $8,600 last year. It is organized by the Book Cellar Committee, but it requires a wider circle of workers than the Book Cellar volunteer staff alone.

In addition to the three sale days, volunteers will be needed on Thursday, April 12, to fill tables and on Monday, April 16, to pack away leftovers.

Continued on p 8
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 21, 2007

Submitted by Sheila Figueroa, Secretary

REPORTS:

Library Administration:
Aubrey George, Assistant Director for Support Services, thanked the Friends for all of their support. $70,000 went to the Summer Reading Program, staff development, travel expenses, refreshments for the Young Pegasus Awards reception, Las Nuevas Tamaleras, the “Camp Logan” play at the Carver Center, and One Book–One San Antonio Campaign programming at all our branches.

Library Board: Jean Brady, Chairman, announced the upcoming Institute of Museum and Library Services Award to the San Antonio Public Library. Ms. Brady asked for support for the Board’s bond package presentation to the City of San Antonio.

Library Foundation: Linda Nairn, reporting for Lucy Gale, announced that San Antonio had won the 20,000 copies of Green Eggs and Ham through a Cast Your Vote for Reading online voting campaign.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam reported that the big Spring Book Sale will be held April 13–15, at the same time the Texas Library Association has its Annual Conference in San Antonio. Volunteers are needed for the sale [see page 1 for more information]. The Book Cellar is now selling dolls made out of old Reader’s Digest condensed books.

Budget Committee: Nancy Gandara, Chair, reported that the committee met and completed its work in October. Committee members were Neal Bjornson, Aaron Konstam, Richard Morales, and Linda Nairn (ex-officio). Copies of the 2007 budget were distributed.

Membership: Ronnie Retzloff reported that, as of the meeting date, there are 565 individual paid members for 2007. Second renewal notices will be sent out mid-February.

Newsletter: Cathy Dean, editor, acknowledged committee members Lyn Belisle (Chair), Bruce Gill, Mary McAfee, Linda Nairn (ex-officio), Rowena Rodgers, and Alana Woods. She also thanked proofreaders Vera Banner, Pat Konstam, Ronnie Retzloff, and Vada Smith.

Nominations: Mary McAfee acknowledged committee members Tom Anderson, Sheila Figueroa, Joyce Garcia, Rowena Rodgers, and Libby Roussin.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bond Issue. Linda Nairn stated that on Thursday, January 25th at 3 p.m. at the city’s One Stop Center, 1901 S. Alamo, there would be another Community Initiatives Committee meeting/hearing. We need to ask the City for money to repair branches and Central Library, and hopefully build two more branch libraries.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of Officers and Board Members for 2007–2009: Mary McAfee, committee chair, asked Libby Roussin to introduce the proposed slate. The following nominees were elected unanimously:

Linda Nairn, President; Bruce Gill, Vice-President; Sheila Figueroa, Secretary; Nancy Gandara, Treasurer.

Board Members: Linda Arronge, Vera Banner, Pat Brown, Lucy Gale, Lou Harris, Claudia Kohler, Aaron Konstam, Pat Mendiola, Rowena Rodgers, Evanleene Schmueckle, and Judy Wilson.

Best Friends Awards: President Linda Nairn acknowledged the time volunteered by Friends to the various support groups and announced the “Best Friends” awards. Recipients were chosen by 15 groups, and certificates were presented by their presidents. Brookhollow and Guerra Friends felt all their members were deserving of an award and didn’t select Best Friends. Ms. Nairn welcomed State Representative and Library Friend Joaquin Castro in the audience to our annual meeting and noted that he would be visited by library supporters on February 6, Legislative Day.

We adjourned to the reception hosted by Oakwell Friends.
B R A N C H  L E A V E S

Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends are enthusiastically working on a number of upcoming events, as winter passes on into spring. First, we are hosting a Staff Appreciation Dinner for all employees of the library on March 1 at Baccone's Italian Caffe, a favorite local restaurant for many staff members. This will be our second dinner at this location, and everyone is looking forward to an enjoyable evening.

Work is also proceeding on the library's landscaping program. A few hearty Friends have been keeping last fall's plants watered during this unusually cold winter. On Saturday, March 31, the Friends will host an all-volunteer day, when we will complete planting the spring shrubs, flowers, and various perennials. It should be an exciting, fun-filled day for everyone is looking forward to an enjoyable evening.

We are also soliciting book and media donations for our upcoming spring Book Sale, planned for Saturday, May 19.

Overall, a lot of good things are happening at the Brook Hollow Branch. Please join us on either Saturday—March 31, if you enjoy gardening, and May 19 for a great book sale.

Richard Bowser

Carol Van Cleave, Cody Board President, had two pieces of her art in the San Antonio Art Educators show, January 7-26 at Central Library.

Cody will hold a book sale May 19.

Carol Van Cleave

The employees and loyal patrons of the Forest Hills branch of the San Antonio Public Library are pleased renovations have been completed and the library has reopened, having closed on Christmas Eve. Improvements include

- a new air conditioning system
- roof replacement
- a repaved/striped parking lot.

