



Volume 21, Number 2

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2009

From the President



Dear Friends,

San Antonio LOVES its Library! A public opinion survey that was conducted in October 2008 by Baseline & Associates has shown that a majority of Bexar County residents consider the library system to be a valuable community resource. The survey (which was commissioned by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation) found that 91% of the respondents think the Library is a good use of public funding. That's important to know, as a proposal to dedicate a fraction of the City sales tax to improve library support has been made and may be put to a vote in November. More information about this will be available as the plans develop, and I look forward to hearing your discussions about it at the Friends' group meetings.

The survey also found that 80% of the respondents said that it is important to have a Library card. The Library kicked off a campaign to have at least a million card-holding borrowers during 2009, and the Friends can certainly help!

I know that *you* are each "One in a Million," but have you recruited a coworker, spouse, grandchild, or neighbor yet? Sometimes a person doesn't have a current borrower's card because he doesn't know where the closest branch library is located, or he feels guilty because of a long-overdue book: take him by the hand to meet the friendly staff in our convenient and modern facilities!

Or perhaps your friend would prefer to go for a "virtual" visit: look for the redesigned and refreshed Library website at www.mysapl.org by mid-March. Although the Library staff has been great about creating the pages for us, volunteers are needed to keep it updated, so please contact me if you have web design talent and experience.

Don't forget to join your neighbors in The Big Read by checking out your own copy of *Fahrenheit 451* by **Ray Bradbury**, this Spring!

Cheers,

Nancy Gandara

It's Official: San Antonio LOVES Its Library!

**Library Board of Trustees announces results of survey;
Board Chair calls for increased Library funding**

Beth Graham

A public opinion survey commissioned by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and conducted in October 2008 by the Austin firm of Baseline & Associates has revealed that a majority of Bexar County residents believe that the San Antonio Public Library is a valuable community resource.

It's Official cont on p 8.

Be One in a Million! Get a Library card today!

On January 24, the San Antonio Public Library kicked off "Be One in a Million," the 2009 Library card sign-up campaign working toward the goal of reaching a total of ONE MILLION library cardholders. Just in case you don't already know: Why should you get a library card? Because it's easy and FREE, and gives you access to a world of information and entertainment, including books, movies, music, magazines, and digital resources! (You can also get a coupon for a free Spurs ticket if you get a new Library card now!) Simply bring a photo ID and proof of residence in Bexar County to your nearest library branch. You can also sign up online at www.sanantonio.gov.

There's a "Latte" More @ the Central Library!

Looking for a mocha cappuccino to go with that latest bestseller? How about breakfast on the way to work, or a quick lunch? Check out Java Nook, the Central Library's newest edition!

The cozy coffee shop is located by the entrance to the Library at 600 Soledad and will be serving coffee, tea, hot chocolate, breakfast, sandwiches, and more seven days a week. Grab a quick order to go or relax for a while at one of the sidewalk tables.

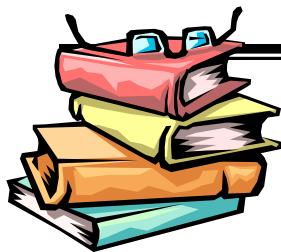
Hours:

- Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
- Friday 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



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Friends of the San Antonio Public Library ANNUAL MEETING January 18, 2009

Submitted by *Sheila Figueroa*

No roll call was taken.

Call to Order: Linda Nairn, President, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. in the Central Library Auditorium.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

President's Report: Linda Nairn stated that she has enjoyed being President. Linda apologized for not sending out the agenda earlier in the month to this wonderful group. During her four years she had certain goals in mind. She wanted a Friends group in each branch. That is a goal that she wants the Friends to continue to have. Nine Friends groups have started up in the last four years. Three branch libraries were opened. Linda plans on taking a short sabbatical to enjoy her two grandchildren.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Gandara distributed copies of her report through December 31, 2008. Nancy stated that FOSAPL and the branch groups had contributed more than \$137,680 to the San Antonio Public Library. The "umbrella" organization of the Friends provided \$40,000 for programming support. Another \$40,000 was dedicated to staff training and travel, and \$3,600 was given to purchase a mobile sound amplification system for use throughout the library system. For most of 2008 there were 19 groups of Friends that are affiliated with different branches and two special-interest groups (Texana/ Genealogy and the Writers' Friends); this is an increase of 4 groups over the year before. Their contributions to their libraries totaled \$54,000, which was 17% more than their contributions to their

libraries in 2007. Some of their money was used for the following purchases: **McCreless**—a chair with an arm for computer use; **Semmes**—trash receptacle for outside, die cuts, and standing signs; **Guerra**—multimedia projector and a digital camera; **Texana/ Genealogy**—computer; **Maverick**—metal benches for outdoor use; **Brookhollow**—new cooktop, microwave oven, sink, tables, play station; **Tobin at Oakwell**—magazine holders for the teen area; **Miscellaneous**—a leaf blower and extension cords for landscape maintenance, color printers, ink cartridges, and cables for several branches; Christmas trees for new branches. Many of the groups show extra appreciation of our library staff members at holiday time by providing gift cards to Wal-Mart or HEB or with the always popular pizza parties. Nancy then distributed the 2009 Budget, which had been approved at the November 16, 2008, meeting of the Friends. Nancy thanked the committee members: **Virginia Bowden, Judy Wilson, Aaron Konstam, Bruce Gill, and Linda Nairn, ex-officio.**

