PRESIDENT’S REPORT

April Book Sale: The first Book Sale of 2017 is now in the rearview mirror. The crowds were respectable as were the proceeds at around $2800. As could be expected, renewing and new memberships were low but it is about mid-term for the 2016-2017 membership period and we did have a great signup last year for that one-time fifteen-month card. Remember you still have two more Book Sales to use those discounts on the back of your card. We apologize for the wrong sale dates on the Book Sale Finder website which led to several inquiries.

New Director-at-Large: Sarah Sammis resigned her position to relocate with her family. This left her Director-at-Large position open, and it was filled in an executive Board meeting in March by the appointment of Wayne Ainsworth, a BookStore and Book Sale volunteer, and longtime observer at the Board meetings. Wayne is a retired businessman with the type of organizational skills that will be a great asset to our organization. Welcome aboard, Wayne!

Volunteer Opportunities: As you might know, most of our volunteers are retirees. It always surprises me how many have had long careers in education ranging from elementary through graduate school. I guess respect for the written word was instilled early on and never left. That doesn’t mean we only accept educators as volunteers. We are a corporation, albeit non-profit, and your business or professional experience can contribute to our business and to the greater Castro Valley community at the same time.

Our BookStore atmosphere is low-pressure, the volunteers friendly and sociable, and training is provided. A full shift is one three-hour period a week or you can start up as a backup volunteer. At this time, Thursday and weekend shifts need fuller staffing. We are open any day the library is open. Need I say, there is wide, wide array of genres that cover almost any interest.

You may become interested in going beyond the BookStore or Book Sales volunteer experience and wish for greater involvement. That course could be through attending the monthly Board meetings as an observer or even run for one of the Board positions opening up this fall.

Annual Members Meeting: Remember that you, as members of Friends of the Castro Valley Library, have the right 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 a Director-at-Large. The annual members meeting is scheduled for November 14th, 2017.

Roger Caswell, President
Friends of the Castro Valley Library

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
Last Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. CV Library Book Club
Second Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. eBesteller Book Club (registration req.)

Write to Read: Thursdays 1:00 to 2:30 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 May
5/1 6:30-8:00 p.m. Paws to Read
5/2 12:15-1 p.m. Tuff Tumblers
5/2 6:15-6:45 Yoga for Kids
5/3 10:15-10:45 Yoga for Kids
5/4 10:00-10:30 or 10:45-11:15 Musical Storytime (every Thursday all month)
5/6 11:30-1:00 Book Fair Keynote Speaker Lisa See
5/6 1-4 p.m. Book Fair—meet 30 local authors. Check the library website for more information.
5/9 1:00-3:00 Senior Driver Safety Seminar
5/13 10:30-11:15 Yoga for Beginners
Adult Computer Classes:
5/13 10:30-12:30 Facebook 101
5/13 1:30-3:30 Library E-Books
5/20 1:30-3:30 Library E-Books
5/20 1:30-3:30 i/Pad & i/Phone Tips and Tricks

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 May 29th for Memorial Day
Tuesday July 4th for Independence 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.
MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER
By Dawn Balestreri, Acting Branch Manager

We bid adieu to our beloved Manager, Carolyn Moskovitz this past March. Carolyn leaves behind a beautiful library and well trained staff to the community of Castro Valley. After more than 40 years with the Alameda County Library System, there is a lot of knowledge gone with her, but the staff will do its best to create a smooth transition for the Castro Valley community and our customers.

You should see an improvement in customer service soon! Beginning sometime this summer, we hope to provide regular staff and offer more programming on the weekends. Traditionally, we’ve had to rely on temporary staff for some cover on the weekends, but we now look forward to having mostly regular staff on both Saturday and Sunday. This should create a better environment for our customers who are used to our permanent staff.

There are a lot of other great ideas we hope to offer the community. For example, we are hoping to purchase another laptop kiosk machine. If you haven’t been in lately, we now offer a check-out machine for laptops and iPads. Using your library card, you can check out either device for a two-hour period to use in the library. By purchasing another kiosk, we will be able to free up more space for some much-needed seating. If you ever visit after school or on the weekends, seating tends to be at capacity.

