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Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library

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President's Letter

Celebrating 40 Years

This year--The Friends fortieth--begins with a bang. Anne Perry, internationally acclaimed author, will speak before our annual meeting on January 19 at Chautauqua Hall in Pacific Grove. Her talk begins at 2 p.m.; our annual meeting will follow immediately after. Admission to Perry's talk is \$5.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers. We are expecting a crowd, so if you haven't bought tickets yet, drop by the Library and secure your seat.

We continue the celebration by focusing on two projects.

Renewal. Under the direction of the new Library Director, Steven Silveria, and with community input, plans are being formulated to reclaim and renew the Library's interior. The likely first target of attention is the original section (the rotunda on the north side and the space adjacent to it), which was built in 1908 with a grant from Andrew Carnegie. With a \$50,000 pledge from the Friends, Library patrons will be able to enjoy new lights, refurbished flooring, more comfortable furniture, and an overall improved ambience in this space. This is just the beginning of the Library's renewal, but it will be a visible demonstration of what is to come and of the Friends' commitment to it.

Accessibility. The Library director's article elsewhere in this newsletter talks about the acquisition of new electronic material by the Library. Such material can be accessed from home or wherever you happen to be, expanding the Library's reach. Our second project is in line with the Library's growth in this direction. We want to support the development of Library access in general. Such

an effort will involve more electronic materials for the Library—and the tools that support their use—but it also involves helping people learn how to use the tools, as well as reaching out to people who simply have difficulty getting to the Library. Our participation in Monterey County Gives! in 2013 gave us a springboard to initiate this project.

Our support for these two projects is in addition to our ongoing support for both the Library's children's programs and the acquisition of new materials.

Accomplishing these goals requires \$105,000 in 2014. We already have \$80,000 in the bank,

generated by the recent generosity of many Friends and loyal Library supporters. I know I can count on your continued support as we work to raise the remaining \$25,000.

Sincerely, Susan Steele



Goal: \$105,000

Tea with Anne Perry

Four lucky mystery lovers will be selected in a raffle to have tea with Anne Perry at La Crème in Pacific Grove on January 21. La Crème's owner, Tamie Aceves, is delighted to support the Library by sponsoring this event.

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, or six for \$5.00. Buy your tickets at the Pacific Grove Farmer's Market on January 13, at the Library on the mornings of Tuesday, January 14 and Saturday, January 18, or at Chautauqua Hall, before Anne Perry's talk on January 19. The drawing will be held immediately after the talk, before the Friends annual meeting.

Friends for Forty Years: The Beginning

Forty years ago the city librarian, Mrs. Margaret McBride, had an idea. She envisioned a Friends group that would support the library. In the first Friends newsletter Mrs. McBride articulated her vision. "I can truly say that the foremost reason for my feeling that there was a need for this group was simply that it seemed that the community should be allowed and encouraged to become more involved in library activities; that we at the library ought to do more to make known what services we already have to offer and investigate the possibilities of expanding our services."

On January 9, 1974, our local Friends of the Pacific Grove Library was officially formed. The first Friends book sale was held three months after its formation, and within months there were over 100 members. During the first year, the Friends started a shut-in service providing books to senior citizens who found it impossible to get out of their home and go to the library. In the mid 1970s, the Friends supported a bond measure to fund an expansion of the Library. In a foreshadowing of what was to happen over 30 years later with Measures J (in 2009) and Q (in 2010), the measure received 65 percent of the vote but failed to reach the critical two-thirds level by 95 votes. A year later the Library was able to get a federal grant for the expansion, and in 1978 the most recent addition on the Library's south side was completed.

Mrs. McBride was pleased with her brainchild. "It has been so gratifying simply to find more than 100 persons eager to be Friends of the Library. That you have turned out to be possessed of so many talents and so willing to share them has been a real bonus. The mere fact that we have an active and growing association has helped carry the message to the community that there is a library in Pacific Grove, and that something is going on in it." - By Judy Wills

Report from the Library Director

"We who work in, for, and around libraries know that people love and value the work we do...we get validation all the time from our communities, from the small "thank you" after a reference question to a huge donation from a grateful patron. The conversation we should be having is how much we in libraries love our communities."