REPORTS:

Library Administration:

Ramiro Salazar, Library Director, took a few minutes to remember and acknowledge the life of **Mike Sexton**, who led the library system to expansion of multiple branches. He was a wonderful, generous man.

Ramiro stated that on Saturday, January 24, at 11:00 a.m., there will be a Kick-Off Library Card Campaign at Central Library. Scholastic is the main corporate sponsor for this

event. The goal is to have one million library cardholders in the city. Their goal is to register 300,000 for new library cards.

Ramiro has been asked by TLA to be a lead delegate, and he and a busload of people will be going to Austin on February 25 for Legislative Day.

There is construction planning for two new branch libraries. One branch is at the old Mission Drive-In site. There will be a community meeting at Gilbert Elementary School on Southcross Blvd. on January 28 at 6:30 p.m. The second new branch will be located about a quarter mile from the intersection of Blanco Road and Wilderness Oak, a ten-acre site donated by developer **Dan Parman**.

Also, in September 2009, a public library will open at Roosevelt High School. There will be better access and designated parking not available at Reagan High School. Ramiro reported that a local survey had been conducted and that 9 out of 10 people stated that libraries are very important. Majority agreed that funding libraries is a good use of tax dollars. Very positive responses were received.

Ramiro concluded his report by thanking the Friends for all of their support because it is truly appreciated. The staff training and development is very important. Ramiro also thanked the Friends' groups that provide support to the branches. Ramiro then recognized **Linda Nairn** for her wonderful leadership these past four years. Linda attended many meetings, appeared at City Council meetings, was

Minutes cont on p 4.



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote public

use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Gandara..... President
Bruce Gill..... Vice President
Linda Arronge..... Secretary
Judy Wilson..... Treasurer
Linda Nairn..... Immediate Past Pres

BOARD MEMBERS

2008-2010 Term

Robbi Ruppert • Pat Konstam
Dolores Huber • Shirley Davis
Dorothy Smith • Josie Martinez

2009-2011 Term:

Denise Barlow • Evelyn Bonavita
Shirley Coleman • Claudia Kohler
Jackie Fremming • Robert LaCaff
Aaron Konstam • Mary McAfee
Pat Mendiola • Ronnie Retzlöff
Evanleen Schmucke • Ann Tobin

SAPLINGS

Newsletter published every two months for the information of member Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and others supportive of our ideals and activities.

Managing Editor.....Alana Woods
FOSAPL Editor.....Cathy Dean
Southwest Research Institute® provides partial funding for printing the newsletter.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Cathy Dean
Bruce Gill • Linda Nairn
Nancy Gandara, *Ex Officio*
Linda Nairn, *Distribution*

Article contributions for publishing in the newsletter are always welcome!

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, and 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 <awoods005@satx.rr.com> and Cathy Dean at <ca-dean@sbcglobal.net>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, TX 78238.



Branch Leaves

News from
Branch Libraries

Brook Hollow

The Brook Hollow Friends started the New Year with a bang, by hosting the traditional Library Staff Appreciation Dinner, at the Lion & Rose Restaurant in Stone Oak. A great time was had by all, as is evidenced by the photos on page 9. About 50 staff members, Friends, and their guests participated in the evening's festivities.

Plans are underway for a resumption of landscaping activities, as we move from winter into spring. Please join us in praying for rain, as that will be a major factor in whether we continue to emphasize Texas Xeriscape or switch to a dramatic desert style of landscaping! Either way, the Friends will continue to emphasize a colorful, attractive decor for visitors to enjoy as they enter the library building.

Brook Hollow's spring book sale is scheduled for Saturday, March 28. We're looking forward to a wonderful sale, and hope to see you all there!

Richard Bowser

Carver

Friends of Carver Library had a very productive year in 2008. There were projects that enabled the Friends to increase their funds. Events included:

- Three successful book sales
- A style show

The style show received praise and applause from

those in attendance because individuals were asking such questions as where can I purchase the clothing? Also, are the models professionals? Those models were great. Kudos to Carver Friend, **Luberda Satterfield**, who was the chairman of the style show. This event raised more than \$900. Because of her dedication to the project, everyone had an enjoyable time, and we made new Friends for Carver Library.

