President’s Letter

For the last two years the Library has been gearing up for the “Library Renewal Project.” At last, the project appears to be gathering momentum, with the expectation that it can be completed before the end of 2016. Library patrons who know all too well how threadbare the carpeting is, how poor the lighting is, and how much work the bathrooms need should be overjoyed at the prospect that this treasured city resource will finally be getting the attention it deserves.

One of the major portions of the Library renewal project is to make the reading room in the Library’s 1908 Carnegie portion a place where one can read in comfort with appropriate lighting. Another is to improve the orientation of the large reference room at the front of the Library. Both of these are embedded in a vision of making the entire Library more functional, more attractive, and more accessible, while honoring its historic character.

I am proud of the role that the Friends has played in getting the project off the ground. In celebration of our 40th birthday in 2014, we pledged $40,000. In 2015, we fulfilled our pledge—and more—by funding the work to create the room that houses what is now the Nancy and Steve Hauk Gallery. The beauty of this room stands as an example of what can be achieved in the rest of the Library.

Our kickoff efforts will now be joined by a bequest to the Library, a grant from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation to the Library, and the Stewardship Fund. The last is money contributed by the citizens of Pacific Grove to an earlier project that could not be completed. It has been deposited at the Community Foundation under the supervision of the Pacific Grove Public Library Foundation, awaiting just the kind of project now underway.

One obstacle remains. Although the renewal project is not funded by the city’s general fund, the Library is a city building. As such, the City of Pacific Grove is the responsible party, the party that hires the contractors and pays the bills. The Friends, the Pacific Grove Public Library Foundation, and the City of Pacific Grove are still working through an agreement as to how this can be accomplished. I am hopeful that we will soon come to resolution on this score. Stay tuned for more news on the matter.

Susan Steele

From Murals to Note Cards

During two Saturdays last fall, Pacific Grove kids gathered in the Library’s arcade and created 10 wonderfully vibrant murals. Their seascapes corresponded with the Library’s three-month events called the “The Edge of the Sea.” Old and young alike marveled at the artwork, which hung on the windows of the children’s room. Those windows are now bare, but we can continue to enjoy the kids’ artwork. Board member Diane Grindol took close-up photos of mural details. Other board members assembled the photos into note cards. The cards made their debut at the April 2 book sale. Look for them inside the Library and at every book sale to come. There are 12 designs, each of which is guaranteed to make you smile. Price: $2.50 a card.

Edge of the Sea Mural Note Cards
$2.50 Each. 12 Designs Available.

Thanks to Cindie Farley who edits much of the material in it. Any faults or omissions, or slip ups in punctuation, are mine!
- Editor Diane Grindol
First Saturday Book Sales
You know those wonderful First Saturday book sales in the breezeway at the Pacific Grove Library, the ones where you go to get your fix of murder mysteries or cook books or to browse for a rare book to add to your collection? After a brief hiatus, they are returning—with a new set of volunteers from the Friends. The income from the books sales continues to support the Library’s book fund. The only difference is that the faces greeting you are different.

The April 2 book sale was the first Saturday of the new regime. With the oversight of Friends Board member Pat Davis, we learned a lot from that experience about what works and what doesn’t. The main takeaway is that these sales can be a great source of what the Friends contribute to the book fund every year—but only with your support.

We want people to buy books. But to make the book sales run smoothly, WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. You can help by collecting books for sale, by sorting books by genre, or by taking a shift selling books. If you’re interested in helping, please e-mail Peggy Hansen (p Hansen@redshift.com).

Book sales are scheduled for the next three months:
May 7
June 4
July 2

Mark your calendar.

Good-bye, Kathryn; Hello, Pat
Kathryn Perkins had to resign from the Friends Board in January, 2016. We will miss her willingness to jump right in to whatever had to be done.

Luckily enough, at about the same time that Kathryn had to leave, Patricia Davis moved from Southern California to Pacific Grove and was interested in getting involved in local issues. Pat has spent the past 18 years working in the University of Southern California Libraries, the UC Davis Medical Center Library, the Oakland Public Library, and the Chiron Corporation Library. Her long career in several other public service areas includes business consulting and sales, as well as literacy tutoring, senior ombudsman advocacy, and the Court Appointed Special Advocate program for children in foster care. She holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor’s degree in English from California State University at Los Angeles.

