

Spring/Summer
2013

Among Friends



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

Library Renovations Slated for Mid-May through Early Fall *Limited Service Available during Construction*

By Chet Mulawka, Manager
San Carlos Library

We are about to embark on a very busy time for the San Carlos Library as we start the interior remodeling of the library on the first floor. While we do not have an exact closure date, we are anticipating Saturday, May 18, as a target for our last day of full service. Within a week or so, we will reopen with limited service and hours in a temporary space on the second floor.

Service in our temporary space will include “Holds/Pickups,” a small amount of Internet stations, Wi-Fi access for those with laptops, copier service, tables and lounge seating. Collections will be limited to *New Adult Fiction*, required *Summer Reading Books* for our students, a limited amount of DVD films, and a selection of *Children’s Books*.

We will be able to offer some programming, such as story hours, book clubs, knitting and quilting clubs and Tai Chi classes, in addition to some special events. We will encourage folks to return items to nearby libraries. The Belmont Library will be headquarters for our Summer Reading Program signups for children and teens. Our temporary library will be open 40 hours a week.

- Monday - 10 am-6 pm
- Tuesday - 12 noon-8 pm
- Wednesday - 12 noon-8 pm



SMCL named "Four Star Library by the Library Journal five years in a row.

- Thursday - 10 am-6 pm
- Friday - CLOSED
- Saturday - 9 am-5 pm
- Sunday - CLOSED

Please keep checking our website: www.smcl.org for updates, including our re-opening date.

In Other News... We would like to thank the Friends of the San Carlos Library for helping establish a satellite library book collection at the San Carlos Youth Center. Children using the facilities have helped us identify which titles they would like to be reading and have provided the center with an “honor back” collection, which are books that do not have a due date. They are to be returned when the reader is finished. Early reports indicate the books

have been well-received and are flying off the shelves.

We would also like to congratulate and thank those of you who have donated food to the Second Harvest Food Bank via the library’s *Food For Fines* program this past December. San Carlans contributed 2,130 pounds of food and saved themselves almost \$5,000 worth of fines and fees. Overall, more than 26,000 pounds of food were collected countywide!

Lastly, we would like to thank ourselves! For five years in a row *Library Journal* magazine has ranked the San Mateo County Library, of which San Carlos is a part, as a “Four Star Library.” For our budget size, we are ranked number three in California and 17th nationally. For libraries, this is like making the *Forbes* magazine richest list! The *Library Journal Index of Public Library Service* rating system used criteria that indicates public use, including, number of library visits, circulation of materials,

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Staff Profile: Library Manager Chet Mulawka

By Jacqueline Carter Walker

Our San Carlos Library manager, Chet Mulawka, was born in Bristol, Connecticut. He said, "My early career goal was to be a mapmaker; but that quickly changed, and I earned an undergraduate degree in library science from Southern Connecticut State College in New Haven and a graduate degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo."

He added, "I served an internship with the university library and also was hired as one of the managers for a local book store. That is where I learned the importance of merchandising books; including providing comfortable surroundings and attractive book displays to catch the interest of potential readers."

Chet also worked with the Bridgeport Connecticut Library for nine years. "I started as Children's librarian and then served as a department head in charge of AV and popular reading materials," he said. "In 1979, I moved to New York City and worked in the business library of Morgan Stanley, followed by a stint working for the Hammond Map Company," he continued.

"I was in charge of maps, globes and travel books in their retail outlet across the street from the New York Public Library. This sparked my lifelong passion for travel. Over the years, I have made good friends all over Europe, and I enjoy visiting with them.



Chet Mulawka, San Carlos Library manager, says he believes libraries should have comfortable surroundings and attractive book displays.

In fact, I am looking forward to my next trip in July. "I was always an East Coast snob," he said, facetiously. "Then, one year, an airline was offering a great price for a trip to California. So I traveled to Los Angeles, and the city didn't impress me, but when I took the train to visit friends in San Francisco, I felt right at home. I moved here in 1989. I was just in time to experience my first earthquake. A lot of us naively hiked to the beach to see if there was going to be a tsunami. Fortunately for us, there wasn't one."