The Coliseum Neighborhood Association donated \$200 again to the Carver Friends, and we thank them for their generous gift. **Shirley Coleman**, Carver Friend, was selected as Best Friend in November.

In December, Carver Friends donated 4 poinsettias to the Carver Library to enhance the beautification of the library during the Christmas holidays.

For the upcoming Black History program in February, the Friends are collaborating with Branch Manager **Mr. Delgado** and staff on various projects. He has put together a very impressive program. The Friends support programs such as: "Tuskegee Airmen" and "Harriet Tubman, The Underground Railroad."

Ruth Statham brings to life this historic figure. The Friends shall underwrite these events.

Carver Friend **Shirley Coleman** is a member of the MLK Commission, where she serves as art chairman. She was curator of the MLK Art Exhibit on January 22, held at the Carver Cultural Center. The exhibit ran from January 22 through February 27.

Carver Friends thank all patrons of the library for their support. Plans are under way for our book sale on March 14.

Shirley Coleman

Cody

The Cody Library has 5 regularly scheduled book and film clubs. The Film Club meets at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month; the Saturday Book Club meets at 10 a.m. the second Saturday of the month; the Poetry club meets at 1 p.m. the second Sunday of the month; the Thursday Book Club meets at 10 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month; and the Mystery Book Club meets at 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month.

Cody also offers Baby Time at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays; Toddler Story-Time is on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., and Preschool Story Time is on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Teen programs include Film Club at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of the month and Video Game Club on the fourth Monday of the month.

The book sale will be held on Saturday, April 18, from 9 a.m. –3 p.m., and for the first time, on Sunday, April 19, 1–3 p.m. featuring only the popular Bag of Books for \$2.00.

Cody will celebrate its 25th Anniversary on April 25 with varying events all day long.

Carol Van Cleave

Collins Garden

The Collins Garden Friends sponsored an ice cream float workshop on February 11 for Valentine's. The 25 attendees were shown how to make old fashion root beer floats, Brown and Black Cows, and Fruit smoothies. After the demo, all were given chances to make floats for themselves.

Richard O. Morales

Forest Hills

Forest Hills hosted a display of paintings in pastels during the past two months.

The paintings were on loan from the San Antonio Pastel Society. **Jim LaFerla** and **Laura Lopez** were detailed to Forest Hills while the Pan American Branch underwent repairs. **Roberto Zapata**, Manager, is still serving as the Interim Manager of Great Northwest. Forest Hills will host the VITA income tax preparation program in our meeting room from January 15 through April 15, 2009. The Forest Hills Friends bought the library a new Christmas tree, and it was brilliantly displayed throughout the month of December.

Forest Hills Friends have also agreed to purchase a children's rug to define an area for stories and other activities conducted under the auspices of the children's programs.

Staff took the time during this slow season to move some shelves from the Children's area. This makes the children's area more open and viewable from the Reference desk. RFID supplies have arrived and the branch has begun to tag the collection.

In January, some of the staff was able to attend a Black Belt Librarian workshop and they found the workshop informative and useful.

- December 11—The Woodlawn Hills Neighborhood Association held its monthly meeting.
- December 11—Four members of the Forest Hills Kit Book Club met to discuss the book, *The House on Mango Street*, by **Sandra Cisneros**.
- December 13—**Ralph Thompson** was the discussion leader when six members of the Contrarian Viewpoints Book Club met to discuss the book, *The Return*

Branch Leaves cont on p 5.

very visible, hard working, and vocal. He also praised her branch support groups' expansion. Ramiro also congratulated the new officers of FOSAPL.

Library Board: Jean Brady, Chairman of the Library Board Trustees, was out of town.

Library Foundation: Sarah Swinney announced that the Foundation is very optimistic for 2009. They are going to "keep doing what they are doing." Their focus is on books, materials and technology. She helps with grant writing and support for the new branches that will be built.

The Foundation is hoping to initiate a corporate literacy partner's campaign that involves many corporations. The Foundation will be more strategic about how to secure more funds. Sarah distributed a brochure advertising the January 24 event. They have donated a literacy caravan, which is similar to a mobile classroom. There is a 25% illiteracy rate in San Antonio, which is a high number.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee: Robbi Ruppert reported that the audit committee had not yet met because the books are not completed.

Book Cellar: Aaron Konstam reported that the Book Cellar had one large book sale this past year as well as one of the customers having her 50th anniversary party in the Book Cellar. The Book Cellar has acquired additional volunteers as well as received some donations. The next book sale is scheduled for Father's Day weekend.

Membership: Claudia Kohler reported that FOSAPL currently has 917 members, with 47 new members. Membership

cards will be mailed out this week.

