



From the President



Dear Friends,

I love New Year's resolutions, don't you?! Every January is an opportunity to dream big, challenge ourselves, and do things better than last year. This year, resolve to attend the **Annual General Meeting on Sunday, January 17, 2010, at 2 p.m. in the Central Library Auditorium**: in addition to election of new Board members and revision of two Standing Rules, we will be recognizing the "Best Friend" of each branch group and special interest group. It's always fun to meet the people whose dedication and creativity help to get the hard jobs done, usually with a smile.

We will need all of our hard-working Friends during this year, to achieve our goals:

– The 2010 Membership Recruitment Task Force, composed of **Linda Arronge, Denise Barlow, Claudia Kohler, Pat Peak** and I have set the ambitious target of signing up 1,000 Friends during 2010. If you haven't sent in your membership renewal yet (including your email address), please do so today!

– The Texas Library Association will be meeting in San Antonio from April 14-17.

Denise Barlow will be chairing a Task Force of FOSAPL volunteers and will let you know how you can learn from this major conference for library workers and supporters.

– Formation of new Friends groups for the Central Library, Cortez, Pruitt, to-be-built Mission Branch and Great Northwest Branch are on the horizon.

– We will be needed as political advocates, to fight for an improved library budget.

Thanks, also, for what you accomplished during 2009:

– Due in large part to **Robert LaCaff's** leadership and hard work, you can find your friends in the recently distributed Directory 2010-2012. **Alana Woods** and **Abe Juarez** of SwRI did a great job in printing and mailing the hundreds of Directories.

– Many of you lobbied City Council and Bexar County Commissioners' Court on behalf of the Library's budget, with notable success.

– Sales of excellent, "pre-read" books were held throughout the city and in the BookCellar—fostering literacy and a love of literature (or just trashy novels!) to many who love a bargain.

Looking forward to seeing you at the library!

Cheers,

Nancy Gandara

Tax Exempt? Tax-free? Taxable Sales? It's Complicated!

Nancy Gandara

During the fall of 2009, questions and discussions by the FOSAPL Board about the payment of sales tax on book sales held by branch groups resulted in a "bad news, good news" situation: while the "bad news" is that we had been over-paying sales taxes for many years, the "good news" is that we will pay taxes on far fewer sales in the future.

Our status as a 501(c)(3) organization means that we don't have to pay sales taxes on the items that are purchased by authorized members of FOSAPL, for the organization or for the library. However, Texas law requires an exempt organization that sells taxable items to obtain a sales tax permit and to collect taxes on those sales, and pay those taxes to the State Comptroller. Our used books are "taxable" items.

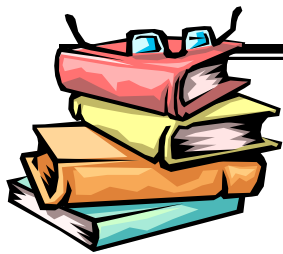
Since the BookCellar opened in 1992, the Treasurer of FOSAPL has been responsible for reporting the income from sales, calculating the amount due, and remitting those funds to the Comptroller. Two sale days at the BookCellar per year were exempt from being taxed. When the branches started having sales, the FOSAPL Treasurer understood the law to allow exemption of two additional sale days per year. Subsequent Treasurers have followed the practice of paying taxes on all sales except two days of BookCellar sales, and two days of branch/group sales per year.

All the taxes were paid from the budget of FOSAPL, from the income that comes from memberships, donations, interest, and the BookCellar. Over the years, the amount of taxes that was being paid on sales conducted by the branch groups had grown to more than 40% of the taxes paid by FOSAPL, while the branch and interest groups retained all of their sale income.

Believing that it would be more equitable to have the branch groups pay at least a part of the sales taxes that their book sales incurred, the Executive Officers asked the FOSAPL Board and the branch groups to discuss that issue. Subsequent research and contacts with the State Comptroller's Sales Tax Division made us realize that our interpretation of the law was wrong: not only was the BookCellar able to hold two one-day tax-free sales, but each of the branch groups [referred to as "bona fide chapters" of the organization, in the applicable Texas law, Sale Tax Rule 3.22(h)(2)] may also hold two one-day tax-free sales or fundraisers per year.

Continued on p 8.





Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Board Meeting

November 15, 2009

Submitted by *Linda Arronge*

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. by **President Nancy Gandara**. We met at McCreless Library. The roll was called. Those present were **Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Judy Wilson, Denise Barlow, Evelyn Bonavita, Dolores Huber, Aaron Konstam, Pat Konstam, Josie Martinez and Evanleen Schmueckle**. We had a quorum.

