President’s Letter

The Friends is promoting a slight twist on an old proverb: It takes a community to keep our Library healthy and vital.

The community was on full display at the Read-A-Thon at the end of October. Local businesses and individuals sponsored children to read at the Library. Our Mayor was one of the featured readers. The teachers and parents at Robert Down Elementary School provided food all day, supplemented by special treats from Mando’s, First Awakenings, Lighthouse Cinemas, and Canterbury Woods. (See story on page four.)

Less rambunctious but in the same vein is the program developed in 2014 at the Library to connect high school students and seniors with their library community. (See story on page two.)

We continue our focus on the community in 2015 with two programs. Dine Out With Friends (see story on page three) allows Pacific Grove restaurants to show their support for the Library. A Friendly Night at the Movies (see story on page three) allows Lighthouse Cinema to do the same. And, both programs encourage members of the community to support local businesses.

The changes in the Library’s interior underline the message. What was long storage and office space in the oldest part of the Library has been reclaimed for community use. It served as a wonderful locale in December for an art exhibit sponsored by the Emily Dickinson Society and the Friends. As soon as a glass door can be purchased and fitted in its entry archway, it will provide a long-desired community meeting room.

And, speaking of the Emily Dickinson Society, we are in discussions with their membership and the Library as to the possibility of collaborating on future displays and exhibitions.

I’m looking forward to a year where the sparks created by such synergies give renewed energy to our hometown and to the Library at its heart. Happy New Year!

Susan Steele

Renewing your membership now ensures that you will receive the next newsletter!
Thanks and Farewell, Dave and Jennifer
Dave Whittick and Jennifer Bicket are retiring from the Friends Board, effective January 15, 2015.

Dave has the distinction of being the longest serving Board member ever. In his over 20 years of service, he has been both President and Vice President. In recent years, the other members of the Board have depended on him to take on special projects. In this capacity, he was instrumental in the effort to consolidate contributions held by the City and by the Friends into a single fund managed by the Community Foundation and earmarked for Library improvements.

Jennifer has served for four years as Membership Chair. She’s acknowledged memberships and donations and, when necessary, nudged people to renew. Although these responsibilities can be time-consuming, she was also willing to take on the job of getting the quarterly newsletter assembled and mailed. We will miss both of you!

Shopping Amazon Benefits Friends
When you make a purchase from Amazon, you can designate .5 percent of the cost as a contribution to the Friends. It doesn’t add anything to the amount of your purchase; Amazon just redirects this amount to us. Information about this program can be found at www.smile.amazon.com.

Volunteer for The Friends!
If you are interested in volunteering for Friends of the Library, contact Peggy Hansen at phansen@redshift.com.

Business Member Spotlight
The Jones Group has specialized in Peninsula real estate since 2004 when Peggy Jones decided to go into business for herself. Her business is now one of the very few remaining independent real estate companies in Pacific Grove, and the careful attention she and her agents lavish on their clients make clear why the company continues to flourish. It occupies a comfortable office on 17th Street, a half-block up from Lighthouse. But you will see The Jones Group signs all over the city—and beyond.

Peggy’s commitment to libraries goes back to her childhood summers in Texas when the week’s excitement was the arrival of the bookmobile. The Jones Group was one of the first Friends’ business members. It has also provided generous ongoing support.

Library News
During the fall semester of 2014, the Pacific Grove Public Library worked with a group of teens on two projects. These projects are intended to bring teens into the library, help seniors bridge the technology gap, and connect both students and seniors with their library community.

The first project is Teen Tech Thursday, held the last Thursday of the month from 5-7 pm. We have had three to five teens from the community come in to help people with their technology issues. They have helped people with phones, laptops, email and e-readers. Working one on one, they spend as much time as is needed to solve the technology question. One of our teens has even made appointments to meet with patrons at other times to fully address and complete a particular problem. We would like to expand this program into a weekly format, perhaps going into other venues such as the Sally Griffin Center.