Memorials: Sheila Figueroa had no report but indicated she keeps notebooks of letters that are sent to donors and donees and anyone can view them upon request.

Newsletter: Cathy Dean and Lyn Belisle reported that the FOSAPL newsletter is now a 12-page issue. Anywhere between 700 and 800 copies of the newsletter are mailed each time. Extra copies are mailed to City Council and County Commissioners, and some copies are placed in each branch library.

On the library's website, the FOSAPL newsletters are in PDF form from 2002 forward. They thanked Alana Woods, who is the managing editor at Southwest Research Institute who works after hours to put together the newsletter. Cathy Dean reported there is a photo stream on the library's website where there are color photographs for viewing different events throughout the library system.

Cathy Dean thanked the committee: Nancy Gandara, Bruce Gill, Rowena Rodgers, Mary McAfee and Linda Nairn, *ex-officio*. Cathy also thanked the proofreaders of the newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

By-laws of Landa Branch Friends Group: Linda Nairn asked if there were any questions on the By-Laws of the Landa Branch Friends Group. One typographical error was announced: The word "submitting" should be changed to "submitted." It was noted that Dru Van Steenberg is the President and Sheila Figueroa is the Secretary. A vote was taken, and it

was unanimous that the Landa Branch Friends Group be formed and recognized.

Election of new Board Members for 2008–2011: Sue Ratliff, nominating committee chairman, acknowledged the committee: Cathy Dean, Dorothy Smith, Judy Wilson, Richard Morales. Sue recognized the invaluable help she received from Linda Nairn and Mary McAfee. The members who have accepted the nomination for the Executive Board for 2009–2011 are: Nancy Gandara, President; Bruce Gill, Vice President; Linda Arronge, Secretary; and Judy Wilson, Treasurer.

The members who have accepted the nomination to be on the Board of Directors for the term 2009–2011 are Denise Barlow, Evelyn Bonavita, Shirley Coleman, Jackie Fremming, Claudia Kohler, Aaron Konstam, Robert LaCaff, Mary McAfee, Pat Mendiola, Ronnie Retzliff, Evanleen Schmueckle and Ann Tobin.

Nominations from the floor were allowed, and, there being none, Sue asked for a motion to accept the nominated slate. A motion was made and seconded, and the slate of the new Executive Board and Board of Directors for the term 2009–2011 was accepted.

Best Friends Awards were announced by Linda Nairn. The certificates were presented to the recipients as follows: **Carver:** Dorothy Nell Smith presented to SHIRLEY COLEMAN; **Cody:** Pat Mendiola presented to ANNE SUSSWEIN; **Collins Garden:** Richard Morales accepted the certificate for JOE VALADEZ; **Forest Hills:** Dr. Johnnie Spraggins presented to BARBARA WILKINSON; **Guerra:** Delores Huber accepted for BOB BLACK-

STONE; Igo: Kathleen McCloskey accepted for BEVERLY AND JOSE DURAN; **Maverick:** Claudia Kohler presented to ROSA-LIE KLEPAC; **McCreless:** Vera Banner presented to EVANLEEN SCHMUECKLE; **Semmes:** Celina Dewberry presented to TOM ANDERSON; **Thousand Oaks:** Ivy Durnell presented to LEILA HILEMAN; **Tobin at Oakwell:** Joan Hildreth presented to PAT DEPASQUALE; **Westfall:** Pat Cummins presented to DOROTHY JACOBS, MARTHA TARPLEY and EDITH WAH; **Book Cellar Committee:** Edith Speert presented to NORM SONNENSCHNEIN; **Newsletter Committee:** Cathy Dean and Lyn Belisle presented to MARY MCAFFEE.

Linda Nairn then thanked Robert LaCaff for preparing the Certificates.

Branch News and Announcements: President Tim Draves of *Texana/Genealogy* announced a book sale on February 14 at 10 a.m. in the Central Library. Tim asked for the members to distribute the brochures at all branch libraries. **Igo** will have a book sale on February 21 and 22. **Tobin at Oakwell** will have a book sale on February 21 with a preview party on Friday, February 20 for Friends' members from 1 to 4 p.m. **Cody** will have a book sale on April 18. **Maverick** will also have a book sale on April 18.

Linda Nairn then thanked everyone again, passed the gavel to Nancy Gandara and Nancy Gandara adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. with a reception following hosted by the Westfall Branch Group.

of *History and the End of Dreams* by **Robert Kagan**.

- December 14—Three attended an Indigenous craft class for participants to make their own gourd dance bandolero.
- January 6—Held a computer class on *Windows Desktop*.
- January 8—Four members of the Forest Hills Kit Book Club met to discuss the book, *Interpreter of Maladies*, by **Jhumpa Lahiri**.
- January 10—**Ralph Thompson** was the discussion leader when the Contrarian Viewpoints Book Club met to discuss the book, *Your Inner Fish*, by **Neil Shubin**.
- January 10—A computer class was held on E-Mail I.
- January 20—A computer class was held on Word I.
- January 27—The Woodlawn Hills Neighborhood Association held its monthly meeting at Forest Hills.