The numerous reading groups are starting their meetings, and the Friends group is planning a Spring Break book sale. At the recent annual citywide library meeting, Yolanda Kirkpatrick was among a select number of honorees who were recognized with a certificate for their work and dedication to the many libraries around the city. Her tireless dedication to improving opportunities for library patrons is appreciated, and we are fortunate to have her attention to our branch. The library reopened with refreshments on February 1.

Johnnie Spraggins

Our spring book sale is set for April 21, before the library closes again briefly for carpet installation and additional repairs.

Carol Van Cleave

First we created an original design for t-shirts and book totes with the slogan: "Be a Maverick, READ!" Sales were so strong that we reordered and had recouped our investment by mid February. Wait until you see our little Maverick calf!

Our second book sale, which was held February 3, was even better than the first. We made $2,357 from the sale of books, t-shirts, and book totes. There were more than 20 volunteers including some new members. We've asked Library staff for another "wish list."

Claudia Kohler and Donna Hogan attended the Friends' Annual Meeting and were each presented a "Best Friend" award representing Maverick Library.

Maverick Library celebrated its first year with a Birthday Bash on February 17. Maverick Friends provided funding for entertainers and special programming and served refreshments. The year went by so quickly; what did we ever do without this wonderful Library!

Donna Hogan

McCreless

McCreless Friends were delighted to have Paula Allen, one of this year's Arts & Letters honorees, speak at our February 7 meeting. Her program on "Glamour and Myth of San Antonio's Near South Side" included history and anecdotes from her newspaper columns on Hot Wells and the famous "Ghost Tracks" story. The audience enjoyed her stories and contributed a number of their own about our area's history. Ms. Allen's appearance increased our attendance and brought us a new member that evening.

Pat DePasquale, is doing a great job. Our book sales in August and November were great successes. The Friends of Oakwell were recognized for our donation of used books to the new Natalia Veterans Memorial Library at Forest Hills Library. The CKOOL kids have adopted the San Antonio Children's Shelter as a project. They have made things for the children and placed a box in the library for donations to their project. Another aspect is that the kids adopt their own rules to live by, such as "Respect Yourself" and "Respect Others." We are so proud of these young citizens and thank the Oakwell staff for their hard work and outstanding results.

Our new Book Sale Chair, Wendy Friedman, was recognized for her donation of used books to the new Natalia Veterans Memorial Library at Forest Hills Library. The CKOOL kids have adopted the San Antonio Children's Shelter as a project. They have made things for the children and placed a box in the library for donations to their project. Another aspect is that the kids adopt their own rules to live by, such as "Respect Yourself" and "Respect Others." We are so proud of these young citizens and thank the Oakwell staff for their hard work and outstanding results.

Pat DePasquale, is doing a great job. Our book sales in August and November were great successes. The Friends of Oakwell were recognized for our donation of used books to the new Natalia Veterans Memorial Library at Forest Hills Library. The CKOOL kids have adopted the San Antonio Children's Shelter as a project. They have made things for the children and placed a box in the library for donations to their project. Another aspect is that the kids adopt their own rules to live by, such as "Respect Yourself" and "Respect Others." We are so proud of these young citizens and thank the Oakwell staff for their hard work and outstanding results.

Our new Book Sale Chair, Wendy Friedman, was recognized for her donation of used books to the new Natalia Veterans Memorial Library at Forest Hills Library. The CKOOL kids have adopted the San Antonio Children's Shelter as a project. They have made things for the children and placed a box in the library for donations to their project. Another aspect is that the kids adopt their own rules to live by, such as "Respect Yourself" and "Respect Others." We are so proud of these young citizens and thank the Oakwell staff for their hard work and outstanding results.

Pat DePasquale, is doing a great job. Our book sales in August and November were great successes. The Friends of Oakwell were recognized for our donation of used books to the new Natalia Veterans Memorial Library at Forest Hills Library. The CKOOL kids have adopted the San Antonio Children's Shelter as a project. They have made things for the children and placed a box in the library for donations to their project. Another aspect is that the kids adopt their own rules to live by, such as "Respect Yourself" and "Respect Others." We are so proud of these young citizens and thank the Oakwell staff for their hard work and outstanding results.
New officers for 2007 elected at the annual meeting October 18, 2006, are Mary McVicker, president; Joan Hildreth, vice president; Judy Olson, treasurer, and Alice Sackett and Juliana Davis, co-secretaries.

Dan Goddard, Express-News art writer and owner of A Good Read bookstore, spoke at the annual meeting about book collecting.

The Friends thank the Tobin Endowment for a generous gift to the Oakwell Library that will be used for interior upgrades.

