



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

131 E. Las Flores Avenue 📖 Ridgecrest, California 93555

Home Page: www.ridgecrestfriends.org

Quarterly Newsletter

February 2017 - April 2017

Little Free Libraries



Little Free Library in Inyokern

The Friends have installed two Little Free Libraries (LFL) and initiated another with donations from the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital, the Walmart Foundation, and Roger Peck and Terry Mitchell. The first LFL, (# 57269) is in Inyokern Park. The Friends held a grand opening on Saturday, January 13th, with cookies and a ribbon cutting. Some of the children in the park came to watch and helped with the ceremony. We appreciated the support we got from the Kern County Parks Department, especially Aaron Duff, to help us find the location. The LFL is in Inyokern Park near the senior center in the Northeast Corner. Preceptor Lambda Chi sorority is acting as steward to maintain the library and keep it stocked with children's and adult books.

The second LFL (#63491) is in Upjohn Park on the walkway between the covered patio and the basketball courts. Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation, Jason Patin and Nick Humphrey helped with the location and installation. Jerry Bradley and Peter Wiley did the actual installation of both LFLs. Janice Norcross is the steward for this library. We will have an opening ceremony on Friday, February 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in the park to introduce it to the community.

The third LFL has been ordered and we are searching for the best possible location. Stay tuned for more news. We will keep you posted.



Little Free Library in Upjohn Park

Treasures and Collectible Books Sale



The Friends held our first Vintage Books and Treasures sale on December 9 in the annex in the Sierra Vista (Old Albertsons) Shopping Center. We featured many of the older, collectible books that had never been shown before. John Anderson, Sue Parker, Pat Boyd, and others helped to research prices for the books that were then priced at half of the researched value.

Many people came to do early Christmas shopping among the books, Christmas décor, music and videos. The treasures included Dickens Village pieces, a Fontanini Nativity scene, and a collection of antique cups and saucers. The sale brought in \$1118.15 to benefit the Friends. It was also a good opportunity to clear out some older items. Special thanks go to Janice Norcross who organized the sale and made sure it was a success, and Barbara Lupei for her generous donations.

Friends of the Ridgcrest Branch Library is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Friends of Kern County Library since 1986. Visit the County Library web site at www.kerncountylibrary.org

A Proud Partner of



Giving Locally, Helping Locally

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President

Sandy Bradley
(760) 371-3590
sandy.bradley@verizon.net

Vice President: Memberships

Carol Pearson
(760) 375-7258
capears66@iwvisp.com

Vice President: Book Sales

Janice Norcross
760-382-3061
djnorx@gmail.com

Treasurer

Nani Banks
760-371-2583
banksck@iwvisp.com

Secretary

Barbara Lupei
(760)375-0304
lupei@verizon.net

Members-at-Large

Peggy Johnson
Vicki Siegel
Pat Walters

Acting Branch Supervisor

Charissa Wagner

Board Meeting Calendar

February 21, 2018
March 21, 2018
April 18, 2018
May 16, 2018

No meetings in June, July, or December

Meetings are held in the Library's Community Room at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. **YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** Use the Community Room entrance on the west side of the Library

Library Hours

Mon. Closed
Tues. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Wed. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Thurs. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Fri. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sun. Closed

Phone: (760) 384-5870



President's Message

By Sandy Bradley



Hello friends.

A new year is here, and we have a new board for the Friends. We are happy to introduce Nani Banks as our new treasurer, and Pat Walters as a new member-at-large. Janice Norcross, who had been acting, is now the Vice President for Book Sales. Roy Parris, our Past President will be spending more time in his other home in Wyoming. He has provided guidance and support for me and others on the board for many years. We will continue to welcome him at meetings he can attend although he will not be a voting member.

Sadly, we lost Bill Eichenberg in the fall. He was a wonderful man and great friend who served as Treasurer, Vice President for Book Sales. He helped us in too many ways large and small that are too many to list. Roy has written a nice tribute to him that appears later in this newsletter.

In December we held the first Treasures and Collectable Books Sale. We have also continued with installing Little Free Libraries in the community. You may want to see the reports later in the newsletter on these efforts.

My personal dreams for 2018 (and the future) for the Friends include adding more library space, part of that to be a maker space. I'd also like to see a promotional video that highlights what the library does for the community, and why improving it will benefit everyone. If anyone has ideas or wants to volunteer to help, contact us.

I hope all of you enjoy a happy and healthy 2018.

Sandy

Results of the Election of Officers 2018

President: Sandy Bradley
Vice President – Membership: Carol Pearson
Vice President – Book Sales: Janice Norcross
Secretary: Barbara Lupei
Treasurer: Nani Banks
Members at large: Peggy Johnson
Vicki Siegel
Pat Walters



LIBRARIAN'S

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By Charissa Wagner, Acting Branch Supervisor

It's a new year and we are hopeful for some new changes! Unfortunately, nothing as exciting as more staff or more space, but as this year progresses, there should be some noticeable changes.

Last year ended with surprise extra closure days (WITH PAY) between Christmas Day and New Year's Day, thanks to union negotiations. It was met with mixed reviews from staff and public, but on the bright side, it was a two year contract (for 2017 and 2018) so everyone will be better prepared this year.

In staff-related news, Doris had hip replacement surgery, which went well. She had very little pain and has been back to work for a few months now. We still have our Extra Help (Gail) for coverage during vacations and illnesses through part of July, which is very helpful.

The end of 2017 saw the sunset of the rental book program. It was meant to be self-sustaining but has not been as a whole for a few years. While Ridgecrest borrowers REALLY liked rental books and we had one of the higher checkouts, the decision was made to shift staff time used to process rentals to another area. As soon as you see a best seller is coming out, try to get it requested. Also, use the "Request for Materials" section of the website! While we CANNOT guarantee purchase, if it is, you are automatically added to the request list at that time.

We will cross some things off from our wish list, such as new magazine covers and magazine stands for donated and other not cataloged magazines thanks to the incredibly generous donations made in memory of Bill Eichenberg. We also hope to get some other items later this spring too, so be sure to come in and check them out, along with a book or two of course.

Planning is underway for the "Reading Takes You Everywhere!" Summer Reading Challenge (also at Inyokern Elementary). If you read (or listen to audiobooks) PLEASE participate, by logging 10 finished books between June and July. We've always received AMAZING prizes and prizes for adults included: free smoothies from Pure Healing Foods, gift certificates to Maturango Museum, 4-packs of SODA from Indian Wells Brewing Company, and gift certificates for Roaming Dog Kitchen. In 2016, we had 25 adults read 626 books. In 2017, we had 47 adults read 796 books. In 2018, we hope to increase that number still and would appreciate your participation.

If you have a skill to share with either adults or children, please let me know (ASAP as the summer event schedule is due on March 3). This could be anything from drawing to crocheting to building a simple box to telling stories to photography and more! If you would like to help out with any of our MANY activities, please let me know. I am also trying to put together a showcase of day trip locations, if anyone would like to talk about and show pictures from a trip. I haven't figured out the format just yet but if you would like to share, please let me know.



This 'n That

by Vicki Siegel

We are so pleased to welcome six new fully trained volunteers who heard our desperate plea for help in the bookshop area and the Annex and took the leap: **Loralynn Chrostowski, Ike Fujiwara, Veronica Hart, Vivian Hayes, Debbie Schiller, and Karen Sizemore.** Thank you and Welcome Aboard!

TRIBUTE TO BILL EICHENBERG

By Roy Parris

“Hello Roy Lee. This is William Lee.” That is how Bill Eichenberg greeted me given our common middle name during most telephone calls involving Friends of the Library business during the last nine years. However, I can remember Bill and his family from the past almost 40 years here in the Valley. Two of Bill and Flo’s four children just happen to be the same ages as two of our three children and attended the same school as our kids. In addition, my wife Bette was the YMCA Indian Guide coordinator when the Eichenberg kids were small and involved in Y Indian Guides. I remember Bill as Ridgecrest City Administrator. He was there about 4 years, the average stint for any city administrator. I remember when Bill came to work in the Management Analysis Division in the Administration Building on Base. I worked in the same building in Budget so our paths occasionally crossed at work.