Storytime customers made Christmas crafts during the month of December. These were posted on Forest Hills flickr pictures.

Storytime resumed the first week of January at Forest Hills. Storytime customers made snowman crafts.

Johnnie Spraggins

Igo

We started the new year with a focus on our 2009 Winter Book Sale. The Igo Fibbers met February 7 to plan the strategy for our book sale on February 21 and 22. We are so fortunate to have a dedicated volunteer, **Nelda Kreusch**, who presorts books as they come in and makes our presale sorting so much easier, many thanks to you, Nelda. We want to thank in advance those who will have helped out during the sorting and sale. The next *SAPlings*

will include a report of our income.

Haley Holmes gave an update on the upcoming exciting programming for the library. Plans are under way for the Fibbers to provide Igo Library book bags available for sale at book sales and as prizes for summer reading programs. We are continually amazed by and appreciative of the excellent leadership and creativity exhibited by not just Haley, but the entire library staff—they definitely serve the community at the highest level of professionalism.

To honor that wonderful staff, we will host a Staff Appreciation Day on March 23. We'll provide a meal for all and have games and prizes. Maybe we'll even have a demo of a book cart drill team routine.

Kathleen McCloskey

Maverick

The Maverick Friends installed new officers at our January meeting. **John Gaddis**—President, **Judith Penington**—Vice-President, **Becky Vargas**—Secretary, and **Sue Ratliff**—Treasurer. We thank **Rosalie Klepac**, past president, and **Donna Hogan**, past vice-president, for all the time and energy they have given the Friends as officers.

Thanks to the generous patrons of our book sales, we have been able to purchase several gifts for the library. Our most recent purchases include an extra quiet cordless vacuum cleaner; four 16-piece sets of casual dinnerware for use by library staff in the break room and for programs; a Sony digital camera and memory stick for staff use; and a spinner rack designed to hold the larger trade paperback books.

We continue to provide funding for pizza and soda for the Teen Book Club, and have added funding for refreshments served at the Matinee Movies at Maverick. We also committed up to \$1,200 to bring special programs to the library. The first of these programs was the high energy Kazamba Drum and Dance group on February 28.

Please mark your calendars now for our next book sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 18, and 1 p.m.–4 p.m. Sunday April 19. We will have many wonderful books for all ages and interests. As always, all proceeds will benefit the Maverick Library.

Several Big Read events are scheduled at Maverick in March and April. On March 14, our neighbors, the firefighters at Station 49, will visit and talk about the real duties of firemen. At 6:30 on March 17, the Teen Book Club will discuss **Ray Bradbury's** *Fahrenheit 451*. The adult discussion, at 2 p.m. on March 21, will be preceded by a special online event—a trip to Bradburyville at secondlife.com. At 2 p.m. on April 11, the library will show the movie "Fahrenheit 451."

In addition to the Big Read programs, the library will host several other events in March and April. At 11 a.m. March 28, La Leche League will offer a presentation on Working Women and Breast-feeding, followed at 2 p.m. by a class on Women Dressing for Success. Both of these offerings are part of the library's celebration of Women's History Month.

The Matinee Movie at Maverick, April 4 at 2 p.m., will be "The Dark Knight." A Fiesta Flowers program will be held on April 18. Early voting will start April 27 and end May 5. As always, please contact the

library at 210-680-9346 to confirm dates and times of special programs.

Susan Ratliff

McCreless

The next book sale at McCreless will be March 14–15. Saturday is 9:00–5:00 and Sunday from 1:00–4:00. Volunteers are needed to assist with the sale. A business meeting was held Wednesday, February 18.

Jill Zimmerman

Semmes

Semmes Friends were delighted to witness the award of "Best Friend" to **Tom Anderson** during the January 18 board meeting and award ceremony. Tom has been our president since the Semmes Friends group was formed over three years ago with the opening of the Semmes branch library. His leadership and enthusiasm have helped us grow into an active and productive group that has bonded well with our library staff, put on some exceptionally successful book sales, and helped showcase the library as a unique community resource.

Tom turned over presidential responsibilities to **Judy Wilson** during our January Friends meeting, but he'll continue to be a vital and inspirational member to our Friends group.

Come out on Saturday, May 16, and see how we've managed to keep Tom busy as we present our Spring Book Sale. Until then, you can catch us in our book room sorting the great book donations we continue to receive. See you in May!

Christy Smith

Branch Leaves cont on p 8.