Another project is the Oral History Project, where three teens are recording and filming the reminiscences of elders in PG. We have had one filming session so far and two more planned for January. The teens have chosen five seniors to interview and expect the short film to be completed by the end of the spring semester. This film will be posted on both the library and high school websites.

The Friends are funding these projects through the purchase of equipment and the gift of scholarship funds to participating students. By Diana Godwin
Monterey County Gives—Again!
The year 2014 ended with a bang as the Friends participated for the second time in Monterey County Gives! Last year, Monterey County Gives! funded scholarships for electronically savvy high school students to help seniors learn how to access electronic materials. The Friends’ idea for this year’s campaign is to make e-readers available to homebound seniors. This follow-on project will fund the Pacific Grove Library’s acquisition of 20 e-readers and an inventory of books and music for use with them.

Each e-reader will be available for checkout, and student interns will be available to teach seniors how to use e-readers and to provide for their distribution. This method of meeting the needs of homebound seniors is not currently employed by any public library in Monterey County, and, to the best of the Friends’ knowledge, is not common outside of our area. So, the project will also serve as a test of its utility.

The members of the Friends Board contributed to a challenge grant of $1000 and Pam Cain added another $1000. So, we began the campaign with $2000. The final tally was $8,130—almost twice as much as last year!

Thanks to all who made this a most successful campaign.

New Members Fourth Quarter
Jacqueline Ariel
Barbara Battcher
Nancy Bennett
Josephine Bunn
Steve Cooperstein
Paula Crivello
Nora Deans
Amy Essick
Donna Foote
Lynn Goree
Christopher Joseph Guidi
Katharina Harlow
Joellen Holland

New Business Members
Diane Grindol Pet Sitting and Services
Michael Millette Construction
Gary M. Stotz Music Lessons and Repair

Contributors Fourth Quarter
Dorothy Abeloe in honor of Gary Sprader’s birthday
Milton K. Callas in honor of Gail Abeloe’s birthday
Mary Norton in memory of Constance Callas
Mr. and Mrs. James Mitchell in honor of Callan Thomas Ryan
Torie & George Thacher in memory of Alan Baldridge, Erma Dinkel, Gretchen Leffler, Lois Rianda
George Turner in memory of Joanna Guidi

Anonmous
Sue Addleman
Patricia H. Addleman
Mark Anderson
Suzi Baker
Elisabeth Baldridge
Dan Baldwin
G.W. And J.J. Bales
D Jill Burbidge
Erik And Kristin Cushman
Steven Dewey
Barbara Dickinson
Heidi Feldman
Linda Felice
Jane Flury
Renee Franken
Mark Garfield
Jeanne Giraldo
Stephanie Herrick
Wayne & Joan Hughes
Marsha J. Lubow
Elisa Maddalena
Maureen Mason
Patrick McGovern
Sharon Miller
Barbara Moore
Meg Morris
Susan Murai
Noreen and Don Nance
Jan Neal
Elizabeth Proctor
Mandy Salm
Mary Skipwith
David Taggart
Tim Torgenrud
Ken Wanderman
Mary Ann Whitten
Bradley Zeve

Robert Huit
Ben Kelley
Sharon Lanphear
Dennis McElroy
Carol Melber
Mary Norton
Claudia and Fred Sammis
Lydia Scenider
Joan Smith
Susan Tuffs
Dietrich Wagner
Pam Weaver

Carol Young
G. E. Young, Jr.
Marjorie Abel
Kim Bui-Burton
Ed and Jeanne Cavallini
Donna Daunt
June Duran
Elinda Hardy
Kathy Ishizuka
Beverly and Edward Jarvis
Margaret and Jim Jimenez
Peggy Jones
Rosamaria Kosaka
Heather and Ben Lazare
Glenn and Julie Leon-Guerrero
Elizabeth Loby
Dennis Mar
Michael Millette of Michael Millette Construction
William Murray
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Northrop
Margaret Parenti
Ellen Gill Pasteke
Bill and Shirley Peake
Glenn and Megan Reis
Kathy Robertson
Seven Gables Inn
Steven Silveria
Gail Skidmore
Marcella Stull
Nancy Swing
David and Kelly Terry
Mark Your Calendars:
January 28, Wednesday: Dine Out With Friends at Petra

