

**Winter
2014-2015**

Among Friends

Friends of the San Carlos Library – www.scfol.org



"I can cook!" New Program aimed at 10 to 18 year old young people

**By Robert Esparza
Library Assistant**

The value of learning to cook is undeniable, but when the students are a roomful of children between the ages of 10-18 some may ask themselves if it creates more mess than it's worth.

The staff at the San Carlos Library believes there are many good reasons to introduce minors to the joys of cooking. Each bi-monthly "I Can Cook!" class is hosted by Jennifer Luayon, Interim Circulation Supervisor, and Robert Esparza, Library Assistant. The two have come up with a class that's both educational and fun. "It gives us the opportunity to instill valuable lifelong lessons," said Robert Esparza when asked about the program. "It's empowering for kids to know their way around a kitchen. It teaches them about nutrition, simple math skills, and opens their eyes and taste buds to new things."



The "I Can Cook!" program is aimed at educating youth in basic kitchen safety and learning how to follow directions while working in groups. All of the required cooking ingredients are funded by our wonderful Friends of the Library group.

"I Can Cook!"
Every 1st and 3rd Friday
at 3:30pm
For ages 10-18
Registration is required
because space is limited.

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STAFF PROFILE: INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

JAY SMITH

By Jacqueline Carter Walker

Jay Smith, a California native, was born in Santa Monica. The family—including his two brothers—moved to the Bay Area in 1950.

Jay says that he has always had a great love for libraries. While studying for his B.S. degree in biology from U.C. Davis, he started working at the college library. He later worked on an M.A. degree in biology from California State University, Hayward.

But then he paid attention to his lifelong fascination with libraries and decided that being a librarian was really the job for him. In 1972 he joined the staff of the Alameda County Library as a library assistant. He earned a degree from San Jose State University in library information science and continued his library career. Jay was hired as a reference librarian by the San Mateo County Library in December 1984, and he started at the Central Branch. His assignment was to answer patrons' questions passed on to him by branch staff. As needed, he also served as a substitute in many county branches. When the Central Reference Department closed around 1990, Jay was reassigned as the Information Services librarian for the San Carlos Library.

“When I worked as one of the reference librarians at the beginning of my career, I really did a lot of original research to find information that was



*Information Services Librarian
San Carlos Library*

requested,” he said. “This was before we had the wonderful computer help we have today. Not only did I handle my own library patrons’ information requests, but I handled the many questions and requests we received from all the branches for help with research. I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of helping people by finding the facts they needed.”

When computers became more useful tools, Jay taught himself how to use that source of information. “I am delighted with what a difference it makes for all of our research work,” he said.

In addition to his information services work, Jay also works on the library’s “weeding” program. “We remove selected books from our shelves and donate them to the Friends of the Library for their Book Shop and their monthly book sales,” he said. He shares the Non-Fiction Book Club duties with librarian

Rhea Bradley.

Aside from his library career, Jay studied aviation. He earned a pilot’s license as well as an instrument rating. He now has accumulated 1,100 hours of flying time.

“It is a wonderful way to escape everyday concerns and concentrate on just flying,” he said.

Besides flying, Jay was the newsletter editor for the Alameda Aero Club headquartered at the Oakland Airport, where he also served as the club’s treasurer. In that position, he learned a lot about keeping books and taxation for non-profit organizations.

The versatile Jay has also written a booklet and presented a lecture and slide program on the topic, “How to Make Your Car Last Nearly Forever.” He owns a 1993 Ford Ranger with 281,000 miles on it and a 1988 VW Jetta with 194,000 miles.

“I have more than 48 years of mostly successful car care experience, and I love to share my knowledge,” he said. He hopes to update his lecture program and present it to interested drivers.

With so many years of research and a love of learning, Jay Smith is another valued member of the San Carlos Public Library staff.

Members operate a booth at the San Carlos Art & Wine Faire



Tom Feledy (Friends of the Library volunteer and Adult Law series program speaker) and Patricia Sankolewicz (Library Assistant) “man” our Friends of the San Carlos Library/ San Carlos Library booth. Our new booth location on San Carlos Avenue, the Bookmobile’s presence, and our gifts to children of free books made our booth the busiest since our participation began. Thanks to all who joined-in --- by volunteering and by stopping by the booth--- to make it a true success.

Holiday Giving Made Easy

From **November 17 through December 31** the San Carlos Library, along with other County Library branches and public libraries in Redwood City, San Mateo, South San Francisco and Daly City will be conducting our annual *Food for Fines* community drive. If you donate any non-perishable food item, not in a glass container, library staff will happily waive any fines and fees on your library account. All food will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

The San Carlos Library will also be hosting a toy collection barrel for the Children’s Fund of San Mateo **from now until December 15**. They are asking for the following: “All donations must be brand new. We accept gift cards and new toys, board games, art supplies, and sports equipment for children of all ages.