Annual Best Friends Awards Presented at Annual Meeting



Westfall: **Pat Cummins** (presenter), **Martha Tarpley**, **Dorothy Jacobs**, **Edith Wah**



Tobin at Oakwell: **Pat DePasquale**, **Joan Hildreth** (presenter)



Carver: **Shirley Coleman**, **Dorothy Nell Smith** (presenter)



Book Celler Committee: **Edith Speert** (presenter), **Norm Sonnenschein**



Cody: **Anne Susswein**, **Pat Mendiola** (presenter)



Thousand Oaks: **Leila Hileman**, **Ivy Durnell** (presenter)



Maverick: **Rosalie Klepac and Claudia Kohler** (presenter)



Forest Hills: **Barbara Wilkinson, Dr. Johnnie Spraggins** (presenter)



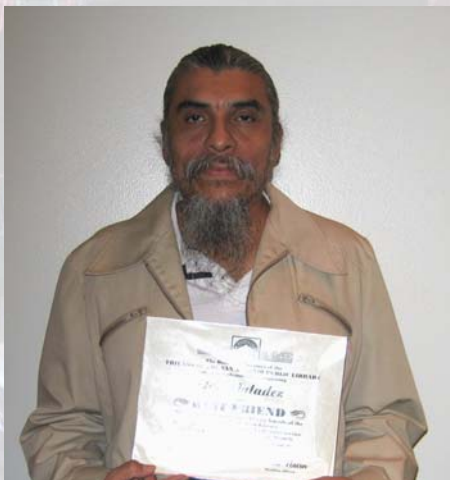
McCreless: **Evanleen Schmueckle, Vera Banner** (presenter)



Newsletter Committee: **Lyn Belisle, Cathy Dean** (presenters), **Mary McAfee**



Semmes: **Tom Anderson, Celina Dewberry** (presenter)



Collins Garden: **Richard Morales** with certificate for **Joe Valadez**



FOSAPL Outgoing Officers: **Sheila Figueroa**, Secretary; **Linda Nairn**, President; **Bruce Gill**, Vice-President; **Nancy Gandara**, Treasurer

Thousand Oaks

In December, the Thousand Oaks Friends helped spread holiday cheer for staff and visitors with decorations throughout the library. They took care of business in brief meetings during the putting-up and taking-down decorating days. President **Leila Hileman** hosted a lovely holiday luncheon at her home for the TO Friends. The March meeting will be dedicated to planning the May book sale. Meanwhile, the continuous Little Book Sale bookcase, which offers paperbacks for 50 cents, has been a great success and has given patrons access to a variety of books throughout the year.

Renee Hermanson

Tobin Library at Oakwell

Patrons of Tobin Library continue to enjoy many programs sponsored by the Friends group. There is a Yoga Class every Monday evening, a weekly program for mothers of babies, and a chess tournament for middle schoolers to name a few. We have also funded a new CD cleaner which will repair scratches on audio CDs, music CDs and DVDs, and a color printer for flyers.

We recently purchased a Mexican Wild Olive Tree, which has been planted in the yard at the rear of the library. We hope to have a ceremony soon to dedicate the tree to the memory of our long-time friend and board member, **Jim Balogh**, who died last year.

Joan Hildreth

Westfall

Best Friends were named at the annual January General Meeting on January 18. Our best friends are **Edith Wah**, **Martha Tarpley**, and **Dorothy Jacobs**. Each of these women has and continues to contribute substantially to our aim of meeting extra needs of our branch library.

A new manager has been appointed to replace Jamie Flowers who left us to go to Semmes. We welcome **Cheryl Sheehan**, who comes to Westfall from Igo.

Pat Cummins

Library Board of Trustees Chair **Jean Brady** made the results of the survey public at a news conference at the Semmes Branch Library, 15060 Judson Road, on Friday, February 13, at 9:30 a.m. Ms. Brady was joined by District 7 City Council Representative **Justin Rodríguez**, District 10 City Council Representative **John Clamp**, Library Foundation Chair **Gene Ames**, Library Foundation President and CEO **Kaye Lenox**, and Friends of the San Antonio Public Library President **Nancy Gandara**.

Survey findings:

- Nearly nine in ten (89%) of Bexar County respondents said libraries are important to them.
- 98% of respondents believe the library is important to education.
- 96% believe the library is an important part of the City's image.
- 92% believe the library helps people advance in their careers as well as help businesses.
- 91% said the library is a good use of public funding.
- 72% would support designating sales tax revenues to generate revenue for the library.
- 90% think the library is interesting.
- 86% know the library provides more than just books.
- 80% of respondents say it is important to have a Library card.

Councilmen Clamp and Rodríguez noted that the survey numbers confirmed impressions developed during their years on City Council. "My service on City Council has shown me how important the San Antonio Public Library is to the educational and economic life of the City," said Councilman Rodríguez. "These numbers confirm that Councilman Clamp and I took the right step in sponsoring the 'Be One in a Million' campaign to sign up new Library cardholders."

