President’s Message

Dear Friends members and donors,

As 2022 gets well underway, the Friends Board is excited about the possibilities before us! Our book store at St. Mary’s Church is open Monday through Friday mornings and the first Saturday of each month, Dine Out has resumed (see you at Max’s on Wednesday, March 30), and a new “Buy the Book” fundraiser will debut this Spring.

Thanks to the Joe Rock Fund, all PG Library children’s programs and activities are fully funded this year – and for many years to come - what a gift of literacy and imagination to our community! Read about two other important community initiatives (also fully funded) in this newsletter – Local History and a future Library Outreach Electric Vehicle.

The Board and I will also be working on some long-range goals and opportunities for the Friends:

- Seeking new ways of connecting with readers and learners, including in-person events at the PG Library
- Growing our membership and ensuring a sustainable 501c3 organization for the future
- Advancing our successful partnership with the Foundation to better support the PG Library
- Strengthening our relationships with service clubs, businesses and other nonprofits

Thank you for being a donor, supporter, and Friend! Stay tuned...we have much to look forward to and accomplish in 2022!

I would like to add a special note of appreciation to Karen Owen, the newsletter layout editor for the Pacific Grove Heritage Society, who generously volunteered her time to help us with this newsletter. Thank you very much from all your Friends!

With gratitude,

Kim Bui
Introducing Noreen Nance, Foundation President

Welcome and congratulations to the incoming president of the PGPL Foundation Board—Noreen Nance!

Well-known to many PG residents, Noreen moved here in 2000 with her husband, Don, and quickly became active in supporting the PG Library. In fact, she joined the Friends Board that same year, becoming president for a number of years. The Foundation will benefit from Noreen’s years in corporate finance and training.

Noreen developed a passion for reading and libraries early in life. She grew up in Pittsburg, the home of the first Carnegie library and a jewel in the crown of Carnegie libraries. Even as young as 7, she would take the trolley car to the library to browse books and read. Like many of her generation, she avidly consumed every Nancy Drew mystery as it came out. She also learned library research by using the card catalogs at the public library. By the time she settled on the career path of finance, digital searches were replacing card catalogs, but the literacy skills she acquired from her formative library experiences transferred easily.

In addition to her work for the Foundation, Noreen enjoys golf and quilting. As a member of the Monterey Peninsula Quilters Guild, she sews for charities, including neonatal units and breast cancer centers.

These interests exemplify Noreen’s personal bywords for the coming year: “To do what I can, to give what I can and to be grateful”.

Hello and Goodbye!

The Friends expressed their deep gratitude and said a fond farewell to two Board members at this year’s annual meeting—long-time volunteer coordinator Peggy Hansen and events coordinator Sonja Millings.

Peggy served on the Board for 10 years, constantly recruiting and ably managing the corps of volunteers who assist the Friends with our book sales, Meet the Author evenings, publicity, Library birthday celebrations, mailings, special events and all the other occasions when volunteers are needed! Peggy also lent her talents as a community volunteer to The Hospice of the Monterey Peninsula and The Alliance on Aging.
Sonja is the author of *Taking the Long Way Home: Soul Searching Across America*. On joining the Board in 2019, she said she regards libraries as old friends that she will never be able to repay for what they have added to her life. Sonja brought fresh ideas, a talent for organization, and a warm and welcoming personality to our events planning and presentation. Best wishes from all the Friends to Peggy and Sonja!

We happily welcomed three new members to the 2022 Board of Directors—Erin Boydston, Don Freeman and Heidi McNally-Dial.

Erin is a wildlife enthusiast and has worked for the US Department of the Interior as a Research Ecologist, the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Dallas Zoo and the Smithsonian’s National Zoo. Currently she tutors elementary through college-level students in science and math. Erin believes that libraries are important community resources, especially in a small town, and she wants to support our Library’s efforts to preserve the heritage of Pacific Grove and expand the accessibility of Library services.

