

LIBRARY LEAVES

Friends of the Marin County Free Library

Summer 2016

Message From the Director

Sara Jones
Director of County Library Services

Summer Learning Program Is a Page-Turner!

The Marin County Free Library's Summer Learning programming is in full swing. (This summer program is funded, as always, by the Friends of the Marin County Library.) Excited librarians and educators are doing a collective drum roll in anticipation of National Summer Learning Day on July 14.

Last year's summer program had 6,830 participants, and the eager staff is determined to keep the program growing. The Marin County Board of Supervisors, which includes an "E for Education" as one of its ongoing missions, supports MCFL's efforts to become not just a place that supports reading but rather learning in general. Studies show that third-grade reading scores are highly correlated with later academic success and often indicate whether a student will graduate from high school. Did you know that 65 percent of kids from economically disadvantaged families cannot read proficiently by the third grade? Teachers and school administrators are working hard to remedy that trend, and our libraries can step in during the summer



and pick up the baton to keep progress moving for these young kids.

In Marin, younger kids can sign up for the Summer Learning Challenge at any MCFL branch and receive a folder to help them keep track of the number of minutes they've read and provide ideas for fun learning activities. Kids can earn a "Book Buck" for every 100 minutes they read (or are read to), exchange them for prizes at library branches, or donate them to help the Marin Special Olympics.

Teens are not forgotten this summer! Special events are scheduled as part of the Teen Summer Learning program such as henna art sessions, maker events and movie nights. Students can test their knowledge online related to trivia, sports and Marin County history and compete for prizes with others. Points are awarded for participation in posting book reviews, attending library events and other activities, and the grand prize points champion gets an iPad!

While the program is designed to be fun it also has tremendous benefits for participants—we are very grateful to our Friends for making it possible.



Summer Learning at the Marin City Library!

President's Corner

Virginia Schultz, President
Friends of the Marin County Free Library

School is out, and the Summer Learning program is in full swing at your library. In 2015, over 6,000 Marin children and youth participated in Summer Learning. The program is the biggest recipient of funds from the Friends of the Marin County Free Library. This year's theme is "Read to Win," and the Friends have pledged \$33,500 to the program for prizes, book give-aways, and more. The program also fosters altruism; children may choose to forego a prize and donate to Marin Special Olympics.

Funds to support Summer Learning come largely from sales at the Book Place. Like many retailers from Kohl's to Nordstrom, sales are off from a year ago. People are shopping online; we hear that millennials want experiences, not things, and seniors already have too much stuff. Reverse this trend! Enjoy the lovely summer pleasure of spending a quiet relaxing hour at the Book Place. Run your hands over the pages of the books; feast your eyes on art and travel books. Leave happily with a stack of books to enjoy at the beach or on a plane, knowing that you're helping kids and libraries, while helping the environment by recycling and reusing gently read books.

Other funds come from memberships and donations. We'll soon be sending out membership renewal notices in August. When you renew, please consider making an extra donation to help support Summer Learning, STEAM, One Book/One Marin, and more. You can also support your library through programs like eScrip and Amazon Smile. Feel free to contact me at virginia_schultz@hotmail.com if you would like help enrolling.

President's Message continued on page 2

Annual Membership Meeting

The Friends of the Marin County Free Library annual membership meeting was held on Sunday, June 12 in the Makerspace at the new Community Education Center next to the South Novato Library. The gathering began with a business meeting at which the 2015-2016 year was reviewed by our President, Virginia Schultz, the Director of Library Services, Sara Jones, and our Treasurer, Cindy Swift. Officers and at-large board members for the coming year were announced, and Diane Rosenberger was re-elected as Secretary.



The Anne T Kent Volunteer of the year award was presented to Diana Johnson, who has been a faithful volunteer at the Fairfax Library for over three years. She volunteers twenty hours each week, shelving DVDs, pulling books, assisting staff as needed—anything that needs to be done at the Fairfax Library!

2016–2017 Board of Directors

Officers:

President Virginia Schultz
 Vice President Vacant
 Secretary Diane Rosenberger
 Treasurer Cindy Swift

At-Large Board Members:

Patricia Hess
 Barbara Madrid

Chapter Representatives: (elected by each chapter)

Civic Center: Linda Cullen
 Corte Madera: Nancy Brooks
 Fairfax: Vacant
 Marin City: Fredericka Cobey/
 Suki Sennett
 Novato: Virginia Schultz

Library Leaves is published quarterly; the next issue will be in October. The deadline for submission of copy is September 23. News of library activities, updates, photos, ideas, and suggestions for improvement are welcome.

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 Website: <http://marinlibraryfriends.marin.org>
 E-mail: mcflfriends@gmail.com

To contact the Marin County Library:
 415-499-6051
www.marinlibrary.org



Our speaker was John MacLeod, self-described “media maven” and executive director of the Community Education Center Makerspace – Media Studio. His talk, “Curious Wonder Play: 21st Century Learning” was very interesting, and was followed by everyone making a small felt creature that lit up! We learned about using a glue gun and how to make a switch work. Fascinating!

President’s Message continued from page 1

As the school year and the Friends’ fiscal year comes to an end, it’s appropriate to give thanks to many people.

First, thanks to our imaginative, enthusiastic, and dedicated library staff who make everything happen at our libraries. The Friends provide the sponsorship and funds for programs, but it is the staff that makes the contacts and arrangements. From coyotes in Marin Open Space to astronomy in outer space, library programs are lively and well attended. From toddler Music and Movement to retirement seminars there is something for everyone of every age.

And thank you to the many volunteers who staff the Book Place as sorters and cashiers. Special thanks go to Barbara Madrid, who manages a diverse group of volunteers. You are all appreciated!

Treasurer’s Report

Cindy Swift, Treasurer
 Friends of Marin County Free Library

County Friends 7/1/15 – 5/31/16
 (does not include information from our chapters)

	Beginning Balance	\$64,517
Income:		
Membership Dues		7,785
Donations		24,250
TOTAL		32,035
Book Sales		125,228
Bank Interest		115
Total Income		157,378
Expenses:		
Library Grants		
Programming		20,934
Materials		1,324
Furniture/Equipment		931
Bldg/Grounds		5,317
Staff Appreciation/ Library promotions		1,010
Total		29,516
OneBook One Marin		2,000
Measure A Renewal Savings		12,000
Book Place/book sales		\$79,207
Outgo to Chapters		10,051
General Mgmt & Admin		8,254
Total		141,028
Ending Balance		\$80,867

Notes from Novato

Joan Davis, Correspondent
Friends of the Novato Libraries

The merry month of May brought the annual Friends of the Library Thank You Tea for library staff and volunteers. Over the years, the event has basically kept to the same format—a nice little break in the day, with refreshments. But, this year we moved from “nice” to “elegant.” New Board member, Linda Abernathy, convinced the Board that if we were going to have a tea, let’s have a TEA! Linda willingly took over as chairperson and the Library staff arriving that day were shocked to see the Community Room turned into an elegant tea room with white tablecloths, flowers, and a fabulous assortment of goodies (Board members are very good providers). It was a very lovely, relaxing way to say thank you to hard-working staff and volunteers.



Anna Jonsson, Carole Bennett, Adrienne Graham, enjoying the delicious spread!



Martha Downs (treasurer), Barbara Schoen (secretary) and Dayle Reilly at the Novato Thank You Tea.

Summer reading activities are in full swing at the Novato libraries for you and your children. Be sure to check out all the activities available to beat the summer doldrums.

Thanks will continue this fall when all members of the Friends of the Library are invited to a Wine and Cheese evening on Sunday, September 25th at 5–7 PM at the downtown library.

Enjoy a glass of wine, a bit of cheese and take a walk through historical downtown Novato—without leaving your chair!

There will be docents from the historical museum to make your walk come alive, and it’s pretty sure you’ll learn something new about your town.

There is no charge, but you must be a Friend of the Library. If you are not yet a Friend, you may join at the door.

Enjoy the summer and we’ll see you in September.



Young Lauren at the computer, teaching her grandmother how it works! (The Friends donated the software for the kids’ computers.)

What do you do when you retire from the FMCFL board?



You participate in the Great Race of course! Long-time Friends board member and volunteer, Ruth Arnold (in the back seat), and three generations of the Arnold family left the morning of June 18 to participate in the 2016 Great Race, this year from San Rafael to Moline, Illinois. Ruth and Tony had participated together some years ago.

The Arnold family made it to Moline, arriving hot, tired but smiling. Congratulations!