Fern Burke

Semmes

No moss will grow under Semmes Friends’ feet in 2007! The Friends sponsored a bittersweet event in January as Michelle DiGiacomo retired after 34 years of service to the SAPL. Michelle has been fully engaged in Semmes activities since its opening. She has served as the storyteller for the itty-bitty library users and captivated one such audience infiltrated with oldsters during the 1st Birthday celebration. Many of the Christmas Tree ornaments used to decorate the Semmes tree during its premier season (see last SAPLings) are a direct result of her coaching of youngsters and oldsters during the tree decorating party on December 2. Michelle’s last day as Semmes storyteller was highlighted by a Friends-sponsored reception between her two mid-morning story groups on January 9. The Library and Friends are encouraged to know that Michelle will frequent Semmes and Comanche Lookout Park in her retire-

ment hours of leisure. We thank her for her service, enthusiasm, and creativity while working at San Pedro, Carver, Cortez, and Semmes libraries throughout her career.

Late last Fall, Semmes received many books recycled from the San Pedro branch while it undergoes renovation. Before the books could be put into circulation, they needed to be relabeled as Semmes books. Notification of Semmes Friends of the opportunity to assist library staff with the effort resulted in rapid relabeling of the books, which saved the staff many hours of work.

Several Friends who do not attend evening functions were able to support this activity during the day.

Semmes Friends recently approved purchase of acrylic newspaper display bins for the library. These bins will free up shelf space for more magazine display and present the newspapers in a more secure manner. The Semmes staff put together an exciting program for Black History Month. The Friends were pleased to support the program by underwriting the program budget for popular presentations.

Judy Wilson, treasurer for the Semmes Friends, was honored as our Best Friend during the FOSAPL annual meeting. Judy has been at the forefront of every Friends activity this past year, done the yeoman’s work of sorting our books for our sales, and still finds time to work at the Book Cellar. Judy was also elected to the FOSAPL Board. Congratulations to Judy and FOSAPL!

Mark your calendars! Semmes’ second book sale is scheduled for 3 March.

Christie Smith

Texana/Genealogy

The Friends of Texana/Genealogy had a very successful booksale on January 27, earning almost $2,500 to benefit the department! Many thanks to our hard-working volunteers—Bob and Lou Harris, Fred Pfeiffer, Sissy Braunig (whose cookies and cake were fabulous!), Charlotte Travis, Paula Piper, Roz and Bill Cogburn, Carolene Zehner, Pat Brown, and Kate Ruckman. Library staff members Frank Faulkner, Andy Crews, and Matt DeWaelisce also provided invaluable assistance.

Our spring meeting is in the planning stages, and we will keep you posted. Be sure to look for news of upcoming programs in the South Texas Researcher, the department’s electronic newsletter found at www.sanantonio.gov/library/texana.

Maria Watson Pfeiffer

Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks Friends met for the first time with new officers on January 19 and began making plans for the coming year. One of the goals is to increase membership in the local branch. Posters have been displayed and the group plans to make bookmarks and place information cards in the membership envelopes.

The Thousand Oaks branch is celebrating its twentieth anniversary in 2007. The Friends will work with the Library to plan events to publicize this important milestone.

Book sales are scheduled on Saturday, May 5, and Saturday, November 3.

Leila Hileman

Westfall

Westfall Friends had a very successful booksale on Saturday, February 10. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the sale. Thank you to the Westfall staff for providing coffee. And thanks to all who supported our sale and made purchases.

Mark Monday, March 19, on your calendar. On this date, we will provide a luncheon for our Westfall Staff. If you haven’t joined us before, take this opportunity to get to know your wonderful library team. Call Pat Cummins at 210-737-7863 or email justolder62@sbcglobal.net if you would like to help.

Gregg Barrios, a playwright and journalist and a native Tejano will be Westfall Friends guest speaker on Tuesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. Mr. Barrios is a former Book Editor for the San Antonio Express-News and more recently the Opinion and Editorial Page Editor for Rumba, Spanish language newspapers and a frequent contributor to the Texas Observer and the San Francisco Chronicle Book Review. He also received a Mark Taper Forum Playwright Fellowship in 1996 to develop Dark Horse, Pale Rider about Texas writer, Katherine Anne Porter and her would-be Chicano biographer. It was read at the San Francisco Women’s Theater Festival in 1999 and received a full production at the San Pedro Playhouse in 2002. Join us to hear about his latest work.

Pat Cummins
If you can help during any of the following hours, please call Book Cellar manager Monica Hernandez at 227-9519 and tell her when you can volunteer.

- Thursday, April 12, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Friday, April 13, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Saturday, April 14, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Sunday, April 15, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Monday, April 16, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Paid parking in the Central Library Garage will be provided for volunteers, and lunch will be provided on the three sale days.

The sale will include children's books, adult fiction and non-fiction, magazines and videos. Most prices will range from 25 cents to $1. Please tell your friends and neighbors about this great opportunity to buy good books at super-bargain prices. And please come help with the sale.

---

**San Antonio Public Library UNwired!**

**Free Wireless Internet Service**

The entire library system is now a wireless "hot spot," with the initiation of free wireless internet service at the Central Library and all branch libraries.

