

The Biblio-file

SUMMER 2017

PACIFIC PALISADES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Friends of the Palisades Library: Over 50 years of service to the community

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Alice Inglis

Dear Members of the Library Association,

July 1st was the beginning of our new fiscal year, and there were some major changes on our Board. With mixed emotions, I am finally retiring after over 20 years, most recently, 12 years as President. We are extremely fortunate that Laura Schneider has agreed to assume the Presidency. I know that she will do an outstanding job. Of course, I will still be around.

Another significant change was the departure of Elsie Scarano for Florida. She has a sister who lives there and she felt it was time to be closer to family. Elsie was a real innovator...she was always thinking of ways to improve our fundraising events, mailers, and promotions. She worked diligently at our book sales, sorting, selling, cashiering! She will be missed. I also want to thank Nancy Meckelburg for her assistance to me during the last two years.

Again, a huge thank you to everyone who helped me over these years. I certainly couldn't have done it alone! I look forward to many great years ahead for the Friends, and seeing the library prosper.

1With fondness, Alice

MEET OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Laura Schneider

Like many people, my love affair with libraries began when I was a child. Every week, from as far back as I can remember, my mother took me to the tiny library in the town where I grew up. And there, under the kindly eye of the head librarian I learned how to lose--and find--myself in books. I would check out a bundle of books that, held in my arms, would come up to my chin, and it was as thrilling to me as anything I could imagine. As I took those books home I felt like I was getting away with something--the generous principles of a lending library felt too good to be true. Flash forward a few decades and I was working for the Los Angeles Times and didn't think about libraries much anymore. If I had time to read, I bought the book. My new love became bookstores and my bookshelves began to sag under the burden of my affection.



Laurel Garver,, Nancy Meckelburg, Alice Inglis and Laura Schneider

(New President's message, continued)

With the birth of my first son, life changed dramatically and I found myself rather suddenly in Pacific Palisades with a little boy who was just learning his letters. Naturally, we found our way to the library and over the following years I rediscovered the library in entirely different ways. We went to the library for books, but we also went to hear the daily "Grandma" read a story or to play puzzles with new friends in the cozy children's corner.

As the years went by, I began to see the library from yet a new perspective. I joined the dedicated group of people who staff the parking-lot book sales and my son (who would later be joined by his little brother) began to raise money for the library at his annual Fourth of July lemonade stand. Somehow I found my way to a position on the board, and now as its new president, it feels a little bit to me like it did when I was allowed to check out that big stack of books as a little girl. I have been granted access to something extraordinarily special.

To this day I remain a little in awe of our library. It provides a vital community service like no other and one can see that reality just by looking at the diverse and engaged activity that takes place at the library every day. It is a source of inspiration and friendship for some and a place of support and comfort for others. There is a sign at the library entrance that reads, "We Welcome Everybody" and I think that sums it up nicely. I am so pleased and honored to be part of this special place and I look forward to the year to come.

FROM THE SENIOR LIBRARIAN

Mary Hopf

Alice Inglis, PPLA President Retiring

Alice Inglis will be missed! She is retiring from her position as president of the Pacific Palisades Library Association. She was in this position when I arrived in the fall of 2009 and she has worked with many employees and volunteers who are no longer here. During my just-about-thirty-years of working as a librarian for Los Angeles Public Library, I have encountered a few exceptional volunteers; Alice is one of the best!

She is a problem solver and helps to resolve many. Alice has a no nonsense approach. She is fair and just and will help anyone. If there was anything that the Friends (especially the Board) could do to help make the Palisades Library better and more accessible, we would go ask Alice. She worked on library plans, ordering furniture, landscaping, building maintenance, programs, buying materials, fund raising, running the PPLA Board meetings, coordinating, recruiting, and helping numerous volunteers, supporting and working book sales, providing budget advice to a variety of committees, aiding other LAPL branch libraries to ensure that they can provide their patrons with a greater amount of materials and services, and she has always supported our library staff. She has attended countless library meetings at Central Library, branch libraries, the Palisades Library, and other locations. Most importantly, she is a generous, smart, and genuinely kind person. Our staff absolutely loves and adores her!!

On a personal note, I believe Alice is one of a kind. It is rare that you meet someone who dedicates hours of time and service for free. Alice has always taken a moment to talk to me about a variety of subjects, most especially schools and her experience with her children and grandchildren. Both of us have discussed the SMUSD experience and I value all the information she has shared with me. She is funny (nice dry sense of humor), selfless, experienced, and a great leader.

We are not saying goodbye entirely, because as we all know, when a fantastic human being retires, they do not truly retire. They continue to help others and in our case, just as she has been doing for years, Alice plans to continue her volunteer work with our morning delivery. If I had a wish, particularly pertaining to Alice Inglis, I wish that we all could live in a town like Alice. Thank you for your years of service and friendship!!

Meet Our New Staff

Stop by and say hello! We have three new staff members: Victor Gomez, Alexander Swan, and Jessica Levy (who is our newest addition).

