



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Friends of the Castro Valley Library
November 2017

The Annual Meeting will be held November 14th at the Library Chabot/Canyon Room. See page 5 for more info.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Roger Caswell

Farewell: This will be my last President's Report to you as elections of three officers, including that of President of the Friends, are next week at the Annual Friends Meeting. It has been an interesting two years and a growth experience for me. I wish my successor well.

Become active: The Friends is an organization and, though incorporated as a public charity, works like any other business that has been growing successfully for thirty years. As in any organization, there is a learning curve to becoming familiar with the various aspects of the operation, but fortunately, there are many experienced hands eager to guide the fresh volunteer.

The very idea of being on the Board of Directors may seem like a big jump for a member, but let me assure you that it is not impossible. One way is to volunteer at one of the book sales or at the BookStore if space is available. We're always looking for new ideas.

If you're the business-oriented type, maybe you could attend a Board meeting as an observer. This would provide a more behind-the-scenes perspective of an organization whose purpose is to grow the Castro Valley community through fund-raising for the purpose of providing resources beyond what the Alameda County system might afford.

As in any organization, the main issues always center around finances, plans for both the short and the long term, publicity, outreach, personnel, and physical plant. It's a short step to joining the Board as an At-Large Director. Now you've got a say in how things are run and a lot of flexibility in duties, whether assigned or on your own initiative. If you're of a financial mind, Treasurer would be the next rung. If you're an organizer, Vice President and then President would be the logical progression.

To keep the Friends of the Castro Valley Library a viable and productive resource for the literary enhancement of the community will need new leaders to step up as the old guard steps down. We have several hundred members. Surely there must be one or two or three members who want to be active in their community's growth and have the few hours a week that it takes. We need to start staffing the Board of 2019 right now.

November Annual Meeting and Election: Remember that all and any you, as members of Friends of the Castro Valley Library have a vote in the approval of the new 2017-2018 budget and to vote for new officers. You also have the right

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.)
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.
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

11/2 and 11/9 at 10:00 and 10:45 a.m. (half hour sessions) Musical Storytime for children 5 years and younger. Stay for a 45 minute Playtime after the story.
11/4 10:30-11:45 a.m. Yoga for Beginners
11/4 and 11/18 10:30-12:30 2 part Adult Computer Class—Windows 10
11/4 and 11/18 1:30-3:30 2 part Adult Computer Class—iPad and iPhone
11/5 2:00-3:30 p.m. Chakra Balancing for the Holidays
11/6 6:30-8:00 p.m. Paws to Read
11/6 7:00-7:30 p.m. Pajama Storytime
11/7 12:15-12:45 p.m. Tuff Tumblers
11/12 2:00-3:00 p.m. Dave Rocha Jazz Trio

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:

Saturday November 11th for Veterans Day
Thursday November 23rd for Thanksgiving
Monday December 25th for Christmas
Monday January 1st for New Year's Day
Monday January 15th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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.

to run for any of the Board of Directors positions that will be opening up this fall as terms expire. The openings will include President, Secretary, and an At-Large Director. The annual members meeting is scheduled for the evening of November 14, 2017.

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Dawn Balestreri, Branch Manager

"I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks."
- William Shakespeare

I'm so glad it's November and there's an entire holiday devoted to giving thanks. I try to remind myself regularly about my blessings, but it's easy to let things slip in between working, raising kids and trying to find a moment to relax and enjoy life. The older I get, the more I appreciate other people's time and energy. I know how little I have of both, and it's no small thing to give them up. I truly appreciate those who give back to this community. Thank you!

The excitement in the staff area is palpable. We have a surprise for Castro Valley and we will share all details before 2017 is over. You may have started seeing some "teasers" in the branch and around the community for Castro Valley Reads. Mid-December, we will officially announce our first Castro Valley Reads event! Castro Valley Reads! is a community-

wide literary event encouraging people to read and discuss the same book. The program includes discussion groups and special events inspired by the themes in the book. Castro Valley Reads celebrates reading and books and fosters a sense of community by encouraging a thoughtful exchange of ideas. The Castro Valley Library is very thankful for the Friends of the Library for their generous funding towards the program. More to come!

The Castro Valley Library now offers Tech It Home, the Wi-Fi hotspot lending program. Tech It Home is a device that provides unlimited, high-speed Internet service anywhere AT&T provides data coverage. Wi-Fi hotspots are portable devices that can connect a smartphone, laptop, or tablet to the Internet. The Wi-Fi hotspots are perfect for those without Internet access at home and for those who need to conduct school or business work on the go. You can connect up to 10 devices to the mobile Wi-Fi hotspot at once. These will be placed behind the Membership Desk and check out time is three weeks. No holds will be allowed and they are sure to be a popular item.

