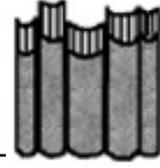


Ex Libris



Newsletter of the San Buenaventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Fall 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Kathy Thomson

Hidden treasures can be discovered in many places. Perhaps you cherish a beautiful quote from your favorite book or have learned of Ventura's hidden treasures from Richard Senate's summer lecture series.

The literary treasures in our overstuffed warehouse are just waiting to be shared with Ventura's readers. The historic Dudley House will be the scene of our next book sale to be held on Saturday, October 13 and, by popular demand, continued on Sunday, October 14.

Johanna Dudley Overby played a big part in SBFOL's history. She served on the Friends' board as a charter member. She has also been recognized as having held a library card the longest of any patron of the library system.

Bulk book sales, as well as the operation of our book store at Foster Library, require a lot of volunteers.

Can you lend a hand with the upcoming book sale? We need a large delivery truck, truck drivers, help loading and unloading the truck (load on a Friday, unload on a Saturday morning), table and book set up, greeters and helpers to guide patrons to specific categories, and take down help at the end of the day. You may leave a message at 658-2248 or at our email address info@sbfol.org should you be able to lend a hand for a hour or two at our next sale.

And please join us at one of our upcoming events described inside this newsletter. You are sure to be enlightened and entertained.

The **Summer Reading Program 2012** was launched with

NIFTY BALLOON SHOWS

for kids of all ages at the Foster, Avenue and Saticoy branches.



At E.P. Foster, about 400 attended the kick-off. The show for patrons of the Avenue Library was held at the Westside Community Center, drawing about 150 students from Sheridan Way School.

Over 650 children signed up for the program at E.P. Foster Library and 58 volunteered for the Summer Reading Program desk, providing staffing for a total of 887 hours. Two volunteers worked 100 or more hours. Throughout the summer 6 programs drew over 1200 attendees and 7 storytimes (including crafts) brought out over 650 attendees. The LapSit program for babies up to 18 months continued through the summer and the Paws for Reading Program continues with two canine visitors every Saturday.

The Avenue Library offered weekly activities including a visit from the Ojai Raptor Rescue and a slide presentation on bats. Both of these programs packed the homework center room.

Thanks so much to the Friends of the Library for enabling our libraries to offer such a great program for our community. The kids love it and keep coming back for more!

TWICE SOLD TALES

**SBFOL Book Sale
at the Historic Dudley House
(corner of Loma Vista & Ashwood)**

**Saturday, October 13
SBFOL Members Preview 9:30 to 10:00
Open to All 10:00 to 4:00 p.m.
&
Sunday, October 14
Open to All 11:00 to 2:00**

CLEOPATRA DAY TRIP

Come join us on November 8 for a day of fun, entertainment and fabulous artifacts. San Buenaventura Friends of the Library and Ventura Museum Docent Volunteer Council are collaborating on a day trip to Los Angeles to see the largest collection of Cleopatra-era artifacts ever displayed in the U.S. and view the IMAX presentation **Mysteries of Egypt** starring Omar Sharif. And we'll have some fun on the bus getting there and back!

See enclosed flyer for more information.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

LIVE FOREVER: The Ray Bradbury Odyssey

Documentary Premiere in Ventura November 11, 2012

Throughout his life, Ray Bradbury, beloved science fiction and fantasy author, liked to recount the story of meeting a carnival magician, Mr. Electrico, in 1932. At the end of his performance Electrico reached out to the twelve-year-old old Bradbury, touched his nose with an electrified sword, made his hair stand on end, and shouted, "Live forever!" Bradbury remarked, "I felt that something strange and wonderful had happened to me because of my encounter with Mr. Electrico...[he] gave me a future...I began to write, full-time. I have written every single day of my life since that day." On Sunday, November 11, Michael O'Kelly's tribute to that extraordinary life premieres at the Century 10 Theatre in Ventura.

Ray Bradbury was a great supporter of public libraries, crediting them for his education. In fact, **The Fireman**, later published under the name **Fahrenheit 451**, was written on a typewriter rented in UCLA's Powell Library for 10¢ per half hour for a total cost of \$9.80.

It is fitting, then, that proceeds from the premiere and after party will benefit Ventura's libraries under the aegis of San Buenaventura Friends of the Library, a proud co-sponsor of the event. See the enclosed flyer for information on time, place and cost. The Ventura Film Society's website is now processing Paypal payment for tickets to **LIVE FOREVER: The Ray Bradbury Odyssey** at www.venturafilmsociety.com/tickets.html

LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

The Library Advisory Commission is forming working committees to implement the first year goals of The Strategic Plan. Committees to explore the future of both the Avenue Library and a library presence in east Ventura are also being formed. If you wish to participate in planning for the future, please email Berta Steele at b.steele@roadrunner.com or Denise Sindelar at dsindelar@ci.ventura.ca.us. We are also planning public meetings to report on our progress in meeting our one-year goals and to receive feedback on actions and accomplishments. Watch for updates and stay involved in creating the library of the future for the City of Ventura.

Membership cards are now available. **Please pick yours up at the Friends' Book Store** in E.P. Foster Library. Show your membership card to receive \$1.00 off all Book Store purchases of \$5.00 or more. Please check your mailing label to see the date your membership expires. Memberships always expire on March 31, the end of SBFOL's fiscal year. We are unable to accept renewals paid more than 3 months in advance of the end of our fiscal year (except for Lifetime Memberships). Renewals received before January 1, 2013 will apply to the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013. Those received after January 1, 2013 will apply to the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014.