Don Freeman previously served as City Attorney for Carmel and Seaside, is a long-standing member of the Rotary, and has extensive experience on boards of nonprofit community organizations as well as public agencies, among them CASA, the Rotary and Monterey College of Law. His love and appreciation for education and literacy drew him to join the Friends’ Board. Don maintains that reading leads to an expansion of understanding that strengthens individuals, our societies and our world.

Heidi is a retired Redevelopment and Economic Development Manager for the city of Turlock and member of several boards, including the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association and Rotary. An avid reader all her life, Heidi believes that libraries are essential to strong communities and should be diverse and available to all. Heidi looks forward to making presentations on behalf of the Friends and assisting with membership recruitment.

The Friends are very grateful to Erin, Don and Heidi for their willingness to volunteer on behalf of our Library!

**Monterey Count Gives! Campaign is an Outstanding Success!!**

Imagine a drumroll as we announce the results… The Friends of the PG Library raised an incredible $36,573 from 121 generous donors during the 2021 Monterey County Gives! campaign. Added to that, we received a pro-rated match from the campaign’s Overall Matching Fund, bringing our grand total to $40,837.59! The funds will be used to purchase a Mobile Library Outreach Vehicle powered 100% by renewable energy.

**Thank You** to everyone who answered the call and lent their support, and to those who weren’t able to donate this year but cheered from the sidelines. We all share in this outstanding success!

In spite of all the economic and social challenges of 2021, MC Gives! broke its own record, raising $9.7 million—up 23% from 2020. At the campaign wrap-up event, Bradley Zeve, CEO of the Monterey County Weekly, praised the “amazing feats” of nonprofits that collectively create positive change. “Without more than 1,000 local nonprofits working tirelessly to fulfill their missions every day, our community would be a very different place.”

The Friends are deeply grateful to all of the MC Gives! partners: Monterey County Weekly, Community Foundation for Monterey County, Monterey Peninsula Foundation, David & Lucille Packard Foundation, Neumeier Poma, Cannery Row Company, Colburn and Alana Jones Foundation at the CFMC, and Posey Family Foundation. Thank you for the opportunity to be one of the beneficiaries of this extraordinary community outpouring of generosity!
News from the Library
A California State Library Grant of $55,533 was awarded to the PG Library through the “Stronger Together: Improving Library Access” grant initiative.

The funds will be combined with Monterey County Gives! donations to get the Library’s fully electric mobile outreach vehicle rolling.

The goal of the grant is to “help libraries eliminate barriers and implement new ways to bring literacy, technology and other services to those who face challenges visiting their local public library.” We hope to see the PG Pop-Up Library on the road in 2023.

The PG Library is now open five days a week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 6 pm, and Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. Outside Holds Pick-Up continues on Mondays from 3 to 6 pm.

Current and updated Library information can be found on the Library website, https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org, Facebook page and Instagram account (pacificgrovelibrary), as well as in the Library’s monthly Newsletter (sign up at the Library website) and the City’s twice monthly Newsletter (cityofpacificgrove.org)

April is Poetry Month at the Library

Friday, April 1 • Barbara Mossberg, 5:30-7:30 pm
Friday, April 8 • Sea Scribes Calligraphy Guild - Gallery opening reception and poetry reading by Patrick Flanigan, 5:30-7:30 pm
Saturday, April 9 • Barbara Mossberg, memoir writing seminar, 9 am-4 pm
Saturday, April 16 • Patrice Vecchione, 3-5 pm
Friday, April 22 • Daniel Summerhill, Monterey County’s first Poet Laureate, 5:30-7:30 pm
Tuesday, April 26 • Teen Poetry event, 3:30-5 pm

Discover Local History at Our Library

The local history collection at the Pacific Grove Library is coming into the light! A recent donation of $20,000 from Friends Board Director Dennis Mar and his wife, Susan, and a second donation of $1,000 from Patricia Hamilton, Friends newsletter layout editor, made it possible for the Library to hire part-time archivists to inventory and catalog the collection, making it searchable from the Library’s website.