"Since the library is a public institution dedicated to providing open access to information, wireless Internet service is a natural next step," said Immediate Past Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees John Nicholas, who spearheaded the project. "The Library Board and staff are very excited that we are able to make this free service available to the community."

Library patrons wishing to take advantage of the new service will need a device such as a laptop computer or PDA (personal data assistant) with a wireless network card. WiFi users will also need to provide their own mouse, power source, headphones (if they wish to listen to audio files), and other equipment.

Call 207-2500 for more information.

Beth Graham, Public Relations Manager, SAPL

---

**Memorials and Donations**

In Memory of: By:

Charles Myler Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pfeiffer, Nancy Gandara
Steven Arronge Nancy Gandara, Margaret Lecznar
Valentine J. Poska Friends of the San Antonio Public
(a life member) Library, Pat R. Brown

Sheila Figueroa

---

**Dues Renewals**

Final Renewal notices have gone out. If you have not renewed your membership, this will be the last newsletter coming to you. Please send your renewal membership in right away. You can designate one branch for your support. $5 extra is needed for any additional groups you wish to support. If you are a life member, we'd like to hear from you each year to be sure we have current information. Thanks for remaining our Friend.

Ronnie Retzloff, Membership Chairman

---

**2007 FOSAPL Board Meeting Schedule**

All remaining FOSAPL board meetings are scheduled to take place at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of alternate months.

- March 18, 2 p.m., Cody Branch Library
- May 20, 2 p.m., McCreless Branch Library
- July 15, 2 p.m., Thousand Oaks Branch Library
- September 16, 2 p.m., Carver Branch Library
- November 18, 2 p.m., Forest Hills Branch Library
- January 20, 2008, Annual General Meeting, 2 p.m., Central Library Auditorium… just planning ahead.
Communities nationwide celebrate National Library Week, April 2–8

ALA to visit hurricane-ravaged libraries April 3–4

American Library Association (ALA) President Michael Gorman and other library leaders will begin National Library Week (April 2–8) by touring hurricane-ravaged libraries in New Orleans and Mississippi and meeting with local library staff. "National Library Week is a perfect time to focus attention on the needs of these libraries, to learn more about their reconstruction efforts and to honor their work," Gorman said.

The ALA has helped to match more than 300 libraries nationwide with libraries in the Gulf region through its "Adopt a Library" program and has raised more than $300,000 for hurricane relief.

Every day, from coast to coast, America's libraries connect millions of people with a remarkable wealth of resources. Sixty-two percent of Americans have library cards and are putting them to greater use online and in person. Despite the Internet and downloadable media, the number of items circulated in the nation's public libraries has grown every year since annual figures became available in 1990.

National Library Week is the time each year that the ALA and communities nationwide celebrate and promote the contributions of our libraries and librarians. Local events reflect the range of programs and services in public, school and higher-education libraries - from a rock concert to an Edible Book Festival to open houses. A partial list of offerings can be found online at www.ala.org/nlw06. Excerpt from "National Library Week Press Kit 2006." American Library Association. 2006. http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/presscentera/piopresskits/nationallibraryweek2006/nlw06.htm (Accessed February 22, 2007)

San Antonio Public Library Receives National Honor

On January 8, First Lady Laura Bush honored 3 U.S. libraries and 3 museums selected by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for exceptional service to their communities. IMLS described SAPL as "working to make its city of 1.2 million people a community of learning" and stated that the strength of the library’s commitment to literacy is demonstrated in its large-scale Born to Read and Little Read Wagon programs. Jose Garcia de Lara and Debra Torres, San Antonio library users, traveled to Washington DC with the SAPL delegation to participate in the White House ceremony and tell how their lives were changed by access to our library’s resources.

At the Friends Annual Meeting, Library Board Chair Jean Brady talked about the exciting event, which included a $10,000 prize, and President Linda Nairn recognized the library’s achievement by presenting Jean with a poster from the Friends saying “Congratulations. We are so proud of this honor.”

A Taste of Texas Treasures

After a long day of walking the state capitol for meetings with as many area legislators as possible, Linda Nairn and I stayed to enjoy a reception at the Texas State Library sponsored by the Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas. The Taste of Texas Treasures program began with a presentation on the 1842 Archives War of Texas. Barbara Chisholm portrayed Angelina Eberly, who helped keep the archives in Austin. Her story set the mood for proceeding to a special exhibit of the Texas State Archives, where we viewed a collection of Texas flags and original historical documents such as the 1836 Travis letter from the Alamo. (You can view these online at www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures.)

Cathy Dean

Best Friends photos will appear in the next SAPLings. Unfortunately, about half of the photos that looked fine in my camera’s small display were actually way too fuzzy (operator error!). I’ve already taken a couple of replacement shots, but couldn’t get to everyone by deadline. If you’re one of the Friends who was also taking pictures on behalf of your group and have some you can share, please call me.

Cathy Dean
(210-333-3343)
Pop Quiz: Which of our public libraries are named after women? More than you would think from the names normally used. Writers Friends were out in front on this topic when they changed their meeting venue, designating it the Hannah Landa Memorial Library.