Jessica Levy-New Young Adult Librarian at Palisades Branch Library

I was born and raised in L.A.--Sherman Oaks to be specific. I went to UC Berkeley for undergrad, though the highlight of my college experience was the year I spent in Toulouse, France. J'adore la France. I liked France so much that I went back after graduation and taught English to high schoolers and prep students in Nice.

When studying in France I traveled through Europe and visited a friend who

was living in Rome. Then I fell in love with the Italian language and decided to learn that too. I spent six months studying Italian in the small Medieval-ish town of Siena in Tuscany.

I love food, and I love to cook and bake. My husband and I don't eat meat and avoid most dairy and eggs, so I had to learn how to bake vegan to sustain my sugar addiction. If not in the kitchen, I might be found reading or hiking.

I've been a youth services librarian for about 6 years, starting in the County, then in Santa Monica, and most recently with LAPL at Fairfax library, where I was a children's librarian for the last 3 and a half years. And here I am, now your YA librarian.

BOOK SALES

Wendy Edlen

Our Friends of the Palisades Library have continued to present our very successful gently used book sales held on Saturdays in the library parking during this year. In 2017 we will make some changes to the Saturday sales. The sales will begin at 9:00am and close at 3:00pm and we will keep our patrons informed if further changes are made. Please note that the next Book Sale will be held on Saturday September 9th from **9:00am to 3:00pm**.

The generosity of our donors who supply us with wonderful books, CD's and DVD's in **good condition** keeps these sales going, and we appreciate the generosity of the volunteers who receive donations in the library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30pm to 5:00pm. The volunteer will issue a tax deductible donation slip when requested.

These sales are only possible with the support of our wonderful volunteers who contribute time and energy before, during and after the sales. It is only with this great combined effort that we can continue to provide our patrons with the quality and organization of our sales.



Enjoying our Saturday Book Sale



Palisades Library
BOOKSTORE

Sandy Eddy

On July 1, the Palisades Library Bookstore celebrated its Third Anniversary! The store continues to evolve: new hours, a major spring cleaning, improved organization and categorizing of books and occasional 'Pop-up' sales in the community room. The most exciting news is that plans are in the works for a NEW bookstore. Grand opening mostly likely mid to late 2018. Stay tuned for updates.

Again, we thank our dedicated volunteers who make it possible for the store to raise funds that benefit the library.

*Bookstore hours: Mon.-Tues & Thur -Fri.
12:30p-4:30p; Wed. 10:30a-4:30p; and,
Sat. 11a-4:30p*



MEMBERSHIP

Debbie Breech

Thanks to the 360 Friends of the Library who have renewed their membership since our year started in July 2016. You can still renew or join as a new member either online at our website, www.friendsofpalibrary.org or by using a remittance envelope which is available at the donations table across from the library checkout counter. Librarians will accept completed membership envelopes as well.

The six levels of participation for annual membership are:

Sage \$20-49

Epic \$50-\$99

Bestseller \$100-\$249

Classic \$250-499

Legend \$500-\$999

Masterpiece \$1000 and up

To honor those members who enroll at the Bestseller level and above, a commemorative bookplate inscribed with your name is placed in a new book in the Palisades branch.

Your support continues to provide funds for books, movies, landscaping, and a variety of other expenses that our library's budget does not cover. The PPLA is a 501©(3) nonprofit organization. Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible.

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Kathy Slattery

The Friends of the Palisades Library sponsors a writing contest every summer for local children and teens. This summer we are adding a book design contest as an option along with the writing contest. This complements LAPL's summer reading theme: ***Reading by Design.***

The writing contest theme is open ended. Students entering grades 1 through 12 can submit original creative writing pieces. The contest dates are June 10 - September 5, 2017. The contest details, rules, and entry form are posted on our website(www.friendsofpalibrary.org) and available in the library. Winners in five age categories will win gift certificates to Diesel Books: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$50, and 3rd place - \$25.

The book design contest is optional but must be for the entry a contestant has written. Contestants can create a bookmark, a book cover or jacket, or pop-up pages. Prizes for these three categories will also be gift certificates to Diesel Books: 1st place - \$100, 2nd place - \$50, and 3rd place - \$25. The winning designs will be displayed at the awards ceremony on Wednesday, October 4, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room. All participants will receive a gift card to Sweet Rose Creamery.



Actors Bill Jones and Christine Kludjium with three of last year's creative writing contest winners

THE PALISADES LIBRARY BOOK GROUP

Renee Klein

Facilitator Kathy Jackson will lead a discussion of ***Anything is Possible***, by Elizabeth Strout on Tuesday, September 26 from noon to 1:30. The Friend's of Palisades Library sponsors the book club and it is open to all in the community

THIRD THURSDAY AUTHOR SPEAKER SERIES

Corinne Boudreau and Bill Bruns

On October 19, the Friends of the Library speaker series will feature Palisadian Fran Morris-Rosman, executive director of the Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, who is having a busy year celebrating the 100th anniversary of the singer's birth (April 25, 2017). Fran will offer a program in which she talks about Ella's life and shows video clips of Ella performing. The free program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the community room. Ella Fitzgerald, The First Lady of Song, created and funded her foundation in 1993, "in order to fulfill her desires to use the fruits of her success to help people of all races, cultures and beliefs. Ella hoped to make their lives more rewarding, and she wanted to foster a love of reading, as well as a love of music. In addition, she hoped to provide assistance to the at-risk and disadvantaged members of our communities--assistance that would enable them to achieve a better quality of life," according to the foundation's website.