Pat has already shown her mettle by taking on the organization of the First Saturday book sales. Thanks, Pat, and welcome.
Meet the Author: Vanessa Diffenbaugh
7:30 p.m. May 26, the Library

In her new novel, Vanessa Diffenbaugh uses the imagery of migrating birds reorienting their flight patterns as a symbol for her characters’ mistakes and recovery from them. Come join her at the Pacific Grove Public Library May 26, as she talks about her latest novel, We Never Asked for Wings. The Boston Globe called it “compelling . . . immensely engaging . . . unabashedly romantic . . . an emotional arc of almost unbearable poignancy.”

The author of two novels, Diffenbaugh is a California native, born in San Francisco, raised in Chico, and living in Monterey with her husband and four children. She is also cofounder of Camellia Network, a nonprofit that connects foster children with resources and support to help them thrive into adulthood.

A Memorable Evening

Some seventy plus book-and-food lovers gathered at the library to hear from Dr. Jennifer Jordan on her newest book, Edible Memory: The Lure of Heirloom Tomatoes and Other Forgotten Foods. Jennifer, who grew up in PG and is now a professor at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, entertained and educated us with stories of how food and its associated memories shape and connect us. We all laughed when she told the story of the family green Jell-O salad filled with pineapple and cottage cheese—laughed because every family has its equivalent requisite dish for family gatherings.

As she burrowed into her research, it was the stories of the farmers, the chefs, and the seed-savers that whetted her appetite for more. These stories and the collective memories they reflect gave birth to today’s heirloom tomatoes, antique apples, and other forgotten produce. Our present-day heirloom tomatoes exist because of the actions of seed-savers, individuals who began protecting and saving the seeds of plants that did not meet uniform standards when farming became industrialized in the 20th century. Antique apples exist because of the grafting skill of antique-apple lovers and their commitment to teaching us to unlearn what we thought was a good apple. They will not be unblemished, shiny, polished, and uniform, but when you bite into one you are digesting our history. Jennifer’s favorite apple, for example, is a French apple once grown by Thomas Jefferson.

Our refreshment committee, picking up on the theme of edible memories, provided sweets that had their own stories from either family traditions or special fruits, with an explanation of why the preparer chose it.

We left the evening having all our senses satiated.

Summer Reading Program Heats Up!

Every summer, from early June to late July, the Pacific Grove Library offers a program designed to encourage young people ages 2–15 to learn to read for enjoyment and satisfaction.

The younger ones participate in weekly story times. The readers receive prizes for pages read and are connected with other readers at the same reading level to form teams. All ages can attend a series of entertaining and educational programs.

Tuesday, June 7, 6:30–7:30pm
Juan Sanchez, Music from around the World
Wednesday, June 8, 2pm
The Fratello Marionettes
Wednesday, June 15, 2pm
Zoom Room Animal Olympics
Wednesday, June 22, 2pm
Stories with Miss Lisa
Wednesday, June 29, 2pm
Mr. Chris, “The PG Music Man”
Wednesday, July 6, 2pm
Daffy Dave Comedy, Magic, & Juggling
Wednesday, July 13, 2pm
Adventure Theatre
Wednesday, July 20, 2pm
Magical Moonshine Theatre

The Summer Reading Program is sponsored by the Friends of the Pacific Grove Library. For more information, call 648-5760.
Mark Your Calendars:

Book Sales at the Library, Saturdays 10 am - 4 pm:
- May 7
- June 4
- July 2

Meet the Author: Vanessa Diffenbaugh
7:30 p.m. on Thursday May 26, the Library
Diffenbaugh will talk about her latest novel, *We Never Asked for Wings.*

Dine Out with Friends!

Julia’s Vegetarian
1180 Forest
Wednesday, April 27

Support the local businesses who support your library:

**Corporate Members:** Jan Pratt/J.R. Rouse, Sotheby International; Jones Group Real Estate

**Business Members:** Artisana Gallery, Back Porch Fabrics, Farmer’s Insurance - Osio Insurance Agency, Favazza Plastering, Fishwife Restaurant, Grand Avenue Deli, Dr. J. Gary Grant, Diane Grindol Pet Sitting & Services, Grove Market, Hauk Fine Arts, Il Vecchio, Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant, La Mia Cucina Ristorante, La Piccola Casa, Los Amigos Restaurante, Matteson’s Auto Repair, Max’s Grill, Michael’s Grill and Taqueria, Monarch Knitting, Mountain Mike’s, Mum’s Place, Nancy’s Attic, Pacific Grove Cleaners, Pacific Grove Hardware, Pacific Grove Travel, Pacific Thai Cuisine, Inc, Park Place Publications, Pavel’s Backerei, Penelope Sky, Editorial Services, Peppers’ Mexicali Cafe, Petra Restaurant, Red House Café, Seven Gables Inn, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift, Taste Bistro, Tessuti Zoo, The UPS Store #3441, Vito’s Italian Restaurant
A Lot of Love!