Did you know that Library Director, Diana Godwin, was hired in 2013 at 20 hours/week to be the local history/reference librarian? Working the reference desk absorbed all of her hours and the local history collection remained a project for the future. A few years later, a Library staff member compiled a rough inventory on paper of historical newspapers, magazines, clippings, maps, voter registers, Chautauqua books and other
artifacts from Pacific Grove’s heritage days.

Now the project is well underway and well-funded. In 2021, archivist Sean Briscoe, the Local History/Reference Librarian at Monterey Public Library, was working part-time due to cutbacks during Covid. Sean spent four months at PGPL verifying the existing inventory and adding to it from his research. He combed through 17 boxes marked “Local History”, folders of administrative records from 1906-2008, maps, newspapers and ephemera, labeling items and creating charts identifying their physical location for easy retrieval by future researchers. Sean organized the full collection into categories and created digitized finding aids—lists and descriptions of the contents of each category. The collection is now searchable—enter “Pacific Grove Public Library History Collection” in the search bar on the Library’s website to begin delving into the collection.

“I had so much fun!” said Sean of his work at PGPL. “I learned a lot about Pacific Grove’s history and made connections between people and events that I recognized from my work in the California History Room at the Monterey Library.” Sean has now returned to his full-time position at MPL.

In February, Tyler Chisman, a graduate of Pacific Grove High School and UC Berkeley, began inventorying the Library’s holdings of city petitions that date back more than a century. As an archivist technician at the Naval Postgraduate School, Tyler organized and digitized the special collection of the late computer pioneer and NPS professor Richard W. Hamming that is held at the Dudley Knox Library.

Some items in the Library’s collection have literally come into the light—thanks to beautiful, glass-fronted, locking bookcases purchased with donations from the Friends’ “Support Our Shelves” campaign, launched in 2020. The bookcases are a treasure chest of local history, containing bound volumes of the Carmel Pacific Spectator Journal; six volumes of history and biography written by Hayes Perkins between 1897 and 1955, titled Here and There; Library ledgers from the 1920s; Pacific Grove High School yearbooks dating back to 1905; copies of Game & Gossip, describing social news and events in our town in the 1940s and 1950s, and much, much more!

Dennis Mar’s long-time wish is to see all archives visible and accessible. “Archives developed differently than libraries,” he notes. “You can use the WorldCat website to find a library within 50 miles that has a particular book. It’s much harder to find out what an archive holds. When I open a book about local history, I always read the preface where the author thanks the archives visited, hoping that someone has discovered an impressive archive that I didn’t know existed. Any effort that improves access to source materials is a positive step.”

Dennis believes this might be a golden age for local history and genealogy. “Easily accessible resources are becoming more available. You can feel the excitement of being the person to link newly available material together. I have a lot of confidence that the Library will do a wonderful job. For one thing, you can sense Diana’s excitement about making the archival material accessible. You get the feeling that if she didn’t already have a full-time, demanding job, she’d like to dive into the archives herself.”

All materials in the local history collection can be accessed for use inside the Library. Come soon, settle into a comfortable chair, and browse Pacific Grove’s past. And thank you, Dennis and Susan, Patricia, "Support Our Shelves" donors, and Friends!
DONATIONS TO THE FRIENDS—November 2021 - February 2022

Elizabeth Benjamin
Marilyn Brown
Judith Cabral
Lois Carroll
Carol Collin
Patricia Hamilton towards Local History Collection
Stephanie Herrick
Jerry T. Horn
Elizabeth and Dennis Hull
Ann and Fred Jealous
Harold Keland
Kathy Kirtley
Amy Krupski
Charlene Lowery
Susan Luken
Dennis Mar
Lynn Mason towards the Library Book Fund
Barbara Moore
E. Philip and Maria Morgan
Bobbie Morrison
Jim Mullany
Bill and Shirley Peake
Marilyn Pospishil-Greve
Ann Prego and Andy Gonzalez
Debbie and Randy Reinstedt
Claudia Sammis