Copies of the September minutes were available because some members had not received their copy of the *SAPLings*. It was moved by **Evelyn Bonavita** and seconded by **Denise Barlow** that the minutes be approved as printed in the *SAPLings*. The motion passed.

Liability Insurance Proposal: **Vice President Bruce Gill** told the members that the Executive Board had met with **Debbie Brzeninski** of Walthall, Sache and Pipes Inc. regarding the purchase of Liability and Fidelity Bond coverage for the Book Cellar. The firm is the insurance provider for the Library Foundation.

Gill introduced Brzezinski, a representative from the insurance firm. Brzeninski explained why FOSAPL should have insurance and how a policy would benefit the organization. Without coverage, board members can be sued and volunteers are not covered by workers' compensation as they are not official employees. Liability insurance would also provide coverage in the event that someone is injured at The Book-Cellar or at any branch location. We discussed the need for a "hold harmless" clause since, at the present time, the FOSAPL could potentially be sued for an injury occurring at a FOSAPL function. The annual cost of insurance would be from \$2,268 to \$2,473 depending on the amount of coverage selected.

Walthall, Sache and Pipes will submit a formal insurance proposal to FOSAPL. It will be made available to anyone who has questions or wishes to view the proposal.

Treasurer's Report – Judy Wilson reported that we received a

\$500 donation of which \$25 went to Tobin at Oakwell and \$475 went to the Friends. As for current funds, very low interest rates have made Certificate of Deposit (CD) purchases unattractive, thus the investment of currently held funds is in limbo. As such, the funds remain in the checking account at this time.

The Treasurer's report was passed out and discussed. It was accepted and will be filed and submitted for audit.

Library Report – Jean Brady reported that although the hours of operation have been cut at some libraries, they are open on Sundays. Brady also indicated that a \$65 million deficit is expected for next year's budget. Assessment groups for each library have already met and begun planning. A survey is to be conducted in January and February of 2010 and will include 1,400 people. Data culled from this survey will be used to plan for the next 5 years.

Library Administration – Ramiro Salazar reported that in regards to staff development, **Steven Abrem** is scheduled to speak on Wednesday Nov. 18. Salazar reported that two library branches that are currently in the design phase will be moving toward construction shortly. Mission Library will have a groundbreaking in January 2010 with completion in the of Spring of 2011. Central Library will be closed for two weeks starting Dec. 13 and will reopen on Monday, Dec. 28. Staff members will use the two-week closure for vacation or as a chance to regroup. Brighter days are ahead!

Library Foundation – Sarah Swinney reported that the Children's Book and Author Fair was a big success. The next event will be "Mingle and Jingle" at La Cantera. The event will offer refreshments and an opportunity to mingle amidst the shops of La Cantera.

The Foundation's gift to the Library was \$710,591.

BookCellar – Aaron Konstam reported that 39 people attended the Appreciation Luncheon at Los Patios on Nov. 11.

We got four more sections of bookshelves for paperback books. The BookCellar will be closed from Dec. 14 to Jan. 4 while the Central Library is undergoing regular maintenance and repairs. A half-price book sale is scheduled for Nov. 30 – Dec. 6. The sale will also feature a buy-one-get-one free offer on Christmas books and cookbooks.

Directory – Robert LaCaff reported that the cost for 1,000 directories is expected to be under \$1,300. The amount is inclusive of paper, print, and labels. The directories should be ready to send out by January of 2010.

Sales Tax – FOSAPL will not be responsible for paying the taxes owed from sales held by individual branches. Each library branch is allowed two 24-hour sales each year that are tax exempt. A motion was made by **Aaron Konstam** and seconded by **Anne Long**. This takes effect on Jan. 1, 2010. There was 1 "no," 5 "proxies," yes and yes from the floor. The motion passed.

Budget Committee – Cynthia Talbot, Judy Wilson, Robbi Ruppert, and Sue Ratliff.

Nancy Gandara announced that the Friends will be giving the library \$60,000 at the end of 2009. The total amount is tentative pending a final accounting of all funds raised by Friends of the Library. It has been widely agreed that this is a fair and appropriate amount.

New Business

We were reminded that each library branch may select a "Best Friend." These outstanding individuals are to be honored at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



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 Retzloff • Evanleen Schmueckle • 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
Nancy Gandara, *Ex Officio*
Linda Nairn, *Distribution*

Article contributions for 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 or Word file. Please email files and photos to Alana Woods, awoods005@att.net. Printed articles and original 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

As we wrap up the current year the Brook Hollow Friends group looks forward to an exciting 2010. Coming up immediately, on Monday, January 11, is our branch Friends meeting, at which time we'll elect new officers and set out plans for the upcoming year's events.

