



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

**Friends of the Castro Valley Library
August 2022**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Kay Wetherwax, President

After four and a half years serving as the president of the Friends, I am writing my last President's Column. I am delighted to announce that Robin Olivier will be your new president as of August 9. I know she brings new ideas and new energy to the position and I am extremely happy to leave it in her very capable hands.

We had a very successful two-day book sale in June. We offered adult fiction and mystery books, children's books and DVDs, and raised more than \$2500 for the library. Now we're going to do it again! The next sale will be August 27 and 28, and will feature primarily non-fiction books (including biography and history), science fiction and paranormal novels, children's books, DVDs and music CDs. And we will have a table of specially priced books. The sale will include the usual "Bag Sale" on Sunday afternoon.

A huge thank you to the many volunteers who worked together to make our June book sale a great success. We could not have done it without the book haulers, the stockers, the cashiers, and the clean-up crew. I especially want to thank Roger Caswell for many, many hours of work that made this all possible.

We are also hoping to have our first three-day large sale in over two years in December. And in the meantime, our bookstore offers many wonderful books. We continue to have a great selection of new releases and best sellers, priced at only \$4. And we always have many "gently used" children's books. Please stop by and check us out!

I greatly appreciate the support, encouragement, and help I have received from our wonderful volunteers, our great library staff, and so many of the Friends. My time as your president has been rewarding and extremely enjoyable. But it's time for a change, both for me and for the Friends of the Library. So "Welcome, Robin"!



INTRODUCING ROBIN OLIVIER

I want to introduce myself to those who don't know me. I have lived in Castro Valley since 1973, but I came here before that. After graduating from Cal, I attended Cal State Hayward (as it was then named) to earn my teaching credential. For my student teaching in the spring of 1966, I was assigned to Parsons School in CV. Then, lucky me, I was hired by the school district and taught the next 13 years at Parsons, first in 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades and then with special education students, K-6. In 1979, I was appointed principal of Castro Valley Elementary School. In later years, I also was principal of Stanton, Palomares and Independent Schools. After retirement, I volunteered in a first grade classroom at Proctor, for 8 years at our local CHP office and in 2011, I began volunteering at our Friends Book Store on Saturday mornings.

Our Book Store has experienced all the ups and downs of COVID-19. I'll always remember getting the call that the store would close in March of 2019. I don't think any of us dreamed the closures would last as long as they did. Last summer, we started taking baby steps to make our books available to local readers. We had pop-up sales on concert nights and on Saturday mornings. It was so much fun to see our customers and reconnect after all those months. We opened the store only to have to close once again, but then reopened early this year. We had a small book sale last month that was both successful and safe. Another one is coming up late in August. I keep thinking I'm seeing the light at the end of the tunnel!! I hope so.

Our membership has lagged after all the closings and openings. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so. Volunteers are the engine that powers our organization. If you would like to work in our store, or haul books to our storage facility, or mail books sold on line, please drop by the store and fill out a volunteer form.

I'm looking forward to seeing you here at our Book Store, the only one in Castro Valley!

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Staff Column

By Alexandria Peretiako, Children's Librarian

The last couple months at the library have been a flurry of excitement for staff and families as many of our favorite summer programs are back in person

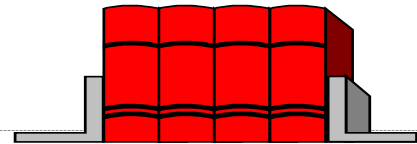
Summer Adventure is currently in full swing. This summer marked Alameda County Library's second year of Summer Adventure, our reimagined Summer Reading Game. This year's adventure, Wonder in Nature, is centered around spending time exploring, learning about, and connecting with nature. In doing so, we can experience benefits from a greater sense of peace to finding a new hobby. Members have been finding their sense of wonder together through various communal passive programs. From an updated Storywalk® to a collaborative artboard, there are a variety of options for participating in summer programming in a passive, yet collective, way. Our Children's librarians were excited to welcome several performers ranging from a magician to an interactive music program. During one program Things That Creep brought in several reptiles and amphibians for children to meet, hold, and learn about. The best part was hearing the gasps of excitement when meeting a monitor lizard, which was over 4 feet long!

As the beginning of the summer kicked off Pride Month, families were able to celebrate the diversity of our community while visiting the library through both passive and traditional programs. Children were able to spread the love creating rainbow colored origami hearts with kind messages on them, which came together in one large rainbow in the center of the Children's Section. The cel-

ebration continued as families joined us for a Pride Storytime with stories about acceptance, songs, and dazzling unicorn attire.

Throughout June and July, children have been participating in fun and engaging activities to help them develop the skills needed for STEAM: science, technology, engineering, art, and math, including weekly Lego challenge where children are tasked with building things such as catapulting cars or ships with working sails. Stop by the children's display case to see the latest Lego creations! Summer STEAM has already welcomed over 600 children and the help of dozens of middle school volunteers to make it all possible.