Branch histories on the library’s web pages provide this information about the women honored.

Isabel G. Bazan Library

The Isabel G. Bazan Branch Library stands as a living memorial to Miss Isabel G. Bazan, former Main Library Supervisor. For more than 34 years, Miss Bazan brought to the Library leadership, knowledge, and skill in implementing creative programs and ideas. Born in San Antonio on July 8, 1920, she was the first of six children of Manuel and Carmen Bazan. She attended San Fernando Cathedral High School and received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Our Lady of the Lake University in 1942. It was also at Our Lady of the Lake that Miss Bazan obtained her specialization in library science.

Miss Bazan began her library career in August 1942 with the San Antonio Public Library, remaining with the Library until her death on February 7, 1977. She lived in the Prospect Hill area, close to the branch library named in her honor. She is remembered throughout Texas as a librarian, but in her home neighborhood, she is remembered not only as a librarian but as a teacher of the English and Spanish languages, a dedicated church worker, and a willing helper to all in the community.

Leah Carter Johnston Library

Johnston Branch Library is dedicated to the memory of Leah Carter Johnston, San Antonio Public Library’s first Children’s Librarian. Mrs. Johnston established the Children’s Department in 1922, and she served as Children’s Librarian until 1955. In 1927, she created the first children’s poetry competition in the United States. Known as “Young Pegasus,” this contest continues to inspire and encourage children to use words to express their dreams and make books of their own.

Mrs. Johnston was also an author and a reviewer of children’s books for Horn Book Magazine and the Texas Library Journal. In 1947, she published a children’s local history, San Antonio-Saint Anthony’s Town, which remains a part of the library collection today. After retirement from the library system, Mrs. Johnston and 12 friends organized the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library in 1964.

Hannah Landa Memorial Library

The Hannah Landa Branch Library, located in the Monte Vista Historical District, is named for Hannah Mansfeld Landa, beloved wife of Harry Landa. The Landa Branch Library was the private residence of Harry and Hannah Landa from 1929 to 1946. Hannah Mansfeld was a native of Tucson, Arizona, and met Harry Landa while visiting friends in San Antonio. By chance, they both were staying at the St. Anthony Hotel and soon romance was in the air. Harry and Hannah were married March 17, 1913, in Tucson, Arizona. For many years they made their home in New Braunfels. In 1928 construction of their new Italian home began, and in 1929, the Landas moved to 233 Bushnell in San Antonio.

Hannah’s beauty, grace, and charm brought her a prominent place as one of the outstanding social and civic leaders in San Antonio, universally beloved and respected. Hannah Mansfeld Landa died on October 28, 1942. Four years later, Harry bequeathed his home and the grounds to the City of San Antonio to be used as a free public library and a children's playground. The library would be called the Hannah Landa Memorial Branch Library and would be a “living memorial to his beloved Hannah,” with whom he had shared his life for 30 years. By 1947, the home had been transformed into its role as a free public library. Appropriate book shelves were erected out of the same materials Gramer's Iron Works had used for the ornamental iron in the home, and suitable library furniture was purchased. The grand opening of the new Library was on April 1, 1947.

Julia Yates Semmes Library

Julia Laura Yates Semmes was born October 20, 1904, in Stanton, Texas. She was raised on a ranch in West Texas and moved to San Antonio in 1941. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Colonial Dames, and the Huguenot Society. At the age of 80, Mrs. Semmes developed macular degeneration, the leading cause of blindness in Americans over 55. Mrs. Semmes worked with the Texas Commission for the Blind to learn how to continue to live independently in spite of her loss of vision. In 2000, the Semmes Foundation donated $1 million to the San Antonio Public Library to create a special collection, including books and equipment, for the visually impaired. The Semmes Foundation has pledged an additional $250,000 for materials and equipment for the Semmes Branch at Comanche Lookout Park. Mrs. Semmes died November 5, 2002, at the age of 98.
Please join the San Antonio Public Library Foundation for the 1 Book~1 San Antonio Book/Author Press Announcement.

Wednesday, March 7
11 a.m. % Downtown in front of the Alamo

Welcome and opening Remarks Judge Susan Reed; Guillermo Nicolas, Chairman, San Antonio Public Library Foundation; and Ramiro Salazar, Director, San Antonio Public Library.

1 Book~1 SA. Book Cover Unveiling
Introduction of Selected Author
Selected Author Remarks
Sponsors: H-E-B, Chase Bank, KSXT (Texas Public Radio)

Advocacy tools available

Visit www.txla.org to take a look at the big picture in building your public relations plan.

The Public Relations Toolkit and the 65 Reasons to Love Your Library PR kit provide tools to help you create a local campaign around some of the most important contributions your library makes to your community.

Bond Election from p 1

Thanks to all Friends who contacted their council offices to advocate for library funding, appeared at Community Initiatives public meetings, or submitted emails to committee members. Presentations at these hearings and all the emails to the committee are still posted at http://www.sanantonio.gov/2007bond/communityinitiativescommittee.asp if you would like to look through the material.