Summer is just around the corner and we have many of our usual happenings planned. Monday is Build It Day. The kids can come in for a two-hour period and build using Legos and other building materials. On Movie Tuesday we’ll show some of the most newly released videos for kids of all ages. Wednesday we’re happy to offer a live performance ranging from juggling to reptiles. Our very popular Musical Storytime will continue during the summer on Thursday mornings in July. Thursday afternoon is Game Day all summer long, it’s a perfect opportunity for a playdate away from home. We will also be offering Improv workshops in August for Elementary school children; registration will be required for these 2-hour hands-on workshops.

This summer will also bring a new format to our Summer Reading Game. Traditionally, the game has been played on paper. This summer, the entire Alameda County Library System will transition to a fully online game. The paper games and spinning wheels will be gone from the branch. Instead, customers will sign up online and play the game there. Minutes and activities will be logged into our Summer Reading Game site. Prizes will be online badges, and for those who can get into a branch, we will still be awarding prizes. In addition, we will have several age-level raffle prizes for all ages.

There are also new programming ideas in the works for fall and winter. We are looking forward to providing lots of useful and interesting opportunities at your local library. Please let us know what you would like to see at your library!

Spotlight on eMagazines & Streaming Videos!
By Lyn Leone, Librarian

Alameda County Library has a huge variety of exciting learning and entertainment options that you can access for free with your library card. You may already be downloading eBooks and music, but did you know the library also offers members the option to download popular magazines and to stream video?

For eMagazines, the library has partnered with two services, Flipster and Zinio. The digital magazines look exactly like the print versions and can be viewed on a computer or mobile device. Both current and back issues are available and can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through the Library’s website. Issues are completely unrestricted and can be kept permanently!

Flipster offers almost 50 of the most popular magazines including Consumer Reports, Cooking Light, InStyle, Money, Real Simple, Sports Illustrated, Sunset, and People. Zinio offers over 200 titles! Highlights include Better Homes & Gardens, Billboard, Car & Driver, Conde Nast Traveler, Cosmopolitan, Cooks Illustrated, Eating Well, Forbes, Glamour, HGTV Magazine, Kiplingers, National Geographic, New Yorker, Oprah, Rolling Stone, and The Week. Here’s how to get started:

On a PC or MAC Reading magazines on a computer requires an internet connection. Visit the library's home page at www.aclibrary.org. Select the eMagazine link and click on Flipster Magazines or Zinio Magazines to connect. Log in with your library card number. For Zinio, you will need to create an RBDigital Account. Once logged in, you can search for a specific magazine, search by topic, or browse the entire collection. When you find a magazine you want to read, click on the cover or the Read This Issue link to open the magazine. A new tab will open in your browser and the issue will load.

On a Mobile Device Reading Flipster or Zinio magazines on a mobile device requires an app. For Apple or Android devices, visit your app store and download the Flipster and Zinio for Libraries apps. Launch the apps and follow the onsite instructions to access and download magazine issues. Once downloaded to the app, Flipster and Zinio magazines can be read offline.

Your Alameda County Library card also gives you free access to thousands of streaming videos through three partner sites! Access Video offers 30,000+ films from producers such as the A&E, BBC, National Geographic, PBS, Bill Moyers, Ken Burns, Jim Lehrer, Rick Steves and many more. With InstantFlix, film lovers can stream thousands of high quality, award-winning independent shorts, feature films, documentaries and web-series from film festivals around the world. OverDrive’s 3,000+ selections include new and classic feature films, instructional videos and documentaries. Access Video and InstantFlix videos can be viewed on PC’s, Macs, iPads and other internet-enabled mobile devices directly through your browser. OverDrive streaming video is best accessed using the OverDrive app for Apple or Android.

