Dear Friends,

Well, school is starting and we are all getting geared up for Fall. I hope you enjoyed our cool, rainy summer as much as I did. It was really nice to not worry about which day I could water my poor lawn. In fact, I didn't need to water it at all—such a blessing! I could spend my summer evenings reading instead!

Several of our branch libraries have been closed for renovations this summer. Some of us, I am sure, have had the pleasure of venturing over to neighboring branches or to our Central Library. It is always interesting to see new places and meet new people. And find new books! Do remember that if you find a book in the library's catalog that is not at your particular branch, you can request it. The library staff will send it to your local branch. You do not have to go driving all over town. This is just another of the services that our library system offers to us.

Mr. John Newman, chairman of the Library District Commission, had been scheduled to speak to our Friends' board of directors at our September board meeting. Since the vote on tax funds for a Library District seems to have been tabled by our city government, at least until 2009, I am not sure where we stand on this. What was going to be an up-hill climb is beginning to look like a sheer cliff. But, as the saying goes, "Where there's a will, there's a way."

I am looking forward to our Arts and Letters Awards ceremony. You should be getting an invitation in the mail in October. Hope to see you there. It is always exciting to meet San Antonio's creative geniuses!

Your Friend,

Linda Nairn

**Big Scary Monster Book Sale**

The Big Scary Monster Book Sale is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, October 26–28, at the Book Cellar. Since you won't receive the next issue of SAPLings until after the sale, the Book Cellar committee needs to ask you now to save the dates and to call the Book Cellar at (210) 227-9519 if you can volunteer to help.

Volunteers will be needed at the following times:

- Thursday, Oct. 25, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. to help set up
- Friday, Oct. 26, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. during the sale
- Saturday, Oct. 27, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. during the sale
- Sunday, Oct. 28, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. during the sale
- Monday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. to help pack up

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

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**Award-Winning Humorist To Speak at Writer Friends’ Fall Meeting**

**Cynthia Massey**

A ward-winning memoirist and humorist **George Arnold** will give a presentation on "Writing the Best Darn Memoir You Can" at the quarterly meeting of the Writer Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, Tuesday, September 11, 7:00 p.m., at the Cody Library, 11441 Vance Jackson, between Huebner and Mission Trace. Note that this is a new venue for the Writer Friends.

Arnold spent the last quarter century of his 32-year career in advertising and public relations at one agency in Dallas where he was president for the final twenty-two of those years. He retired at the end of 1998.

*Continued on p 5.*
Call to Order: Linda Nairn, President, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and thanked the Thousand Oaks Branch Friends group for providing the refreshments.

Board of Directors and Officers present: Linda Nairn, Bruce Gill, Sheila Figueroa, Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Vera Banner, Aaron Konstam, Claudia Kohler, Pat Mendiola, Judy Wilson, Evanleen Schmueckle, Pat Konstam, Alan Cutler

Branch Representatives: Libbie Roussin, Dorothy Smith, Dolores Huber, Maria Pfeiffer, Leila Hileman

Others Present: Dorene Woods

San Antonio Public Library Administration: Aubrey George

San Antonio Public Library Trustee Vice-Chair: Jean Brady

San Antonio Public Library Foundation: Sarah Swinney

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as amended. The amendment is as follows: Under Old Business: "The money suggested for the library was reduced by the city."

President’s Report: Linda Nairn reported she met with the Landa group and gave them copies of By-Laws so a Friends Group could be formed. Linda will be contacting them in the near future for an update. Linda reported that the Landa Library is now closed for renovations. The Landa Gardens Conservancy received many donations. Linda asked us to keep advertising the Book Cellar and its great bargains. Linda stated that a Friends Group is forming at Collins Gardens Library. People are already asking about a Friends Group at the new John Igo branch library.

Treasurer’s Report: Nancy Gandara distributed a report as of June 30, 2007. The Treasurer’s Report was accepted and filed for audit.

REPORTS:

Library Board: Jean Brady, Chairman, thanked the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library for all of their support. The Brookhollow landscaping project is going great. Jean stated that John Newman will speak to us in September about the Library District. The Mayor had kind words for the library. The San Antonio Express News Editorial Board was in favor of the Library District. The Library District issue will return to City Council around August 2.