Our first major activity of the new year will be the annual Staff Appreciation Dinner, scheduled for Friday, January 29th, which will again be held at the Lion & Rose Restaurant in Stone Oak.

Saturday, March 27, is the date for our next Book Sale. We are anticipating a great turnout, both in customers and in quantity and quality of donated books & media. Please mark your calendars to join us!

Our Best Wishes to all FOSAPL members for a wonderful and productive 2010!

Richard Bowser

Forest Hills

Forest Hills has had a number of activities and many of them address the seasonal spirit from Halloween to the approaching Christmas holiday.

In addition to regular programming, children were treated to Halloween Crafts, a Family Fun afternoon, and a visit from the Scholastic van on Saturday, November 21. Students from the neighboring school were invited to visit.

Total numbers for teen participation are on a steady rise as the teens have shown a greater interest in the programs offered specifically for their age group and have spread the word to their friends and families. The Forest Hills teens took part in National Gaming Day on November 14. A small group of teens gathered to play chess, checkers, and Uno. In response to the popularity of the chess games, teens were invited to return to the library to learn, practice, and play chess the following week. Some of the teens were experienced players, but a few novices were able to pick up the basics of game play in one afternoon. In addition to regular programming, a partnership with UTHSC is on the horizon for teen services at Forest Hills. Through this partnership we hope to provide vital health information to the teenage patrons of the library with fun and innovative opportunities for learning. This partnership is currently in the planning phase, but we hope to have a solid plan ready for implementation at the start of the new year. In addition to her work with teens at Forest Hills, **Mary M. Smith** (Librarian II) has been assigned to a working group to plan the creation of College Access Centers at Central and branch libraries.

Adult programs at Forest Hills included two feral cat programs. The latter session drew 17 members of the community.

Friday, November 13, **Elma Nieto-Rodriguez** (Librarian III) along with **Adam Spana**, provided a presentation to members of Community Family Resource and Learning Division. Approximately 20 staff members were provided an introduction

to the mysapl.org homepage along with a tour of several databases available to library patrons. The session was favorably received and a request to provide the presentation in the near future was noted.

On November 14, the Forest Hills Friends Group had a successful book sale at the library. The sale brought in a steady group of bargain hunters and library well wishers.

The Friends of Forest Hills nominated **Ralph Thompson** as our "Best Friend," and he has accepted.

The Contrarian Book Club met on November 14 and was led in discussion by **Frank Rodriquez** in reference to the book *Money-Driven Medicine*. The club met on December 12 and was lead in discussion by **Ralph Thompson**, discussing the book: *God's Problem: How the Bible Fails to Answer Our Most Important Question - Why We Suffer*.

The Christmas tree is available for viewing at the library, adding to a festive atmosphere.

Johnnie Spraggins

Igo

The John Igo Branch celebrated its 2nd Birthday on December 5. About 95 visitors attended, including **John Igo** himself. The party included cookies, punch, balloons, clowns, and a special cake in the shape of a large book. The cake was donated by **Lorna Main** of Scenic Springs Wedding Site. Lorna is the daughter of **FIBBER Irene Scharf**. Thanks Lorna for providing such a major attraction for the party (*See photos on page 8*).

The Igo Branch is settling into a routine with all the changes and continues to hold story time four times a week. The statistics for library use continue to hold their own

with a circulation of 32,000 items. Good job, Igo staff.

After discussing the issues related to paying taxes on book sales we set our next book sale for Saturday, March 20 and Sunday, March 21. As the time approaches and we learn more about the specifics of the tax issue we may opt out of the Sunday sale, so look for our flyers and notices.

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Kathleen McCloskey

Maverick

The Maverick Friends enjoyed two holiday gatherings in December.

Our regular monthly meeting was cancelled in favor of our annual holiday dinner.

As she did last year, **Judith Penington**, scouted restaurants and set up our reservation. She even came up with some holiday themed trivia games for us to play.

During our dinner a change in Friends' officers for the coming year was announced. **Judith Penington** will be our new Treasurer, and **Claudia Kohler** will fill the Vice President's slot vacated by Judith.

The Holiday Open House at Maverick was on December 12. A holiday concert by the Fair-Weather Winds Brass Quintet was followed by cookies and cider served by Friends **Donna Hogan** and **Roe Klepac**. The Friends sponsored both the concert and the refreshments.

