



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

131 E. Las Flores Avenue 📖 Ridgecrest, California 93555

Home Page: www.ridgecrestfriends.org

Quarterly Newsletter

August 2017 - October 2017

Dates for the Fall 2017 Book Sale are Set

By Janice Norcross

Volunteers are needed to help! Please sign up to donate two hours restocking the tables. You'll enjoy browsing the great variety of books and visiting with shoppers and volunteers.

"The first time I volunteered at the sale," said Barbara Lupei, "training took only a few minutes. I got right to work and enjoyed myself. There are chairs in the back room when you need to take a break. Bring water, and be sure to check the kitchen area for doughnuts and snacks!"

The sale dates are September 23 and 30. The available time blocks are 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. for final set-up, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for clean-up. If you can't work on those dates, ask about the days prior to the 23rd when a lot of set-up will be completed.

Please call Janice Norcross at 760-382-3061 or email djnorx@gmail.com by September 20 with the dates and times you want to volunteer.

This is a great opportunity to serve your Library and your Community.

Volunteers Needed



All of our friends are supporters just by paying their dues. But there is more that is needed, and we need that help even more now. As people take vacations, leave the area, or encounter health issues, many positions become vacant. You may be able to help out once a week, or just one time, but we can use your support.

Currently we need help:

- 📖 Sorting, pricing, and stocking shelves in the library and in the annex.
- 📖 Transporting books to and from the library, and picking up donations
- 📖 Helping price and list "special books" on Amazon
- 📖 Helping in the library or with special events
- 📖 For the next book sale. (See the article on the sale for specifics)
- 📖 With publicity

If you are interested in any of these jobs or just want to know more about them feel free to call or email Janice Norcross djnorx@gmail.com

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

Friends of the Ridgecrest 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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(760) 371-3590
sandy.bradley@verizon.net

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(760) 375-7258
capears66@iwvisp.com

Vice President: Book Sales

(vacant)

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(760)463-1269
hiferguson5@gmail.com

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

Members-at-Large

Peggy Johnson
Vicki Siegel

Past President

Roy Parris

Acting Branch Supervisor

Charissa Wagner

Board Meeting Calendar

August 16, 2017
September 20, 2017
October 18, 2017
November 15, 2017

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 again friends.

We take time off during the summer with a break from the usual monthly meetings, but resume again in August. Please feel free to join in our meetings – on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the library meeting room. We love to have new friends with fresh ideas. Everyone is welcome.

Many of you have seen headlines in the Bakersfield Californian and the Daily Independent that mentioned the Grand Jury report on the decline of the library system. This was a big concern when we first saw it. But the more we learned, the less concern it caused. The grand jury recommendations for closure were specific to one branch in Bakersfield. Their other recommendations for a clearer vision and mission statement and goals make sense. We were very happy that our own Daily Independent opinion supported the library and the wonderful activities that have been going on all summer.

I have been sending out letters to some businesses and organizations requesting their support. We are asking specifically so that we might be able to put up more little free libraries in our area, and we'd also like to build a maker space that the community could use. I am happy to report that the Ridgecrest Regional Hospital (RRH) has given us \$500. That money will be used to put up a Little Free Library. Many thanks to our supporters for helping us to meet our goals.

Meanwhile, the library summer reading program is going strong, and there are activities available daily. Take advantage of all the free programs and visit often.

Together we help make the library better. Thanks, Sandy

WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATIONS, BUT PLEASE DON'T BRING IN ANY BOOKS OR BOXES THAT ARE NOT IN GOOD CONDITION. PROBLEMS CAN SPREAD AND HURT OTHER BOOKS AND EVEN THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MUST HANDLE THEM. SOME EXAMPLES OF PROBLEMS:

- = **BOXES WITH SPIDERS, COCKROACHES, AND EXCESSIVE DIRT AND DUST.**
- = **BOOKS WITH WATER DAMAGE**
- = **BOOKS SO OLD THAT THEY ARE FALLING APART**
- = **BOOKS WITH MOLD AND OR MILDEW.**
- = **MAGAZINES THAT ARE MORE THAN 3 MONTHS OLD**

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP IN KEEPING OUR BOOKS AND VOLUNTEERS IN GOOD CONDITION.

