



*From the President*



Dear Friends,

I hope that you were able to attend the Arts & Letters Awards ceremony at the end of October as it always showcases elegant, eloquent, and electrifying cultural leaders of our community! Thanks to the committee members for their work that spanned many months: **Linda Arronge**, chair; **Evelyn Bonavita**, **Anne Long**, **Bruce Gill**, and **Robert LaCaff**. Delicious refreshments provided by **Yolanda Kirkpatrick**, **Carla Galindo**, and the Friends of the Central Library after the ceremony were also very much appreciated.

Before life gets too hectic during this “holiday season,” be sure to send in your Friends of the SA Library membership renewal envelope—and consider showing your appreciation of a neighbor, service-provider or friend by signing that person up for a year’s membership in FOSAPL! They get the inside scoop on Library news and volunteer opportunities, and you have more to talk about with them over coffee (or adult beverages)...

We should all be happy to talk about the construction progress that is being made on the Central Library (Weatherization Project and elevator improvements), McCreless Branch, Memorial Branch, new Mission Branch and new Parman Library at Stone Oak. **Rich Walker**, the Library’s Construction Coordinator, assures us that the projects are “on schedule, on budget.”

Lastly, please mark your calendar to attend the **Annual Meeting of (all) Friends, which will be on Sunday afternoon (2:00 p.m.), Jan. 16, 2011, at the Central Library**. Thanks to the work of the Nominations Committee (**Mary McAfee**, chair; **Lucille Teeter**, **Ann Tobin**, **Bruce Gill**, and **Pat Mendiola**) we will be electing officers and many enthusiastic new Board members. We will also be voting on “clean-up” changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules, and recognizing “Best Friends” from throughout the library system. Looking forward to seeing you there!

*Cheers,*  
**Nancy Gandara**

## Nomination Committee Report

**Mary McAfee**

The following Friends members have accepted the Committee’s nomination for the 2011–2013 term of the Board of Directors.

- Evelyn Bonavita**
- Shirley Coleman**
- Jackie Fremming**
- Bruce Gill**
- Claudia Kohler**
- Robert LaCaff**
- Karen Matson**
- Pat Mendiola**
- Larry Purkey**
- Ronnie Retzloff**
- Ann Springer**
- Virginia Wong**

The following Friends members have accepted the Committee’s nomination for:

- President—**Nancy Gandara**
- Vice President—**Linda Arronge**
- Secretary—**Anne Long**
- Treasurer—**Judy Wilson**

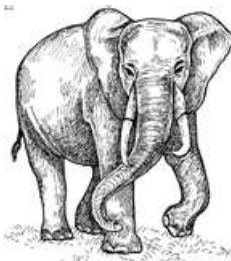
These names will be presented at the Annual Meeting on January 16, 2011. The floor will be open for additional nominees. If you want to nominate someone, you must have his or her approval.

The members of the Committee are: **Lucille Teeter**, **Ann Tobin**, **Bruce Gill**, **Pat Mendiola**, and **Mary McAfee**.

If you have any questions, please call **Mary McAfee** 210-694-0505.

## An elephant never forgets . . . will you?

**Claudia Kohler**



**Y**our Friends Membership packet is in the mail. If you forget to send it in, we’ll have to use another envelope, another stamp, and another letter to remind you, using funds that could be used to help our libraries. On that same note, your 2011 membership card will be mailed after the first of the year to take advantage of bulk rates for postage.

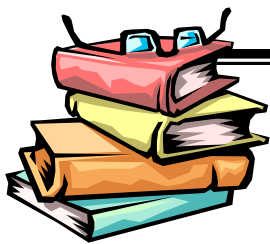
Please be sure to fill out your Membership envelope completely. Did you move and forget to let us know? Did you change your email address? Do you have time to volunteer for specific committees? The branch presidents are very pleased to know of your interests and all help will be welcome.

Please remember to designate a branch, as this will keep you on that branch list and they will get \$5 for you. Do you want to join more than one branch? Easy—send an extra \$5 for each additional branch, per person. Are you a Life member? We still need to have updated information, and you must choose your branch each year.

If you do not want your phone number in our next directory, be sure to check that box. We will NEVER share your email address with anyone except your branch officers.

If you have questions about your membership, please call the Treasurer, Judy Wilson at 210-789-9404 or Membership Chair Claudia Kohler at 210-372-0241, or email [mytexas-room@satx.rr.com](mailto:mytexas-room@satx.rr.com).

We are so grateful for our wonderful Friends. Each of you has your unique offering to your library, your town, and your community. Thank you!



# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Board Meeting

July 18, 2010

Submitted by *Linda Arronge*

The FOSAPL meeting was held on Sunday, Sept 19, 2010, at Westfall Library. The meeting was called to order by President **Nancy Gandara**. Those present were: **Nancy Gandara, Linda Arronge, Linda Nairn, Denise Barlow, Evelyn Bonavita, Pat Bjornson, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Claudia Kohler, Aaron Konstam, Pat Konstam, Mary McAfee, Josie Martinez, Robert Mason, Pat Mendiola, Ronnie Retzloff, Robbi Rupert, Evanleen Schmueckle, and Dorothy Smith**. This constituted a quorum, and the meeting started.

The minutes were presented as they appeared in the Sept/Oct 2010 *SAPLings*. **Mary McAfee** moved that the minutes be approved and **Ronnie Retzloff** seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**President's Report** – **Nancy Gandara** summarized meetings in which she had participated since the last Board meeting. She thanked the Board members for having been proactive in support of the FY 2011 budget. Gandara also said she followed up on a question about "conflict of interest" that some employees of Chase Bank had asked and that the City Attorney has stated that "There are no public ethics problems that would prevent a city contractor (like Chase employees) from serving as officers of a friends group...". She thanked **Rowena Rogers** and **Martha Tarpley**, the Friends from Westfall, for providing refreshments for the meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – **Judy Wilson** was unable to attend the meeting. She did, however, leave a report that was passed out and will be filed for audit. **Mary McAfee** moved and **Bob Mason** seconded the motion that we accept the report. It passed.

**Board of Trustees Chair** – **Jean Brady**, Library Board President, was not able to be

present but did e-mail a report. She thanked the Friends for the wonderful job that they did during the budget process. She said that the strong support from the grass roots advocacy made a difference. She quoted **Max Lucado**, "The people who make a difference are not the ones with the credentials, but the ones with the concern." Libraries do change Lives!

**Library Administration** – **Kendra Trachta** showed the Advocacy Group video. It was done at Central Library for free by the Rios Group. It showed what people enjoy doing at the Library. She thanked the groups for advocating for the Library. They had tough decisions and made many cuts. We received \$900,000 for repairs of older buildings. All branches, except the Pruitt Library at Roosevelt High School and Bannwulf Library at Reagan High School, will remain open 56 hours/week. Money was included for the two new libraries and the Briscoe Western Art Museum.

**Library Foundation** – **Sarah Swinney Rice** reported that 40,000 children took part in the summer reading program and 9,000 met the goal of reading 15 books to win a free book of their choice. On Saturday, Nov 13, they will sponsor The Children's Books and Authors Program at The Pearl Stables. Everyone is welcome to attend for a charge of \$25.

**BookCellar Report** – **Aaron Konstam** reported that **Teresa Jensen**, Central Library Manager, had met with the BookCellar Committee to discuss the possibility that the BookCellar operations might be moved to the first floor of Central. "Pro's" include increased visibility for shoppers; "con's" include significantly less space. This issue is just in preliminary discussions.

**Membership Report** – **Claudia Kohler** reported that

we have 883 members. The membership Drive will begin in October 2010. Board members were asked to check the membership stand at their library to make sure there are enough envelopes.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Arts & Letters Award Committee Report** – **Linda Arronge** reminded the Board that the awards ceremony would be on Sunday, Oct 24, at 2 p.m.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Nominating Committee** – **Mary McAfee**, Chair, said that she was pleased to have **Lucille Teeter, Pat Mendiola, Ann Tobin**, and **Bruce Gill** on the committee. The proposed officers and Board members will be included in the next issue of *SAPLings*, and nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Annual Meeting on Jan. 16, 2011.

**Budget Committee** – **Judy Wilson**, Chair, left a message that the committee will be meeting in late October, and they will present a budget for the Board's action at the meeting in November.

## **National Friends of the Library Week, Oct. 17-23**

Board members were asked to consider passing a proposed proclamation to honor the Friends. The City of San Antonio Council and Commissioners' Court would be asked to recognize the role of the Friends of the Library, as part of the national celebration. **Pat Konstam** made a motion, which was subsequently amended, and **Pat Bjornson** seconded the motion. It passed as amended.

A list of dates for book sales is included on the back page of the *SAPLings*.

**Evelyn Bonavita** moved and **Claudia Kohler** seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Before the rain came, we adjourned.



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

### 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

### 2010-2012 Term

Pat Bjornson • Shirley Davis • Dolores Huber • Yolanda Kirkpatrick • Pat Konstam • Josie Martinez • Bob Mason • Robbi Ruppert • Dorothy Smith

## 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 Southwest Research Institute® provides partial funding for printing the newsletter.

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Cathy Dean • Nancy Gandara, *Ex Officio* • Bruce Gill • Pat Mendiola • 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, [alana005@yahoo.com](mailto:alana005@yahoo.com). Printed articles and original photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, TX 78238.



## Collins Garden

Our deepest condolences go to the Valadez family for the recent passing of **Joe Valadez**, President of the Collins Garden Neighborhood Association and Treasurer of the Collins Garden (CG) Friends.