DONATED CHILDREN'S BOOKS MAKE A HIT DOWNTOWN

Sandy Eddy

In early June, the Friends of the Palisades Library received a request from Palisadian Carol Pfannkuche, former director of the Palisades-Malibu Y and new director of the Ketchum-Downtown Y.

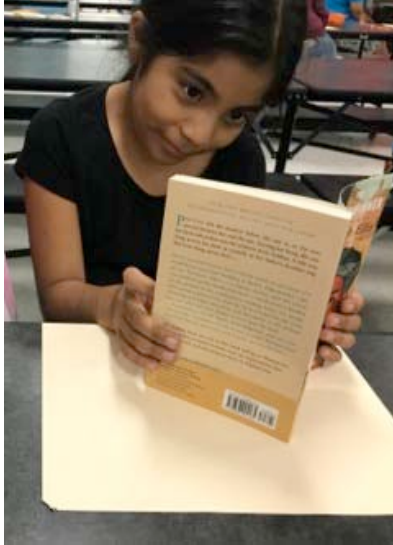
The Ketchum-Downtown Y has been providing after-school enrichment programs for more than 20 years at Hoover Elementary School which sits in one of the city's most crime-infested, gang-infiltrated neighborhoods. There are about 50 kids in the program, ranging in age from pre-K to middle school. Jose Rivera, who attended Hoover as a child, has been running the after-school program for more than 20 years. His goal has been to try to help these children and break the cycle of poverty. |

Last February, Carol was contacted by the school principal who begged her to add a summer day camp to the Y's schedule because the program that the kids had attended in summer had been cancelled. The children would be unattended and subject to the dangerous streets of their neighborhood while their parents work. Donations were solicited to cover the camp cost, and the kids were enrolled. The school provided buses twice a week, to cover transportation to the Y where they received swim lessons. lunches were donated, too.

When Carol realized that the campers would be at the Y on Director Jose's birthday, she planned a special birthday party for him and all of the kids in the program. He said yes, and the Y's Board members stepped up to help with games, bounce house, dance activities and birthday cake.

Carol Pfannkuche called the Palisades Friends to request books as party gifts for the kids. Wendy Edlen said absolutely "YES!", and selected a wide range of amazing books from our donated book collection. The Y volunteers wrapped the books in birthday paper and ribbons, and the birthday party was a success. Party hats, cupcakes and children taking home their very own book helped make the event a wonderful memory for everyone.





WHAT THE "FRIENDS" ARE READING

Renee Klein

Woman No. 17 by **Edan Lepucki**. A sinister, sexy noir about art, motherhood, and the intensity of female friendships, set in the posh hills above Los Angeles. Also, the **William Kent Krueger's *Cork O'Connor Mystery Series***. The stories take place in Northern Minnesota and beautifully capture a sense of place while telling a good suspenseful story. The first book of the series is *Iron Lake*.

Arline Halper

Swimming Lessons by **Claire Fuller** - A poignant and gripping novel about a missing woman who writes letters to her husband about the truth of their marriage and hides them in his many books.

Laurel Garver

Recently I read and enjoyed, ***News of the World*** by **Paulette Jiles**, ***A Gentleman in Moscow*** by **Amor Towles**, ***The Summer House***, ***A Trilogy*** by **Alice Thomas Ellis**, and

Any Human Heart by **William Boyd**.

Corinne Bourdeau

I am reading ***The Women in the Castle*** by **Jessica Shattuck**: A great World War Two novel that revolves around three German women who are surviving wives of husbands who were involved in a failed assassination attempt against Hitler. The perfect historical fiction for Fall reading.

Nina Kidd

My husband is on a Grit Lit jag and recommended: ***A Childhood: The Biography of a Place*** by **Harry Crews**. My favorite character is the grandma of narrator Harry's best friend Willalee Bookatee: A former slave, a woman of magic, and superstition and Tenderness. I never knew if she cured the boy Harry of a paralysis like Polio, or just kept him in an enchantment with stories until he wobbled to his feet and walked again.

Pacific Palisades Library Association 2016-2017 Board of Directors

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President, Laura Schneider
Vice-President, Book Sales – Wendy Edlen
Vice-President, Membership – Debbie Breech
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Mark Wind, Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer – Laurel Garver

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Sunny Feinerman, Pat Morra, Renee Weisenberg, Shirley Cabeen and Marcella Miller are Honorary Life Members of the Board.

Biblio-file Editor: Arline Halper

EPIC (\$50 – 99)

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