CUPCAKE WARS - SEPTEMBER 30 AT THE BOOK SALE.



LIBRARIAN'S

By Charissa Wagner, Acting Branch Supervisor

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The Ridgecrest Branch Library is a very busy place, especially over the summer time. We've had lots of events and some changes to share.

June brought another successful Pub Trivia at Casey's Steaks & BBQ as we've outgrown the "back room" and filled the "front room" as well. The next ones are Tuesday August 8 (8/8) and Tuesday, October 10 (10/10). We received more "We Tech" grant items - wired tables in the Adult non-fiction area (which are being used regularly), mobile device chargers (freestanding and wall mounted), and technology-related books for adults and children. Speaking of books, almost \$700 in donations were made in memory of Mary Lattig. The books were displayed on the wood display cart for a couple of months and will be moved into the Children's Room shelves after being collected for one picture to be shared with the Lattig family to give them the full effect of just how many books were purchased in her memory.

Barbara Robertson, one of our permanent Departmental Aides got a job teaching English in Japan and left in mid-July. We will not get a replacement or Extra Help person at this time. We will see what the future budget brings but will be making some programming changes and trying to find more volunteers to run programs for us. Two other library supervisors (Michele at Mojave/Boron and Jamie at Southwest) are both moving on, Michele to the Mojave school district and Jamie to a Fresno library (closer to family). Rafael, supervisor of Arvin and Lamont, will now be at Southwest.

Summer Reading Challenge, themed "Reading By Design" is coming to a close. The next newsletter will share numbers. We continued offering programs for all ages on multiple days at multiple times. On any given week, we had SEVEN activities on the weekdays and at least TWO activities every Saturday. Our Guest Visitors were very popular (especially the free shave ice from Tutu's). Many enjoyed the Thursday and Friday crafts. We offered STEM Lab and activities by Opportunities for Learning on Thursday afternoons. Thank you to the FRBL Ongoing Sales volunteers, who have been patient with the changes this summer.

The Summer Reading Challenge outreach/satellite location at Inyokern Elementary School was a success again and very much appreciated. In the beginning of the school year, I will go out to Inyokern Elementary for an assembly to hand out the prizes that their students earned. Many thanks to Gateway Ace Hardware and Bernardino's who were very generous sponsors specifically for the Inyokern Elementary location.

The Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. sponsored two shows at every branch as usual, which were Omnipresent Puppet Theater and The Magic of Christopher Lopez. Both shows always draw a large audience. Some big shows sponsored by FRBL were the Wild Child Adventures Bubble Show, interactive storyteller Jim Cogan, and free shave ice day with Tutu's. He served almost 250 shave ices in just over two hours. We offered a lot of different crafts this summer, with the supplies purchased by FRBL.

We'd like to thank the following wonderfully generous sponsors for participating in the Ridgecrest Branch Library's Summer Reading Challenge. Most are returning sponsors and we truly do appreciate their generosity and community spirit.

- Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc. (finisher books, Omnipresent Puppet Theater, The Magic of Christopher Lopez)
- Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library (finisher bags/some items, supplies for activities, and shave ice courtesy of Tutu's)
- Pizza Factory (free pizza bread and child drink coupons for all of the Child finisher bags)
- Bear Hugs (free 3 oz. of frozen treat for ALL of the finisher bags)
- Little Caesar's (free order of Crazy Bread for ALL of the finisher bags)
- Jack in the Box (free milkshake coupons, free curly fries coupons for most finisher bags)
- Opportunities for Learning Spartans (sunglasses for over half of the bags)

LIBRARIAN'S CORNER (continued)