The Maverick Friends wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

Sue Ratliff

McCreless

The Friends group spread holiday cheer to patrons

Branch Leaves cont on p 4.

through providing a display at the Circulation desk of poinsettias purchased from the Master Gardner's program. Gift cards were presented to the library staff in appreciation for their contribution to the success of the McCreless library branch this past year. In addition, the staff's wish list was filled through the Group's donation of a microwave oven and another wi-fi chair. The Friends group looks forward to working with library branch manager, **Cammie Gunter**, and all the wonderful staff in 2010.

On a sad note, the Friends Group lost a charter member of the McCreless FOPL group with the passing of **Barbara Santella** in October. Barbara was a retired District Librarian of East Central ISD and a library proponent of Bexar County. A large print book will be presented to Koval Residential Care in her memory. On a happier note, **Vera Banner**, another charter member of our group, was selected as the Best Friend representing our FOSAPL group. Congratulations, Vera, and thank you for your service.

Our next general meeting is scheduled for February 10, at 6:00 p.m. Please note the change in time due to the library closing at 8:00 p.m.

Jill Zimmerman

Semmes

Semmes Friends helped the branch library staff get a jump start on the Christmas season with the annual "tree raising and decorating party" on November 21. Cookies, was-sail, and Santa's special envoy (**Ivy Durnell**) provided the refreshments and atmosphere for joyful making of ornaments!

The Friends will take it easy the rest of the year and until early February when we have our next book sale. FOSAPL members can preview the book sale inventory on February 5 from 12–2. The book sale will be held on Saturday, February 6, beginning at 10.

Christie Smith

Thousand Oaks

Patrons of the Thousand Oaks Branch enjoyed a holiday atmosphere during the December holidays, thanks to the Friends who decked the halls with greens and bows and symbols of the season.

Also in December, the Friends visited the staff holiday party with bells and gift cards to express their appreciation for dedicated work. The Santa Friends also bought new adjustable ergonomic office chairs to make desk work more comfortable.

To complete our holiday celebrations, **Leila Hileman** again hosted a lovely luncheon in her home for the Friends.

Everyone celebrated the handsome lighted sign that was at long last installed in front of the library, identifying our building as a place of welcome for reading, research, and fun. It continues to be a busy place, with patrons of all ages. Particularly heart warming are sights of a young father reading to his son in the children's area and families leaving with armloads of books to share at home. Three cheers and more for books and reading.

Renee Hermanson

Tobin Library at Oakwell

The Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell purchased

bright red poinsettias from the Lion's Club to be displayed in the library during the holiday season. The Tobin Friends also ordered sub sandwiches and beverages for the library staff as a holiday treat on December 17.

At the annual meeting in November, the Tobin Friends voted to pay the state sales tax out of its FOSAPL account. Board member **Janet Goddard** estimated that the Tobin Friends would owe about \$237 in taxes based on 2009 sales. Proceeds from the October book sale exceeded \$3,400, including memberships, donations and book sales.

Author **Florence Weinberg**, a resident of the Northwood neighborhood, spoke at the annual meeting about her experiences researching the life of **Ignaz Pfefferkorn**, an 18th-century Jesuit missionary in the Sonora Desert. Weinberg has written several historical mysteries, including *The Storks of La Caridad* and *Sonora Moonlight*, using Pfefferkorn as her "detective."

The retired Trinity University professor told amusing stories of dealing with archivists in Spain and at the Vatican while tracking down the details of Pfefferkorn's life, especially following the expulsion of the Jesuits from New Spain, a little-known aspect of the history of the settling of the American Southwest.

The Tobin Friends mourned the passing of long-time member **Dagny Halverson Darnell**, who died at age 81. She and her husband of 61 years, **Howard Darnell**, moved to San Antonio in 1992 after living for many years in Laredo, where she

served on the Laredo Public Library board.

The next regular meeting of the Tobin Friends is set for January 19 at 1:30 p.m.

A Tobin at Oakwell book sale is scheduled for February 5–6. A preview for FOSAPL members will be held from 1–3 p.m., Friday, February 5. Regular book sale hours will be from 10–4. Saturday, February 6.

Lots of books are usually left over after a Tobin sale, and any FOSAPL chapter that would like to collect books for its next sale is welcome to pack up and carry off books during our clean-up after 4, February 6. Please contact board members **Dan** or **Janet Goddard** at (210) 824-5378 for details.

Janet Goddard

A Friend Is in Need

Anyone who wants to contribute to a fund to help **Beverly Jackson** recover from the loss of her home due to a fire on Dec. 10, 2009, may send a check made out to **Beverly Jackson** to the following address:

Sharon Soderquist
13008 Earl Roberts
San Antonio, TX 78253

Beverly retired several years ago, after serving as Manager of the Brook Hollow Branch for more than 20 years. She helped the original branch group to form, and is currently the Vice President of the Friends group.