While summer is one of the most beloved times of year for our children's librarians, we are very excited for everything fall will hold this year. As children head back to school, we look forward to welcoming classrooms into the library for visits to receive library cards and learn about all the great things our library has to offer. We are looking forward to welcoming back our greatly missed musical storytime for a few sessions, as well as starting a monthly science program with an award-winning local science teacher. With so much to do and enjoy, the library has truly been a hub of community involvement.



MEET YOUR FRIENDS: ELIZABETH RINEHART

Elizabeth has been a library volunteer for 7 years. She is point of contact for four sections in the bookstore: Social Science, Psychology, Self Help, and Women's Issues, as well as volunteering weekly. She has been operational treasurer for the Friends for four years, keeping the books balanced and bills paid.

Elizabeth moved to Castro Valley from Ann Arbor, Michigan, when her employer transferred her. Michigan's loss is our gain! Not surprisingly, she lists reading as her main hobby!

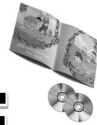


"Libraries are very important to an avid reader like me. The Castro Valley Library is so important to the community, particularly for the programs they present for all age groups. That's why the Friends are so critical because all the funds we generate through the book store and book sales go to the Library to support these programs. Since there is no "city hall" or "community center" in Castro Valley, the Library fills that need."

Friends of the Castro Valley Library



AUGUST BOOK SALE



Saturday the 27th, 10am to 3pm



Sunday the 28th is Bag Day

\$4 a bag 1 to 4pm

Non Fiction
Sci-fi/Paranormal
Children's

Biography
History
DVD's/CD's

Credit and Debit
cards accepted



Face Masks
Required

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MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Dawn Balestreri, Branch Manager

Summer is winding down at the library and has been a lot busier than the last couple of years! It's wonderful to see all the families visit us and enjoy the programming. Playing the Summer Adventure game and keeping up with their reading during the school break has kept a lot of children and parents happy. Our Children's staff has provided creative and fun programming for the community, and it's been a thrill for all of us to see them enjoying our programs.

This summer we are holding our Summer Concert Series again. We kicked the summer off with a fantastic concert by the James Henry Quartet. Around 150 people joined us for a concert with the master percussionist, local musician, and his quartet. Perfect weather too! Next, is Hey Jude, a Beatles cover band and sure to be a crowd pleaser, on July 28. Our last concert is on August 25 with the Jimbo Scott Trio. This bluegrass event will be a pleaser and we are thrilled to have another local artist. It's not too late to register online at https://aclibrary.org/. Choose "Events" and the date or give us a call to register over the phone.

We also offered a new program for adults this year, our Tiny Art program has been very popular. Register at the branch and, pick up your tiny canvas and paint supplies. Return your art by August 20 to display in our lobby. We can't wait to see all the creative work our community brings back. The program is designed for 13 and older while supplies last.

We have been working hard to bring back as many of our beloved past programs as possible. We are interviewing for a Homework Help facilitator to assist school aged children with their homework. Kids sign in, and start their homework. When they need help, they raise their hand, and a facilitator or volunteer comes over to help. The program has been a lifesaver for families, and we hope to be able to provide it this fall. If someone you know may be interested in facilitating our Homework Help Center (teaching experience preferred but not required) M-Th from 3:15-5:15pm, please have them reach out to us. This is a paid, contracted position. A retired teacher would be ideal.

Also new is a dedicated Romance section. We have interfiled all our paperbacks with regular fiction and the old space is now our Romance section. If you prefer to read about matters of the heart, check it out! We're heading back to school, drive safely and visit your local library!

WANTED: Two or three strong volunteers with vehicles who can help once or twice a week with book hauling between the library and our storage spaces on Fairmont. Books are typically moved on Mondays and Thursdays. Loads vary between eight and eighteen "bankers boxes" weighing up to thirty pounds each. Need to be able to lift to six feet. Time commitment is about an hour and a half per trip. If you are interested, please stop by the bookstore and fill out a Volunteer Application or e-mail us at: friends.cvl@gmail.com.

WANTED: 2-3 volunteers to mail books we sell on Amazon. You would need to be on call when we are notified of a sale, which is about 10 times a month. Books and mailing supplies are located at the Library. Using the Store computer, you can print a mailing label and then take the package to the Post Office for drop off in the lobby. We normally have 2 days to mail a book once we are notified of a sale. If you are interested, please come by the Book Store office and fill out a volunteer form or email us at friends.cvl@gmail.com.

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: _____

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Sunday: Closed
Monday: 12pm – 5:30pm
Tuesday: 12pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday: 10am – 3pm
Thursday: 12:30pm – 5:30pm
Friday: CLOSED
Saturday: 10am – 4pm

Please call 510 667-7900 or visit the Library website at www.aclibrary.org for more information.

Check website, www.friendsofcvlibrary.org.



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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. **Please call** 510-733-3285 or e-mail us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com if you have any questions or want to submit an item.

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TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