In Honor of David Groll
Betty and Michael Sproule

In Honor of Robert Huitt
Callie Huitt-Roehl

In Memory of Jean Laws
Nancy Carol Carter
Alan and Janet Clark
Philip Laws
Joseph Malone
Susan Marquess and the Saint Francis High School Alumni Mothers' Book Club towards the Library Book Fund and Library Programs
Nancy and Jim Vincler
John Williamson

In Memory of Ruth Marion McElroy
Onnette McElroy

In Memory of Jacqueline Phillips
Manning Phillips

In Memory of Ann Powers
Betsy Lobay

In Memory of Joe Rock
Greg and Sandi D’Ambrosio
Darcie and Donald Hughes
Hank and Helen Rock
Torie and George Thacher

MONTEREY COUNTY GIVES!
Anonymous (9 Donations)
Patricia H. Addleman
Sue Addleman
Judith and Thomas Archibald
Hank and Julie Armstrong/
Armstrong Family Fund of the CFMC
Gary W. and Judy Bales
Barbara and Lowell Battcher
Jane Bell
Judith and Bob Berglass
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Kim Bui and Steven Silveria
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Monterey County Weekly
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Rita and Stanley Summers
David Taggart
Alice K. Tao
Bob and Rosemary Tingle
Neil Williams
Judy and Tom Wills
Mary Yui and Jeffrey Longmate
Bradley Zeve
Linda Zimmerman

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS
Will be featured in our next issue...

DONATIONS TO THE FOUNDATION
November 2021 through February 2022
Anonymous
Ted Balestreri/Foursome Development Company
Earl and Christine Cory
Robert and Donna Daunt
Robin and Dorothy Dickson
Martha Dunn
Robert and Patricia Gray
Jacob Kuykendall
Edward and Margaret McCoy
Annual Meeting Report

Each year the Friends hold an annual membership meeting, open to all Friends members and special guests. This year’s meeting was held on Sunday, February 6, online via Zoom.

Forty-five attendees were warmly welcomed by Mayor Peake, received the Board Election results and Financial Report, and enjoyed highlights from Friends activities in 2021 and a special presentation by Library Director Diana Godwin and Children’s Librarian Mary Weyant.

You’ll find the PowerPoint slides on the Friends website, under the Latest News. We hope to meet back in person in 2023!

Business Spotlight: Monterey Bay Notary Pro

This month we are pleased to highlight a business member who has been active behind the scenes for the Friends.

Jennifer Schmidt has been a staunch supporter of the Friends for many years and has worked to find and welcome local authors for the Author’s Nights. This follows naturally from her enduring interest in promoting literature and literary events. She is also active with Literary Monterey, an organization dedicated to promoting literature, literary events, libraries and locally owned bookstores around the Peninsula.

Jennifer’s firm, Monterey Bay Notary Pro, is the place to call if you need a notary, an officiant for a wedding, or a courier for a legal document. Jennifer offers mobile services from Marina to Carmel and beyond. The mobile option is particularly convenient this year.

Thank you, Jennifer, for your support of literacy, our Library and the Friends!

FRIENDS OF THE PG LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Bui – President
Lucy Moore – Vice President
Judy Wills – Treasurer
Abby Pfeiffer – Secretary
Gail Abeloe - Director
Erin Boydston - Director

Don Freeman - Director
Stephanie Herrick – Volunteers
Dennis Mar – Membership
Heidi McNally-Dial - Director
Sandra Robeson – Data Management

www.pglibraryfriends.org
Dine Out With Friends!

Wednesday, March 30

Max’s Grill
209 Forest Avenue
4 – 8:30 pm

A portion of your check will be donated to support the Pacific Grove Library

Thank you, Friends, for your Dine Out support!

And Thank You to La Mia Cucina for hosting Dine Out in February and for your generous donation!

Friends of the Library Book Club

Meets most second Mondays via Zoom at 1:30 pm
For information, contact pgplbookclub@yahoo.com

Upcoming Selections:

April 11: Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession and How Desire Shapes the World by Aja Raden

May 9: Circe by Madeline Miller

June 13: The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict & Victoria Murray