FOSAPL 2010–2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD & DIRECTORS

Nancy Gandara, President	Claudia Kohler
Bruce Gill, Vice-President	Aaron Konstam
Linda Arronge, Secretary	Pat Konstam
Judy Wilson, Treasurer	Robert LaCaff
Linda Nairn, Immediate Past-President	Mary McAfee
Denise Barlow	Josie Martinez
Evelyn Bonavita	Pat Mendiola
Shirley Coleman	Ronnie Retzloff
Shirley Davis	Robbi Ruppert
Jackie Fremming	Evanleen Schmueckle
Dolores Huber	Dorothy Smith
	Ann Tobin



TLA—Save the Dates

The Texas Library Association will have their annual conference April 14–17 at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention in San Antonio.

The conference theme is: **Filtering Chaos from Information to Knowledge.**

FOSAPL will have a volunteer contingent to provide service at the convention. We will probably provide hospitality and information services, or help with registration. If you can volunteer at least 4 hours, you will receive a pass to the exhibitors' hall.

For more information or to join the volunteer committee please contact **Denise Barlow** at denbarlow@earthlink.net or (210) 681-2095.

McCreless Friends Visit St. Philip's College



The Texas Library Association will have their annual conference April 14–17 at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention in San Antonio.

The conference theme is: **Filtering Chaos from Information to Knowledge.**

FOSAPL will have a volunteer contingent to provide service at the convention. We will probably provide hospitality and information services, or help with registration. If you can volunteer at least 4 hours, you will receive a pass to the exhibitors' hall.

For more information or to join the volunteer committee please contact **Denise Barlow** at denbarlow@earthlink.net or (210) 681-2095.

From the Library Director

Happy New Year!

The year just completed was certainly filled with many accomplishments, from the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the modern classic *The House on Mango Street*, to a new operating model for SAPL; from a new, more interactive library website to a café at the Central Library; from generous gifts to SAPL to new partnerships.



We look forward to a busy, productive year in 2010. The Central Library is receiving long-needed repairs, and renovations are planned for branch libraries around the City. Construction will begin on two new branches in underserved areas on the north and south sides of town.

The Advocacy Committee organized by Library Board Chair **Jean Brady** continues to work on identifying options to achieve sustainable funding for the San Antonio Public Library, and continues to focus on efforts to raise the Library's profile in the community.

And, most important, we will begin a new strategic planning process to position the Library for the future.

The first step in the strategic process – a community needs assessment – is already underway. To identify issues that the needs assessment should focus on, in November 2009 we conducted a series of focus groups and interviews with community decision-makers. Public focus groups in all ten City Council Districts allowed library users and nonusers alike to voice their opinions about issues faced by our citizens, and how the Library can help resolve them. One-on-one interviews took place with leaders across a wide range of industries and agencies, including higher education, public school education, government, municipal utilities, banking, health care, the arts, services to seniors, services to youth, and library stakeholders.

The results of this preliminary information-gathering process will be used to develop a community-wide survey to ascertain what our community believes excellent library service should be. The results of the focus groups, interviews, and survey will become the foundation for our new strategic plan.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of stakeholder input. The community survey is the primary tool to gather such input, and we ask your help to make it a success. If you receive a survey by mail, please complete it and return it promptly. If you are contacted by phone, please take the time to answer the surveyor's questions. Encourage your neighbors, co-workers, families and friends to participate if they are surveyed. Thoughtful, comprehensive responses to the survey are essential to the development of a responsive strategic plan that addresses our community's needs and lays a strong foundation for our future success.

We will continue to communicate our progress as this project moves forward. Please continue to share with us your ideas, concerns, and suggestions – they help make the San Antonio Public Library better and more responsive to our customers.

Ramiro Salazar

Mark Your Calendar— The San Antonio Public Library Is growing!

In January, construction will begin on two new branch libraries, and you're invited to help us celebrate at our groundbreaking ceremonies!

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us:

- **The Parman Branch Library at Stone Oak**
Tuesday, January 12 • 11:00 a.m.
20735 Wilderness Oak
- **Mission Branch Library**
Tuesday, January 26 • 10:00 a.m.
3100 Roosevelt Avenue

Final Renewal Notice!

If you have *not* renewed your membership, this will be the last newsletter coming to you! Please send your renewal in right away.