Enjoy!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

The success of the Friends of the Castro Valley Library depends on your generous donations of books, CD’s, and DVD’s. We are happy to receive your donations any time the BookStore is open. If you have a large donation (more than a few cartons) please contact us ahead of time, as we may want to make arrangements for your donation to be dropped off at our storage facility rather than at the Library. Please do not leave donations outside the Library as they are subject to weather or vandalism damage and detract from the appearance of our beautiful Library.

At this time, we are accepting donations of most types of books, DVDs, and music CDs in good, saleable condition. We do not accept sets of books such as encyclopedias, Time-Life sets, condensed books, textbooks older than 3 years, or books that are dirty, moldy, smoky, or otherwise damaged. We also cannot accept VHS tapes (except Disney), vinyl records, or cassette tapes (music or audiobooks).

We will gladly accept magazines that are no older than 6 months. Unfortunately, most magazines that are not current will not sell.

The funds raised from the sale of books and other media pay for Library programs and amenities that might otherwise not be available.

If you have questions about donating or how the donations are used, please let us know!

I OPENED A BOOK

I opened a book and in I strode.  
Now nobody can find me.  
I've left my chair, my house, my road,  
My town and my world behind me.  
I'm wearing the cloak, I've slipped on the ring,  
I've swallowed the magic potion.  
I've fought with a dragon, dined with a king,  
And dived in a bottomless ocean.  
I opened a book and made some friends.  
I shared their tears and laughter  
And followed their road with its bumps and bends,  
To the happily ever after.  
I finished my book and out I came  
The cloak can no longer hide me.  
My chair and my house are just the same,  
But I have a book inside me.

- Julia Donaldson

Children fall in love with books because of the memories created when they snuggle up and read with someone they love.

- Raising Readers
**Leaving Time** by Jodi Picoult (2014 fiction): Thirteen-year-old Jenna Metcalf has never stopped thinking about her mother, Alice, who disappeared in the wake of a tragic accident when Jenna was three years old. After searching through Alice’s old journals and Internet websites to no avail, Jenna enlists the aid of Virgil Stanhope, a private investigator who originally investigated the case, and Serenity Jones, a once-popular psychic. The unlikely threesome begins to piece together the events that occurred ten years ago, uncovering a completely unexpected set of circumstances. Interspersed with this story is that of Alice’s career as a scientist dedicated to the study of elephants, which is wonderful and full of fascinating information. For fans of Jodi Picoult, this book was written with her usual well-researched attention to detail. Its twists and turns hold the reader’s attention until the last page. The book also includes a (prequel) novella about Alice’s elephant research in Africa, which is entertaining and enlightening. Recommended. (Ginger Russell)

**Star of the Sea** by Joseph O’Connor (2004 fiction): I am an Irish immigrant. I am educated. *Star of the Sea* shocked me in depicting a harrowing tale of poverty and man’s inhumanity. Although fiction, this story is extraordinarily well researched. Connemara is a wild, mountainous and barren province in the west of Ireland. Protestant landowners and Catholic peasantry shared harsh conditions which achieved apocalyptic dimensions in 1847, the year of the Great Famine. The potato crop failed. There was no food, no mercy for rent defectors whose cabins were levelled. There were no safety nets. Towns had no resources for thousands of starving country folk. Anonymous mass workhouse graves and coffin ships beckoned. O’Connor introduces a varied cast of characters, intermingling sex, religion, and class distinctions. We meet the Mulvey brothers, Nicholas sacerdotal, plus unscrupulous, plus moves to England where his adventures expose the reader to London’s underworld, English prison conditions, and monstrous crimes. We meet David Merridith, who disappoints his father Lord Kingscourt and is ruthlessly disowned. David then marries a tradesman’s daughter and ends up with Pius on the *Star of the Sea*. All three, Nicholas, Pius, and David, had relations with Mary Duane, also on board as nanny to Merridith’s boys. The voyage is Gothic, the ship a floating ward of the terminally ill, with upper class accommodation for the Kingscourt family and others, including Mary. The lower steerage class die off daily, inexorably. The overcrowded conditions resemble the vessels hauling Somalis across the Mediterranean today, but the voyage lasts weeks in Atlantic weather. There is a murder plot, a passenger under life-threatening orders from disaffected Connemara peasantry to kill Kingscourt. Finally, upon arrival in New York, the ship is quarantined for seven weeks, for fear of fever, alongside 170 other vessels. People die within sight and sound of welcoming wharfside relatives. Kingscourt is discovered decapitated in his cabin. No murderer is identified. *Star of the Sea* arrived. Thus did the Irish immigrants of 1847 land in the USA. (Martin Waldron)