We cannot accept guns (including Nerf guns), porcelain gifts, breakable items, stuffed animals, or anything used.” This just in: We can waive your fines and fees if you donate a new toy as well!

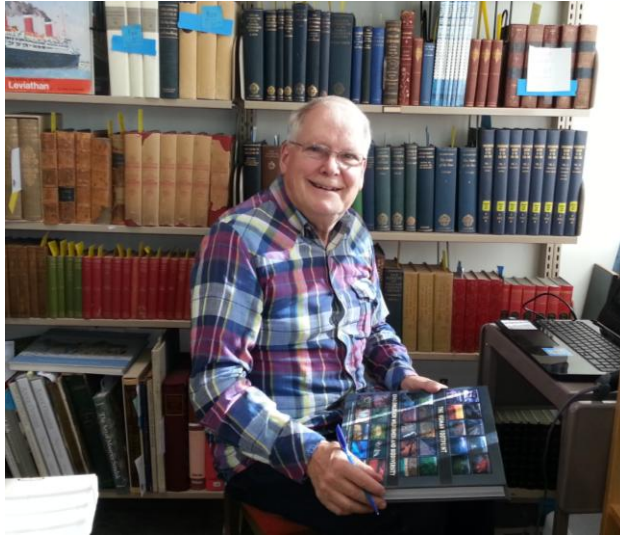


*Tai Chi at the Library---*To enjoy this activity, check-out the Library calendar on our web site, www.scfol.org.



Trader Joe's
&
Nothing Bundt Cakes

There may be a rare find in the Library's Collectible/Unique Book Area



Love to collect or buy unusual or rare books or just dream about it? Don't miss the Third Sunday Friends of the Library Book Sale and be sure to visit the Collectible/Unique Book Area at the back left corner of Room 209. Roy Hoyer, who has recently reorganized the area, will be there to greet you and answer your questions. This is your opportunity to peruse and purchase some amazing books!

A Special Thank You from Sequoia High School

Dear Friends of San Carlos Library:
Thank you so much for your generous donation of books to Sequoia High School. It seems like there's a great mix of higher- and lower-level books, which is fantastic since I have a handful of eleventh-graders this year reading below fifth-grade reading level, and I want to give them as much access as possible. I have invited other English teachers, particularly those with lower level readers or students who do not have access to reading materials at home, to take a selection to add to their classroom libraries. I have already had many students come by my room to choose a few to take home; by the end of the day on Friday, I'd already distributed half of the books!
One student sat down and mulled over her choices for nearly half an hour, articulating her thought process about selecting books:
"I like books that have maps inside the cover, because then I can imagine myself on the adventure." My English 3 juniors were incredulous when I shared the boxes of books: "FREE books?!" The teachers had similar reactions to being able to add the full series of Twilight to their classroom libraries. It was a really fun, beautiful day.
Thanks to this kind of support, teachers at Sequoia are not only able to build classroom libraries and develop sustained silent reading (SSR) programs, but also encourage students to read for fun at home by making it easier for everyone to access a variety of high-interest books.
With appreciation,
Emily DeVoe, English Teacher
Sequoia High School



Solar Eclipse
Kudos to Bob Black & Chet Mulawka (top photo) for coordinating this outstanding event!

Ken Lum shares his telescope with eager eclipse gazers, just waiting to take a look at the eclipse.

Friends of the San Carlos Library Online Book Sales

by Nancy Laxson-Highton

In mid-July, Friends of the San Carlos Library re-entered the business of selling books online. We have partnered with a company whose representative takes the books we identify that might sell well on Amazon, and then manages our Amazon web presence and ships the books sold through our account. The effort to identify the books for this program is handled by Nancy Laxson-Highton, Roy Hoyer and Karen Clapper. We use a computer and scanner that ties into Amazon.com to determine the values of certain books. If

the books are worth enough, we set them aside for the representative, who collects boxes of books from us several times a month and puts them on our Amazon site to be available for sale. In the short amount of time this partnership has been in place we have already sold more than \$ 5161.00 worth of books! We are very grateful for the members of the community as well as members of the Friends who donate their books to sell in our Book Shop, Online and at the monthly third Sunday sales. If you are **looking for a book online from Amazon** and you see the seller is Friends of San Carlos Library, then choose that book and support us even more!