Membership envelopes can be found at each library branch. For those of you using Electronic Data Transfers from your bank to pay for membership, please be sure to reference the type of membership you are paying for and the branch group you wish to support. Life members should reply each year also, so we have current information for you.

Thanks for remaining a Friend!

Maverick Friends Hold Holiday Meeting

Maverick Friends held their December meeting at a local restaurant. The festivities included holiday themed trivia



games and officer installation. Judith Penington will be the treasurer,

and Claudia Kohler will be the new vice president.



BookCellar News

Pat Konstam

The BookCellar took in just over \$83,000 in 2009, almost equal to 2008 sales despite the slow economy and a half-month closure for Central Library repairs. The store's profits went a long way toward funding FOSAPL's 2009 donation of \$85,000 to the Library for system-wide programming and staff development.

The store's one-week post-Thanksgiving half-price sale was highly profitable, bringing in \$5,057. Good publicity, customer enthusiasm for great bargains, and especially the regular volunteer staff—several of whom worked extra days during the sale—contributed to the sale's spectacular success.

We thank Central Library staff for donating and installing several tiers of additional shelving for paperbacks in the store and for giving the floor an extra-good cleaning while the building was closed.

The store reopened for business on Monday, January 4. Monthly buy-one-get-one-free specials for January are regularly priced adult and children's books in the 300 Dewey Decimal system. This category ranges from personal finance, human relationships, social issues and politics to military history, true crime, education, etiquette and fairy stories.

February buy-one-get-one-free specials will be romance novels—in celebration of Valentine's Day—and regularly priced adult and children's books in the 800 Dewey classification. The 800s include literature, writing manuals, drama, poetry, humor and literary criticism.

If you need resources for Black History Month in February, the BookCellar's African-American History section offers books on African-American history and culture, the Civil Rights movement, biog-



raphies, and fiction by African-American writers.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon for BookCellar workers and their guests was held November 11 at the Gazebo at Los Patios, attended by 39 people. **Linda Arronge** and **Lucille Teeter** organized the event. The BookCellar currently has 50 active volunteers. If you would like to join this energetic band and can work a 4-hour shift one day a week or two days a month, please call BookCellar Committee Chair **Aaron Konstam** at (210) 656-0355 or BookCellar Manager **Monica Hernandez** at (210) 227-9519.



Maverick Celebrates the Holidays

On December 12, Maverick hosted a Holiday Open House. A holiday concert by the Fair-Weather Winds Brass Quintet was followed by cookies and cider served by Friends **Donna Hogan** and **Roe Klepac**. The Friends sponsored both the concert and the refreshments.



Sales Tax, from p 1.

Currently, the number of branch groups that hold more than two one-day sales (or, one two-day sale) per year is small but those sales have been profitable for them. Some groups have started to have on-going sales [such as Johnston Library Friends' "Book Nook" continuous book sale table]: in these situations, two 24-hour periods per year will have to be identified to our Treasurer as the days to count all income on those days (from tax-free sales).

Since the source for payment of sales taxes had never been addressed by any of the FOSAPL Bylaws or Standing Rules, the Executive Officers requested that the Board clarify the situation. At the meeting of November 15, 2009, the following motion was passed:

Motion: "Effective January 1, 2010, all sales taxes that are legally due for payment shall be remitted to the State Comptroller by the FOSAPL Treasurer, and shall be debited from the account of the appropriate Group or chapter by the FOSAPL Treasurer. Future revisions of the Bylaws and/or Standing Rules will include language that addresses this issue."

Our Treasurer, **Judy Wilson**, has provided a newly revised "Report of Funds Deposited" form to each Friends group treasurer for use as of January 1, 2010, and will be meeting with group officers to talk about observing the details of the law and maximizing their profits from the new rules. A "Preview Sale," for example, could be scheduled prior to a regular sale (but within the 24-hour window) to count as a "one-day sale." If a group wants to hold a fundraiser other than a book sale, officers should talk with Judy during the early planning stage to make sure that the applicable laws are observed.

All Board members and branch representatives authorized to vote are urged to attend the meeting on January 17, 2010, at the Central Library Auditorium to adopt the following additions to Standing Rule #2, Branch and other support Groups, as recommended:

PROPOSED, New #2E. Each branch or support group shall conform to regulations of the Texas State Comptroller as described in Rule 3.22 (h)(1) and (2), and may have two one-day tax-free sales, auctions or fundraisers each calendar year. The Treasurer of the group will complete the appropriate form to notify the FOSAPL Treasurer of those sales, as well as any taxable sales.

PROPOSED, New #2F. All sales taxes that are legally due for payment shall be remitted to the State Comptroller by the FOSAPL Treasurer. Effective January 1, 2010, funds to pay those taxes will be debited from the account of the appropriate Group or chapter by the FOSAPL Treasurer.