Now our job is to help get out the vote in May to pass the Community Initiatives proposition. Another priority is to monitor City Council candidates in your district as the May election approaches. Please attend campaign appearances and raise the issue of library needs. Every chance you get, ask candidates questions about their support for our library system.

Cathy Dean

From EL Nopal
September–December 2006 newsletter of the Alamo Area Library System (AALS), www.aalstx.org

Their Friends, Boards and Trustees page has a full-page article on “What does a nonprofit organization's 501©(3) exemption signify to a donor?” by Susan Crawford Tracy, first printed in The Bandera Bulletin. The author notes that the article was written "some time ago and may not be up-to-date," but it shows us some of the considerations involved.

Book Sales Site

Book Sale Scout is a web site directory that offers book sales alerts, integration into Google maps, customizable e-mail reminders, user comments, and more. This site concentrates on promoting book sales materials to booksellers, book collectors, and bargain hunters. Library Friends groups and other organizations that manage fundraising book sales may use this free site located at www.booksalescout.com.

(Ed: The Book Cellar is in there and up to date—take a look and submit your online review!)

Update on Budget

The Appropriations Committee will meet early next week to consider the State Library budget. The initial draft state budget restored most of the 10% cut to the State Library budget, although it appears that no new funding will be directed to the agency.

URGENT CALL TO ACTION: Library supporters are urged to contact their representatives and senators and ask them to support funding for libraries by:
1) increasing funding for Loan Star Libraries, a program at the State Library. This funding request is included in the agency's exceptional items request (General Government agencies, Article I of the Appropriations Bill, HB 1/ SB 1).
2) appropriating $2.5 million per year for K-12 online school library resources. This funding request will be made as a proposed rider to the Texas Education Agency budget (Article III of the Appropriations Bill, HB 1/ SB 1) and also on the State Library budget in the coming days.
3) providing an additional $500,000 per year for TexShare databases. This funding request will be made as part of a proposed rider to the State Library budget in the coming days.

For talking points, go to http://www.txla.org/html/govt_aff.html and see 80th Legislative Issues.

House Appropriations Members from San Antonio:
Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon—on Education Subcommittee (Note: Education Subcommittee has oversight over the Texas Education Agency's budget.)
Rep. Jose Menendez

Men of Texas Calendars

There are still some of these great 18-month (2007 and half of 2008) calendars available for $20 plus tax, shipping and handling. Or if any are remaining by Conference, they'll be available at the TLA Store in the Exhibits Hall. The calendar is a fundraising activity for the TLA Disaster Relief Fund, a very worthy cause. You can preview the cover at www.txla.org/temp/TLAmen. To order, use the TLA Store form (doc) or call the office at 1(800) 580-2852.
Friends Cast Their Votes for Reading!

Thank You for Casting Your Vote for Reading! Because of your participation, First Book and SuperPages.com/Idearc Media Corp. distributed 20,000 new books to children in San Antonio at a Green Eggs and Ham event on February 27.

First Book is an international nonprofit organization that places new books into the hands of the most disadvantaged children. SuperPages.com is committed to creating communities of readers where its employees and customers live and work.

The need is great. Research has confirmed that the critical factor determining whether or not a child becomes a reader is his or her access to reading materials. Most recent data describes a profound, even shocking gap: while the ratio of books to children in middle-income neighborhoods is approximately 13 books per child, the ratio in low-income neighborhoods is 1 book per 300 children.

First Book ensures that all children, regardless of their economic situation, grow up with books of their very own. In November, many of our Friends cast their vote via the internet so San Antonio could receive new books for local children in need! We were competing with many other communities across America, and we won!!!

Wow! It’s hard to believe the Cat in the Hat will turn 50 in March 2007!

Please wish the Cat in the Hat a Happy 50th Birthday! Visit the web site www.catinthehat.com and click "Send a Birthday Card to the Cat in the Hat." For every completed birthday card received by May 1, 2007, Random House will donate a book to First Book, a non-profit organization, with a single mission: to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read their own first new books.

Currently, Texas ranks 37 out of 50 states. HOWEVER, San Antonio already came from the bottom of a list once to win 20,000 new Dr. Seuss books for children in our community, so I’m sure the whole state of Texas can turn things around. Send your greeting and pass this along. Thank you for sending the Cat in the Hat a birthday wish!

Beth Graham, SAPL

Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference

Strong Libraries, Strong Communities

April 11-14, 2007—San Antonio Convention Center

TLA is a professional organization that promotes librarianship and library service in Texas. Through legislative advocacy, continuing education events, and networking channels, TLA offers members opportunities for service to the profession as well as for personal growth. Whether you are a librarian, a library supporter, or a library supplier, there is a place in this diverse organization for you to connect with others who love libraries and are eager to include you in the important work of the association.