Have a healthy, happy and thankful holiday season!

Welcoming Teachers and Students to the Library

By Vivian Jaquette, Children's Librarian

In Fall, children's librarians switch gears just like schoolkids do. The children's room gets quieter during school hours, then turns up the volume every weekday from 3pm until dinnertime.

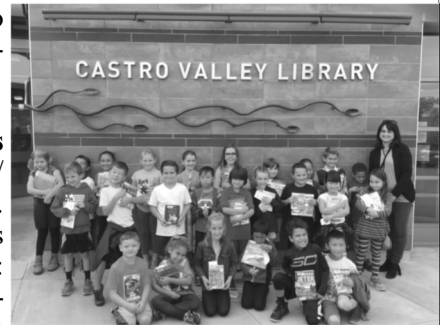
Fall activities include class visits, when many elementary schoolteachers bring their students to learn more about the library, take a "behind the scenes" tour, and get library cards into the hands of every student.

The visit begins in the Chabot/Canyon room. We engage kids in a discussion: How is our library similar to the school library? How is it different? (Hint: Lots more books, open after school and weekends!) We talk about library cards and how they are something like a magic ticket that can take you to all kinds of fun and intriguing places.

Kids love the chance to see parts of the library most people never do, so we play up the "secret passage" between the Chabot/Canyon Room and the children's room, the high-tech system that sorts returned books through the bookdrop, and the staff room.

We point out the art throughout the building, including the display near the Friends bookstore, the Tree of Knowledge sculptures near the entrance, and the mural that spans the eastern wall of the children's room.

By making the library feel fun and inviting, we encourage children to come back with their parents or caregivers and to make the library a third place they will enjoy returning to throughout their lives.



IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

In 2016, the Friends of the Castro Valley Library Bylaws were amended so that memberships renew on a calendar basis. The 2017 memberships will expire on December 31, 2017.

The November issue of the newsletter is being snail-mailed to all current members in order to include a remittance envelope, in which you can send us a renewal check. You can also renew your membership in person at the book sale December 1—3, or at the Friends BookStore inside the Castro Valley Library beginning December 4th (the day after the book sale). If you mail your payment, you will need to pick up your membership card at the BookStore or at the December book sale (see page 7 for book sale dates). Please allow about 10 working days for us to receive and process your payment before coming to pick up your card. You also have the option of including a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your renewal, and we will mail your card to you.

At \$10 per year, an individual membership in the Friends of the Castro Valley Library includes several benefits, \$7 in discounts at the BookStore, a \$2 discount for each of 3 book sales, and admission to the Friday preview night for each of the 3 book sales. This is a total of \$13 in discounts, as well as first chance at the wonderful books available at each of our sales. For \$20 per year, a family membership includes two cards, which doubles the discount value to \$26! All members receive our quarterly newsletter.

Please consider upgrading your membership to the \$50 Benefactor level. Membership dues are an important part of the Friends' income, which in turn directly benefits our beautiful library! Other membership options include Corporate Benefactor at \$35, and Lifetime (\$200) or Family Lifetime (\$300). When submitting your renewal by mail or in person, please include a completed application form (available below or on the mailing envelope) so that we can verify that we have your complete current postal and email addresses. This is also a good time to let us know if you are interested in volunteering with the Friends, in the BookStore, at our 3 annual book sales, or in some other capacity. You must be a current member to volunteer.

Planning to attend the book sale on December 1—3? Your current (2017) membership card with its remaining \$2.00 discount is still good for this sale, but you will need your new (2018) card for the 2018 book sales and to use the BookStore discounts beginning in January. You can renew at the December book sale if you wish. If you're not a member yet, you can join at the door. New members will receive a brand-new 2018 membership card AND a \$2.00 coupon to use at the December sale. Again, the new membership cards will also be available at the BookStore starting December 4th for anyone wishing to join or renew. Remember that your membership dues help to fund programs and amenities for our library, the same as proceeds from your generous donations.

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:

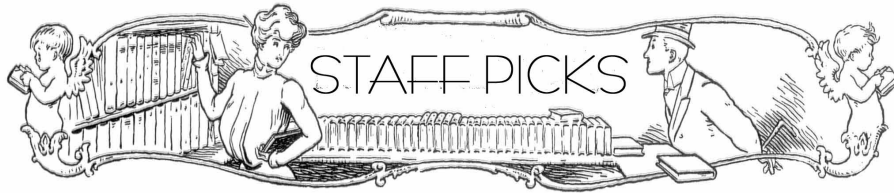
☐ \$10 Individual ☐ \$20 Family ☐ \$5 Youth ☐ \$35 Corporate Sponsor
☐ \$50 Benefactor ☐ \$200 Lifetime—Individual ☐ \$300 Lifetime—Family
Membership renewals are due January 1st.