Councilman Clamp noted, "The results of this survey show that the community believes the Library is an essential public institution. The survey also indicates that it is important to support and improve our Library system."

Following the announcement of the survey results, Library Board Chair **Jean Brady** went on to ask that the City Council include

the Library in a referendum on the remaining 1/8% of City sales tax capacity. "This rigorous survey of public opinion confirms what anecdotal evidence has told us for years," Ms. Brady said. "The data show that the Library continues to be a vital, integral part of the life of our community. It is crucial, especially during this economic downturn, that the City commit to continued strong funding of the Library."

She continued, "This survey shows that the public will support supplemental funding for libraries – 72% indicated such support. So what does this mean? It's obvious: it is the 1/8% sales tax which was promised to us nearly two years ago upon delivery of the report of the Library District Commission. With the full support of the Library Board and Library Foundation I am demanding today to be placed on the ballot for a part of the sales tax capacity which remains. It is time, and we are on a mission to improve education, literacy, and economic development for the city of San Antonio," said Ms. Brady.

Source: Baseline & Associates Survey, October 2008. Margin of Error $\pm 4.9\%$, Confidence Level 95%

Additional Information

- One in four San Antonians is functionally illiterate.
- San Antonio's four-year high school drop out rate was 40% in 2007-2008.

City of San Antonio Department of Community Initiatives Family Resource Center/Intercultural Development Research Association

- When asked "If you were head of the United Way, what problem would you solve in San Antonio?" EDUCATION & LITERACY was respondents' #1 concern.

2008 Galloway Public Opinion Poll for the United Way

In Memoriam

The Friends extend their sincere condolences to **Monica Hernandez**, Book Cellar Manager, upon the death of her sister **Melissa Ann Villalpando**.



*Tobin Library at Oakwell recently purchased and planted a Mexican Wild Olive Tree in memory of our long-time friend and board member, **Jim Balogh**. Pictured here with the tree is his widow **Ruth Balogh**.*

Book Cellar News

Book Cellar sales totaled almost \$83,850 in 2008, well above the \$73,000 anticipated in FOSAPL's budget. Our hope is to do as well this year despite the slow economy.



To help achieve that goal, the Book Cellar Committee is planning a big 3-day Summer Sale, tentatively scheduled for June 19–21, Father's Day weekend. Details and a call for volunteers will be in the next issue of *SAPLings*.

If you or your neighbors have books to donate, please bring them to Central Library between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. any day the library is open—or until 7 p.m. on Thursdays. Park temporarily in the circular drive in front of the main entrance, ask security to call the Book Cellar, and a volunteer will meet you with a dolly to pick up the books. Receipts for a tax deduction are available.

The buy-one-get-one-free special in March is regularly priced hard cover books in the Dewey Decimal 700s series. The 700s include music, sports, movies, television, and theater.

Pat Konstam

Brook Hollow Friends Host Library Staff Appreciation Dinner



The Brook Hollow Friends started the New Year with a bang by hosting a Library Staff Appreciation Dinner, at the Lion & Rose Restaurant in Stone Oak.

Form for Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

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

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

I would like to make the following donation:

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

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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

Acknowledgement to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

My Name and Address:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

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

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library
and mail to: **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair, Gifts, Donations,
& Memorials

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)



FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

____ Individual (Adult) \$ 15

____ Dual (Adult) \$ 25

____ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18) \$ 5

____ Patron (Per Person) \$ 50

____ Contributing (Per Person) \$100

____ Life (Per Person) \$250

____ New Member

____ Renewal

Branch Group _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

____ Do not include my phone number in the Friends' directory.

____ I'd like to volunteer at the Book Cellar (used book store).

____ Please call me: I'd like to be an active participant.

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

and mail to:

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

San Antonio, Texas 78246

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

Treasurer's Report

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

December 31, 2008

Submitted by Nancy Gandara

	Budget	Nov/Dec	FOSAPL YTD	Groups YTD
Income				
Book Cellar Sales/Group Book Sales	\$73,000	\$22,146.93	\$83,849.75	\$71,753.86
Donations	\$3,500	\$445.79	\$1,410.00	\$3,619.82
Interest	\$6,450	\$310.67	\$4,109.00	
Membership	\$10,000		\$12,348.00	\$3,467.00
FOSAPL Income	\$92,950	\$22,903.39	\$101,716.75	
Branch/Groups Income				\$78,840.68
Transfer from Savings	\$33,431		\$21,381.24	
Assets to be Used During 2008	\$126,381		\$123,097.99	
Expenses				
Accounting	\$2,250	\$1,750.00	\$2,100.00	
Arts and Letters	\$400		\$224.10	
Bank Charges	\$150	\$30.60	\$114.00	
Book Cellar Expenses				
Advertising	\$2,000		\$480.00	
Booksale(s) Expenses	\$500		\$100.27	\$923.16
Commodities for resale	\$600	\$133.81	\$572.84	
Equipment and Maintenance	\$2,500	\$62.99	\$2,519.59	
Internet & software	\$100		\$39.99	
Printing/copying	\$300	\$7.20	\$51.77	
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$250	\$3.19	\$81.56	
Salary & benefits	\$7,200	\$1,119.50	\$7,019.50	
Volunteer Appreciation	\$500	\$674.56	\$830.50	
Water service	\$456		\$36.75	
Branch/Group Operating Expenses				\$211.05
Bulk Mail	\$1,000	\$1,000.00	\$1,923.75	\$106.78
FOLUSA Membership	\$100		\$100.00	
FOSAPL Committee Expenses	\$300		\$363.98	
FOSAPL Donor Recognition	\$1,000			
Friends recognition	\$300			
Insurance (bonding)	\$125			
Library Support				
Equipment To Be Determined	\$5,000		\$3,647.90	\$26,351.56
Programming for public [all year, all ages]	\$40,000		\$40,000.00	\$5,517.69
Staff development & training	\$40,000		\$40,000.00	
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Membersno funding amt.			\$100.00	
Various Branch/Group Purchases				\$20,928.59
Mail Box	\$100		\$52.00	
Newsletter Prep/Editing	\$1,800	\$200.00	\$1,700.00	
Newsletter Printing	\$2,800		\$2,737.72	
Office Supplies	\$1,500	\$31.62	\$778.48	
Parking	\$4,000	\$990.50	\$5,197.50	
Postage	\$400		\$288.62	
President's Expenses	\$350		\$145.00	
Sales Tax (Book Cellar and Branches)	\$10,000	\$2,036.04	\$11,692.17	
Seed Money for New Groups	\$400		\$200.00	
Total Expenses	\$126,381	\$8,040.01	\$123,097.99	\$54,038.83

Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

Accounts	Balance
CompassBank Money Market Account	\$40,804.84
Money Market Gold Account	\$37,551.15
Guaranty Bank Certificate of Deposit [4% APY] matures 11/07/09	\$75,000.00
Checking Account	\$46,790.06
Total Assets	\$200,146.05

Branch-designated Funds	\$99,165.43
Total Liabilities	\$99,165.43

OVERALL TOTAL **\$100,880.62**

Branch & Special-Interest Group Funds	12/31/08
Bazan	\$1,830.16
Brook Hollow	\$8,916.39
Carver	\$3,473.71
Cody	\$9,814.78
Collins Garden	\$451.65
Forest Hills	\$3,965.01
Guerra	\$4,091.92
Igo	\$1,729.52
Johnston	\$1,676.58
Landa (pending official formation)	\$150.00
Maverick	\$5,255.16
McCreless	\$3,322.36
Memorial	\$4,878.05
Tobin-at-Oakwell	\$16,506.37
Semmes	\$3,039.70
Texana/Genealogy	\$17,052.23
Thousand Oaks	\$5,080.46
Westfall	\$4,420.54
Writers [currently inactive]	\$3,510.84

Total Group Funds **\$99,165.43**

Websites for Readers

There are some interesting places for readers to keep up with new books, discuss them with other readers, and even to catalog their own library. Check out these sites for readers:

www.goodreads.com
www.librarything.com
www.whatsonmybookshelf.com
www.shelfari.com



P.O. Box 461523
San Antonio, Texas 78246

Address Service Requested

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

CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

March 14	Carver Book Sale.
March 14	Maverick Big Read event: The firefighters at Station 49, next to Maverick, will visit and talk about the real duties of firemen.
March 14–15	McCreless Book Sale, Saturday, 9–5; Sunday, 1–4.
March 15	FOSAPL Board Meeting, 2 p.m.
March 28	Brook Hollow Book Sale.
April 18–19	Cody Book Sale, Saturday, 9–3; Sunday, 1–3.
April 18–19	Maverick Book Sale, Saturday, 9–4; Sunday, 1–4.
April 25	Cody will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with varying events all day long.
May 16	Semmes Spring Book Sale.
June 19–21	Book Cellar 3-Day Summer Book Sale.

Brook Hollow Library
530 Heimer Road, 78232
210-496-6315
Carver Library
3350 E. Commerce St, 78220
210-225-7801
Central Library
600 Soledad Street, 78205
210-207-2500
Cody Library
11441 Vance Jackson, 78230
210-696-6396
Maverick Library
8700 Mystic Park, 78254
210-680-9346
McCreless Library
1023 Ada Street, 78223
210-532-4254
Semmes Library
15060 Judson Rd., 78247
210-650-9540

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.