



# Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

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131 E. Las Flores Avenue  Ridgecrest, California 93555  
Home Page: <http://rcfriends0.tripod.com>

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Quarterly Newsletter

February 2015 - April 2015

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## Fall Sale Will Be Held on Two Days

*By Bill Eichenberg*

In planning for our upcoming fall sale we have decided to try having it on two successive Saturdays to allow an opportunity to participate for those who might be out of town on the initial date, which is a flex Friday weekend. The dates selected are September 26 and October 3, both to be held at our “annex” in the Sierra Vista Shopping Center on North Norma Street.

The operating hours for the sale will be the same as for our past sales. We will open at 9:00 a.m. for “Members Only” and then for the general public at 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Memberships will be sold at the door.

There should be plenty of books and other media to choose from as we have been inundated with donations over the past several months. And since our display space is somewhat limited we will be bringing out new material as the sale progresses, so you will want to check us out on both weekends if you are able.

Proceeds from our semi-annual sales are used to support our local Ridgecrest branch library programs which include new and replacement book purchases, the summer reading program (which included a program in Inyokern this year), and the Wi-Fi service at the library. Our library is strengthened and improved by your participation in our sales, an excellent example of a “win-win” situation.

## Donations Keep Rolling In

Residents of our Indian Wells Valley have been extremely generous over the past several months with donations of used books and other media. In fact, we have been inundated with a great variety of donated material which we are diligently working to process and get out on our shelves. We appreciate all of these donations and welcome more.

Some guidelines for donations that would really help us in our efforts:

- For donations of more than a box or a bag or two, please give Bill or Flo a call (760-375-8798) to arrange for drop off or pick up. Large donations taken to the library make more work for us as we do limited sorting and pricing at the library and have to transport these large donations to our annex. They also interfere with the library staff's space.
- If you can, please sort your donations by category such as hard back, paperback, and visual media.
- Magazines can be taken directly to the library and put in our donation barrel inside the front door. We prefer recent magazines (within the last year) except for cooking related publications. And please, no catalogues!
- Other items we really can't use include encyclopedias and medical and law books. If you have questions about what to donate, please call the above number.

We really do appreciate your donations. In fact, we could not exist without them. Thank you.

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

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**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](http://www.kerncountylibrary.org).

A Proud Partner of



Giving Locally, Helping Locally

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[sandy.bradley@verizon.net](mailto:sandy.bradley@verizon.net)

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##### Members-at-Large

Peggy Johnson  
Vicki Siegel

##### Past President

Roy Parris

##### Acting Branch Supervisor

Charissa Wagner

#### Board Meeting Calendar

August 19, 2015  
September 16, 2015  
October 21, 2015  
November 18, 2015

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.

I hope you are enjoying some summer fun and also looking forward to the cooler fall. It has been a busy summer for the Friends, and they have given many volunteer hours to benefit the library, and in particular the children of our community.

Because of the hard work of the staff and volunteers, and donations from the generous merchants of Ridgecrest and Inyokern, we had very successful summer reading programs. A special thanks goes to **Terri Middlemiss**, whose persistence resulted in the program in Inyokern. That program was featured on our local TV station. One highlight was the young girl who didn't like reading until she joined the summer reading program.

The summer was also a time of learning. John Anderson and Sue Parker, our volunteer experts on valuable books, were kind enough to teach some of us their skills. We learned how to identify and describe book qualities to fetch a good price when we sell them online. With a little practice we may be able to put even more dollars into our treasury. Each dollar helps buy more books and materials for the library.

We had a brief reprieve from the worry of privatization of the library, as the CAO and Board of Supervisors looked into a new survey and set of meetings for our county residents to share their views on the library. Three of us met with our supervisor, Mick Gleason, and his assistant, Denny Kline, to share our concerns on LSSI, the company looking to privatize the library. Mick and Denny were good enough to look into our concerns, and we appreciated the opportunity. I was also asked to participate in developing the survey for the county. I will report more on that after the group meets for the first time, next month.

I am always proud to be a member of a group of such hard-working, passionate individuals. As Friends of the Library, you are the best.

### Let the County Board of Supervisors Know that you Value Libraries

Many of you have seen the article in the DI about LSSI. They have said they are a "public-private" cooperative effort for Kern county Libraries. We disagree. We are concerned for many reasons. We list a few of the main ones below.

=They will hire and fire all employees, who will not be protected by civil service.

=They will select all books, magazines, etc., without a need to present all sides of an argument.

=They will operate like a bookstore – the only goal is profit.

=They expect volunteers will be happy to work, without pay, even though LSSI will be making a profit, which goes to their corporation in Maryland.