Fairfax News

Susan Brandborg, President
Friends of the Civic Center Library

Summer is here and many things are happening at the Fairfax branch. The SUMMER READING CHALLENGE has started. Children can earn Book Bucks to spend at the Library's Summer Reading Store. Check it out!

In addition to reading to oneself, school age kids can have fun with:

- READ TO A DOG. Saturday, July 9 from 11 am to noon, and Saturday, August 6th from 11am to noon.
- CHANTICLEER THE ROOSTER. Saturday July 23rd at 11 am. The Magical Moonshine Theatre presents this program for children ages 4 and older.

The Free Teen (grades 6-12) Summer Learning Events include:

- LEARN TO MAKE VEGETARIAN SUMMER ROLLS. Saturday July 23 from 3:30–5pm, presented by chef Suzanne Griffin, owner of Cooking by the Bay.
 - BACK-STRAP WEAVING. Saturday July 30th from 3–5pm, with artist Travis Meinolf.
- Space for these programs is limited and preregistration is required. Call 415-453-1851.

Our ongoing programs continue through summer:

- MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE for babies, toddlers and caregivers on Thursday mornings at 11 am.
- PRESCHOOL STORYTIME at 3:30 pm on Thursdays.
- And our popular LEGO CLUB on the first and third Wednesdays (grade K to 8).

Enjoy your summer reading and our program offerings at the Fairfax Library at 2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Fairfax. For information call 415-453-1851.



Having fun at the Fairfax Library! Lots going on there.

Marin County Library Commission News

Barbara Schoen, Library Commissioner

On June 8, the Marin County Library Commission held its annual meeting at a dinner at McInnis Park Golf Clubhouse. Attendees included all the County librarians who presented information at the monthly meetings and the library commissioners from the 5 Districts. It was noted that there are 2 vacancies remaining, one in District 2, Fairfax and San Anselmo and the other in District 3, Mill Valley.

Elections were held for Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission, both 2-year terms of office. Margaret Kathrein was elected Chair—she is an author of two books, an attorney and community volunteer with a life-long interest in libraries and learning—and Cliff Jacobs remains Vice-Chair.

The Commission reflected on the past three years with Sara Jones as head of our County Library system. When she took over, the Grand Jury was very critical of the operation of the Commission due to general funds being commingled with Measure A funds. Sara has overseen the process of separating these two revenue streams. Furthermore, she has increased staffing at the libraries by filling vacant positions and improving staff morale.

Of course the biggest accomplishment was the passing of Measure A which guaranteed an income for nine years and provided funds for capital improvements to our aging infrastructure. Another major achievement was the opening of a new library in South Novato and the eventual partnership with the Marin County Office of Education for our Maker Space.

The Commission dinner was highlighted by speaker John MacLeod who created a local nonprofit called New Media Learning. He shared stories about the success of his students who are able to use technology to enrich their learning and creativity in using all the devices that New Media brings to the Maker Space. We thank John for a very informative presentation.



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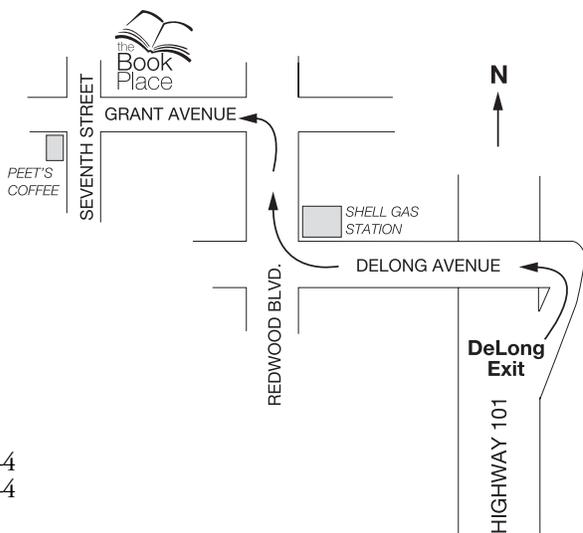
Monday through Saturday 10-4
Sunday 12-4

Book Place News
Barbara Madrid

You've heard the recent reports of retailers' struggles to maintain healthy growth/profits. A lot of it is attributed to the continued rise of online buying. We know the feeling here at the store; we've seen a marked decrease in traffic over the last year.

