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Among Friends

FRIENDS OF SAN CARLOS LIBRARY

MAY - JUNE 2010

President's Message

Dear Friends,
This is the last time I am writing this column and addressing you as President of the Friends. It has been two years since I took over from Judith and now the cards will be shuffled and a new Board will be elected at our annual meeting on May 16, 2010 at 3:45 P.M.

FOSCL members attending the meeting will obtain a ballot for the elections. Bring in your invitation! Please note, that nominations from the floor will be considered as well.

Following the annual meeting

you can enjoy the program "From Mickey to Maus" featuring a talk about how comic books evolved into the now so popular and elaborate



graphic novels. Light refresh-

ments will be served.

Please plan to attend after you peruse the book selection during our monthly sale, which will be held from 1-3:30 P.M. due to the meeting afterwards. Quite a program, so mark your calendars!

Official invitations to the meeting will be mailed out shortly.

I just want to thank you all for your support during the past two years and the opportunity to serve you.

Sigrid Roemer
President

The Friends of the Library are providing environmentally safe "green" bags for sale at just \$1.00 each. Use these bags each time you visit the library, go grocery shopping, or to carry just about anything. Please support the library by purchasing one of these bags.

Volunteer Breakfast

Almost 50 volunteers both to the Library and the Friends showed up for a breakfast hosted by the Friends on April 22.

This was the second year the Library and Friends teamed up to honor and acknowledge the countless hours of volunteer work benefitting the community. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food provided by Celebration Chef

Services.

Sigrid Roemer



Note from the Editor

It is time for change – a new website and new board members. Attend our annual meeting and vote for new Board members. This will be an opportunity for San Carlos residents to have a say in what events are organized and how resources are utilized by the Friends for our friends at San Carlos library.

Parul Rai
Editor

History of Comics

Sunday, May 16 at 4:00 P.M.

At the Friends annual meeting listen to Eva Volin, a librarian at the Alameda Free Library and an expert in graphic novels which have become so popular particularly with teen readers. Eva will talk about graphic novels, their history, and their retailing. We will also hear about collecting and selling comic books from Mark Crane, general manager of Lee's Comics in San Mateo.



Book Shop

Still holding its own as “The Best Little Book Shop in San Carlos,” the shop in the library continues to bring in amazing dollar amounts for the library. In May the shop will feature books especially suited for summer reading—lighter fare for long airplane flights, lying in hammocks or tanning on the beach.

Books for children and high schoolers (young adults) will be featured for the summer months, June, July and August.

Prices for featured books remain the same: \$3 for hardcovers and quality paperbacks, \$1 for regular paperbacks unless otherwise marked. Children's books and also Specials are priced separately.

Inventory in the shop comes solely from donations. Book sorters (volunteers) sort the books into subjects. The best books—featured subjects, most current or popular—go into the shop, and others are sent to the annex for monthly sales.

For more information about the shop, call Josie Grossmann, manager, at 368-2239.

Veralyn Davids

New Website

‘This Spring, the flowers are out, the rains have turned our hills green, and the Friends have a revised website- www.scfol.org- and features many great, up-to-date items, including: a Google calendar, announcements of upcoming events, a countdown to our book sale. Additional information includes a history of the Library in San Carlos, a link to our online book sales on Abe-Books.com, and our current board roster. Thanks to Tom Davids, Judith Selvidge, Diana Edmonds, Sigrid Roemer, and Veralyn Davids for your contributions to the website.

Deb Kramer

Nominees for the San Carlos Friends of the Library Board of Directors

It is with pleasure that the Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors present these outstanding candidates to you.

President: Janice Raymond

Vice-President: Robert Trask

Secretary: Margaret Haneberg

Treasurer: Linda Hussinger & Judith Selvidge

The election will be held on 16 May 2010, at the Annual Meeting. At the meeting nominations will be

accepted from the floor. If you have any questions regarding any of the positions, please contact Jan Smith, Chair, at janiceearlene-smith@yahoo.com. Other Nominating Committee members are: Veralyn Davids, Josie Grossmann, Helene Haughney, and Sigrid Roemer.