If you want to keep the public libraries public, transparent, and accountable, please let the county know. Here is the feedback site

<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/LibraryPublicOutreachForm.aspx#.VbpeV3hDlkP>

You can paste it in your browser, or search using Kern County Library Public Outreach Form.



# LIBRARIAN'S

*By Charissa Wagner, Acting Branch Supervisor*

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I have lots to share about the Ridgecrest Branch Library! Here is a quick summary - upcoming roofing work, Peck Family Foundation donation request for new shelving, and super exciting Summer Reading Challenge, thanks in large part to the FRBL for funding. Read on for the details...

The Ridgecrest Branch Library will be getting a new roof soon. The details aren't completely finalized, but there was talk about waiting to start until after August 4 so that the project wouldn't interfere with Summer Reading Challenge. They were looking at ways to keep the building cool, since the air conditioning units will need to be removed from the roof at some point during the construction. As of July 30, we haven't been given any final plans or a definite start date.

We were asked to submit a proposal to the Peck Family Foundation for a non-operating item project in the range of \$3,000 to \$4,000, preferably one larger project instead of numerous smaller projects scattered throughout the library. We had a list of a handful of smaller projects, until Curtis came up with a great suggestion. A proposal has been submitted to replace all of the shelving in the Juvenile Fiction area. This area currently has one wire rack shelving unit, one red cart, and two rows of shelving of three different widths and heights. Replacing the Juvenile Fiction shelving will allow the two rows of shelving to be redistributed throughout the library to replace other shelving (in our Juvenile Graphic Novels, New Juvenile Fiction, Adult Fiction and Young Adult Manga sections,) and on the bright side, the relocated shelving will match the existing shelving in the area. The new shelving in the Juvenile Fiction area would be a similar style to that holding the Easy and Non-fiction books. If you would like to see what I am referring to, please ask for the tour and I'll give you a quick walkthrough.

Last but NOT least, I would like to focus on Summer Reading Challenge. The California Library Association and therefore Kern County Library have chosen to use the Illinois Library Association's iREAD program, which is themed "Read to the Rhythm" this year. Through the generosity of the FRBL, we purchased themed bags for children (plastic bags) as well as teen and adult (tote bags) finishers. Themed reading logs, bookmarks, stickers, pencils, and tattoos were purchased in large quantities also.

Our Summer Reading Kickoff event was a huge success with a packed house! We started with Story Time by Erin Zobell, then Dan Peterson and Katie Johnson of BHS did an "Instrument Show and Tell", then a music performance by RMES (featuring "Belle" from Beauty and the Beast), and finished off with face painting by Regan Sobaje-Pierce. The library was sure loud and busy that day!

We also used FRBL money for exciting summer programs! The Maturango Museum docents brought the Beth Armogida Planetarium and two sun scopes, Oklin Bloodworth presented "Songs with a Kiddie Beat", Eric from E & M's Reptile Family captivated audience members again with his interactive reptile family, and Randel McGee (ventriloquist) and his friend Groark the Dragon entertained their largest Kern County Library crowd (to be fair, they only performed at two KCL locations)!

Last summer was the first summer I participated in the planning side of Summer Reading, and it wasn't minimal since I started in mid-May. The planning was basically done but I did acquire a few more finisher bag coupons. There were school-age kids who finished the required 10 books, turned in their reading logs, got their free book and finisher bag, and read more. However, we had nothing to offer them and had to unfortunately, turn them away since they already received a book and finisher bag. At the Supervisor's Meeting in February, Michele Carey (who at the time worked at Mojave, Rosamond, AND Boron) mentioned that they do prize drawings for those who had read more than the required 10 books. This summer, we were able to get a lot of local businesses to donate coupons for the finisher bags in large quantity or prizes for the drawings. I would like to recognize them all:

*(continued on next page)*

### Kern County Library

Friends of the Kern County Library, Inc.

Legoland- California

Bakersfield Condors

### Ridgecrest (finisher bag supporters)

Pizza Factory (free pizza bread and child soda)

Little Caesars (free Crazy Bread)

Taco Bell (free taco)

Albertsons (free piece of fruit)

Jack-in-the-Box (free fries and free shake)

McDonalds (free ice cream)

Baskin Robbins (free ice cream)

Ridgecrest Parks & Rec Dept (one time pool pass)

Just Imagine (mini comic books)

### Ridgecrest (prize drawing supporters)

Just Imagine (Nancy Drew puzzle)

Little Caesar's (gift certificate)

T.J. Frisbee Bicycles (gift certificate)

Ridgecrest Cinemas (movie tickets)

Indian Wells Brewing Company (4 packs soda)

Sierra Lanes Bowling Alley (free games)