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: _____



Mud, Blood, and Gold: San Francisco in 1849 by Rand Richards (2009 nonfiction): This is a detailed account of the events that transformed a sleepy Indian village into a teeming metropolis, from a peaceful community to a constantly expanding cesspool of uncontrolled greed and licentiousness. The population explosion was inspired by the discovery of gold in the hills a few hundred miles distant. The word spread and the world responded. Overland from the East Coast, round Cape Horn by boat, the combination crossing Panama by land and then boarding ship. A beautiful bay was swamped with abandoned ships. The original village was emptied again and again as hundreds of young men from all over the world hit the ground running for the hills. There were no streets or facilities we now take for granted. The main currencies were gold (dust) and land lots. The main activities were survival and construction. Gambling flourished. Fortunes were made and lost by the hour. Women were few and valuable. Slowly and inevitably, discipline and law emerged and a great city was born. Yerba Buena yielded to San Francisco. Mud-mixes with blood and gold. Rand Richards has provided a well-researched and painfully detailed account of one year. All the names we find identifying SF streets are fleshed out: Geary, Hyde, O'Farrell, Larkin, and Leavenworth wheel and deal. Fremont and Sherman come and go. I have one quibble. The only reference to an Irish contribution is that when ranking foreigners in a hierarchy of likeability, "the Irish were suspect, partly because many had come from Australia and were therefore assumed to be ex-convicts." I submit that the Irish, even if convicted by English laws, did and continue to rank atop hierarchies of likeability. (Martin Waldron)

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah (2015 fiction): I am a long-time fan of Kristin Hannah, but this book is really special. Isabelle Rossignol and her sister Vianne Mauriac are sisters in World War II France. After a difficult childhood, Vianne is married with a child, while the younger Isabelle has run away from several boarding schools, only to have her father reject her again. She and Vianne have a tenuous relationship. Vianne's husband is drafted by the French military, leaving her to manage their farm. All too soon, France is occupied by the Nazis, and the life Vianne cherishes changes drastically. The rebellious Isabel, who wants to "do something" to help her country, becomes involved with the French Resistance and ultimately becomes "The Nightingale," guiding downed Allied pilots over the Pyrenees into Spain to escape capture by the Nazis. This is a beautifully detailed novel, based on fact, which describes the horror of war and the courage of many of the French citizens, who endured great hardship but man-

aged not only to survive themselves but also to save others. Recommended. (Ginger Russell)

My Grandfather's Coat by Jim Aylesworth, illustrated by Barbara McClintock (2014 fiction), is a 32-page charmer for youngsters and the family and friends who read to them. Based on an Old World Yiddish story and song, it tells the story of Grandfather's elegant wedding coat which, over years of constant wear, becomes a little tattered so it is made into a vest for his son, which in time becomes frayed so it becomes a tie and continues to be lovingly downsized through four generations. Each new re-creation is engagingly illustrated to delight the viewer's eyes and mind. The recycling possibilities for this garment are boundless and perhaps can create in children the resolve to use and reinvent some of their own possessions. Highly recommended for children from 4 to 94! Available in the Children's Section of the Castro Valley Library. (Carol Lyke)

When I visited with folks at the August book sale, some people asked me what I liked to read. Since I'm a working dog (a service dog at the Children's Health Council in Palo Alto), I thought I would tell you about some books that describe various things working dogs can do and how we are trained to do them.

Raising a Hero by Laura Joffe Numeroff and Lynn Munsinger (2014) is a fun children's book which chronicles the adventures of Max and Sam as Max trains his little puppy to be a service dog, a future hero for someone who needs him.

Scent of the Missing: Love and Partnership with a Search-and-Rescue Dog by Susannah Charleson (2011). Susannah and her dog Puzzle are involved with domestic searches (missing teen; wandering Alzheimer patient) and natural disasters. Together, they are able to work in ways that they could not do separately, strengthening a mutual bond of trust.