The conference is open to non-members, and registration is $120 for trustees and lay advocates who preregister by March 23, versus $140 for the onsite rate. TLA membership is $30 a year for nonlibrarian advocates, and conference registration is then $90 and $110 for members. Membership and preregistration forms are both available online at www.txla.org. If you join, be sure to designate Library Friends, Trustees & Advocates (LiFTA) Round Table as your basic group. LiFTA is sponsoring a Conference program by Julie Ousley, lay advocate from the New Braunfels Public Library on "Last Chance Books: Rags to Riches," demonstrating how to recycle books into other items such as the angels that are so popular at the Book Cellar.

Other opportunities are available without full conference registration.

- Library Friends, Trustees, and Advocates (LiFTA) opening author luncheon is Thursday, April 12 from noon to 1:50 pm. Speakers are Laura Lippman (What the Dead Know), Tim McClure (Don’t Mess With Texas: The Story Behind the Legend), and Brian Selznick (The Invention of Hugo Cabret). Tickets are $30 and must be purchased by Wednesday, March 14, through the preregistration process.
- Exhibit passes good for 3 days are also available separately for $20 onsite.
- Volunteers are needed, and locals are especially requested for the Hospitality Committee to help with airport pickups and/or gift bag assembly. Anyone who works 4 hours receives a complimentary pass to the Exhibits Hall, which is fascinating. Volunteer online by submitting the form at http://www.txla.org/groups/forms/Conf_volunteer.html, or contact me and I’ll submit your information.

Cathy Dean (210-333-3343 or ca-dean@sbcglobal.net)
On Wednesday, January 24, the Library Board of Trustees honored two organizations, one individual, and a local family as 2006 Library Champions.

The Library Champion Award, presented annually, was created to recognize individuals and organizations that have made notable contributions of time, talent or resources which have resulted in the enhancement of public library service in San Antonio; or which have had substantial involvement in the support of the San Antonio Public Library system over a period of many years.

This year’s honorees were:

The Collins Garden Neighborhood Association, for their support of the Collins Garden Branch Library: the association has provided honoraria so that special programs could be offered, such as a performance by music students from the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, as well as programs for children during the Summer Reading Program. Donations from the Collins Garden Neighborhood Association have purchased a microwave, a baby-changing table, a color printer, and furniture for the branch. An association member taught guitar lessons at the library this past summer, and members promote and support library programs, such as the 2006 One Book–One San Antonio initiative.

Dennis Martínez, immediate past Chairman of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation Board of Directors: Mr. Martínez was instrumental in the passage of a bill through the Texas legislature to allow the formation of a library district by the City of San Antonio. He has since served on the commission appointed by Mayor Phil Hardberger and County Judge Nelson Wolff to study the feasibility of forming a San Antonio Public Library District; and daughter Olivia Newman volunteered at the Central Library and served as an intern at the Library Foundation in 2006.

The Memorial Amigos/ The Friends of Memorial Branch Library: Although a relatively new group—the Memorial Amigos have been in operation only about two years—this organization has already had a huge impact. They obtained grants to fund branch programs, such as a teen photo workshop and display. They sponsored a “Get to Know Your Community” Fair, new library card sign-up incentives, and Summer Reading Program incentives, and supported system-wide programming such as One Book–One San Antonio.

The Newman Family: The John and Florence Newman Foundation has supported the fundraising efforts of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, as well as programs for library patrons. Anne Newman serves on the Board of Directors of the Landa Gardens Conservancy, an organization raising funds to enhance and maintain the grounds of the Landa Branch Library; John (“Chico”) Newman serves as Chairman of the Library District Commission, a group appointed by Mayor Phil Hardberger and County Judge Nelson Wolff to study the feasibility of forming a San Antonio Public Library District; and daughter Olivia Newman volunteered at the Central Library and served as an

In her remarks recognizing the 2006 award recipients, Library Board of Trustees Chair Jean Brady said, “The San Antonio Public Library draws strength from the support of the community. The library recently received a national award, and we couldn't have done it without the support of individuals and groups such as those we are honoring. Although their contributions are often quiet and behind the scenes, volunteers like the 2006 Library Champions make it possible for us to offer the outstanding level of service we give the City.”
### INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

**December 31, 2006**

**Submitted by Nancy Gandara**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accounts</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working Capital Account [closed]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market Gold Account [closed]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Market Gold Account</td>
<td>$133,650.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking Account</td>
<td>75,404.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$209,055.14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Branch-designated Funds                       | 76,672.74   |
| **Total Liabilities**                         | **76,672.74** |

| OVERALL TOTAL                                 | **$132,382.40** |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Budget</strong></th>
<th><strong>Nov/Dec 06</strong></th>
<th><strong>Yr-to-Date</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Cellar</td>
<td>$ 64,000</td>
<td>$12,219.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branch/Special Interest Group Book Sales</td>
<td>4,905.23</td>
<td>39,330.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,097.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,111.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>8,728.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from Savings</td>
<td>32,875</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Income                                 | **$106,375** | **$19,333.54** | **$134,001.51** |