**The Underground Railroad** by Colson Whitehead (2016 fiction): It is no surprise that *The Underground Railroad* won both the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2017 and the National Book Award. It is a well-crafted amalgam of slavery, cultural attitudes and personal resilience in the antebellum South woven into the fantasy of an actual railroad running underground complete with tracks, engineers and stations. Cora, a young slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia, decides to risk everything by running away with Caesar, a free black man from the north who had been captured and sold on the slave market. Each chapter describes in vivid detail the deplorable conditions and horrifying encounters as she makes her way north, sometimes on foot, sometimes on the underground railroad. Even what appears to be a safe haven in South Carolina with her assumed new name presents the historically real and graphic challenges to all blacks whether free or runaway slaves. It is difficult to read, with the stupefying reality of slave life and subhuman treatment by the slave owners and slave catchers, but along the way we also meet good souls who go out of their way to help fleeing slaves. Whitehead’s writing is complex and riveting, a most unusual and compelling work. Highly recommended. Available in the Castro Valley Library in several different formats. (Carol Lyke)

**BOOK REVIEWS WANTED!** Did you read something wonderful recently? Or see an enjoyable film or hear some special music? Please consider sharing with your Friends. *Circle of Friends* accepts reviews at any time for publication in an upcoming issue. Just e-mail us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com or drop off a copy of your review at the BookStore. Reviews will be printed in the next available issue.
The Friends would like to thank the volunteers and the community for supporting our latest book sale held early last month. Our book sales are made possible by your donations, attendance and keeping your membership current.

Overall, we are doing very well so we are able to provide continued funding of Library programs, equipment and other services beyond the current fiscal year.

Available on Amazon.com

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

- Research in Chemical Kinetics, Volumes 1 and 2; Hancock 1994 $113.99 for both volumes
- A Winter Home Russian Folk Tale Pop-Up Book; Barukov 1994 $22.99
- Dogs in Art (auction catalog) 2005 $50.00
- Stanford University 1916-1941; Mitchell 1958 $32.99
- America Goes to War; Tansill 1938 $170.00
- The Green Turtle and Man; Parsons 1962 $40.00
- The Imaginary Journeys of BJ and Dobbin; Riordan 2008 $465.00
- The Ceramic Art of Kitaoji Rosenjin; 1964 $27.00

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.

From The Reader’s Nook Facebook Page:

- It is better to have your nose in a book than in someone else’s business.
  -Adam Stanley
- I read so I can live more than one life in more than one place.
  -Anne Tyler
- There is more treasure in books than in all the pirates’ loot on Treasure Island.
  -Walt Disney
- Ordinary people have big TV’s. Extraordinary people have big libraries.
  -Robin Sharma

CHECK OUT OUR BOOKSTORE
MONTHLY THEMES!

By Marie Blackmon

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

May: Celebrate your Mom! Honor our service-members and veterans for Military Appreciation Month and Memorial Day. And what else but May Day!

June: It’s perennial gardening month! Visit the great outdoors. Celebrate Dad. And study the history of Juneteenth (emancipation). June also celebrates Pride Month, Flag Day, the Summer Solstice, and Weddings & Commitments.

July: Celebrate our Country’s Independence, and look forward to summer travels & outdoor living. Bone up on French history for Bastille Day!