So, it's time to ask for everyone's help. We're asking our members and customers for two things:

- 1. Please continue to shop with us.** Did you know if you are a member, you get an additional 10% off your purchase? Just present your membership card in order to get the discount. We do not maintain a member list at the store, so you'll need the card.
- 2. Tell your reading friends and neighbors about the Book Place!** With the largest selection of used books in the county (at the best price), we want to be first with readers as the place to browse for their next read. Our comfy, quiet shop is the ideal place to spend some quality time away from the demands of everyday life. While we may not have the latest and greatest new read, we DO get newer books from our donors—so in a few short weeks, you're probably going to find it at the Book Place! And there's nothing better than a bargain; who wants to pay full price?



The Friends' mission is to encourage and nurture a love of reading. But most importantly, we provide funding for important programs and services at all of our County libraries. This year, the Friends have pledged \$48,500 toward the library's budget. This funding will support the wildly popular Children's Summer Learning program (6,830 participants in 2015); add to the Spanish language collection; expand STEAM (Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts, Math) materials/events; assist with One Book, One Marin (going into our 11th year); and other Youth programs outside of the Summer program.

The Book Place is the Friends' largest source of funds we can provide libraries. Memberships and donations are greatly appreciated, but store revenue brings in the most money. Helping to spread the word about the Book Place just makes good sense; don't YOU value the recommendation of a friend? We find that many of our newer customers, when asked, say that someone told them about us.

So help the libraries by telling your friends about a well-kept secret:

Tell them about the Book Place!

Marin City News

Suki Sennett, Correspondent
Friends of the Marin City Library

Summer at the Marin City Library promises to be a very busy and fun-filled for the entire community.

The MCFL 2016 Marin City Summer Learning Program, *Read for the Win!* and a community-wide *Marin City Reads* program was launched at a kick-off party on Saturday, June 25. It was sponsored by the Friends of the Marin City Library and featured a wide variety of fun, interactive and family-friendly games, refreshments and prizes. (See photo on page 1.)

The Marin City Library also launched a community-wide program, *Marin City Reads* in partnership with the Hannah project, Bridge the Gap College Prep, Marin City Community Services District and Recreation Center, Marin City Community Development Corporation and Bayside-MLK Academy. The goal is to earn an ice cream social for all of Marin City by uniting Marin City in a nine-week summer community reading program.

The Library also has received a one-time grant for twelve WiFi Hot Spots for Martin Luther King Academy/Bayside students' families from the Bank of Marin and a private donor. Library staff is currently working on checking out them out to the students.

The Marin County Fair has donated 100 Fair tickets for Marin City children.

It's going to be a great summer in Marin City!

Welcome New Members!

Beverly Chakrabarty	Novato
Vera Cook	San Rafael
Pamela Gray	Inverness
Lorraine Jordan	Rohnert Park
Daly Schreck	Kentfield
Janet Walp	Novato
Conrad G. Williams	Greenbrae



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IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Director	1
President's Corner	1
Annual Membership Meeting	2
Annual Treasurer's Report	2
Notes from Novato	3
Language Play	3
Fairfax News	4
Marin County Library Commission News	4
News from The Book Place	5
Marin City News	5
Welcome New Members	5

Special Events Calendar

- National Summer Learning Day, July 14.
- Novato Friends Wine and Cheese evening, Sunday, September 25, 5–7 pm at the downtown library.

CALENDAR

Friends Scheduled Meeting Dates:

- Friends of the Marin County Free Library: 2nd Saturday of every month, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM; Corte Madera or Novato Library.
- Friends of the Civic Center Library: Meets quarterly; for date and time, contact Linda Cullen at linda.cullen@comcast.net.
- Friends of the Corte Madera Library: 2nd Wednesday of every month, 10:00 AM; Corte Madera Library.
- Novato Friends of the Libraries: 2nd Wednesday of every month, 5:00 PM; Novato Library or South Novato Library.
- Friends of the Fairfax Library: 2nd Monday of every month, 7:00–8:00 PM; Fairfax Library.
- Friends of the Marin City Library: 1st Saturday of every month, 10:00 AM; Marin City Library.
- Tomales Bay Library Association (TBLA): Meets as needed; West Marin School.
- Bolinas–Stinson Beach Library Improvement Society (BSBLIS). Quarterly meetings at Bolinas Library or Stinson Beach Library.