Library Administration: Aubrey George, Assistant Director, thanked the Friends for their support. Aubrey asked for each of us to speak with our city council person with regard to the city budget. Meetings will be held in mid-August, and there will be meetings in each district. More money is being requested for the book budget in the sum of $365,000; additional staff was also requested. The library is short approximately 66 positions; also, upgrades to the computer systems have been requested Aubrey reported that due to the Landa Gardens Conservancy effort, the roof at Landa Branch is being replaced; new lighting, new carpet, furnishings, sidewalks, driveways, etc. Aubrey reported that the carpet was replaced at the library at Reagan High School. The John Igo Branch library will be opening in late November or early December. A project has started at Central Library to look at the roof and walls and to determine exactly what the problems are. The collection in the vault at Central Library is covered with plastic to protect it from water leaks. The RFID project at the Cody branch is about completed. The RFID project will take about 12 to 18 months to complete at all libraries. Aubrey stated that RFID project really helps with the staffing needs.

Library Foundation: Sarah Swinney reported that she has been with the Foundation for approximately 3 months. The Botero fundraiser with KLRN was a huge success. The closing event will take place in early fall. The Foundation’s lease is up at the end of the month, and it will be moving its offices near Commerce and IH 37 (the old SAWS building).

Author Tina Brown who wrote The Diana Chronicles will appear at the Pearl Stables. There will be a book signing at Saks Fifth Avenue, and the proceeds will go to the Foundation. The 1 Book 1 San Antonio program has been very successful with the reading of the book Gates of the Alamo. Sarah stated that there is a small log cabin behind the Jeun House on Shook Ave. that will be renovated and used for children’s programming.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arts and Letters: It was reported by Linda Nairn that Rosemary McElfresh will be the chairman of the Arts and Letters committee. Everyone is encouraged to submit names/nominations. Along with the names, please send any biographical information you have. Send them to the Friends post office box address. The deadline for submitting names is August 15.

Audit Committee: Judy Wilson had no report at this time.

Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam reported that ads for the Book Cellar are being heard on Texas Continued on p. 5.
Brook Hollow

Ah, the lazy, hazy days of summer, when everything slows down a bit ... including our Friends activities. We have been "clowning around" a little, though, and provided funds for a clown for the branch's Summer Reading Program, as well as some other support items for this valuable neighborhood youth program.

The wonderful spring and early summer rains have given our new landscape plants just the right ticket to become firmly established for a long and beautiful run, as they greatly enhance the exterior of the library building. One last item: please note in your calendars to attend our upcoming fall book sale, on Saturday, November 17. We look forward to seeing you there!

Richard Bowser

Cody

The biggest news at Cody Library continues to be the RFID, Radio Frequency Identification System. The first of its kind in the city. Ninety-nine percent of the tagging of books is completed, and one of the two check-out desks has been completely removed. In its place will be four self-check-out stations. And, since we're already using the RFID system, we now have a newly installed Security Gate. The same kind that you see at H.E.B. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped tag.

FOSAPL helped pay for the very well-attended Summer Children's Reading Program. Seven hundred children completed the course.

Cody's next Book Sale is October 6. Mark your calendar now for a bigger and better than ever book sale.

Carol Van Cleave

Forest Hills

Meanwhile, in another part of the forest:
- Annual back-to-school book sale August 13-18
- Embroidery classes starting on Wednesdays
- Rosary beading classes ongoing first Friday each month at 9:00 a.m.
- Staff/patrons await new director

Johnnie Spragins

Johnston

We have a small and extremely dedicated group of Friends members who could really use some assistance in setting up and breaking down for the upcoming Book Sale on November 9 and 10 (set-up to begin a 8 a.m.). If anyone is interested in donating a couple of hours it would be very much appreciated. Just contact Cheryl.Sheehan@sanantonio.gov or call 210-674-8410. We look for any help anyone can offer!