- Indian Wells Brewing Company (36 4-packs of sodas)
- City of Ridgecrest Parks & Recreation Department (free passes to basketball Open Gym)
- Infinite Movement Academy (10 passes to Open Gym for children and teens)
- Pure Healing Foods (25 free smoothie coupons)
- Roaming Dog Kitchen (\$96 worth of coupons for various ages)
- Classic Burgers (2 @\$25 gift cards)
- Maturango Museum (10 \$5 gift certificates)
- McDonalds (100 Happy Meal coupons and 50 free ice cream coupons)
- Taco Bell (free taco coupons for teen and adult finisher bags)

Friends Secure a Grant for 598 New Children's Books

The donation of books was made by The Molina Foundation, a national nonprofit organization based in Long Beach, California, as part of its Share-a-Story literacy campaign taking place this spring across the country. The Friends applied to the Molina Foundation and were approved to give the books as part of the Summer Reading program. The grant was valued at over \$4,500.

Share-a-Story is The Molina Foundation's initiative to highlight the importance of literacy for children and families. The campaign is designed to coincide with the nationwide annual celebrations of Día de Los Niños, and other children's reading programs. Kern County's summer reading is a valued part of our community and the Friends are thrilled to provide books to ensure that each participant gets at least one free book to take home.

The Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library are partners with other Kern County Friends organizations and support the library financially to provide materials and, equipment, furnishings, etc. The Molina Foundation is a Long Beach, CA-based national nonprofit organization dedicated to the mission of reducing disparities in access to education and health.



This 'N That

by Vicki Siegel

"Coming together is a beginning - staying together is progress – and working together is success"
(Author Unknown)

The above quotation really describes the Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library- its' great supportive Membership and Volunteers!

As we're all in survival mode to get through the heat of summer, you may have noticed that our library is busier than ever with several special programs going on every day, making it the hub of summer fun for kids of all ages! Kudos to Charissa Wagner, Branch Library Supervisor, for her amazing creativity in designing such varied and fun activities and making our library more vibrant and relevant than ever! Of course this wouldn't happen without your continued support! The Friends supply most of the funding for these programs, as well as paying for the magazine and newspaper subscriptions, the purchase of new books for the collection, new furniture for the public spaces, a mini-fridge for the staff room, expensive software for the children's computer, short term best-seller rental books, additional bookshelves, a movie screen...and soon to be, an electronic sign board for activities. There's so much more - too much for the space here! As you can see, FRBL is the backbone of our library and supplies the funding that Kern County doesn't - it would be a very different place without us. It's a COOL PLACE to enjoy in every season!

Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice-President–Memberships

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our library support group.

Ana Long

Paul Dawson

Judy Fair-Spaulding

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.**



June Pub Trivia at Casey's Steaks & BBQ



Wall mounted mobile device charger (“We Tech” grant)

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____

Memberships Are Renewable Annually

Organization/Business Name:
(Business memberships start at the \$50)

Individual Name: Miss Mrs.
 Ms. Mr.

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Type of Membership (check one):

- Individual..... \$5.00
- Family..... \$10.00
- Sustaining.....\$25.00
- Sponsoring..... \$50.00
- Benefactor..... \$100.00
- Other Contribution\$ _____

- New Member
- Renewal

Please make check payable to:
Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

Please mail or bring to:
Ridgecrest Branch Library
131 E. Las Flores
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

I am interested in helping in Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library activities. I am especially interested in *(check all that apply)*:

- Annual Book Sales
- Ongoing Book Sale in the Library
- Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library
- Pricing Books for Sale
- Writing for the Newsletter
- Internet Book Sales
- Special Events
- Answering E-mail
- Becoming a Board Member
- I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

AltaOne Federal Credit Union
Heritage Montessori School
KP PRODUCTIONS Graphics/Banners/Signs
Literacy Council of IWV, Inc.
McDonald's of Ridgecrest
PackWrap
Pizza Factory

Ridge Writers
Ridgecrest Regional Hospital
Rusty Warren's Automotive
Sierra Sands Unified School District
TJ Frisbee Bicycles
Vincent Avalos, Edward Jones Investments
WACOM

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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