Pure Healing Foods (smoothies)

The Shaved Ice Shack (shaved ice)

Maturango Museum (gift certificates)

Red Rock Books (gift certificates)

John's Pizza (tokens)

FRBL (themed reusable water bottles)

We have given out over 300 finisher bags (and are still going, though the later finishers receive a smaller variety of coupons). Pizza Factory gave us enough coupons for all child finishers. Little Caesars and Taco Bell each donated 300 coupons, Baskin Robbins donated 175 coupons, and Albertsons, McDonalds, Jack-in-the-Box, and Parks & Rec each donated 200 coupons. So far, we have 260 child, 18 teen, and 14 adult finishers and we will still be taking reading logs through Saturday, August 8.

Inyokern Elementary was a satellite location for "Read to the Rhythm" this summer. Be sure to read Terri Middlemiss's article on page six. The program was a huge success and we hope the momentum will carry over to next summer! Here is a link to the TV interview done at local TV station KZGN with Terri, Ms. Ewbank (principal), Ms. Jorgensen (teacher), and triplet girls with their mother. The link will also be clickable on the FRBL Facebook page. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsuhUeiyDpE>

I'd like to also thank **Vicki Siegel** for setting up some fabulous programs for the library. We had a conversation about events and how I would love to do more, but we really depend on volunteers and community members to lead/run the events since staff is, unfortunately, unable to devote as much time as we'd like. She got the ball rolling and in a month and a half set up two events in July (bead bracelet making with Isabel of Spirited Bead and a visit from K-9 Officers Bill Groves and Laky), one event in August (Home Depot will be doing a "Plants 4 Kids" event where the kids will get to paint a pot and put a plant in it to take home), and two events in September (Xeriscaping talk by Jennifer Keep of IWVWD and "Quilting 101" talk by Linda Anderson of the Hi Desert Quilt Guild). Your time and effort is greatly appreciated by the Ridgecrest Branch Library and the patrons Vicki!

## **PIZZA FACTORY & BEANSTERS FUNDRAISERS FOR THE FRIENDS THINK THIRD WEDNESDAY**

**WHO DOESN'T LIKE PIZZA, AND LUNCH OR DINNER AT PIZZA FACTORY IS ALWAYS FUN. BUT NOW, YOU CAN HELP THE LIBRARY OUT, BY HAVING YOUR MEAL AND MENTIONING THE LIBRARY FUNDRAISER OR JUST SHOWING THE FLYER. IF YOU PARTAKE OF YOUR PIZZA, OR OTHER YUMMY, ON A THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH, NAMELY AUGUST 19, SEPTEMBER 16, OCTOBER 15, NOVEMBER 18, OR DECEMBER 16, THE FRIENDS WILL RECEIVE 30% OF THE PROCEEDS. BEANSTERS ESPRESSO IS ALSO PARTICIPATING SO IF YOU ARE GETTING YOUR MORNING COFFEE, STOP THERE. SINCE THEY ARE DONATING GENEROUSLY, THEY ARE NOT HONORING COUPONS OR SPECIALS. WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY SOME PIZZA, AND BE SURE TO MENTION THE FRIENDS OF THE RIDGECREST BRANCH LIBRARY. WE WILL DISTRIBUTE SOME FLYERS AT THE LIBRARY, BUT YOU CAN JUST MENTION THE FRIENDS FOR THE DONATION.**

**FUNDRAISER**  
**FRIENDS OF THE**  
**LIBRARY**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19TH 2015**



**30% OF THE PROCEEDS WILL  
BE DONATED**

**(FLYER CAN NOT BE DISTRIBUTED AT PIZZA FACTORY THE DAY OF THE  
FUNDRAISER)**

**NO COUPONS, SPECIALS OR DISCOUNTS APPLY**

**RIDGECREST PIZZA FACTORY  
BEANSTERS ESPRESSO  
1601 N. TRIANGLE DRIVE  
(760)446-7492**

**MUST PRESENT FLYER OR MENTION FUNDRAISER AT TIME OF PURCHASE.**

**DINE IN - TAKE OUT**

**\*THIS IS NOT A COUPON**

# Inyokern Summer Reading Program 2015

*By Terri Middlemiss*

Great success in Inyokern this summer with the reading program at the Inyokern Elementary School in conjunction with the program at the Ridgecrest Branch!

Due to the perseverance of the school's Principal, **Bev Ewbank**, and with the support of the Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library, we inaugurated this outreach to the Inyokern area.

Thank you to **Charissa Wagner**, Youth Services, for her strong support at the Ridgecrest Branch with many phone calls, ordering of supplies, and enthusiasm. She was also crucial to our success.