August: Continue the summer travel, bark at the Dog Days, celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, and get ready for school.


FINANCIAL REPORT
By Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurer

The Friends would like to thank the volunteers and the community for supporting our latest book sale held early last month. Our book sales are made possible by your donations, attendance and keeping your membership current.

Overall, we are doing very well so we are able to provide continued funding of Library programs, equipment and other services beyond the current fiscal year.
Thank You Carolyn: I attended Carolyn Moskovitz’s retirement party in March and was entertained and enlightened by the stories that her longtime friends and associates entertained the audience with. Through all of the reminiscences, the two threads that came through repeatedly was her continuing positive attitude and her mentoring. She was the consummate supportive leader.

Another revelation was how instrumental Carolyn was in the establishment of the Friends Book Store. Her grant proposal for the new library included the library that we now enjoy. This had the consequence of creating a well-established operation of such a scale that could provide for significant contributions to the library programs and improvements.

I also want to thank Carolyn for all of us at the Friends for instilling the cooperative and supportive relationship with the Castro Valley library that we have enjoyed over the years. Long may that cooperation continue.

To the Book Sale Volunteers: To start off, once again I want to thank all of those volunteers who labored to make our April Book Sale a success. Working the sales is a major test of devotion to the cause. The work starts a few weeks before with signing up volunteers and reading the transport and equipment. The work really begins early on Thursday morning with the signing around the room, setting up of the tables, loading a rental truck with boxes of books from our storage site, unloading at the library and filling the tabletops. Doors open Friday night for members, and Saturday is a full day for the public followed by the Sunday bag sale. At four in the afternoon, the doors close and the cleanup begins as the library wants their room back for Monday’s activities. Monday sees the loading the St. Vincent de Paul truck with leftovers and the sale equipment taken back to storage or the rental yard. All the books are gone by late morning. In actuality, the next Book Sale starts right then as we begin once again to accumulate stock for the next sale.

MEET YOUR FRIENDS
Wayne Ainsworth

Wayne joined the Friends many years ago and has recently become a very active member. Earlier this month, he was selected to fill the vacant Director-at-Large position. He also helps with book sales and volunteers in the BookStore on the first Tuesday evening of each month and plans to spend more time in the BookStore later this year.

Originally from Chicago, Wayne moved to the Bay Area in 1980 on the recommendation of friends and former associates from Chicago who had already moved to the Golden State. He didn’t require much convincing since he had spent a number of summers in the late 70’s backpacking in Oregon’s Cascade range and California’s Sierra Nevada, returning to Chicago each time with everlasting memories. So without a job, Wayne loaded his Volkswagen Rabbit and moved to Cupertino to stay with some of those very same friends. After short stays in San Francisco and Oakland, Wayne finally landed in Castro Valley in 1984.

Prior to retiring from the world of technology, Wayne previously worked around the Bay Area for companies such as Blue Cross, Lucky Stores, Southern Pacific, and most recently, Visa.

Despite his new responsibility with the Friends, Wayne still finds time to volunteer with the Alameda County Community Food Bank, an organization that is very special to him because, like the Friends, it provides tremendous to the community, especially to children and seniors.

In his spare time, Wayne is trying to teach his brain and hands to play the piano. He is also active in compiling his family genealogy and occasionally gives presentations on the topic to members of the Hayward Area Genealogical Society as well as to the Castro Valley Library Genealogy class. He also enjoys cycling with friends, and hiking and traveling with his wife, Elizabeth. Together, they have traveled to all the continents except for Antarctica. This year they will go to Cuba, and next year they plan to go to Iceland.

To meet Wayne in person, stop by the BookStore on Tuesday evening or volunteer for a book sale!
Mark your calendars now—the next Book Sale is

AUGUST 18-20

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. 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. THE REMAINING 2017 BOOK SALES WILL BE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:
AUGUST 18th, 19th and 20th
DECEMBER 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

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!
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        12 noon to 7:30 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.CV@gmail.com for more information.

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.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL