



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Friends of the Castro Valley Library
November 2018

The Annual Meeting will be held November 7th at the Library Chabot/Canyon Room. See page 5 for more info.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Kay Wetherwax

It is that time of year...time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Castro Valley Library. The membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Your renewal information is included in this newsletter, and the new membership cards will be available by October 27. We need your continued support for our fabulous library!

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Castro Valley Library will take place on Wednesday, November 7 at 6:00 PM in the Chabot Room of the library. We will be electing a Vice-President, Operational and Recording Treasurers, and a Director-at-Large. We will also be asking our members to approve a couple of minor changes to our By-Laws, namely formalizing the tasks of our two Co-Treasurers and adding two additional Directors-at-Large to the Board of Directors. A copy of the proposed changes to the By-Laws will be available for members of the Friends of the Library to review at the BookStore for ten days before the meeting. I hope many of you can join us November 7. We have been given a set of tickets to one of the programs presented this year by the Castro Valley Arts Foundation, and we'll have a drawing to give those tickets to one of the attendees at our meeting.

Many of our terrific BookStore volunteers (and some "significant others") attended our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party at the home of President Kay Wetherwax on October 5. We shared some delicious Mexican food and enjoyed socializing and getting to know each other better. Without the on-going efforts of these dedicated individuals, we would not be able to fund so many wonderful library programs that benefit our community in many, many ways!

On Saturday, October 6, we held a Pop-Up Children's Book Sale. What a great event! We sold more than 2500 books (most of them priced at 25 cents!) in four hours and made over \$700. There were many happy, smiling children leaving the library with their new treasures!

And don't forget: Our last big book sale of 2018 will be the weekend of November 30-December 2. There will be many books, including lots of gift quality books that will make ideal holiday presents!

COMING EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY!

There are many regular Library activities, and the event schedule is updated frequently. Please call 667-7900 or visit www.aclibrary.org for up to date event information.

Reading Groups:

First Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *Mystery Book Club*
Second Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *eBestseller Book Club (registration req.)*
Third Tuesdays, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. *Real Reads Nonfiction Book Club*
Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m. *Write to Read Literacy Reading Club* for adults with English as their second language.

Other Ongoing Activities:

Homework Help Mon. thru Thurs. 3:30-5:00 p.m. (when school is in session only)
Advanced Math & Science Tutoring Mondays 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Lawyer in the Library 2nd Mondays 6-8 p.m. Appt. req'd.
State Sen. Bob Wiechowski Representative 3rd Wed. 3—5 p.m.
MAC meeting 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mondays, 6 p.m.
Job Lab Monday 12:30-3:00, Wednesday 10:30-3:00.
Drop-in gadget help 1st and 3rd Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m.—(phones, computers, etc.) for adults.
CV Library Genealogy Study Group. 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 10:30 to 12:30. Registration required.
Creative Writing Group, 2nd Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (preregistration required for this group).

Partial List of Events Coming Up in November

11/1 10—10:30 Musical Storytime
11/3 10—1:30 SAT Practice Test (reg. req.)
11/3 10:30—12:30 Adult Computer Class iPad/iPhone (reg. req.)
11/3 10:30—12:00 STEAM Lab
11/4 2—3:15 Laura Wiley Jazz Combo
11/4 2—4 Learn to Play Bridge
11/5 6:30—8 Paws to Read
11/6 12:15—12:45 Tuff Tumblers
11/7 11—12 Advance Health Care Directives

New events are added frequently! Please visit the library website or check the readerboard in the library lobby for complete information on all events and activities!

The Library will be closed on the following days:

Monday November 12th for Veterans Day
Thursday November 22nd for Thanksgiving
Tuesday December 25th for Christmas
Tuesday January 1st for New Year's Day
Monday January 21st for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

Watch for more announcements in the *Forum*, on the Library's website and readerboard, and on the CV Library Facebook Page.

Also, remember to visit the quarterly art displays near the BookStore and the special features in the lobby display cases.

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Dawn Balestreri, Branch Manager

We all have histories, and our histories are important. They are a sense of pride for some and embarrassment for others. Our family histories are handed down through generations, the older history becoming blurred as time passes. Some families have budding genealogists who painstakingly recreate their family's history on paper or online (the library has a free genealogy class if you are interested). Castro Valley has several individuals who have passionately preserved much information and photos about our community. Lucille Lorge and Randy Vanderbilt are two individuals whose names come to mind. Ms. Lorge has written extensively about Castro Valley and Mr. Vanderbilt has spoken to standing room only crowds at the library about the history of this community. The library also has a small historical area with a display case and documents.

The Hayward Area Historical Society is an amazing resource to locate historical information about Castro Valley and the surrounding communities. We were fortunate enough to have one of their archivists, John Christian, create a historical record for the Castro Valley Library. 1918 was the year the first dedicated branch opened in Castro Valley, named the "Brooder Branch" due to the building being a former chicken brooder. Castro Valley was a major producer of chickens at that time, so there were many brooders in the community. The "Brooder Branch" was one of six sites that the library has occupied. We have come a long way to our current address at 3600 Norbridge Ave., the second library to be built specifically as a county library. If you are interested in the history of our beloved branch, please email or visit the branch for a copy of our history.

So, what do you do when you realize in late August, that it is the 100-year anniversary of your library? You quickly coordinate a celebration! So, that's what we did. On Saturday, October 27, we celebrated our 100-year anniversary with live music from Misner and Smith, face painting, balloon animals, cake and ice cream of course! We even had a drawing for two of the original Eames chairs from the Redwood Rd branch, complete with chewing gum. It was a fun day of community and reflection. Special thanks to the Friends of the Library for generously providing funding for our party.

Happy Holidays to all our wonderful library community!

What's Your Public Library Worth?

By Lyn Leone, Librarian

Recently, I read about a library that has a feature on their check-out receipts that shows the cost savings of borrowing materials rather than buying them. The amount is calculated using the retail cost of the materials being borrowed; for example, the cover price of a just-published book. The receipt shows both per-visit and year-to-date savings for the cardholder. Some of the annual savings quoted in the article were astonishing, so I decided to calculate just how much the library is saving my household. Here's what I came up with:

My husband, John, and I both enjoy music and are careful to remember to download our 5-free songs per week through **Freegal**. Since we both have library cards, we download 10 songs per week. The average price of a song on iTunes is \$1.00. Total savings? \$520 per year.



We average two books checked out per week, mostly new hardcover fiction. Annual savings? A whopping \$2,000 per year.

Both of us download magazines from the library's eMagazine services, **Flipster** and **RBdigital**, and have dropped personal subscriptions to six magazines. John also uses the library's online access to Morningstar and comes in to read ValueLine and Barron's. Savings? Over \$700 a year.

We're big users of **Acorn TV** through **RBdigital**, as well as the other free library streaming services. The subscription price of Acorn is \$4.99 per month. We also eliminated our subscription to HBO (at least until Game of Thrones comes back) and use the library's DVD collection for past HBO originals and feature films. Annual savings? A minimum of \$240.

We used Discover & Go to attend the DeYoung, the Asian Art Museum, and the Blackhawk Museum this year and saved \$105.

It's harder to put a value on live entertainment, but a ticket to a venue like Yoshi's or Freight & Salvage averages \$20 per person. For the month of November the library has booked three professional musical acts. The **Laura Wiley Jazz Combo** performs on Sunday, November 4th, **Flute Fantasia** and the **Milt Bowerman Jazz Quintet** appear on Saturday, November 17th, and on Sunday, November 18th, **Bridges**, with Shanna Carlson and Hugo Wainzinger, perform (all these shows begin at 2 pm). It's likely John will attend at least two of these performances. Value? \$40.

According to my calculations, at an absolute minimum, the library saves our little two-person household over \$3,500 a year. Imagine what it would be if we had 2 or 3 kids!

Want to know what you're saving by borrowing rather than buying? For a quick approximation, visit the Library Value Calculator at www.ilovelibraries.org/what-libraries-do/calculator

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

It's renewal time again! Here's how to renew your membership with the Friends of the Castro Valley Library for 2019:

- **Use the enclosed remittance envelope** to mail your membership dues. If you send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope, we are happy to mail your membership card to you. Otherwise, stop by the BookStore to pick up your card. Please allow a week to 10 days for your envelope to arrive and for our staff to update our roster. We appreciate your patience.
- **Drop by the BookStore** with your completed application and membership dues, and you will save a stamp and receive your new card instantly! You may use the form on the remittance envelope, the form in the newsletter, or the form we have on the wall outside the BookStore. Cards for 2019 are available **now!**
- **Renew at the book sale.** The next book sale is November 30 – December 2, and you may renew your membership any of the 3 days. If you have a current (2018) membership, you can still get in on Friday night, and your remaining \$2.00 coupon on the back of the card is still good. If you did not renew for 2018, or if you're a new member, your purchase of a 2019 membership will admit you to the Friday Member Night and you will get a \$2.00 coupon to use at the sale.

The dues have not changed! An individual membership is \$10.00, and you will get \$7.00 in coupons for the BookStore and a \$2.00 coupon for each of the 2019 book sales (\$13.00 in total discounts). If you purchase a family membership for \$20.00, you will receive two membership cards and \$26.00 in discounts. The other membership categories are: Corporate Sponsor \$35.00, Benefactor \$50.00, Youth \$5.00, Lifetime \$200.00, and Family Lifetime \$300.00. All members gain entry to Member Night at the book sales and receive the *Circle of Friends* newsletter quarterly.

If you are a Lifetime member, you do not need to re-apply or send in your envelope; you will receive your 2019 membership card automatically.

The money from your dues pays for library programs and amenities that would otherwise not be possible.

I want to join the Friends of the Castro Valley Library as a new renewing member (IMPORTANT—so that we have accurate information, PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

First Name: _____ Last Name _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone _____
E-MAIL _____

Make tax-deductible check payable to
Friends of the Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave.
Castro Valley CA 94546

I do do not wish to receive the newsletter and other Friends' information by e-mail

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

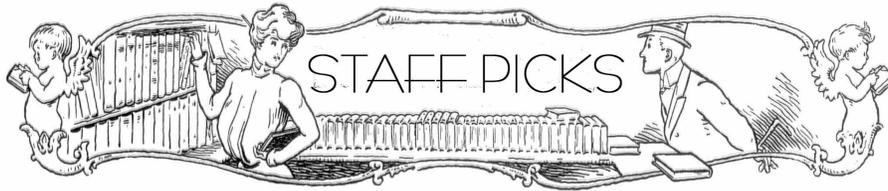
\$10 Individual \$20 Family \$5 Youth \$35 Corporate Sponsor
 \$50 Benefactor \$200 Lifetime—Individual \$300 Lifetime—Family
Membership renewals are due January 1st.

I would like to be an active Friend and help with:

Book store Sales events Membership Publications
 Information Technology/Website Public Relations/Advocacy

**FOR OFFICE
USE ONLY:**

Card Issued
By _____
Date: _____



The Midnight Line by Lee Child (2017 fiction): Jack Reacher is a dreamboat character, 6'6" of bone and muscle, unencumbered by family or a job. Doing good. As a war veteran, he is intrigued by a 2005 West Point medal in a Wisconsin pawn shop and begins a search for the owner. 'Tis a tiny ring, and so a woman, S.R.S. Reacher digs in, unearthing sufficient clues to shed sufficient light. His physical combat prowess is matched only by his skeletal vocabulary. He progresses from a simple question to an ever-deepening swamp of evil. Child introduces characters when necessary, and Reacher solicits and receives information. The background is haunting, convincing in detail, and startling in scope. I was disadvantaged because of my ignorance of U.S. geography, but I accepted vast undeveloped spaces and remote cabins. Opioid addiction, inescapable unrelenting pain and suffering, challenging his resources. I recommend this book for a reading timely in light of today's VA problems. (Martin Waldron)

The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish (2017 fiction): At nearly 600 pages, this work of historical fiction is not for the faint of heart. When a 17th century estate in England undergoes renovation, a cache of letters and documents which have not seen the light of day since the mid-1600's is discovered hidden under a stairwell. Ailing history professor Helen Watt and graduate student Aaron Levy are the initial evaluators and translators of the documents and determine that the probable writer is a Jewish woman, an astounding occurrence for a time in which women were primarily relegated to housework. Flipping back and forth between present day and the 1600's, the novel tells the story of Ester Velasquez, a Jewish Portuguese orphan who takes on the correspondence of a blind rabbi, and of Helen and Aaron's quest to find out more about Ester's role and her apparent contact with major philosophers such as Spinoza. It is a complicated story, some of which is told via the philosophical letters written to other Jewish clerics and to the various philosophers. If you are put off by the letters, be assured that you can skim most of them without losing the thread of the plots. This is a rich experience which contains much of the flavor of the 17th century, as well as a wonderful description of the documents and the complications of finding and protecting them. Helen, Aaron, and Ester are very special characters, and their stories are well-told. (Ginger Russell)

The Fix by David Baldacci (2017 fiction): David Baldacci has a surefire cast in Amos Decker and associates, notably Melvin Mars. Decker has perfect memory and Mars has an NFL body after 20 years solo imprisonment. *The Fix* challenges Decker and a first-class team in solving a mysterious suicide, presented in a succes-

sion of superb subplots. My complaint is exhaustion. *The Fix* could be presented as an unfolding and fascinating plot. I found it a succession of disparate developments. Each step of the way was complete and satisfying but brought to an insoluble and screeching halt. Then, time and again, Baldacci pulled rabbits out of his literary hat, often by way of Decker's brilliance, and we were on the trail again. I loved the twists and characters and emotional cul-de-sacs, but I felt cheated. It was unfair to this sophisticated thriller reader. However, I recommend *The Fix* for an infuriating marathon read. (Martin Waldron)

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng (2017 fiction): This study of family life in Shaker Heights begins at its conclusion, with the youngest Richardson daughter burning down the family home. The fire department analysis of the fire concludes that the fire began in multiple locations with "little fires everywhere." But back to the beginning of the Shaker Heights planned community, one that forges the lives of its inhabitants. The Richardsons are model residents, with their careers, community involvement, and four beautiful children. They own a rental property, which they rent to photographer Mia Warren and her daughter Pearl. While the tantalizing Warrens become a quasi-part of the Richardson circle, their financial struggles and nomadic history keep them an arms-length away. Then close friends of the Richardsons adopt an Asian baby, and differing opinions about the baby's origin cause a major rift between the Richardsons and the Warrens. Each character in this novel has its own personal subplot and problem to resolve, and as the story unfolds, it becomes apparent that the "little fires everywhere" are as much the difficulties in the lives of the characters as the more obvious actual fires. This is a very readable, fascinating take on the not-so-perfect Shaker Heights families and their life lessons. Recommended. (Ginger Russell)

BOOK REVIEWS WANTED: Did you read a wonderful book? Or see a movie or listen to music that you would like to share with others? Book, movie, and music reviews are accepted by *Circle of Friends* at any time and will be printed in future issues. Email them to us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com or drop off a hard copy at the office. We look forward to hearing from you!

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.COM

The Friends currently have over 100 books and other media listed on *Amazon.com*. Here are a few of them:

Dance of the Hours from Disney's Fantasia, \$24.00
Janet Fish Paintings, \$199.00
Paul Tuttle Designs, \$21.00
Tunncliffe's Birds, \$28.94
The Theory of Collusion and Competition Policy, \$24.98
Lincoln/Obama Inaugural Bible, \$45.00
Who Killed Cock Robin, \$29.00
Windy Day Puppy, \$29.00
The Best of Moe—Summations \$500.00

Our name on Amazon is **FriendsofBooks**, and you can access the store by clicking on our name when viewing one of our listings. When you reach the welcome page, click on "Products" to view all of the books.



Don't forget to mention us when purchasing through *Amazon Smile*. When you select Friends of the Castro Valley Library as your charity of choice, we will receive a 0.5% donation every time you make a purchase. Many great items "from soup to nuts" are designated as *Smile* products, so please check it out.

CHECK OUT OUR BOOKSTORE MONTHLY THEMES!

By Marie Blackmon

Our special theme books are found on the center of the Honesty Shelves.

November: It's National Native American Heritage Month, fly high for Aviation History Month, celebrate Family Togetherness Month and Thanksgiving.



December: Celebrate family gatherings; let the baking begin; all holidays—Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa.

January: A new year for resolutions; getting fit; organizing your life; Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.



February: Library lover's month, Groundhog Day; St. Valentine's Day; Black History Month.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Friends of the Castro Valley Library will hold its annual meeting on **Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Chabot/Canyon Room of the Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, California.

Agenda items include election of officers (Vice-President, Co-Treasurers, one At-Large Director) for two-year terms that begin following the election; the annual Financial Report and budget for the upcoming fiscal year; minor changes to the By-Laws; discussion regarding the Fall/Winter Book Sale; and other subjects as may be determined by the Board of Directors or requested by attendees. You may review the proposed By-Law changes at the BookStore office 10 days prior to the meeting.

Members of the Friends and members of the general public are invited to attend this meeting and comment on the issues being discussed. If you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to provide input, please feel free to contact the Friends at the Castro Valley Library BookStore, in person or by calling 510-733-3285 or e-mailing Friends.CVL@gmail.com.

Thank You CORNER

By Kay Wetherwax

First of all, thanks to those to organized and helped with the Children's Book Sale: Joan, Jane, Carol, Kay R., Kay W., Ned, Jack, Les, Roger, Wayne, Janice, Tom, Melanie, Colleen, and Sue. It really does take a village, doesn't it?



Thanks to those who helped plan our Volunteer Recognition Party,

and to those who helped set up and clean up and who brought cookies: Dawn, Wayne, Carol, Ned, Sue, Elizabeth R, and Barbara. It was a lot of fun. I couldn't have done it without you! A special thank you to our library manager Dawn Balestreri for being on the planning committee and picking up all the great Mexican food!

Thank you to the Castro Valley Arts Foundation for their gift to us of a set of tickets to one of this year's programs.

And last, but far from least, a very special thank you to Ginger Russell, who does such a great job of putting together this newsletter four times a year.

HOW TO CONTACT *CIRCLE OF FRIENDS*

If you have any comments or suggestions for regular columns or features that you would like to see in *Circle of Friends*, please let us know.

We also welcome brief news items or articles. Deadlines are typically about two weeks prior to each distribution date (first week of February, May, August, and November). Keep in mind that time-sensitive items must fit within the publication schedule.

Please call 510-733-3285 or e-mail us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

By Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurer

The past fiscal year ending September 30 saw our usual three successful book sales, pop-up sales of specific books, and pop-up membership sales. The funds generated from these sales together with the BookStore proceeds provided the opportunity to completely fund the Library Wishlist.



The Board of Directors will be presenting the 2017-2018 Annual Report and the budget for the coming year, as well as the Library Manager's Wishlist, at the Annual Meeting on November 7th. These reports will also be available in the BookStore office.

We hope that any of you who may be interested in what the Friends are all about will attend this meeting and continue to support our Library.

THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

As always, your generous donations are greatly appreciated. Guidelines listing the types of books and media that we accept are available at the BookStore or on our website. Donations may be dropped off at the BookStore during the hours we are open. If you have more than a few boxes, please call in advance as we may want to meet you at our storage facility. Please do not leave your donations outside when the library is closed; they may be damaged or stolen.

Our next book sale is the first weekend in December, and we would appreciate receiving your donations **no later than mid-November** so that we have time to process them. We cannot accept donations during the two weeks immediately prior to the sale.

Proceeds from the sale of your donated items benefit your library and your community by funding library programs and amenities that would not otherwise be possible.

MEET YOUR FRIENDS will be back next year. Watch for your February issue of *Circle of Friends* to meet another Friend of the Castro Valley Library.



Mark your calendars now—the next Book Sale is

NOV. 30—DEC. 2

As always, the sale will be at the following times:
Friday night Member Preview—6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday—10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday Bag Sale—1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (\$4 per bag)

We will again feature a nice selection of fiction, nonfiction, and children's books.

⇒ Look for our special section of GIFT QUALITY books. ⇐

We anticipate having at least 300 cartons of books at the sale.

You will be glad you came!

Volunteers will be needed for all sale days
as well as for the set-up and clean-up days.

Contact us at 510-733-3285 or Friends.CVL@gmail.com

if you can volunteer or if you have any
questions about the work or requirements.

A signup sheet will be available in the
Friends office approximately one month
prior to the book sale date.

Planning to attend?

*Please remember to bring your current
(2018) Friends of the Castro Valley Library
membership card in order to
take advantage of your \$2.00 discount.*

*You can join or renew at the door or
purchase a membership ahead of time. Memberships
purchased will be for 2019.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE 2019 BOOK SALES:

April 26—28

August 16—18

December 6—8

WE MAY ALSO HAVE SPECIAL SALES AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE YEAR.
REMEMBER TO CHECK FREQUENTLY FOR NOTICES IN THE NEWSLETTER,
ON OUR WEBSITE, AND POSTED AT THE BOOKSTORE.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AND GET UPDATES ON ALL OUR EVENTS,
AS WELL AS ANY SPECIAL BOOKS OR COLLECTIONS
THAT COME INTO THE BOOKSTORE!

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, PAGE 8

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 12 noon to 8 p.m.
Wed. & Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday Closed
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Please call 667-7900 or visit the Library website at www.aclibrary.org for more information.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday (1st & 3rd) 12 noon to 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday (2nd, 4th, 5th) 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.
Wed. & Thursday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday Closed
Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please call 733-3285 or e-mail Friends.CVL@gmail.com for more information.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Kay Wetherwax, President
Wayne Ainsworth, Vice President
Ka'ai Jensen and Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurers
Carol Lyke, Secretary
Sara Accornero, At-Large Director
Joan King, At-Large Director

Board members may be contacted by calling the Friends office or emailing us as noted under the BookStore information to the left. You may also contact us through our website or by visiting the BookStore during normal operating hours.

MEETING SCHEDULE!!!

Friends meetings are held on an as-needed basis. *Circle of Friends* is published quarterly. Please check your newsletter or our website for upcoming meeting dates and other events. **The Annual Meeting will be held on November 7th (see notice on page 5).**

Printed by:
Acclaim Print and Copy Center
6345 Scarlett Court., Dublin CA 94568
925-829-7750.

Friends of the Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Avenue
Castro Valley CA 94546
www.aclibrary.org

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