"Thank you!" to all of the Friends who worked to clarify this complicated issue, and ensure that our Standing Rules reflect the will of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library.

Igo Celebrates 2nd Birthday

The John Igo Library celebrated its 2nd Birthday December 5. About 95 visitors attended. The party included cookies, punch, balloons, clowns, and a special cake in the shape of a large book. The cake was donated by **Lorna Main** (left, next to her mother **Irene Scharf**) of Scenic Springs Wedding Site.



Board of Directors Nominations

Almost all directors whose terms are expiring in 2010 have agreed to be nominated for another two-year term.

The nominees for the 2010–2012 term are:

Robbi Ruppert	Yolanda Kirkpatrick
Pat Konstam	Pat Bjornson
Dolores Huber	Robert Mason
Shirley Davis	Dorothy Smith

Nominations are still being accepted, and if anyone is interested, contact **Bruce Gill** at 210-404-9336 or mbg38@att.net or **Mary McAfee** at 210-694-0505.



Semmes Holiday Party

Semmes Friends helped the branch library staff get a jump start on the Christmas season with the annual “tree raising and decorating party” on November 21. Cookies, wassail, and Santa’s special envoy (**Ivy Durnell**) provided the refreshments and atmosphere. Friends **Carole Anderson** and **Judy Wilson** watched as youngsters enjoyed making ornaments!

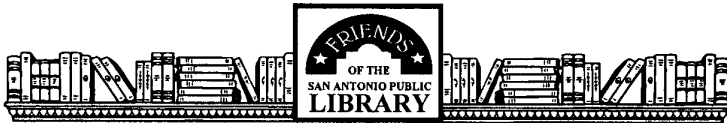




~~ Honors, Memorials and Gifts Form ~~

Honor a loved one, family or friends with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, other special occasions, or a "just because." Doing so can also be a wonderful, thoughtful and lasting way to honor the memory of relatives or friends. If you like, add a brief note about the recipient of your honors on the back of the form. No donation now? Save the form for future use.

<p align="center">I would like to make the following donation of</p> <p align="center">\$ _____</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> In honor of <input type="checkbox"/> A special event Birthday, Anniversary Graduation, a Gift, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> In memory of </p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p>	<p align="center">Please send a Memorial Friends Acknowledgement to:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p>
<p align="center">Please fill out the form, make your check payable to Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and mail the form with check to: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library ATTN: Honors, Memorials and Gifts P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, TX 78246</p>	<p align="center">My name and address is:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p align="center"><i>~ All Donations Are Tax Deductible ~</i></p>



~~ Library Friends Membership Application ~~

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library is a non-profit organization which supports the Public Library System of San Antonio through volunteer service, cultural and educational activities. The Friends give financial assistance to fund the continuing improvements of Library facilities and programs, and serve as a conduit through which gifts and memorials go directly to your library. Membership in the Friends is open to all.

<p align="center">Personal Information:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Unlisted <input type="checkbox"/> Do not publish</p> <p>EMAIL Address: _____</p> <p align="center">I'm Interested In:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sales <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity and Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Service <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Appreciation Events <input type="checkbox"/> FOSAPL Board of Directors <input type="checkbox"/> Political Advocacy <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering in the Book Cellar </p>	<p align="center">Select Membership Type:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (Adult) \$ 15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Dual (Adult) \$ 25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (Teen, Ages 13-15) \$ 5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Patron (Per Person) \$ 50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing (Per Person) \$ 100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Life (Per Person) \$ 250.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$ 25.00 </p>
<p align="center">Please fill out the form, make your check payable to Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and mail the form with check to: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library ATTN: Membership Committee P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, TX 78246</p>	<p> Membership Status: <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Desired Branch Group: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Apply Donation to: _____ </p> <p> Membership Dues Payment: Additional Donation \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____ </p> <p align="center"><i>~ Your Membership Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible ~</i></p>