Cheryl Sheehan

Maverick

The Maverick Friends experimented with a mini-book sale this month. We always seem to have a surplus of Romance books that we end up giving away, so we decided to lower the prices to see if we could "move them." Because we have been presorting our books, it was very easy to set up a couple of tables in the main library where everyone could see us. Our customers had a great time and took away a lot of books. We also sold our T-shirts and totes.

On September 15, we will have our 3rd Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The patrons of Maverick are very generous with their used books and we have around 130 boxes of books to be sold. Stop by, we might have that very special book you've been looking for!

Claudia Kohler

McCreless

On June 5th, a well-attended ice cream social garnered lots of attention for the kickoff of the Summer Reading program. Friends members Anne Long, Mary Swanson, Elizabeth Garcia, and Evanele Schmucke helped host the event, and the ice cream was supplied by the Friends Group. On July 24, the Reading Program ended with a Friends Group sponsored party. Participants enjoyed the magician "Tricky Mikey" (Mike Cruz), as well as pizza and camaraderie. In August, a business meeting and book sale were held. The next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Jill Zimmerman

Semmes

The Semmes Friends joined the library staff at their July 4th party (actually held on the 2nd). The library staff pulled out all the stops with fried chicken, an assortment of salads and decadent desserts. We worked off the calories playing bocce and throwing water balloons in the back patio. This was a wonderful way to celebrate our country’s birthday and spend some leisure time with our great library staff.

The Friends are now gearing up for our fall book sale that we'll hold on Saturday, September 15. We are excited

Continued on p 4.
about our extra special collections of classical music LPs and sheet music, popular sheet music, antiquarian books, classical literature, foreign language dictionaries, coffee table books, fantastic groups on history, Native America, travel, Civil War, cooking, needlework, gardening and medicine. All these are in addition to children's books, hard and paper back fiction and DVDs, CDs and books on tape. We sure can use additional help throughout the sale period to include set up on Friday (14) and breakdown on Sunday (16). Proceeds from our last sale enabled us to purchase shelving (just arrived) for new books and games for a new youth program. The ability to support the library with purchases such as these inspire us to work hard towards making the sale as productive as possible. Please call Judy Wilson (656-9409) or Christie Smith (653-4103) to offer assistance.

Christie Smith

Tobin Library at Oakwell

Tobin Library at Oakwell has had a busy and exciting summer. The Sail Away With Books program met with enthusiasm from adults and children of all ages. The Summer Reading Club encouraged participants to keep a log and read at least fifteen books in order to receive a free paperback book to keep and a pair of tickets to any San Antonio Missions Baseball Game.


The library also sponsored a Disney Film-Fest every Monday afternoon during July. Our new projector was put to good use showing old favorites, Johnny Tremain, Parent Trap, Swiss Family Robinson, Mary Poppins, and Pollyanna.

A large crowd turned out in spite of heavy rain to hear Stephen Harrigan, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Gates of the Alamo, speak on July 26 at 6:30 p.m. Harrigan graciously answered the many questions that followed his fascinating talk. His program was preceded by a musical performance of Spanish and American songs of the early 1800s which blended beautifully with the theme of the book.

August brought us two pieces of especially good news. Leaks in our roof had the library staff scurrying to cover books with tarpaulins and empty strategically placed buckets when the heavens opened up in July. But as soon as those rains came to an end, work began on our NEW ROOF. We also received a grant of $2,388.42 from the Tobin Endowment to match the proceeds of our May Book Sale. Heartfelt thanks all around.

We began an experiment with our May Book Sale, extending an invitation to members of Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell to a Preview and sale on Friday afternoon from 2 to 5 before the regular sale on Saturday. It proved popular with our members, and we will continue with this preview in August.

Our Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers will be held Saturday, October 20, at 2 p.m. The guest speaker Lou Stafford, is a retired teacher/librarian with a diverse and interesting background. She has taught language arts, reading, English, and speech to every level from grade five through college undergraduate courses. The last ten years of her professional life were spent working for Windham School District as regional librarian for the South Texas Region of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Her base unit was at the McConnell Unit in Beeville, Texas, a maximum-security prison housing approximately 3000 men. She was also responsible for a smaller unit, the Glossbrenner Unit at San Diego, Texas, and helped conduct inventories, provide training, and performed other library duties for all of the units in the region. We look forward to hearing about her experiences.

Our next Book Sale will be held November 17.

Joan Hildreth

Westfall

Westfall library is in the midst of tagging all materials for the RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) Project. Library patrons will soon be able to do self-checkout. There will be 3 stations in which to check out materials and then have printed a receipt with titles and the date due. Jamie Flowers, branch manager, thinks the work of tagging will be accomplished in about a week. This new system will free library staff to better serve the patrons.

The Summer Reading Program for ages birth to 18 years had 806 sign up this summer. Each participant was to read 15 books and keep a log of titles. When their completed log is brought to the library by the end of August, each will and receive a certificate, a book to keep and 2 tickets to a Missions baseball game.

Summer Story Hours have been well attended. Imelda also prepared a Backpack Program, a story and craft session that met once a week this summer.

Patricia Cummins

Writer Friends

Award-winning humorist George Arnold will speak at the Writer Friends’ Fall Meeting. See story on page 5 more information.

Cynthia Massey

Watch your mailbox for Membership Renewal Notices, which will be mailed in October.
His first book, Growing Up Simple, won the Independent Publisher's (IPPY) Humor Award as the funniest book published in North America in 2003; the Violet Crown Award as the best nonfiction book by a Texas author in 2003; and a Silver Spur from the Texas Public Relations Association for marketing excellence.

His second book, BestSeller: Must-Read Author's Guide to Successfully Selling Your Book, transposes his sales and marketing experience into the field of book marketing for authors. It is featured in writer workshops that he conducts across the South.

His first works of fiction, Los Gatos of the CIA: Hunt for Fred-X and I Gatti of the CIA: Fred-X Rising are funny, semi-bilingual (Spanish and Italian) adventures for children, and for adults, tongue-firmly-in-cheek spoofs of the children, and for adults, tongue-ish and Italian) adventures for funny, semi-bilingual (Spanish and Italian) adventures for children, and for adults, tongue-firmly-in-cheek spoofs of the

Arnold lives in the Texas Hill Country where he and his wife of more than forty years raise registered half-Arabian horses, coastal Bermuda hay, dogs, cats, and invisible goats. They have four children and four grandchildren.


The presentation is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

BOO K CEL LAR  NE WS

The Book Cellar's summer reading sale was a great success. Customers carried out armloads of adult fiction and children's books, and the store averaged sales of about $200 a day.

The buy-one-get-one-free special during September will be adult books in the Dewey Decimal 700s and 800s. The 700s include music, movies, TV, dance, recreation and sports. The 800s cover literature—poetry, plays, essays, humor, literary criticism, writing and public speaking.

Without announcement to anyone at the Book Cellar, the store supplied a major component for an art exhibit at Artpace this summer. For an installation titled "The Library," Italian artist Stefano Arcenti bought dozens of books that he altered by cutting designs or punching holes in them to give them a sculptural quality. The books were partly buried in 400 bushels of wheat spread on the gallery floor. Viewers could walk through the grain landscape to look at the books. The free exhibit runs through Sept. 9 at Artpace, 445 N. Main Ave.

At its August meeting, the Book Cellar Committee decided to hold a three-day fall sale again this year—on the weekend before Halloween. The Big Scary Monster Book Sale is scheduled for Friday through Sunday, October 26–28. See the story on page 1 for more information.

Pat Konstam

Public Radio for an annual cost of $500.00. There has been an increase in volunteers thru Volunteer Match. There are two work days scheduled to help process incoming books: July 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday, July 25th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Membership: Claudia Kohler reported that there are 818 paid memberships.

Memorials/Honorariums: Sheila Figueroa had no report at this time.

Newsletter: Linda Nairn reported that the newsletter had been mailed out.

OLD BUSINESS:

Linda Nairn stated that she will contact Robert LaCaff about having certificates sent to Life Members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pat Konstam asked us to think about getting people to the FOSAPL board meeting in September to obtain information on the proposed Library District.

Branch News and Announcements:

Bazan did not have a book sale in June because it was closed for maintenance. There will be a book sale September 8. On July 16, a week-long celebration will begin for its 30th anniversary. On July 21, a reception will be held with refreshments and tours of the library.

Brookhollow is working on its gardens. Carver reopened May 29. Carver has a new resurfaced parking area and paint job. There will be a book sale in August. Carver made a big banner for its book sales. Cody had a book sale in May. The Cody Friends group has been purchasing many items for the library, including a disk to repair CDs. The summer reading program is going so well that the programs are ticket-controlled. Guerra's book sale was successful. Maverick is considering having a mini sale in the middle of their regular sale to sell tote bags and t-shirts. The Maverick Friends had some plaques made for donation purposes. McCreless has a book sale scheduled for August 4 and 5. They had a pizza party with a magician.

Oakwell will have a book sale August 18. Semmes reported there is no meeting in July. They are helping to tag books for the RFID system. Romance books are being sold on eBay. Texana Genealogy has been inactive for a while. Leila Hileman of Thousand Oaks welcomed the Friends and invited us for refreshments after the meeting. Writer Friends' President, Cynthia Massey, was not able to attend our board meeting but asked that we announce their September 12 meeting, which will be held at Cody. She plans to be at that meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.
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 ___________________

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and mail to: Sheila Figueroa, Chair, Gifts, Donations, & Memorials
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)
P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, Texas 78246

FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Membership Application

Name __________________________

Address _________________________

City, State, Zip ___________________

Telephone _______________________

____ Individual (Adult) $ 15      ____ New Member
____ Dual (Adult) $ 25            ____ Renewal
____ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18) $ 5
____ Patron (Per Person) $ 50
____ Contributing (Per Person) $100
____ Life (Per Person) $250

____ Branch Group ______________________

____ Additional Donation $__________

TOTAL ENCLOSED $__________________

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

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

and mail to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)
P.O. Box 461523
San Antonio, Texas 78246

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

**June 30, 2007**  
Submitted by Nancy Gandara

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## Memorials and Donations

**In Memory of:**  
Wilma Hardy  
By:  
Bettie P. Baumer, Marjorie M. Sheets, Nancy Thurston, Gene Turner, Wanda Garland, Barbara Hardy, Isabelle H. Perrone, John B. Hardy

Charles Myler  
Leonore Karp

Evelyn Cutler  
Alan Cutler

Elizabeth "Betsy" Davis  
Ruth Wood  
Sheila Figueroa

## Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

**June 30, 2007**

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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>$73,500.39</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OVERALL TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$125,168.39</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Branch &amp; Special-Interest Group Funds</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bazan</td>
<td>$781.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brook Hollow</td>
<td>$16,017.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carver</td>
<td>$1,875.63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cody</td>
<td>$8,494.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest Hills</td>
<td>$895.87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guerra</td>
<td>$2,843.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnston</td>
<td>$1,031.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landa (pending official formation and approval)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maverick</td>
<td>$3,545.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCreless</td>
<td>$6,053.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorial</td>
<td>$5,683.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oakwell</td>
<td>$3,386.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semmes</td>
<td>$1,370.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texana/Genealogy</td>
<td>$12,711.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thousand Oaks</td>
<td>$5,037.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westfall</td>
<td>$4,674.98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writers</td>
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<td><strong>Total Group Funds</strong></td>
<td>$76,672.74</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$73,500.39</td>
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CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Sept 11  Writer Friends Meeting with **George Arnold** presentation, Cody Library, 7 p.m.
Sept 15  Maverick Friends Book Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sept 15  Semmes Friends Book Sale
**Sept 16**  **Friends Board Meeting, Carver, 2:00 p.m.**
Oct 6  Cody Friends Book Sale
Oct 26-28  Scary Monster Fall Book Sale, Book Cellar
Nov 3  Thousand Oaks Friends Book Sale
Nov 3  Westfall Book Sale, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Nov 9-10  Johnston Friends Book Sale
Nov 10  McCreless Friends Book Sale, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Nov 17  Brook Hollow Friends Book Sale
Nov 17  Tobin Library at Oakwell Friends Book Sale

**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.