Chet went on, "I worked as extra help for San Mateo County

Libraries all over the area...all 12 of them. I also managed other branches, sometimes simultaneously: Atherton (six years), the Sanchez Library in Pacifica (one year) and the Brisbane Library (thirteen years).

In 1996, I joined the San Carlos Library as manager." According to Chet, "There have been many changes in library services over the years. When I first came to the San Carlos Library, we were emphasizing programs for senior citizens. That was the population then.

"Now we have many more families and kids here. We are offering additional activities for families and youngsters. This includes outreach programs, such as our reading program for girls at Hillcrest Juvenile Center, as well as programs for our Youth Center and neighborhood schools. We also participate in special community events, including Hometown Days.

"We all are looking forward to the upcoming interior library improvements," Chet continued.

"We will be able to have flexible space for larger programs in an attractive setting with fewer white walls and more color. No matter how our library changes, we will continue to fulfill our mission to 'inform, educate and entertain.' The library intends to continue being a true center of community activity."

BOOK REVIEWS

By Veralyn Davids

New Books Offer Help in Dealing with Breast Cancer

If you have the misfortune to be diagnosed with breast cancer, take heart that you live in the Bay Area, where top medical resources are available for treatment. And besides physicians and treatment centers, a pair of books written by San Carlos resident Kathy Steligo provides yet another excellent source of support.

The Breast Reconstruction Guidebook--now in its third edition—and a second book—*Confronting Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer*—were published by Johns Hopkins



University Press. Co-authors who brought scientific expertise for the second book were

Sue Friedman, D.V.M., and Rebecca Sutphen, M.D. All three women are survivors of breast cancer. Both books provide sound medical data and are written to be clear and understandable for patients facing this formidable challenge.

The Breast Reconstruction Guidebook helps sort through the maze of options and decisions following diagnosis—whether to have a mastectomy or not, then reconstruction or not, and how to maneuver through

those steps to reach a healthy, satisfactory conclusion. The author is honest and sensitive, as she anticipates the questions, doubts, and anxiety that are a normal part of the process from diagnosis to healing.

Confronting Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer is a more complex subject that tackles the dilemma of those who inherit a hereditary mutation in the BRCA1 or the BRCA2 genes. The mutation predisposes one to both breast and ovarian cancer. Scattered through the text are several “My Story” perspectives by persons who tested positive for this mutation. More than anything, these books can restore a feeling of control, which a cancer diagnosis often takes away. Both books are resources to remember—keep the titles the way you might keep a spare tire in the trunk, just in case you or a loved one may need it. Both books are available in the library and may be purchased on Amazon.com.

Kathy Steligo has been a very active San Carlos Friend of the Library since the new library opened. She is currently a volunteer Tuesday book sorter and helps stock the Friends’ Book Shop.

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH!

Thanks to Trader Joes and Walgreens for their continued support!

San Carlos Library -Home Delivery-

If you are unable to come into the library due to:

- Short/long term illness
- Physical challenges
- Non-driver status (Senior)
- Visual disabilities
- Pregnancy/Maternity Leave
- Injury

The Library will select material and deliver it to your home. We will pickup the old items and deliver new items when you’re ready.

Contact the San Carlos Library for information or to become a volunteer delivery driver.



smcl.org

610 Elm St | 650-591-0341

Friends of the Library Join Volunteer Expo at the San Carlos Adult Community Center

April 13th at the San Carlos Adult Community Center over 30 nonprofit organizations were present to showcase volunteer opportunities in the community. The Friends of the Library had a busy booth thanks to Clarissa Owenby, Jan Smith, Taru Bhatia, and Amy Schwimmer . (pictured). Remember you may assist the Library by **VOLUNTEERING** your time; **DONATING** books; and **JOINING** Friends of the Library. For more information, call Jan Smith at 650-364-9621 or email janicearlenesmith@yahoo.com



Clarissa Owenby, Jan Smith, Taru Bhatia, and Amy Schwimmer operate the Friends of the Library booth at the Volunteer Expo.