CG Friends wishes to apologize for any inconvenience caused by the last-minute cancellation of the National Night Out activities.

The CG Board thanks all of our volunteers and CG branch staff for making this year a great success.

The CG Friends wishes everyone a joyous and safe holiday season.

*Richard O. Morales*

## Cortez

The Friends of the Cortez Branch Library held their second book sale October 9–10. Thank you to the Friends from the BookCellar for their time and help and the Friends of the Tobin at Oakwell Library who generously donated leftover items from their book sale!

On Saturday, August 14, Branch Manager **Rebecca Johnson** attended the **Philip A. Cortez** District 4 Back to

School event at the CentroMed clinic. **Ronnie Anderson** from Outreach Services helped at the event. They spoke with more than 100 people about library services and registered more than 60 people for library cards. Mayor **Julian Castro** spoke at the event. Ms. Johnson personally thanked Mr. Cortez for his support of libraries during this difficult fiscal year budget process.

On Saturday, August 21, Adult Services Librarian **Jerry Madrigal** from the Cortez Branch Library partnered with the Mission Flea Market to promote library services to the public. The management of the flea market offered the library a prime location to distribute information about the resources and services available at SAPL. The Mission Flea Market also donated several door prizes to the library to promote more traffic to the table.

On Tuesday, October 5, **Rebecca Johnson** attended the National Night Out event at Palo Alto at University Park. She registered 27 people for new library cards.

Friend **Stephanie Vazquez** continues to moderate the very successful Cortez Book Club on the first Thursday of every month.

On Tuesday, September 7, the Friends of the Cortez Library held their second meeting.

*Rebecca Johnson*

## Forest Hills

*Meanwhile, in another part of the Forest...* The Forest Hills Team hosted a Viva Mexico! family event to celebrate the

beginning of Hispanic Heritage on Wednesday, September 15. Latino crafts, snacks, and face-painting entertained approximately 47 guests.

During Banned Books Week, Librarian **Mary Smith Naylor** created a display that featured challenged books. The display, decorated with yellow caution tape, drew curious library patrons, and WOAI's Channel 4 News interviewed Ms. Smith Naylor to briefly discuss the purpose of celebrating Banned Books Week.

The Scholastic Literacy Caravan parked in front of the building to provide free art and reading activities.

The Friends of Forest Hills sponsored a Friend/Staff Appreciation dinner on September 18 at Golden Corral Restaurant. Twenty-five people participated and enjoyed visiting and meeting each other's families. Below are some photos taken at the event.

*Johnnie Spraggins*

## Great Northwest

The Friends of Great Northwest Library had a couple events during the summer. Our book sale in June was a success, which allowed us to support the library's summer reading program. In July, we had a luncheon to show appreciation to more than 30 library staff and summer volunteers who attended. There was a puzzle-building contest with movie tickets for the prize and drawing prizes of book lights and Skittles. Our manager, **Roberto Zapata**, sent a nice note of thanks saying that everyone had fun and is looking forward to next year.

In October, we are having a member appreciation meeting to say thanks to the members who have helped get our group up and running this year and encourage more involvement from other members. Our next project is our fall book sale

on Saturday, November 6, with presale on November 5.

*Denise Barlow*

## Igo

The Fall book sale October 9–10 yielded \$2,622.50. This was about \$400 less than our March sale. There were many speculations as to why sales were down. Fewer book dealers attended, and there were four FOSAPL sales that day topped the list of excuses. The six new tables we purchased for book sales arrived on time and **Larry Purkey** and **Jose Duran** put them together with comparative ease. They were immediately put into use, and we did notice that it made a difference to have the extra space. We at Igo cannot complain about much of anything as the space is so well planned.

In the past, we have felt we were a bit short staffed during book sales. Fortunately for this sale we had excellent help.

**Linda Arronge** recruited **Evelyn Bonavita** from the BookCellar to cashier for us Saturday morning. We appreciate their help and give hearty thanks to both Evelyn and Linda for their contribution of time and effort. We also welcomed back **Jackie Fremming**, our Vice President, from an extended break. Jackie always brightens any spot and makes the book sale a fun place to work.

In addition, we had seven students donate their time. **Natalie Deanda**, **Christina Martinez**, and **Daniella Torres** are honor students at Jefferson Middle School. **Ciara McCary** and **Connor Haley** attend Garcia Middle School, and **Conor McCary** and **Cat Haley** attend Kuentz Elementary. The students helped carry boxes and sacks to customer's cars, separated categories in the non-fiction areas, and did a good job of keeping the books straight on the tables. We

*Branch Leaves cont on p 4.*



*Friends of Cortez Library*

appreciate their hard work and intend to invite them back in the spring. Honor students need to complete community service hours, and library book sales are an excellent source for those hours.

The quality of the books donated to us by our clientele since our last sale was excellent. As we boxed up the remainder of the books, we set aside a number of boxes for donation. They are marked as donations and can be picked up at the Igo Library. Please help yourself.

Programming at the library continues to thrive. The Magic Theater show on October 2 was a big hit. The adult book reading and discussion groups attract a loyal group of people. **John Igo** continues to contribute by reading his poetry, attending our FIBBER meetings, and just hanging out at the library. What a treasure he is, thanks John for all you do for us.

Look for news of our Annual Christmas Birthday Party, we hope to christen a new punch bowl at that time.

**Kathleen McCloskey**

## McCreless

The Friends of the McCreless Library have several opportunities in November for member participation. The next Board meeting is November 1 at 1:00 at Snoga's Cafeteria on Goliad. Please join us at the next General Meeting on November 8 at 5:30 in our newly renovated library. At our next general meeting, we will elect officers and hope to have a tour of the new facility.

And the next book sale is Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14. This is a double opportunity for members to volunteer to staff the book sale and take advantage of some great deals. Remember that all proceeds go to support the McCreless library.

**Jill Zimmerman**

## Semmes

Semmes Friends are grateful to the several retiring teachers and others who donated so many children's books and teaching materials in time for our September book sale. In addition to the usual advertising we undertake for our book sales, we took special fliers to the surrounding elementary and middle schools. It was great to have a supply of materials for young people that lasted throughout most of the sale.

Our sales continue to be wonderful successes that enable our support efforts for the library. I shopped for a friend who is the director of a church preschool, and when I saw her the day after delivering the purchases, she retrieved one of the books and told me about the author who is well known within the field of young people's education. She was thrilled, and said, "... and you got me TWO of her books." What a warm feeling from such a small expenditure!

Each sale has its own "personality" based on the donations we receive, which makes prepping for and working the sales so much fun! Again, **THANK YOU DONORS!**

During our September Semmes Friends meeting, we heard that the "Teen Area" of the library, which we helped furnish, has been completed with new seating and an area rug and that it is very popular. We understand that the teens fight over the seating, and when we went to see the new area, we certainly understand why—comfortable floor rockers even tempted me to linger a while and pretend that I was a teen again. Enjoy this wonderful fall weather and stay tuned for an update of our holiday preparations.

**Christie Smith**

## Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks Friends enjoy earning money with their book sales and find even more satisfaction in spending it for the library's Wish List. That is especially true when our support can help such successful enterprises as The Teen Program, which continues to encourage reading among young people, thanks to the creative efforts of coordinator **Barbara Kwiatkowsky**. She says she wants to inspire young people to find the best in themselves and others. Her own inspired leadership was shown in the summer program's attendance—a record number of 87 students completed the program activities. Fifteen of those have chosen one of the great classics, **Ernest Hemingway's Old Man and The Sea**, as their next book to read and discuss. This same group also has expressed an interest in assisting the Friends in promoting library activities with some of their own ideas.

Children's librarian **Leslie Elsasser** reported a benefit from another Friends' donation—colorful book holders that keep board books and other "baby books" on the level of our very young patrons. She said checkouts for those books has increased significantly. Leslie's active Tween (ages 9–12) program also benefits from Friends' donations for craft supplies.

The Friends look forward to supporting these and other library activities with earnings from their next book sale on Saturday, December 4, just in time for holiday gift shopping. They will set the stage with their annual holiday decorating the day before.

**Renee Hermanson**

## Tobin Library at Oakwell

Tobin Foundation for Theater Arts Director **Linda Hardberger** discussed "**Robert Tobin: His Legacy and Love of Books**" at the November 6 annual meeting of the Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell.

Hardberger, a former curator of the Tobin Theater Arts collection at the McNay Art Museum, is the co-author of the 2010 book *Making the Scene: A History of Stage Design and Technology in Europe and the United States*. She worked with Tobin for many years while he was building his encyclopedic collection of theater set designs from around the world. He was also a noted rare book collector.

The fall book sale on October 2 garnered more than \$2,400, and books left over from the sale were picked up by Friends from the Cortez, Maverick, and Forest Hills Libraries. The Tobin Friends Board would like to extend a special thanks to the Altrusa Club volunteers who helped make our fall book sale a success. The next book sale will be February 5, 2011.

**Janet Goddard**

### Tax-Exemption Only for Non- Profit Use

**A**ll Friends are reminded that the number that provides an exemption from paying sales tax is only to be used for items that are purchased for use by the Friends (for meetings, sales, etc.) or for the branches or Central Library. Sorry! Purchases of items for your personal use are not tax-exempt.

# Friends Fotos



The Friends of Forest Hills sponsored a Friend/Staff Appreciation dinner on Sept. 18 at Golden Corral.



Brook Hollow Friends ready for their book sale.



Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell are ready for their book sale.



Great Northwest summer volunteers.



Above left: **Anna Gangai** as *Maria Callas*; above, right: **Tom Masinter** with *Diane and Rick Malone*; below: **Carla Galindo** sets a beautiful harvest table; and right: Trustees **Laurie Gruenbeck** and **Gloria Malone**

## Meet the Friends: The Konstams

**Lyn Belisle**



**P**at and Aaron Konstam, individually and as a team, have made an unforgettable mark on the San Antonio Public Library and the Friends. In this interview, they describe how it came to be, and all of us are the luckier for it.

49th wedding anniversary October 1. After a few years in Brooklyn; Haifa, Israel; Dayton, Ohio; and St. Charles, Mo., we moved to San Antonio in 1972, when Aaron began teaching computer science at Trinity University.

*How long have you known each other? When did you come to San Antonio?*

We met at Penn State University 51 years ago. We celebrated our

*How long have you been involved with the FOSAPL? Did one of you become active first, and then the other, or did you come to the organization at the same time?*

Aaron started going to book sales at Oakwell Library in the 1990s, and we occasionally stopped by the funky BookCellar in the basement of the Hertzberg Library. We knew nothing of Friends of the Library, although we knew through the annual City Public Service solicitation that a Library Foundation existed. After Aaron retired in 1999 (I think it was earlier, before

your official retirement; I was still working at E-N), Aaron began volunteering at the Book Cellar in Central Library. That's when we became aware of FOSAPL. Pat got involved by helping sort books for annual big book sales and eventually, about 2002, joined Aaron in his weekly Wednesday shift at the BookCellar. Through membership on the FOSAPL Board, we have become much more aware of Library System programs and needs and of our responsibility to advocate for the library.

*Continued on p 8.*

## Arts & Letters Awards presented October 24

Anne Long

The Arts and Letters Awards Ceremony was held on October 24 in the Central Library Auditorium.

Everyone was treated to entertainment, enlightenment and delicious refreshments. **Ramon Vasquez Y. Sanchez** was introduced by **Larry Kirkpatrick** who emphasized the uniqueness of Mr. Sanchez as an historian. Mr. Sanchez traced his roots back thousands of years and shared with us his native name Zagu Kai Tax-lak po which means "He Who Is At One With The Owl." He brought along two of his paintings and one of his drawings to represent life of the ordinary people of San Antonio and his focus on the

spiritual life and culture all around us. Especially poignant was his "Meeting at Mission Espada," which Sanchez says expresses the way his grandmother and grandfather used to meet before they were married.

**Tom Masinter**, himself a recipient of the Arts and Letters Award in 2009, presented the award to **Diane and Rick Malone**. Mr. Masinter applauded their tireless acts of theatre work and influence in the theatre world as well as their strong support of local playwrights and composers. Diane and Rick expressed their special appreciation for this award because their lives have been devoted to serving

"the authors' text" with their directing, producing, and designing. Diane and Rick brought along a very talented friend, **Anna Gangai**, who all but channeled **Maria Callas** in a scene from **Terrance McNally's** "Master Class."

It was a wonderful afternoon, and we would like to thank **Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Carla Galindo**, and the Central Library Friends for an absolutely beautiful and delicious table of refreshments, **Linda Arronge** and her Arts and Letters Committee for exceptional selections and **Robert LaCaff** for the outstanding and informative program.





## You make a difference!

In this slow economy, many cities are attempting to balance their budgets by cutting library services. That's why the budget approved by the San Antonio City Council on September 16 is news-

worthy—the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager demonstrated their commitment to providing this community with free and open access to information by *increasing* the Library appropriation.

The Fiscal Year 2010–2011 Library operating budget totals approximately \$32 million and is the largest budget in the history of the San Antonio Public Library. It provides for start-up and operating costs for two new branch libraries (the Mission and Parman Branch Libraries) scheduled to open in Spring 2011. It adds \$275,000 to the base budget for books and materials, meaning that we can provide more books, movies, music, and online resources for our customers, on an ongoing basis. It provides \$900,000 for maintenance to library facilities.

Why is this important? More than 900,000 people now have San Antonio Public Library cards. There are more than 5 million visits annually to the libraries located throughout the community. As a Friend of the Library, you know how many people depend on library resources and services for assistance with job searches, business planning or schoolwork, and for the enjoyment and entertainment we can get from reading a good book, watching an exciting movie or listening to our favorite music.

This budget season brought unhappy news from around the country, as library after library was forced to cut service hours, close branches, reduce the book budget, or lay off staff. In San Antonio, the story was just the opposite. The community served by the San Antonio Public Library owes a debt of gratitude, first to the City Manager for proposing a budget that included increases for library services and to the Mayor and City Council for approving that budget.

Even more, the community owes that debt to the Library Board of Trustees and Library stakeholders—especially the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation—for their enthusiastic and effective advocacy for the measures adopted in this year's City budget. You were both outspoken and articulate at community budget meetings across the city, and your message was heard. With the support of our local government officials, our customers, and our stakeholders, we will continue to make the San Antonio Public Library even better. Visit us often to see what changes are being made!

## Community Needs Assessment Shows—Again!—that Libraries Are Valued by S.A. Residents

Recently, members of the Library Board of Trustees, Friends' Board and Library Foundation board gathered to hear about the results of the Community Needs Assessment that was conducted over the summer. ETC Institute, the Library's consultants on this project, shared the following five major findings with the stakeholders:

- The San Antonio Public Library is relevant – only 5% of the households surveyed had never visited a SAPL location. More than half – 51% – of the households visited a SAPL location at least once or twice a month in the past 12 months. Interestingly, 85% of households that have a computer at home visited a San Antonio Public Library in the past 12 months.
- There is a lack of awareness of various Library services – 17% of the households didn't know what was being offered at the Library, 8% didn't know services were offered at no cost and 3% didn't know about the Library.
- Books are important – two of the top three reasons households indicated they visited a library was to check out a book for leisure/pleasure reading (54% of offered this response) or to check out a book for school or work (25% of respondents.) In a community ranking of the importance of more than 20 Library resources and services, books were at the top of the list.

• The Library plays an important role in improving literacy – after public and private schools and community colleges, SAPL was ranked the third most important local agency fulfilling a community literacy role; 41% of survey participants selected this response. In every City Council

- District and County Precinct, “increasing programs and services to improve literacy” was one of the two issues that respondents indicated were most important for the San Antonio Public Library to address.
- Neighborhood (e.g. “branch”) libraries are valued – “develop new libraries in underserved areas” was one of the most supported (43%) statements when respondents were asked how library services could be improved. Lower priority statements included: build community facilities (20%), convert neighborhood libraries for specialized programming (18%), close some smaller libraries (11%), and replace smaller libraries with fewer larger ones (10%).

These major findings will be taken into consideration in the development of the Strategic Plan. The next milestone following the report of the Community Needs Assessment results is selection of a consultant to facilitate the development of the Library's Strategic Plan.

## Donations and Memorials

Submitted by **Sheila Figueroa**

### **In Memory of**

Chalfant Peak-Boedeker  
Joe Valadez  
Richard H Klitch Jr (Life Member)  
Mary Myles Mitchell (Life Member)

### **By**

Edith Speert  
Nancy Gandara  
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library  
Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

### **In Honor of**

Diana De Los Santos  
John Igo

### **By**

Sylvia Zamarripa  
Zula W. Vizard

### **Donations**

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Leis  
National Society United States Daughters of 1812  
Ms. Charlotte R. Wenger



## BookCellar News

Pat Konstam



November and December bring a variety of special sales to the BookCellar. All holiday books (Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Zwanzaa, New Year's) for adults and children will be half price. Cookbooks and books on entertaining also will be half price during this two-month period. These sales include both premium and regularly priced books.

In addition, the monthly buy-one-get-one-free special – which applies only to regularly priced books – will be adult 700s in November. In December, it will be biographies for adults and children. The 700 Dewey Decimal series includes sports, games, music, movies, TV, and dance.

These sales make the BookCellar an even more affordable source for holiday

gifts for adults, teens, and children. In addition to withdrawn library books, the store carries new or new-looking books donated by individuals, commercial book stores, and publishers. It also has CDs, audio books, VHS movies, vintage LP records, antiquarian books, coffee table and art books, and books on all kinds of hobbies and interests. Your purchases help support library staff training and development, along with other projects.

As you plan your shopping, please be aware the store will be closed on several days. It will not be open on Sunday, Nov. 15, because the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon will limit access to Central Library. It will close Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 24–26, for Thanksgiving; Friday through

Monday, Dec. 24–27 for Christmas; and Friday through Sunday, Dec. 31–Jan. 2 for New Year's.

BookCellar workers will be honored at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Lunch at Azuca Nuevo Latino Restaurant at 713 S. Alamo Street at 11:30 a.m. on November 11. **Lucille Teeter** and **Linda Arronge** have made the arrangements and are providing signup sheets and directions in the store. The BookCellar has about 50 regular volunteers.

A correction: The number of FOSAPL members who worked on the July Tent Sale was 83 – almost twice the number previously reported. An even bigger measure of thanks go to the Friends' active and supportive membership.

### Meet the Friends, from p 6.

*Given the many choices that community cultural advocates like yourselves have, what made you decide to give so much of your time and energy to the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library?*

Having Friends of the Library gradually become our major volunteer activity in retirement has been a big surprise to us. I would never have predicted this is what we would be doing at this stage of our lives. We fell into it and gradually assumed more responsibility in the overall organization because we enjoy working at the BookCellar; we've developed a personal stake in the BookCellar's success, and it's something we do together.

*I know that you are both very active with the BookCellar and have contributed much to its success. What would you say you're most proud of in that regard?*

The BookCellar's increased sales, volunteer commitment and public visibility

are the things we are most proud of.

*Are you also involved with a branch library? Which one?*

Oakwell (now Tobin Library at Oakwell) has been our library for 38 years. We both have helped with quarterly book sales at Oakwell for several years, and Aaron is a long-time member of the board of Friends of Tobin Library at Oakwell. Aaron served as the president of the Oakwell Friends for 2 years.

*Does each of you have a "specialty" in the organization? I know that both of you are long-time Board members.*

Pat: My specialty is written communication, a lifelong passion that led to a career in journalism. Using that obsession is my primary contribution to FOSAPL. I began sending BookCellar notes to *SAPLings* even before I was a committee member because I had a visceral need for FOSAPL members to know more about the BookCellar. I keep notes for BookCellar Committee

meetings and have started distributing those to all volunteers in an effort to keep everybody informed and involved. I coordinate publicity for BookCellar sales and do publicity for Tobin Library at Oakwell sales. I help proofread *SAPLings*.

Aaron: I guess I enjoy providing the leadership as Chair of the BookCellar Committee.

*What do you see as the biggest challenge to the FOSAPL in particular and the Library in general in the next decade?*

The biggest challenge for the Library System, and thus for FOSAPL, is financial, raising the money to keep the system growing and up to date.

*If you could have one wish for the FOSAPL, what would it be?*

One wish for FOSAPL: to have more of its members actively participating in raising money for the library and actively advocating for greater public and civic support of libraries.

### Better World Books

Where do you shop when a book you've borrowed from the library turns out to be one you'd like to own, and it isn't available at the BookCellar? Big box stores with their steep prices? Internet stores with unexpected shipping charges? Auction sites with unknown sellers?

A better choice might be Better World Books, a for-profit social enterprise that collects used books and sells them online to raise money for literacy initiatives worldwide. Their inventory of more than 6 million used and new titles, with free shipping anywhere in the U.S., means they probably will have the book you want at an affordable price while helping promote literacy around the world. And, as we know from our own book sales, when we buy used, we save books from landfill and conserve resources.

Go to [betterworldbooks.com](http://betterworldbooks.com) for more information.

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

Friends Membership Application

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ UNLISTED  DO NOT PUBLISH

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I'M INTERESTED IN:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BOOKSALES</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Budget, Arts & Letters, etc.)<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>FOSAPL</b> Board of Directors<br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>HOSPITALITY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>PUBLICITY &amp; COMMUNICATION</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>STAFF APPRECIATION EVENTS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>POLITICAL ADVOCACY</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> <b>VOLUNTEERING IN THE BOOKCELLAR</b><br><small>(Volunteers receive a discount on their purchases when working a full 4 hour shift.)</small> |
|---|--|

**MEMBERSHIP TYPE:**

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>INDIVIDUAL</b> (Adult)            | \$15  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DUAL</b> (Adult)                  | \$25  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>INDIVIDUAL</b> (Teen, Ages 13-18) | \$5   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PATRON</b> (Per Person)           | \$50  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>CONTRIBUTING</b> (Per Person)     | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>LIFE</b> (Per Person)             | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BUSINESS</b>                      | \$25  |

**STATUS/PAYMENT:**

- NEW MEMBER**
- RENEWAL**
- BRANCH GROUP:** \_\_\_\_\_
- ADDITIONAL DONATION:** \_\_\_\_\_
- How would you like your additional donation applied? \_\_\_\_\_

The **BookCellar** is located in the basement of the Central Library and is open Friday - Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursday from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM (when the Library is open).

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Your Contribution is Tax Deductible

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**Friends of the San Antonio Public Library**

# Treasurer's Report

**August 31, 2010**

Submitted by **Judy Wilson**

## INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

FOSAPL INCOME	Budget	FOSAPL July/Aug	FOSAPL YTD
Book Cellar sales	75,000.00	21,446.38	52,565.09
Donations and memorials	1,600.00	20.00	1,509.00
Interest	1,000.00	76.77	255.52
Membership	10,000.00	335.00	4,675.00
<b>FOSAPL Projected Income for 2010</b>	<b><u>87,600.00</u></b>	<b><u>21,878.15</u></b>	<b><u>59,004.61</u></b>

BUDGET EXPENSES			YTD
Accounting	2,400.00	125.00	325.00
Arts and Letters	390.00		
Bank charges	100.00	(10.00)	(46.89)
FOSAPL Committee expenses	100.00	34.83	240.24
Friends recognition	100.00		
Insurance	2,500.00		1,639.00
Mayor's Summit	1,000.00		1,000.00
Membership recruitment	800.00		533.19
Newsletter prep/editing	2,050.00	600.00	1,200.00
Newsletter printing	2,300.00	590.25	1,314.17
Office supplies	1,000.00	13.44	90.68
Parking	6,000.00	1,316.00	4,583.50
Postage (bulk mail, post office box, postage)	1,560.00	26.40	420.98
President's expenses	350.00		
Seed money for new groups	300.00		200.00
"Show me the Money" program	400.00		
TLA Convention	600.00		
<b>BookCellar Expenses</b>			
Advertising	1,000.00		
Book sale(s) expenses/office supplies	300.00	313.08	485.90
Commodities for resale	2,000.00	197.87	1,434.84
Equipment and maintenance	2,500.00	255.22	572.10
Internet and software	100.00		
Printing and copying	200.00		70.26
Recruitment of volunteer workers	500.00		
Salary and benefits	7,100.00	1,180.00	4,461.25
Volunteer appreciation	1,250.00	429.31	501.87
<b>Library Support</b>			
Programming for public	45,000.00	40,065.00	41,184.00
Staff development and training	40,000.00		
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life members	no fund amt		300.00
<b>TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>121,900.00</u></b>	<b><u>45,136.40</u></b>	<b><u>60,510.09</u></b>

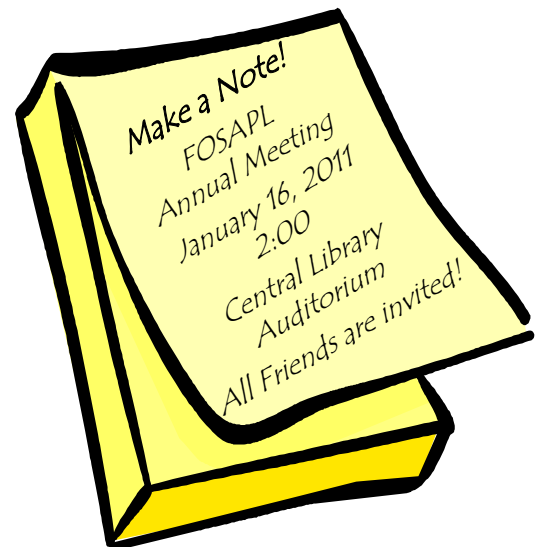
FOSAPL BRANCH & SUPPORT GROUPS	July/Aug	YTD
Donations	60.00	1,132.12
Income from book sales, Book Nook sales, tote sales	1,393.72	34,455.23
Memberships	85.00	1,555.00
Branch Friends group operating expenses	98.87	2,085.68
Branch group purchases for Library Branches/departments	6,853.87	33,064.25

## Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

Bank Accounts	
Compass Money Market BookCellar deposits	63,391.25
Compass Money Market Gold	38,098.02
Compass Checking	76,998.49
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>178,487.76</b>
<b>Branch Designated Funds (-)</b>	<b>(109,969.30)</b>
<b>Net Assets for FOSAPL Use</b>	<b>68,518.46</b>

## Branch and Support Group Funds Balance of

Bazan	1,346.32
Brook Hollow	13,730.30
Carver	3,470.26
Central	420.00
Cody	3,447.33
Collins Garden	272.66
Cortez	580.34
Forest Hills	4,720.13
Great Northwest	3,617.80
Guerra	4,821.46
Igo	7,139.02
Johnston	1,928.83
Landa	607.50
Maverick	5,151.03
McCreless	3,130.96
Memorial	4,602.79
Pruitt (no group formed)	30.00
Semmes	4,398.36
Texana/Genealogy	18,367.28
Thousand Oaks	6,191.40
Tobin at Oakwell	14,526.84
Westfall	3,822.85
Writers (currently inactive)	3,645.84
<b>Total Group Funds</b>	<b><u>109,969.30</u></b>





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.*

- Nov. 6 Great Northwest Friends book sale, 10–4. Presale, Nov. 5
- Nov. 6 Landa Friends book sale
- Nov. 8 McCreless Friends, General membership meeting, 5:30
- Nov. 11 All Libraries and BookCellar closed for Veterans' Day
- Nov. 12–13 Guerra Friends book sale, Friday, 4–6, Saturday, 10–4
- Nov. 13–14 McCreless Friends book sale
- Nov. 15 Central Library and BookCellar closed for Rock 'n' Roll Marathon
- Nov. 24–26 BookCellar closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- Dec. 4 Thousand Oaks book sale
- Dec. 24–27 BookCellar closed for Christmas Holiday
- Dec. 31–Jan. 2 BookCellar closed for New Year's Holiday
- Jan. 16 Friends Annual Meeting, 2 p.m., Central Library Auditorium**
- Feb. 5 Tobin Library at Oakwell book sale

Central Library  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
210-207-2500

Great Northwest Library  
9050 Wellwood, 78250  
210-684-5251

Guerra Library  
7978 Military Drive W, 78227  
210-673-1492

Landa Library  
233 Bushnell, 78212  
210-732-8369

McCreless Library  
1023 Ada Street, 78223  
210-532-4254

Thousand Oaks Library  
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233  
210-657-5205

**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.

Tobin Library at Oakwell  
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209  
210-828-2569