Until Tuesday: A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him by Luis Carlos Montalvan (2011). Capt. Montalvan bravely served two tours of duty in Iraq, but when he returned home, his physical problems and PTSD were more crippling than what he had endured before. A golden retriever named Tuesday also was carrying "baggage" and found it hard to connect with people – until he and Luis met. Theirs is a story of moving on from the past and forming a close bond, creating healing in each other. (Tavish Lyke)

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.COM

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

Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Gibbon (Heritage Press 3 vol. set) 1946, \$55.00
The Essential Oils, Vol. 2, Guenther, 1950 \$59.00
Exploring Life Drawing, Stone, 2007, \$39.00
Dragon's Teeth, Sinclair, 1861, \$45.00
The Cat From Telegraph Hill, Hurd, 1957, \$239.00
Beasties Coloring Book, Whyte, 1970 \$33.00
Global Economic Turmoil and the Public Good, Rosefielde, 2015, \$94.00
A Thousand Ways to Please a Family, Weaver, 1922, \$89.00

Our name on Amazon is **FriendsofBooks**, and our entire on-line store can be viewed at <http://www.amazon.com/shops/A1AE92DUB78GQ4>. You can access the store by typing the above string in your browser, or by clicking on our name when viewing one of our listings.



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!

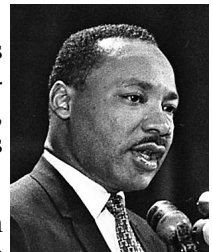
By Marie Blackmon

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

November: It is Diabetes Awareness and Native American Heritage Month. Thank a servicemember on Veterans Day. The Great American Smokeout is the 15th. And Thanksgiving!

December: The holidays! Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa. And believe it or not, it's Stress Free Month!!

January: Time for New Year's Resolutions, Reaching Your Potential, Organizing and Living, and Martin Luther King Jr.'s Dream.



February: See your shadow on Groundhog Day, send a Valentine to your sweetheart, remember our Presidents, party for Mardi Gras, recognize Black History Month, and celebrate Wedding Month.

March: Eat well for National Nutrition Month, celebrate National Irish Heritage Month and St. Patrick's Day, and here's a new one—If Pets Had Thumbs Day on March 3rd!

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Friends of the Castro Valley Library will hold its annual meeting on **Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 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 (President, Secretary, one At-Large Director) for two-year terms that begin following the election; the annual Financial Report and budget for the upcoming fiscal year; discussion regarding the Fall/Winter Book Sale; and other subjects as may be determined by the Board of Directors or requested by attendees.

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 Roger Caswell, President

August Book Sale: Thank you all for the great book sale in August. The Friday night members started the sale off on the right foot with a big attendance and were in a buying mood. It was a great start to the weekend. The best and freshest buys are on Friday night as so many regulars know. Remember, December 1st is the Members Night for the last book sale before the holidays.

New Library Program: Dawn Balestreri, the new Castro Valley Library Manager has continued the branch's synergy with the Friends. In addition to the Friends' continuing support of the longstanding children's and adult programs which are so popular, Dawn is instituting "Castro Valley Reads." This concept includes a series of events surrounding a group of Castro Valley residents reading and sharing their thoughts and understandings of a current book. The Friends are funding this program with the Library staff doing the heavy lifting.

New Fiscal Year: The Friends' new fiscal year started at the beginning of October. This always allows a review of how we did financially. The initial reckoning indicates that we are doing well. We cannot expand the Book Store due to space constraints, so the remaining areas of income are critical to our growth: membership, the periodic book sales, and donations. For those who contribute in these ways to our support of the Library programs, thank you so much.

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

In addition to our successful book sales during the fiscal year,



we held a special children's book pop-up sale in July. The funds generated from these book sales and the BookStore proceeds

allowed for the complete funding of the Library wish list.

The Board of Directors will be presenting the 2016-17 Annual Report and the budget for the coming year, as well as the Library Manager's wish list, at our Annual Meeting on November 14th. These reports will also be available in the BookStore office.

We hope many of you will be able to attend and see what the Friends are doing and the ways we will continue to support our Library.

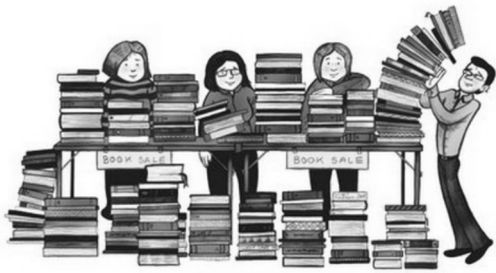
THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

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 Thanksgiving weekend** so that we have time to process them. We cannot accept donations during the week 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

DECEMBER 1-3

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. (\$3 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
(2017) 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 2018.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE 2018 BOOK SALES:

APRIL 20—22, 2018

AUGUST 17—19, 2018

NOVEMBER 30—DECEMBER 2, 2018

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) 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

Roger Caswell, President
Sara Accornero, Vice President
Ka'ai Jensen and Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurers
Kay Wetherwax, Secretary
Elizabeth McCune, At-Large Director
Wayne Ainsworth, 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 14th** (see notice on page 5).

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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