The quote above is from my friend and colleague, Sarah Houghton, Director of the San Rafael Public Library and the author of the "Librarian in Black" library blog.

And, because PGPL staff love our community, the Pacific Grove Public Library is adding two online collections over then next few weeks:

Freegal provides "free" and "legal" music downloads for library patrons. The approximately 7 million songs are not "checked out", but are available for free permanent download on your computer, tablet, phone or iPod/mp3 player. Each library card holder can download up to three free songs per week. Freegal should be available in early January.

The Library has also added twenty-eight new international magazines for online check out through Zinio. The new magazines

are from Taiwan, Italy, Australia, Spain, Korea and Brazil. They are in Chinese, Spanish, Italian and English languages. With these new titles, the Library now has over 70 online magazine titles available through the PGPL Online Branch.

Thank you to the Friends for supporting the Library and helping us provide new products and services to the community.



Monterey County Gives!

Since 2000, the Monterey County Weekly, in partnership with the Community Fund for Monterey County, has sponsored an annual end of the year fund-raising effort for local non-profit organizations. As the Weekly says, 'Without the more than 1,000 local nonprofits working tirelessly to fulfill their missions — everyday — our community would look and feel like a very different place. And that would not be a good thing.' Non-profits are asked to submit a 'big idea' and the best of these are selected to participate.

This year, for the first time, the Friends submitted a big idea and was selected. The project has two intertwined parts. One is to improve Library access -- especially by the older members of our community -- through the use of technology. The other is to provide meaningful employment to our tech-savvy teenagers as they train interested seniors in how to take advantage of these improvements. In honor of the Friends 40th anniversary in 2014, our goal was to generate at least \$4000 from at least 40 donations. Building on a \$1000 challenge grant from a loyal Friend, we did it. With 49 contributions, the effort generated \$4,820, not counting the match from Monterey County Gives!

Thanks to

A Loyal Friend Sam Buttrev 4 anonymous donors Pamela Cain Gail Abeloe Anne Carwile Patricia Addleman Nona Childress **Edward Dickinson** Judy Archibald Elisabeth Baldridge Patricia Eastman Beverly Bean Renee Franken Jenifer Bovev Carol Greenstreet James Brill in memory of Monna Kim Bui-Burton & Steven Silveria J. Greenstreet D. Jill Burbidge Cynthia Guthrie Dianne Busse

Patricia Hamilton

in memory of my great-great grandmother, Jane Elizabeth Cloyd Gale, who came to Pacific Grove in 1891

Blair Holland

Jonina Meyers

Doe King Meg Morris
Tim Levin Deana Myers
Camille Liscinsky Noreen Nance
Charlene Lowery Ellen Gill Pastore
Marcia Lubow in memory of Leona
David Lyon S. Gill

John & Vicki Pearse

Mary Pommerich Elizabeth Proctor Mary Skipwith Joel Smith Betty Sproule Celia Weiss Neal Whitman



Business Member Spotlight: Monarch Knitting

Pacific Grove offers a perfect climate for knitters—cool enough year round for lovely sweaters, yet not so cold that the sweaters have to be covered up. Monarch Knitting, in their new digs kitty-corner from the Library on the corner of Fountain and Central, makes the sweaters—and other wooly projects—possible. Experi-

enced knitters can select from an amazing array of yarn choices for a new project. Beginners can get for help and advice from the staff, all of whom are passionate about knitting. And anyone can sit in the comfortable chairs and knit.

Meet The Author: Karen Joy Fowler

Karen Joy Fowler's new book, We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves, was on The New York Times list of "100 notable books of 2013" this month. On November 21, Fowler spoke at the PG Library to a crowd of more than 50 people. Injecting wit and humor into her presentation,



she gave the crowd some of the background to her latest book and to her life as a writer.

The book is about a child brought up alongside a chimpanzee, and it mirrors experiments once popular in the scientific community. The experiments were to study the similarity in primate and human behavior, given the same environment. Fowler's fictional story explores the unintended consequences; when the experiment in her story ends, the chimpanzee is moved out of the home, and the subject of its fate is taboo.

The story is about grief, about growing up and coming to terms with life, and about being able to look the truth in the face. In Fowler's tale, the main character takes a lifetime to come to terms with the fate that befalls the primate, whom she experienced from birth as a "sister."