Bookmobile Coming to San Carlos Every Third Sunday During Renovation

Experience the San Mateo County Library's "Portable Library" right here in San Carlos. While the library is closed on floor one, the Bookmobile will be at our San Carlos Library site—610 Elm Street—from 12:30 to 4:30 pm on these third Sundays from May through November: May 19, June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, and Nov. 17.

On these Sundays, you may check out and return books and get information on the remodel progress.

Don't miss this opportunity! At the same time, you may go to the Friends of the San Carlos Library 3rd Sunday Book Sale on the library's second floor!



Children's Books Needed

Donations of children's books have slowed to a small trickle in the past few months. Easily the most popular category in the Friends Book Shop, books for children and teens need constant restocking. So when you do any spring housecleaning, consider donating the gently used books your child may have outgrown. Leave books outside the cage in the downstairs parking garage or with a librarian.

Goodbye to Janice Raymond

By Jacqueline Carter Walker



Friends of the Library Board members honored Janice Raymond, Treasurer, at a buffet March 19, 2013, arranged by Hospitality Chair Emi Yamanishi. Moving to Coupeville, Washington, Janice will be our commuting treasurer. We'll miss her!

I, for one, am sorry that Janice moved so far away. It would have been fun to get to know her. But when we talked, she was just a few days away from moving to Whidbey Island, Washington.

"I will miss all my friends here, but I am looking forward to being in a peaceful, less hectic and more economical area," she said. "And when I put my San Carlos home on the market, it sold in 36 hours. So it was time for me to go."

As to why she picked Whidbey Island as her new home base, Janice explained, "I have visited my sister and her family there, so I am familiar with the island and all of its many attractions. It is full of artists and other interesting people. It is said to be the second largest island in the continental United States. As a history buff, I know I will love

exploring the abundance of historical sites. I will be living in the little town of Coupeville, which has about 1,800 residents. And there is a wonderful library nearby."

Janice has worked in the insurance industry since she was 18 years old and says she still enjoys her work. Currently, she is a corporate project manager in Business Systems Analysis. In fact, even though she is moving, she plans to continue working remotely 30 hours a week.

Janice got involved in the Friends of the San Carlos Library about five years ago when she was off work for a time.

"I had a little more time to participate in community activities," she said. "I have

always been a 'reading junkie,' so I explored volunteer opportunities at the library. I soon joined the Friends' group and became a Thursday volunteer." She shelved sorted books in the second floor annex.

Janice was also able to use her business management experience to do bookkeeping for the board. Eventually, she served as president and treasurer of the Friends' board. According to Janice, "It was a privilege to work with so many dedicated people."

She says she will be back for visits. "In addition to all my friends here, my daughter and son-in-law live in San Carlos, so I know I'll be back to see them," she said.

Janice was raised in several locations all over the Eastern seaboard.

"My father trained race horses, and we moved often as he pursued his career," she said. "I think that is what sparked my love for traveling all over the world." After enjoying a going away party with her many library friends, Janice was on her way.

Consumer Report Says

Straight from the May 2013 *Consumer Reports*:

"Need help with research?"

The public library is a resource many people overlook.

Libraries subscribe to databases you undoubtedly don't, and

librarians can find information not easily available with a

Google search or to a person without library-science training."

An excellent tip.



Friends of the Library Third Sunday Book Sale
Come one! Come all! All ages love our books!

Book Shop to Be Closed from May until November

Third Sunday Book Sales Will Continue during Renovation

By Jan Smith, President

Before the Friends' Book Shop closes for a short "vacation" (mid-May through mid-November), be sure to stop by to pick up some great books now on sale for half-price.

A special thank you to Josie Grossmann and Leslie Nannarone (pictured) who have been the outstanding coordinators of the Book Shop for the last several years.



I can't wait to see what creative ideas they have "in store" (literally) for the grand opening of the new shop.

In the meantime, the Sunday sales on the third Sunday each month will continue full strength, so we definitely need your donated books and **you** as patrons at the sales.

Staff and Friends of the Library Celebrate

At a party for volunteers, Friends of the San Carlos Library, and Staff, Senior Library Assistant Jennifer Luayon and her family not only enjoyed refreshments, but also took a look around the book shelves to find some children's literature. Participants were delighted to spend time together, discover what they have in common, and eat a delicious potluck dinner.