We appreciate your desire to contribute to SBFOL through membership dues. If your membership is current (expires 3/31/2013) and you wish to contribute more to SBFOL, we will receipt your check as a "Donation". Memorials and Tribute donations are also welcome. For questions about donations, please call our treasurer, Gary Stephens (805)642-7787.

Richard Senate, local historian and raconteur, draws us into the holiday season with tales of

Fiestas of Old California
E.P. Foster Library Topping Room
Saturday, December 1
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided.
 RSVP by e-mail or calling Marcia Ortiz
mrortiz@earthlink.net (805) 643-4281

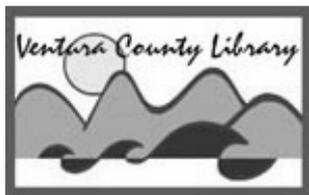
Thank you for your generous donation

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in memory of **Barbara Meyer**
from
 John & Doris Cowart
 Barbara & Sam Marsh

Judy & Les Vielbig
 Bill & Marcia Wakelee
 E.L. West

A Note from the Ventura County Library Director



Thank you to The Friends for giving me this space to tell you all the exciting things that are happening throughout the Ventura County Library System.

If you haven't looked at our website lately, please take a moment and check out our electronic resources. You probably already know about the databases. You can do so much with these: car repair manuals, health resources and the great *Learn A Test* database where you can practice taking tests from GED's to SAT's and Firefighter exams. My personal new favorite is Video Access on Demand. There are 18,000 documentaries from the BBC, PBS and many other sources. Many of them are searchable so that you can find just the video you need. And all you need to access any of these is your library card.

The computer lab at Foster has been upgraded and is being heavily used. In fact, it's being used so much that we are having to add another T-1 line to speed everything up. Avenue has added many new Spanish language resources. Both branches are seeing a huge increase in use.

In the next few months you can expect to see more services added. The next should be a smart phone library app so that even while wandering in the stacks you will be able to access our catalog and other resources.

We're proud that in these rough economic times we've been able to use technology in smart ways to keep bringing you new services. Almost every library system in Southern California has seen cuts to hours and services. We are one of the lowest funded libraries of our size in California, but our response to tough times has been to find new and creative ways to provide additional services.

There are two ways you can help. Support our Friends. They provide most of our funding for programming and a great deal of other resources. And, when possible, use our self-check machines. Our staff is our greatest resource and the more that you check out your own materials, the more they can focus on bringing you new services and helping you find what you need. Some of you may worry that using self-checks will cause staff to lose their jobs but nothing could further from the truth. We serve more people with fewer staff than any library our size in California. We just want to use them to bring you the most service possible.

--Jackie Griffin

If you're still struggling with your gadgets, remember help is available as **Teens Teach Tech** every 3rd Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at E.P. Foster Library.

Teens Teach Tech is a project of the Youth Activity Council (YAC) at E.P. Foster.

Free printing is offered to students for any school projects in the computer lab at E.P. Foster. Librarian Star Soto would like to offer a Homework Center as well. A volunteer is needed to make this possible. If you would like to help, please contact Star Soto at the library: star.soto@ventura.org (805) 648-2716

To E-book or Not to E-book?

by Joanne Fields

Just like the industrial revolution we are in a new technical age. You can buy e-books from a book seller or borrow them from a library. Why use today's newest technology for a very old task like reading?

America today is used to technology. Our youth have grown up with computers, mp3 players and cell phones. We're used to instant answers to questions and having information at our fingertips. E-books fulfill that desire.

The Kindle and Nook are different e-book devices which are available. Everyone has their take on which is better. In addition, you can read e-books on Adobe Digital Editions which are books in PDF.

As in the past, the market will eventually settle which technology becomes dominant. The question is will it be the technology you have bought into? The Library of Congress is constantly fighting to access video and audio files in technologies no longer in general use. Remember 8-track tapes?

Today's e-books are convenient to carry. But what about software updates? That has been known to lock purchasers out of access to their books. What about system failures? E-books can be lost as a result. Will the seller answer the customer's need for a re-download? And at what cost? Will the reading devices have enough memory to hold your e-book library or will you have to invest in upgrades or an external drive to maintain your library? What type of help is offered by sellers for password issues or incomplete downloads? What about freezing screens or unexpected quitting of the e-book?

Making a choice on whether to go digital or not should include consideration of longterm costs and accessibility when using technology. Is the device user friendly? Does the seller offer help when issues crop up? Do I want the convenience of a digital book or the durability of a print copy? Am I willing to accept all that comes with a digital book?

Only you can answer these questions.



P.O. Box 403 Ventura, CA 93002

Calling all Members of San Buenaventura Friends of the Library!

We can always use more friends -- invite yours to join!

Lifetime Membership (\$1,000) Business (\$250) Sponsor (\$100)
Family (\$30) Individual (\$20) Student (\$10)

Make checks payable to: SBFOL Send to: P.O. Box 403, Ventura, 93002

SBFOL Supports the public libraries of the City of Ventura in their delivery of library services, including:

- Purchase of library materials and equipment, e.g. books, CDs, DVDs, books on tape, bookcases
- Summer programs for children and youth
- Special programs, e.g. receptions, anniversaries, speakers
- Increase public awareness of legislation and other activities that may affect the delivery of library services

SBFOL is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization entirely directed by volunteers.

Name _____	New <input type="checkbox"/>
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