Bill went on to become a Head of Staff for a major technical department. Specifically, for years he headed the effort to find funding for what was called “unbillables”. In retrospect, it was ironic that “Bill” headed the “unbillable” effort. This required persistence and patience in dealing with others, skills which Bill had in abundance. Later, as the Base reorganized into “competencies,” Bill ended up in the Business and Financial Management Competency, retiring from there in 2004. Throughout his career, Bill exhibited the unfailing ability to work with anyone in getting the job done. Also throughout his career, he and Flo invested their time in raising a wonderful family while Bill also continued a career in the US Army Reserves.

Bill and I never really worked together until I became a member of the Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library Board in 2009. Bill held key positions for the Friends including Vice President for Book Sales and Treasurer. Since the Friends Board is a working Board, we both lifted many a box of books for the periodic book sales: sometimes he was the Chair, sometimes Flo, even once I was the Chairman for a book sale. Neither of us looked forward to the day of the sales because our old backs would be worn out by the end of the day. However, I do not know how the Friends would have gotten by during the past 9 years without Bill and Flo. Their efforts and their leadership skills have been indispensable.

I have mentioned Bill’s family, which he looked at as his legacy, his wife, his professional career and his military career. However, any discussion of Bill Eichenberg would be incomplete without mentioning that Bill was a man of Catholic faith. He not only professed it, he lived it. He was available to answer questions from those interested in his religion and, although humble, he had every right to be proud of his contributions in various church positions. He not only attended church, he was an active member of his church, a model of behavior for others.

I cannot recall anyone criticizing Bill nor do I recall him criticizing others. He was cheerful and patient with those who would try others patience. He was a loving husband and father whose family is a tribute to his life. Let us all strive to lead lives that make contributions as significant as Bill’s have been. If I am fortunate enough to someday see Bill again, I will say, “Hello William Lee. This is Roy Lee and I have missed you so very much.”

REMEMBER, BOOKS, MAGAZINES, T-SHIRTS, NOTECARDS, GIFT CERTIFICATES, AND BOOK BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR ONGOING SALE AT THE LIBRARY.

Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice-President–Memberships

As we begin 2018, we would like to acknowledge generous members who contributed \$50 (Sponsor level) or more as they renewed their membership during 2017.

Margaret & Linda Anderson
 Elizabeth Babcock
 Jeanne Backman
 Donald Baldwin
 Ken & Nani Banks
 Debby & Frank Buffum
 Thomas Cooper
 Don & Erma Cortichiato
 Dolores DiPol
 Rod & Judy Ditzler
 Irene Dodson

K A Donahue
 Flo & Bill Eichenberg
 Ike Fujiwara
 Rob & Julie Gervais
 Sharon Juarez
 Bob Kirchmeier
 Mary & Daniel Kus
 Ann Lenz
 Marsha Lloyd
 Charles & Louise McIntosh
 Elaine Miller

Linda Minshew
 Merritt & Yasuko Mullen
 Naomi Norris
 Kenneth Pritchard
 Alexander Rogers
 Linda Rolfs
 Vivian Ryno
 Sharon & Paul Smith
 Michael Steinmetz
 Janet Warner
 Joy Young

Your renewal date should appear on your mailing address but I will not have the opportunity to highlight it if you need to renew. As always, I will send renewal notices via postcard or email to remind you but it helps a lot when you notice it and respond. When you do renew, please include “Friends” on your envelope address so library staff can quickly route it to us.

<u>FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP</u>													
Date: _____													
Memberships Are Renewable Annually													
Organization/Business Name: (Business memberships start at the \$50)													
Individual Name: <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr.													
Mailing Address: _____													
Phone: _____	Email: _____												
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I am interested in helping in Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library activities. I am especially interested in <i>(check all that apply)</i>:													
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Vincent Avalos, Edward Jones Investments
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Please let these generous contributors know that you appreciate their support of our Library.

BOOK STORE HOURS

MONDAY—CLOSED

TUESDAY—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY—CLOSED through end of summer to accommodate library programs

THURSDAY—1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FRIDAY—CLOSED

SATURDAY—9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

SUNDAY—CLOSED



Check the date on your mailing label! Is it time to renew your membership? If so, please take a moment to fill out and return the application on the other side. Not time to renew yet? Pass the application on to a friend!

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