January 29, Thursday, 7:30pm: Meet the Author, Stephen Palumbi

February 11, Wednesday: A Friendly Night at the Movies at Lighthouse Cinema

February 25, Wednesday: Dine Out With Friends at Victorian Corner

March 11, Wednesday: A Friendly Night at the Movies at Lighthouse Cinema

March 19, Thursday, 7:30pm: Meet the Author, Susan Shillinglaw

Support the local businesses who support your library:
**Dine Out with Friends is Back!**
The enthusiasm from both patrons and restaurant owners alike that greeted Dine Out with Friends last fall has prompted us to bring it back. Every month, on the fourth Wednesday, a local restaurant will donate a portion of its take to the Friends to support the Pacific Grove Library.

Dine Out with Friends 2015 will be kicked off on **January 28** at **Petra Restaurant** (477 Lighthouse Ave). Petra participated last fall and is delighted to be first in 2015. So, for lunch or for dinner on January 28, make your way to Petra and enjoy! Be sure to tell them you’re a Friend.

On **February 25** we’ll **Dine Out at Victorian Corner**. Keep an eye on our website (www.pglibraryfriends.org) so you know where to go in future months.

**A Friendly Night at the Movies**
The Friends and the Lighthouse Cinema in downtown Pacific Grove have formed a trial partnership to support the Pacific Grove Library. On the second Wednesday of February, March and April (February 11, March 11, and April 8), Lighthouse Cinema will donate 10 percent of the ticket price of everyone identifying themself as a Friend.

The partnership is called a Friendly Night at the Movies, but if you like your movies in the afternoon, that’s cool. Just be sure to tell the person at the ticket counter that you’re a Friend—and thank them for their support of our Library.

**Library Foundation Celebration January 31**
A bequest by local resident Erna Morris provided funds that served to establish the Pacific Grove Public Library Foundation (PGPLF). The PGPLF and the library are hosting a birthday party in honor of Mrs. Morris and other Foundation donors. Mrs. Morris would have turned 90 this January.

The event is Saturday, January 31, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Library. And, of course, there will be birthday cake.

PGPLF was created by the Friends to develop a source of longterm financial support for the Pacific Grove Public Library. The Foundation’s purpose is to build on the more than 100-year legacy of our Carnegie Library by enhancing and expanding it as a center of learning, cultural enrichment, and community interaction.

**Meet the Author Stephen Palumbi**
*The Extreme Life of the Sea*
**Thursday, January 29, 2015 - 7:30pm**

The ocean teems with life that thrives under difficult situations in unusual environments. Palumbi will take the audience to the absolute limits of the aquatic world—the fastest and deepest, the hottest, and the oldest creatures of the oceans. He brings to life the sea’s most extreme species, and reveals how they succeed across the wide expanse of the world’s global ocean.

Stephen R. Palumbi, Ph.D., is the Director of the Hopkins Marine Station and Professor of Marine Science at Stanford. His previous work has appeared in publications from the *New York Times* to the *Seattle Times*, and he has contributed film projects and interviews to many television programs from the BBC/Animal Planet, to the Discovery Channel. He is also the author of *The Death and Life of Monterey Bay* and *The Evolution Explosion: How Humans Cause Rapid Evolutionary Change*.

**Meet the Author Susan Shillinglaw**
*Carol & John Steinbeck: Portrait of a Marriage*
**Thursday, March 19, 2015 - 7:30pm**

Carol and John Steinbeck lived in Pacific Grove from 1930-36. The years were productive, creative and stormy for both.

Susan Shillinglaw is a Professor of English at San Jose State University and the SJSU President’s Scholar for 2012-13. She is also Scholar-in-Residence at the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas. For eighteen years, she was Director of the Center for Steinbeck Studies at San Jose State University. She has published widely on Steinbeck, and is currently co-editing with Katie Rodger an encyclopedia of cultural history, *All Things Steinbeck*, and working on a study of Steinbeck in Russia.
Poet/Musician Juan L. Sánchez
A gathering of 50 people shared the passion Juan L. Sánchez has for Spanish poetry and music. He read us translations of major 20th-century Spanish poets, then performed the poems in Spanish with musical accompaniment. Well done!