In her presentation, Fowler stopped short of drawing the line between what is and isn't acceptable in terms of using animals for science. But she said one theme she hopes people take away is that we shouldn't be doing something if we aren't willing to look it squarely in the face. Her theme is expressed through the treatment of animals in the name of science, but her implication is that it can be applied to any action.

Bequest to Library Foundation

A bequest from Erna Helene Morris provided seed money for the establishment of the Pacific Grove Public Library Foundation (PGPLF) that will help ensure the long-term viability and vibrancy of our library. In the spirit of giving that the holiday season brings, this is an especially good time for the Foundation to publicly acknowledge Erna Morris's generosity.

Erna emigrated from Germany to the United States in 1956, and eventually made her way to Monterey. Erna lived life with an altruistic heart. She was a public health nurse, an author on a book about living with an Alzheimer's patient, a speaker on Alzheimer's disease, a teacher, and a volunteer ombudsman at several convalescent homes, It is no wonder that Erna Morris was honored as Monterey County's Outstanding Woman of 2007. She was a visionary and problem solver with an interest in improving herself and the lives of others. One way Erna's selfless spirit lives on is through the work of the PGPLF. Her significant gift to our community is an inspiration.

New Business Members

Central Coast Writers The Red House Café Dr. J. Gary Grant

New Members in the 4th Quarter

David & Cally Beers Jane Bell Steven & Noie Dewey Linda Douglas Cindie Farley Gisela Hartman Stephanie Shaw Herrick Pamela Hipp Stephen Hughes Rosamaria Kosaka Casey Lucius

Sharon Miller Howard & Kathryn Perkins Dr. Vanessa Smith

Betty A. and J. Michael Sproule

Dorothy Vriend Roberta Williams

Rania Zavitsanos

4th Quarter Contributors

Milton K. Callas

Mary Lou Kissel

4th Quarter Contributors

Toni C. Creamer Jim Mullany Ellen Gill Pastore

In Memory of

Constance Slater Callas Emil Kissel

Book Fund

in honor of Steven Silveria

4th Quarter Contributors

Kathleen Armstrong
Ed & Jeanne Cavallini
Jeanne Giraldo
Peggy Hansen
Elizabeth Lobay
Marie G. and Donald Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Northrop
Glenn and Megan Reis
Daryl Salm
Ms. Betty Jean Stallings
Robin Tokmakian

Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library

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Current Resident or:

Meet the Author:

Anne Perry Sunday, January 19, 2014 2:00-4:00 pm

Acclaimed mystery writer Anne Perry is the featured speaker for the annual meeting for The Friends of the Pacific Grove Library. Ms. Perry's books have sold more than 20 million copies worldwide and she was named one of The Times' top '100 crime writers of the 20th century'.

Anne Perry is the bestselling author of more than 79 titles which include her two acclaimed series set in Victorian England: the William Monk novels and the Charlotte and Thomas Pitt novels. Her newest Pitt release is *Death on Blackheath*.

Admission is \$15 for the general public and \$5 for members of the Friends of the Pacific Grove Library. Tickets are available at the PG Library, at the Farmer's Market in Pacific Grove on January 13, and at Chautauqua Hall on the day of the event.



Support the local businesses who support our Library:

Alpha Stationers, Artisana Gallery, Back Porch Fabrics, Bratty & Bluhm Real Estate, Central Coast Writers, Coldwell Banker, Eric Miller Architects, Favazza Plastering, Grand Avenue Flooring, Grand Avenue Liquors & Deli, Dr. J. Gary Grant, Grove Market, Jones Group Real Estate, Lee's Salon, Lighthouse Oriental Therapies, Marita's, Matteson's Auto Repair, Monarch Knitting, Mum's Place, Pacific Grove Cleaners, Pacific Grove Florist, Pacific Grove Hardware, Pacific Thai Cuisine, Inc., Pavel's Backerei, Peppers Mexicali Café, Petty's Plumbing, Seven Gables Inn, Silveria Consulting, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift, Tessuti Zoo, The Hair Specialist, The Red House Café, Trotters Antiques, Victorian Corner Restaurant