Statements of Candidates Janice Raymond

It is an honor to be nominated as a candidate for this position. I can assure you that, if

elected, my time in office will be spent supporting the FOSCL as an organization, a community resource and a catalyst for future opportunities for the San Carlos Library. My professional experience as a corporate project manager and business systems project manager will be helpful in this new role. I have been a volunteer for nearly two years and look forward to continuing my

participation with this wonderful group of dedicated and hard working people.

Robert Trask

A San Carlos resident since 1975, I was initially attracted to the Friends by the winsome personality of volunteer Kathy Steligo, so I joined the Tuesday book sorters and was accepted into a truly marvelous group.

As to my contributions and tasks:

1) Annex: I removed prior office furniture, primed and painted walls, boxed steel girder in aisle 9,

helped hang yellow signs, purchased and assembled Ikea shelves, and regularly set up tables for Sunday sales;

2) Cage: I helped purchase and set up bakers' shelves, put book donations on carts several times a week, take sorted books to the annex, and recycle books to green bins;

3) Book Shop: Following directions from the book shop manager, I rearrange shelves in the shop and also stock History and Science subjects;

4) Library: I process “deaccession” books taken from library shelves

5) Book Sales: I have worked at book sales, from the yearly three-day to monthly book sales.

So why run for the board? Well, when you see \$150 worth of books go into a \$5 bag during an annex sale, you realize it's time for a change.

Margaret Haneberg

I believe meeting minutes

2010 Nominees contd...

should be accurate and timely. Taking the minutes for the San Carlos Friends of the Library Board meetings on a laptop during the meeting allows me to edit and email them to board members within 24 hours of each meeting. If needed, corrections can be made and communicated quickly.

In the past I've served as secretary for the boards of the California Bach Society and the Committee for Art at Stanford. My business background includes web content management, project management, customer service, and experience as a system analyst and an art appraiser.

Linda Hussinger

I'm Linda Hussinger, and I'm passionate about the San Carlos Library because it serves many needs in our community. As a volunteer for the past two years, I'm excited to be able to devote more time to the Friends through board service and to bring new blood and new ideas to the organization. I want to become your treasurer to help increase support and involvement of the San Carlos community in our library. Over the past year at FOL, I expanded my responsibilities from being a Thursday stacker to include areas of the Book Shop. Overseeing the electronic media section and including culled books from the Annex into the bargain

area of the Book Shop, has directly increased revenue for the Friends. As your treasurer, my initial goals are to explore establishing a finance committee and to develop a budget. I want to deepen my commitment to the Friends of the San Carlos Library by serving as your treasurer, and I am asking for your vote.



Judith Selvidge

My goal is to continue enhancing FSCL accounting procedures and controls to match our growing operations and changing IRS requirements. A volunteer since 2004 - book sales, sorting & shelving, book shop, book auctions, HTD parade, Vice President, President, and Treasurer - I understand in detail our wide range of activities and needs. Professional qualifications: doctorate of business administration, former professor in management accounting, past risk consultant to PricewaterhouseCoopers accounting firm.

Book on text messaging teens prompts most book challenges of 2009

"ttyl" series tops ALA's 2009 Top Ten list of most frequently challenged books. CHICAGO —Lauren Myracle's best-selling young adult novel series "ttyl," the first-ever novels written entirely in the style of instant messaging, tops the American Library Association's (ALA) Top Ten list of the Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2009.

Two books are new to the list: *Twilight* (series) by Stephenie Meyer and "*My Sister's Keeper*" by Jodi Picoult. Both Alice Walker's "*The Color Purple*" and Robert Cormier's "*The Chocolate War*" return

after being dropped from the list in 2008. "Even though not every book will be right for every reader, the ability to read, speak, think and express ourselves freely are core American values," said Barbara Jones, director of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom. For nearly 20 years, the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has collected reports on book challenges. A challenge is defined as a formal, written complaint, filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed or restricted because of content or appropriateness. In 2009, OIF received 460 re-

ports on efforts to remove or restrict materials from school curricula and library bookshelves. OIF estimates that its statistics reflect only 20-25% of the challenges that actually occur. The ALA's Top Ten Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2009 reflect a range of themes:

1. *ttyl, ttyl, l8r, g8r* (series), by Lauren Myracle. Reasons: Nudity, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group, Drugs
2. *And Tango Makes Three* by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson. Reason: Homosexuality.

3. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, by Stephen Chbosky. Reasons: Homosexuality, Sexually Explicit, Anti-Family, Offensive Language, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group, Drugs, Suicide.
4. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee. Reasons: Racism, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group
5. *Twilight* (series) by Stephenie Meyer. Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group
6. *Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D. Salinger. Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group.

7. *My Sister's Keeper*, by Jodi Picoult. Reasons: Sexism, Homosexuality, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Religious Viewpoint, Unsuitable to Age Group, drugs, Suicide, Violence.
8. *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big, Round Things*, by Carolyn Mackler. Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group.
9. *The Color Purple*, Alice Walker. Reasons: Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to Age Group
10. *The Chocolate War*, by Robert Cormier. Reasons: Nudity, Sexually Explicit, Offensive Language, Unsuitable to age.



San Carlos Library

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OIF List Contd...

Seven titles were dropped from the list, including: *His Dark Materials Trilogy* (Series) by *Philip Pullman* (Political Viewpoint, Religious Viewpoint, Violence); *Scary Stories* (Series) by *Alvin Schwartz* (Occult/Satanism, Religious Viewpoint, Violence); *Bless Me, Ultima* by *Rudolfo Anaya* (Occult/Satanism, Offensive Language, Religious Viewpoint, Sexually Explicit, Violence); *Gossip Girl* (Series) by *Cecily von Ziegesar* (Offensive Language, Sexually Explicit, Unsuitable to Age Group); *Uncle Bobby's Wedding* by *Sarah S. Brannen* (Homosexuality, Unsuitable to Age Group); *The Kite Runner* by *Khaled Hosseini* (Offensive Language, Sexually Explicit, Unsuitable to Age Group); and *Flashcards of My Life* by *Charise Mericle Harper* (Sexually Explicit, Unsuitable to Age Group).

Also new this year is an updated list of the top 100 Most Frequently Challenged Books of the Decade (2000 – 2009).

Topping the list is the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling, frequently challenged for various issues including occult/Satanism and anti-family themes. A complete listing can be found at "<http://tinyurl.com/>

top100fcb". For more information on book challenges and censorship, please visit the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom's Banned Books Week Web site at "http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/frequentlychallenged/challengedbydecade/2000_2009/index.cfm".

The Office for Intellectual Freedom is charged with implementing ALA policies concerning the concept of intellectual freedom as embodied in the Library Bill of Rights, the Association's basic policy on free access to libraries and library materials. The goal of the office is to educate librarians and the general public about the nature and importance of intellectual freedom in libraries.

Chet Mulawka
Manager
San Carlos Library

**Contact Rhea Bradley at
650.591.0341 ext. 237 for information on library events.**

San Carlos Books go to Fiji

Frank Rocky and Andrea Bono, are collecting used children's books to send to Nukubalavu, SavuSavu, Fiji, for their Fiji Reads Project, which they founded in 2009 and where they have just built their first kindergarten ever. As of now the book shelves are still empty but this hopefully will change soon with a generous donation from the Friends. Sandy Stafford-Cecil, our specialist for the children's book section selected several boxes of books which were picked up last Sunday during our monthly book sale by Andrea Bono and her husband Frank Rocky, a native of Fiji (see picture). Their goal is to collect donations of a total of 5,000 books by August 2010 and they are well on the way to achieving this objective. Their project has many goals and one of the many involvement opportunities is seeking neighborhoods and schools to host book drives and collect books and promote the possibility of kids helping kids in a meaningful way. If you are interested in the cause contact me at sigrid.roemer@yahoo.com for more info and how to get in touch with Frank and Andrea.