SAN CARLOS LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

*By Chet Mulawka, Manager
San Carlos Library*

On November 10, I presented the San Mateo County Annual report for our city councilmembers. The text of my report follows. The full annual report can be found on our website www.smcl.org. The city of San Carlos will have a video of the council meeting (and my report) available soon on their website www.cityofsancarlos.org. “Thank you Mayor Olbert and San Carlos City Council members. It is my pleasure to present the 2013-2014 San Mateo County Library Annual Report for the San Carlos Library.

The past year in San Carlos was extremely busy. We served a monthly average of 24,000 patrons. Our recent interior renovation has proved an asset reflecting both the library’s commitment to innovation and the desire to accommodate increased access. The new more open, flexible and inviting interior space now allows library staff to provide a growing and more varied list of community programs. Weekly, the San Carlos Library hosted an average of 20 public programs

– with a yearly attendance totaling over 20,000 patrons. The library is a continuing destination for: literacy, tutoring, career, health and cultural programs as well as a new destination for the ‘maker-movement’ with the addition of our two new 3D printers.

The library hosted two ‘Tricycle Music Fest’ programs since our reopening last November in collaboration with San Francisco and other Peninsula libraries. The fest has attracted participation by Grammy-award winning musicians this year. These successes have encouraged us to provide the community with an increased number of music programs. In fact, San Carlos Library’s own ‘Eclectic Jazz Festival’ is planned for April of 2015.

The library’s expansion of electronic services continues to expand. This year we have added feature films, shorts and documentary streaming services from PBS, Criterion and Indieflix. Our downloadable book collection for e-readers is expanding with San Carlos Library patrons representing the number ONE user group in the County Library system.

The library is excited about visual art. Our recently installed ‘Art-o-mat’ dispenses original paintings, drawings and craft via a repurposed 1960’s era vending machine. San Carlos Library is now among a prestigious group of institutions including the Smithsonian, Whitney Museum of Art, San Francisco Exploratorium and the Crocker Art Museum providing this experience. We continue to hold museum lectures with topics highlighting current area museum exhibitions provided by art scholars. The San Carlos Library is very fortunate to be the beneficiary of patrons and supporters like Gwen and Tas Hofer whose estate financed the ‘Art-o-mat’ but most of all, it is through the continuing commitment of the Friends of the San Carlos Library and their fundraising efforts that we have the financial foundation to make the library a comfortable and welcoming place for our guests and be able to provide so many enriching community programs. The Library Friends, all of our volunteers and the support of the City of San Carlos allow us to open our doors to new ideas and maintain the traditional role of the library as a source for books—yes, besides the many new and unique aspects of the library I’ve outlined tonight... we still have books!

Friends of the San Carlos Library Presidents – a History

This information was found in the various past minutes and other written documents of the Friends of the San Carlos Library. In trying to fill-in the blanks, past

presidents were also consulted. If you can assist in completing the record, please let Jan Smith know at the e-mail address at the end of the article.

February 23, 1990

A group of volunteers met with a desire to form a Friends of the Library for San Carlos: Connie Barba, Carol Jenkins, Joe

Continued on page 7.

A Message from Our President

By Jan Smith, President

Dear Friends:

First, thank you for your support of the San Carlos Library. We are so lucky to have this great community institution that is about so much more than books (but books too, of course!)

As the saying goes, "Time flies when you're having a good time." Can you believe that it's been a year since we've been back in our renovated Library? We continue to appreciate hearing your comments and suggestions; so please let us know how we can make your Library experiences even more enjoyable.

The holiday season is upon us, and, of course, the time to think of shopping. If you shop on **Amazon**, you have an opportunity to support the Friends at the same time. On your computer simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/01-0628754> to shop, and the Friends of the Library will receive a percentage of customer orders referred from our site. Thanks for shopping Amazon at the Friends of the Library site!

Back by popular demand: **San Carlos Library Holiday Open House**, Saturday, December 13. Guess who our special guest will be?! (You guessed it – **Santa Claus**.) More details will be forthcoming in the December calendar.



Jan Smith, President

We are in the midst of our membership renewal. To those who have renewed already, we thank you. For additional membership information see page 7.

As the year draws to a close, a special thank you to all the volunteers and members who have made 2014 so successful, by participating in library and community events plus supporting all our fund-raising efforts. You are the best!

----- Jan Smith, President
PS You might notice more activity on the Library second floor in 2015 – the Chamber of Commerce will be our neighbors.

SUPPORT THE SAN CARLOS LIBRARY WHEN YOU SHOP AT AMAZON.COM

** Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/01-0628754>. **
You are now able to shop Amazon and have a percentage of all your purchases support the San Carlos Library.