The school has an incredible library. Large, with many books, chairs, reading area, computer area and well decorated. A happy place with a great selection of books.

We had 41 kids in the program with high attendance each week. Kindergarten to 5th graders. All of them enthusiastic. It was also so much fun to see the parents or grandparents who brought the kids joining in the crafts and storytime.

Because of teacher **Annie Jorgensen**, we had an exciting storytime and several crafts, different each week. The great enthusiasm of Annie and the other teachers who helped in offering crafts and making each child feel special when they arrived each Wednesday morning, added to the fun of reading their 10 books and getting their tote bag, free book, and coupons.

We had quite a few kids reading more than their 10 books and putting in their entries to the special drawing. Several of the kids discovered that they really enjoyed reading. Books were checked out each week and brought back for more. I watched boys, especially, reading while they were with us on Wednesdays, parents reading to their children and book selections carefully made.

I am quite impressed with the enthusiasm of the kids and their adults. Also, the support of the teachers and Principal and the school spirit. For me, it was a delight each week to meet everyone, look at their books, watch their talents with the crafts, and see their eagerness and manners. I have many memories to cherish.

We broke new ground with the school district and I know there will be a program there next summer. It was such a success!

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## Our New Volunteers

*By Bill Eichenberg*

We have recently been blessed with several new volunteers to help with our book sales efforts in support of our local library. As you all can appreciate, it takes many hands to make all of this work, and we are fortunate to have caring volunteers in our ongoing sales effort as well as the behind the scenes processing and pricing of our donations.

Recent new volunteers in our on-going sales include **Betty Aley**, **Marj Fairfield**, and **Jim Reilly**. In addition to taking a weekly slot in our sales room Jim has also offered to coordinate our magazine sales, which involves sorting the incoming donations and stocking the magazine sales racks in the library. The sale of magazines provides a substantial part of our sales income, and we appreciate Jim stepping forward to handle this effort.

New additions to our donation processing team include **Lucette Poulin** and **Jeannette Smith**. These folks devote several hours weekly to unpack boxes and bags of books and other media and clean and price these donations. The donated material is then sorted by category and boxed for future transport to the library sales room or held for our semi-annual sales.

We are continually looking for new volunteers in several areas. If you have a couple of hours per week that you can spare and are willing to work with nice people and good books contact Bill or Flo Eichenberg at 760-375-8798. We will provide training and encouragement.



# Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice-President-Memberships

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

**K Brown**

**Ed & Christine Jesser**

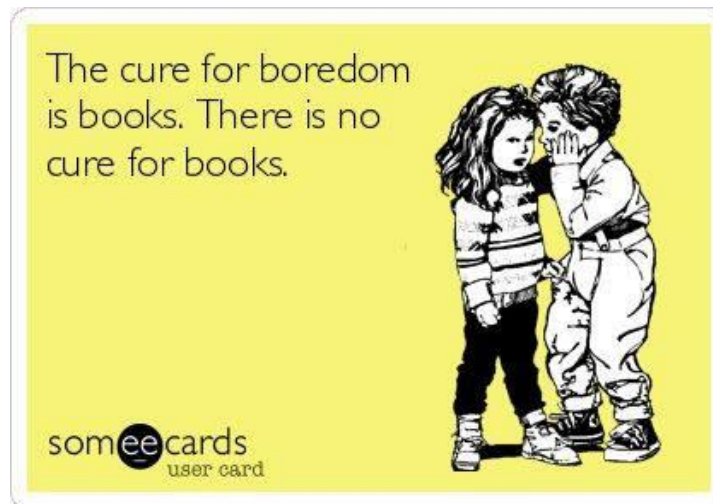
**Jim Reilly**

**Maureen Lehman**

**Mary Lechuga**

**Nancy Saxton**

Please note your renewal date that appears on your mailing address of this newsletter. I will send renewal notices via postcard or e-mail to remind you, but it helps a lot when you notice and respond. **When you do renew, please include "Friends" on your envelope address so that library staff can quickly route it to us.**



## **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)*:**

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

# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

AltaOne Federal Credit Union  
Heritage Montessori School  
Literacy Council of IWV, Inc.  
McDonald's of Ridgecrest  
PackWrap  
Ridgecrest Automotive  
Ridge Writers

Rusty Warren's Automotive  
Sierra Sands Unified School District  
TJ Frisbee Bicycles  
TOBOCO Traders  
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—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY—1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FRIDAY—CLOSED

SATURDAY—9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

SUNDAY—CLOSED



# REMINDER



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!

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Ridgecrest, CA  
Permit #77

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library  
131 East Las Flores  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
Return Service Requested