Juan L. Sánchez is a singer/songwriter, educator and artistic director of the Juan L. Sánchez Ensemble. Born and raised in Spain, he came to California and then Monterey in the 1980s. While teaching elementary school, he started writing his first original compositions and assembled Trova Latina, a Latin American folk quartet that performs in coffeehouses, libraries, and schools in the area.

In 1997, he founded the Juan L. Sánchez Ensemble, an eclectic group of musicians well versed in jazz, Middle-Eastern, and Latin music from the Monterey Bay region. They released their first album, Cosmopolita, that year and started touring nationally. In 2004, they launched their second release, Hijos de la Tierra (Children of the Earth), dedicated to all farm workers around the world. He is a lecturer at the Service Learning and Music and Performing Arts Institutes at CSU Monterey Bay.

Meet the Author  David Gordon
Author, Musician, Historian
The hardy folks who braved a chilly, rainy night to attend the November Meet the Author event were rewarded. David Gordon is well known for enthralling audiences at the Carmel Bach Festival with his preconcert explanations of the music and composers. The depth of his knowledge and his passion for his subject combined with his exuberance mean listeners both learn a lot and enjoy themselves. This was the experience of the Meet the Author audience.

David’s book, Carmel Impresarios, is a biography of Dene Denny and Hazel Watrous, two visionary women whose impact is still evident. They were not only creative and artistic, they were also good business people. In the midst of the Great Depression, they founded the Carmel Music Society and the Carmel Bach Festival and produced a major concert series in San Jose.

Music was only one of their contributions. They also ran a successful repertory theatre in Monterey. They designed dozens of houses, including their own, as well as Carmel’s first art gallery. In addition to chronicling what they accomplished, David brought them alive as vibrant personalities. The wonderful historic photographs he showed were an added delight. His website www.luckyvalleypress.com offers more information about Carmel Impresarios and the opportunity to purchase the book.

Read-A-Thon Results
Spiderman was there and so was the Phantom of the Opera, stealthily walking among fairy princesses and pirates. The Read-A-Thon, a Friends of the Library fundraiser, attracted nearly 200 kids, many in costumes, and 84 sponsors. The ten-hour event held on October 25 raised $9,200.00 for the Library.

Kids and families began arriving at noon, eager to grab a pile of books and slide into a chair or nestle onto a rug and pillows. Participants were treated to bags of fresh popcorn donated by Lighthouse Cinemas and hot enchiladas prepared by Mando’s. All day long, members of the Robert Down School PTA loaded the tables with sweet and salty snacks. Forty pizzas arrived around 5:00, rounded off by a large container of fresh fruit from First Awakenings and a tray of fresh veggies and dip from Canterbury Woods.

The Read-A-Thon, aimed at the children of Pacific Grove, has become a true community event. From noon to 10 p.m., children were treated to an all-star lineup of guest readers and storytellers: local poet Patrice Vecchione, Mayor Bill Kampe, Council Members Robert Huitt and Casey Lucius, Librarian Linda Pagnella, local author Elin Kelsey, former Children’s Librarian Lisa Maddalena, and former teacher Lowell March. In the late afternoon, Robert Down School Principal Linda Williams arrived with a contingency of around 150 students, faculty, and parents. All crowded the floor to hear Kindergarten teacher Gary Williams tell stories and then to listen to books read by their teachers. Many intrepid kids stayed until the doors closed at 10 p.m., lured by the literary scavenger hunt created by Lisa and Lowell and by their scary stories told in the rotunda, lit only by three candles. Volunteer greeters gave each reader a specially designed bookmark and a certificate that stated the number of hours read and the dollars earned for the library.

The Pacific Grove Library is in good—child-size—hands!