In February, love was in the air and also in small white bags. The Friends’ “Love Your Library, Give a Buck for Books” campaign ran the month of February with the goal of getting each Pacific Grove resident to donate $1.00 to buy new books and materials for the Library.

The local schools, the Library, City Hall, and 34 businesses agreed to display a white “Love Your Library” donation bag and a stack of paper hearts. Each person who made a donation wrote his or her name on a paper heart, which was then displayed in the Library. Over 600 hearts dazzled its walls, pillars, and shelf ends, proving that a lot of people love the Library. The Friends thank all of the children and adults who helped raise $3,000.00! An enthusiastic “Woo Hoo!” goes to Robert H. Down Elementary School for raising $1.00 for every student! Appreciation is also shown to the following businesses and organizations who hosted a “Love Your Library” bag:

- Pacific Grove City Hall
- Pacific Grove Library
- Robert H. Down Elementary School
- Forest Grove Elementary School
- Pacific Grove Middle School
- Pacific Grove High School
- Back Porch Fabrics
- Blessings Boutique
- BookWorks
- Cassady Orthodontics
- Central Avenue Pharmacy
- Cedar Street Times
- Central Coast Silkscreen
- La Mia Cucina
- Lighthouse Cinema
- Crema
- Grove Market
- Grove Nutrition Center
- Imagine Art Supplies
- In Stride Physical Therapy & Rehab
- Iron Gate Gift Shop
- Juice ’n Java
- Marita’s Boutique
- Marita’s Shoes
- Michael’s Grill & Taqueria
- Miss Trawick’s Garden Shop
- Monarch Knitting
- Monterey County Bank
- Pacific Grove Cleaners
- Pacific Grove Cleaners
- Pacific Thai Cuisine
- Pavel’s Backerei
- Petra Restaurant
- Phil’s Barber Shop
- Sotheby’s International Realty
- Spirals
- Taste Cafe & Bistro

Dine Out with Friends!

Dine Out with Friends on the last Wednesday of the month and part of the proceeds from your tab will be donated to the Friends to benefit the Library.

On Wednesday, April 27, Julia’s Vegetarian Restaurant, “the only committed vegetarian restaurant on the Monterey Peninsula,” is the spot to be. Patrons rave about the salads and curries and delight as well in the live music accompaniment to the meal.

Julia’s is open for dinner on Wednesdays from 5:00 - 8:15pm. Reservations are recommended. (Call 831-656-9533.) Julia’s is located at 1180 Forest in Pacific Grove, between Safeway and Trader Joe’s.

Looking for a Book Club?

The Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library has a book club. The club meets the second Monday of each month, unless there is a federal holiday on that date. Meetings are at 2:00 p.m. in the Little House in Jewell Park, across from the Library and the museum.
New Business Members
Il Vecchio
La Mia Cucina Ristorante
Michael’s Grill and Taqueria
Penelope Sky Editorial Services

New Members in the First-Quarter
Geri C. Allison
Patricia Davis
Carol Landaker
Jay Spingarn
Anne and Timothy Wheelis

Donations for the First-Quarter
Mrs. Esther S. Anderson in support of library renewal
Carolyn Bazzani
Blue City Holdings, LLC
Margaret Bohn
Gordon and Elizabeth Ann Campbell
Bill & Suzy Derowski
Suzie Gabri
Jayne Gasperson
Barbara Butterworth & Michael Gill in memory of Leona Gill
Anne Kmetovic
Jane Leatham
Michael Bond & Camille Liscinsky
Rev J. McCormick in honor of Paul DeLay
William Murray
Andrea Pearlstein in honor of Connie Pearlstein
Jean & Tony Prock
Caroline & Steve Roberts in memory of Jacquelyn and Red Phillips and Mary and P.S. Wang
David Morgan & Maryanne Larson Spradling
Ms. Betty Jean Stallings in honor of Jerry Anderson
Jean Stumbo
Torie & George Thacher in memory of Gene Elmore
Dean & Helen Turner
Joseph Weiss

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.

“Like” The Friends on Facebook!

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