| Expenses                                      |                |                |
| Accounting                                    | 2,650          | 1,950.00       | 2,225.00     |
| Arts and Letters                              | 500            | 333.65         |             |
| Bank Charges                                  | 150            | 33.25          |             |
| Book Cellar Expenses                          |                |                |
| Advertising                                   | 2,200          | 1,835.40       |             |
| Commodities for resale                        | 500            | 427.00         |             |
| Internet & software                           | 200            | 207.03         |             |
| Salary & benefits                             | 8,200          | 1,119.50       | 6,709.00    |
| Volunteer Appreciation                        | 400            | 205.74         |             |
| Water service                                 | 500            | 68.00          | 414.51      |
| Bulk Mail                                     | 2,000          | 1,000.00       | 2,000.00    |
| Committee Expenses                            | 400            | 356.88         |             |
| FOLUSA Membership                             | 100            | 100.00         |             |
| Friends Recognition                           | 100            | 125.00         |             |
| Insurance (bonding)                           | 125            | 125.00         |             |
| Library Support                               |                |                |
| Programming for public [all year, all ages]  | 40,000         | 489.00         | 40,489.00   |
| Staff development & training                  | 30,000         | 30,000.00      |             |
| Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Members        |                | 200.00         |             |
| Mail Box                                      | 100            | 72.00          |             |
| Membership Directory                          | 2,000          | 2,398.75       |             |
| Newsletter Prep/Editing                       | 1,600          | 1,000.00       |             |
| Newsletter Printing                           | 2,000          | 1,416.57       |             |
| Office Supplies                               | 400            | 1,444.56       |             |
| Parking                                       | 4,000          | 697.79         | 4,235.29    |
| Postage                                       | 300            | 49.29          | 302.43      |
| President’s Expenses                          | 350            | 9.96           | 270.96      |
| Sales Tax (Book Cellar and Branches)          | 7,600          | 1,148.31       | 10,084.11   |

| Total Expenses                                | **$106,375** | **$ 6,531.85** | **$106,866.13** |

### Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

**December 31, 2006**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bazan</td>
<td>$ 71.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brook Hollow</td>
<td>19,483.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carver</td>
<td>1,812.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody</td>
<td>8,756.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Hills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guerra</td>
<td>2,152.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>1,014.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maverick</td>
<td>3,545.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCleese</td>
<td>3,048.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial</td>
<td>2,860.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakwell</td>
<td>5,716.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semmes</td>
<td>33.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texana/Genealogy</td>
<td>9,548.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thousand Oaks</td>
<td>4,158.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westfall</td>
<td>4,770.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writers</td>
<td>1,936.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Group Funds | $65,361.44 | $76,672.74 |

### 2007 Budget

#### Income

- **Book Cellar Sales / Group Book Sales**: $65,000
- **Donations**: 3,523
- **Interest**: 6,250
- **Membership**: 8,000
- **FOSAPL Income**: 82,773

#### Expenses

- **Accounting**: 2,250
- **Arts and Letters**: 400
- **Book Charges**: 50
- **Book Cellar Expenses**
  - **Advertising**: 2,000
  - **Commodities for resale**: 600
  - **Internet & software**: 200
  - **Printing / copying**: 200
  - **Recruitment of volunteer workers**: 750
  - **Salary & benefits**: 7,200
  - **Volunteer Appreciation**: 500
  - **Water service**: 652
- **Branch/Group Operating Expenses**
  - **Bulk Mail**: 1,500
  - **FOLUSA Membership**: 100
  - **FOSAPL Committee Expenses**: 400
  - **FOSAPL Donor Recognition**: 1,000
  - **Friends recognition**: 300
  - **Insurance (bonding)**: 125
- **Library Support**
  - **Programming for public [all year, all ages]**: 40,000
  - **Staff development & training**: 40,000
  - **Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Members**: no funding amt
  - **Various Branch/Group Purchases**
    - **Mail Box**: 100
    - **Newsletter Prep/Editing**: 1,800
    - **Newsletter Printing**: 2,800
    - **Office Supplies**: 1,500
    - **Parking**: 4,600
    - **Postage**: 623
    - **President’s Expenses**: 350
    - **Sales Tax (Book Cellar and Branches)**: 10,000

| Total Expenses | $120,000 |
# CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 3</td>
<td>Semmes book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Public Library Foundation, 1 Book ~ 1 San Antonio book/author press announcement. Downtown in front of the Alamo, 11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 18</td>
<td><strong>FOSAPL Board Meeting, 2 p.m., Cody Branch Library</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>Organizational meeting for Landa Branch Friends group, Landa Library, 10:30 a.m. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 13-15</td>
<td>Book Cellar Big Spring book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>Westfall meeting, 7 p.m., <strong>Gregg Barrios</strong> guest speaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 21</td>
<td>McCreless book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Thousand Oaks book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Brook Hollow book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Cody book sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 3</td>
<td>Thousand Oaks book sale</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.