SUPERHEROES

Children used markers, tinfoil, and their imagination at this summer's "Create Your Own Superhero Cape" program.

Primo Volunteers

Marian Beattie and Dinny Zinckgraf show off two books they love. These volunteers specialize in the Children's Area of the Book Shop ---- sorting, shelving, organizing. They are shown below during a recent Third Sunday Book Sale. We had/have a wonderful selection of children's books both in the Book Shop and in the Annex for the Third Sunday Book Sale! Don't miss out.



Meet the Primo Volunteers Marian Beattie and Dinny Zinckgraf, with two of their recommendations.

Friends of San Carlos Library Membership Drive 2015

We appreciate all our members who have renewed or joined for the first time in 2014. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2015, please join us again. Your membership is vital to strengthen and enrich our community. Membership in Friends of San Carlos Library allows us to sponsor free library programs for children and adults. These programs would not be available at our library if it were not for our amazing members and our book sales. We salute the members listed below who have made extra

donations with their membership of \$100 or more for 2014. You can renew your membership now, and it is effective through December 31st 2015. A membership form is located beneath this article, or you can join online at www.scfol.org

We thank our Members who donated \$100 or more in 2014:

Jill and Bruce Bienenstock	Catherine Tierney
Nancy and David Crabbe	Carolina Ting and Lazlo Czuti
Jane Drach	Ray and Emi Yaminishi
Anthony Farnale	
Higgins – Grodzicki Family	
Jay and Denise Lieberman	
Ronald Schmidt	

Friends--A History

Continued from Page 5.

Kimble, Don Kinsley, Marcy Sanchez, Sue Wallace.

June 6, 1990 – Officers of Steering Committee elected
President: Joe Kimble

July 18, 1990 – By-Laws adopted.

June 1991 Second year begins: No permanent officers in place. (At meetings “unofficial” officers chair the meetings in rotation.)

May 19, 1992 – Second General Meeting:

no officers nominated or elected.

Nov. 1992-- No president mentioned in minutes.

1990-1991--Joe Kimble (signed papers as President)

1991-1992

1992-1993--Frances Guida (By-laws revised ?)

1993-1994--Frances Guida

1994-1995

1995-1996--Neil Dickinson (In May 1996 was president)

1996-1997

1997-1998--Tom Davids

1998-1999--Tom Davids

1999-2000--Connie Barba (1/1/2000 signed **Articles of Incorporation**)

2000-2001-- Margery Ranch

Membership Form

Current period runs from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

To become a “FRIEND”, please enclose your payment in an envelope and return with this form to: **Friends of the Library; 610 Elm Street; San Carlos, CA 94070** (or drop off at the front desk at the library).

Also secure payment with your credit card may be made at www.scfol.org.

Friends of the San Carlos Library

Membership Dues:

All contributions are tax deductible.

___ New Member ___ Renewal

___ Individual (\$15.00)

___ Senior (\$10.00) ___ Family (\$30.00) ___ Business (\$45.00)

Additional Donation \$ _____

Please print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to receive the newsletter by email: _____

2001-2002--Lois Levine

By-laws revised 2002

2002-2003--Lois Levine

2003-2004--Veralyn Davids

2004-2005--Veralyn Davids

2005-2006--Virginia Martin

2006-2007--Judith Selvidge

2007-2008--Judith Selvidge

2008-2009--Sigrid Roemer

2009-2010--Sigrid Roemer

2010-2011--Janice Raymond

2011-2012--Janice Raymond

2012-2013--Jan Smith

2013-2014--Jan Smith

By-laws revised 2014

2014-2015--Jan Smith

Jan's email address:

janicearlensmith@yahoo.com

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SAN CARLOS
LIBRARY
610 ELM STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA
94070**

**FRIENDS OF THE SAN
CARLOS LIBRARY
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JAN SMITH**

**VICE PRESIDENT
LAURIE SEIDLER**

**SECRETARY
NANCY LAXSON-HIGHTON**

**TREASURER
TARU BHATIA**

**FRIENDS OF THE
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610 ELM STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA
94070**

Kids and Grown-Ups enjoy the Tricycle Music Festival



The Grammy award winning Okee Dokee Brothers perform at the San Carlos Library as part of the San Mateo County Tricycle Music Festival. With bubbles, hula hoops, jump ropes and other fun outdoor toys provided by the Friends of the San Carlos Library, concertgoers filled City Hall Plaza for an afternoon of fun.



The crowd enjoys The Okee Dokee Brothers in concert at the San Carlos Library on October 11. While The Okee Dokee Brothers performed, children had fun building their own structures using the Imagination Playground blocks.

Paste stamp here.