December 2012 – April 5, 2013 New and Renewed Members and Donors				
Patricia & Samuel Battles Rose Beall Bob & Marian Beattie Alyce Bishop Jeffrey Blake & family Joan Bray Robert Brush & family Mary Helen & Harold Burgess John & Carol Casaccia Diane Cassanego & family Jack Clarke Ann Cohen Jean Cole Richard Cox Nancy & David Crabbe Gloria Dalman	Tom & Veralyn Davids Jane Drach Carrie & Grant DuBois Robert & Helen Dulsky The Dunn Family John Dusel Christine Elgin Tony Farndale Anne Fleishman Gloria Fourie Susan Greenberg Josie Grossmann Margaret Hanley Helene & Louis Haughney Elly Hess Sherley Higuera Maxine Hineman Carol Hohl	Troy Hom John & Linda Hosford Sylvia Hughes Robert Kaczor Joan Koehler Debbie Kramer Jill & Bruce Kulick Lisa Wong & Adrian Land Roshan Lal Paul & Lois Levine Jan & Denise Lieberman Paul & Lois Levine Mark Lolini Patricia Day-Lolini Lester Ludwig Virginia & Neil Martin Dave & Sally McClure Stephanie Meyer	Mark & Alice Miller Elaine & Chet Moore Anne Navach Sandra Neff Sam & Karen Nervino Frances Nuss Clarissa Owenby Jean Oxtan Christine Perris & family Pete & Reta Peterman Robert & Christina Porter Erika Rains Janice Raymond Erica Richter & family Allan Rosenberg Tom Salisbury Ronald Schmidt Mark Segal & Amy	Schwimmer Marcelia Shaw Jan Smith Lucy & Gerry Solberg Kathy Steligo Georgia Stigall Joyce Strauss Keith & Halina Tabacek Jeff Tepper Catherine Tierney Donald & Donna Torbum Marilyn Travis Cathryn Von der Porten Jacqueline Carter Walker William & Kathleen Wilkin Mike & Nancy Wright Ray & Emi Yamanishi Dinny & George Zinckgraf n

Friends of San Carlos Library Membership Drive 2013

By Clarissa Owenby



We appreciate all our members who have renewed or joined for the first time in 2013. If you haven't renewed your membership, 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 and services that are not normally a part of the library budget. We salute the members listed below who have joined us in 2013. Please make sure your name is on our list. A membership form is located next to this article.

Friends of the San Carlos Library Membership Form

Current period runs from January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

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.

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: _____

Among Friends

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SAN CARLOS
LIBRARY
610 ELM STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA
94070

FRIENDS OF THE SAN
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SAN CARLOS, CA
94070



The President's Message

By Jan Smith, President

As we go to press, there is one question I am asked daily, "When?"

The "*when*" is referring to the specifics of the timing of the Library renovation. At this time, we do not know the exact dates; however, the anticipation is growing. Hoping for a closing date from mid-to-late May, library staff are very active in the back rooms; boxes of books and papers are being reviewed, sorted, filed and/or alas, tossed.

We will keep our members informed via email when there is definite knowledge. If you are not presently on our email list and would like to be updated, please send your email address to the Friends of the Library at membershipfriendsofsclib@gmail.com.

In the *Library Manager's Report*, you will find the available alternatives for library patrons during this remodeling time (through November). The San Mateo County Bookmobile will also be on the scene the third Sundays.



One date we are sure of is the closure of the Friends Book Shop on May 15. Do remember, however, that books of all genres will be available for sale at the third Sunday book sales.

This year we have been emailing our members a monthly Library Calendar of Events. You may be pleasantly pleased that several of your favorite events will continue during the remodel. Again, email the address above to receive the Library Calendars for these months.

Congratulations to the library staff, volunteers, and patrons! The San Mateo County Library—of which San Carlos is one—has earned the designation, **Star Library**, an award given by the *Library Journal* to the top 3 percent of the nation's public libraries!

We thank you again for **volunteering** your time, **joining** Friends of the Library, **donating** books, and **giving** contributions. Without your continued support the renovation would not be possible.

Paste
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here.