Treasurer's Report

August 31, 2009

Submitted by Judy Wilson

INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

	Budget	FOSAPL July/Aug	FOSAPL YTD	Groups July/Aug	Groups YTD
INCOME					
BookCellar sales/ Group book sales	\$ 73,000.00	\$20,429.24	\$ 53,640.91	\$ 1,009.05	\$35,063.61
Donations	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,515.00	\$ 929.00	\$ 5,179.50
Interest	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 119.39	\$ 574.37		
Membership	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 7,875.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 3,265.00
FOSAPL Income	\$ 93,000.00	\$20,663.63	\$ 63,605.28		
Assets to be used during 2009	\$128,775.00				
Branch groups income				\$ 1,978.05	\$43,508.11
EXPENSES					
Accounting	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 425.00		
Arts and Letters	\$ 400.00				
Bank charges	\$ 50.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 59.00		
BookCellar Expenses					
Advertising	\$ 1,000.00				
Book sale(s) expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 42.70	\$ 195.97		
Commodities for resale	\$ 500.00	\$ 188.14	\$ 751.72		
Equipment and maintenance	\$ 2,500.00				
Internet and software	\$ 100.00				
Printing and copying	\$ 100.00				
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$ 500.00				
Salary and benefits	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 1,180.00	\$ 4,436.50		
Volunteer appreciation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 41.92	\$ 712.36		
Gas & box tape for book donation to BC		\$ 174.98	\$ 174.98		
Branch group operating expenses				\$ 636.59	\$ 3,008.21
Bulk mail	\$ 1,500.00				
Directory 2009-2011	\$ 3,000.00				
FOSAPL Committee expenses	\$ 100.00		\$ 19.93		
Friends recognition	\$ 100.00				
Insurance (bonding)	\$ 125.00				
Library Support					
Programming for public	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 20,000.00		
Staff development and training	\$ 45,000.00		\$ 29,025.00		
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life members	no fund amount				
Various branch group purchases				\$ 10,615.68	\$39,331.98
Mail box	\$ 75.00		\$ 27.00		
Membership recruitment	\$ 1,000.00				
Newsletter prep/editing	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,200.00		
Newsletter printing	\$ 2,800.00		\$ 996.99		
Office supplies	\$ 600.00	\$ 82.09	\$ 472.94		
Parking	\$ 4,525.00	\$ 991.50	\$ 3,871.60		
Postage	\$ 300.00	\$ 58.80	\$ 266.47		
President's expenses	\$ 350.00		\$ 100.00		
Sales tax (BookCellar & branches)	\$ 11,100.00	\$ 1,979.14	\$ 5,527.48		
Seed money for new groups	\$ 300.00		\$ 100.00		
"Show me the Money" program	\$ 400.00	\$ 94.33	\$ 94.33		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$128,775.00	\$ 5,306.60	\$ 68,457.27	\$11,252.27	\$42,340.19

Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

Accounts	Balance
CompassBank Money Market Account	\$ 57,453.20
Guaranty Money Market Gold Account	\$ 37,921.90
Guaranty Checking Account	\$ 14,993.28
Certificate of Deposit (4% APY) matures 11/07/09	\$ 75,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 185,368.38
Branch Designated Funds (-)	(\$104,336.16)
Net Assets for FOSAPL Use	\$ 81,032.22

Branch and Special Interest Group Funds, August 31, 2009

Bazan	\$ 1,745.16
Brook Hollow	\$ 7,448.52
Carver	\$ 3,366.29
Cody	\$ 7,619.94
Collins Garden	\$ 394.72
Forest Hills	\$ 3,787.16
Guerra	\$ 4,726.80
Igo	\$ 3,581.30
Johnston	\$ 1,319.69
Landa	\$ 465.00
Maverick	\$ 2,128.51
McCreless	\$ 3,461.11
Memorial	\$ 4,513.47
Tobin at Oakwell	\$ 19,220.24
Semmes	\$ 5,868.17
Texana/Genealogy	\$ 18,720.77
Thousand Oaks	\$ 6,655.04
Westfall	\$ 5,658.43
Writers (currently inactive)	\$ 3,645.84
Las Palmas (no group formed)	\$ 5.00
San Pedro (no group formed)	\$ 5.00
Total Group Funds	\$ 104,336.16



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.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| January 17 | FOSAPL Annual General Meeting, 2 p.m., in the Central Library Auditorium |
| February 5–6 | Semmes Book Sale. Preview February 5, 12–2. Sale February 6, 10 a.m. |
| February 5–6 | Tobin @ Oakwell Book Sale. Preview for FOSAPL members will be held February 5, 1–3. Regular Book Sale February 6, 10–4 |
| March 20–21 | Igo Book Sale |
| March 27 | Brook Hollow Book Sale |
| April 14–17 | Texas Library Association in San Antonio |

Brook Hollow Library
530 Heimer Road, 78232
210-496-6315
Central Library
600 Soledad Street, 78205
210-207-2500
Igo Library
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249
210-561-6113 (also TTY)
Semmes Library
15060 Judson Rd., 78247
210-650-9540
Tobin at Oakwell Library
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209
210-828-2569

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.