



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

131 E. Las Flores Avenue  Ridgecrest, California 93555
Home Page: <http://rcfriends0.tripod.com>

Quarterly Newsletter

November 2014 - January 2015

Another Successful Fall Sale

By Bill Eichenberg

Our fall 2014 “big sale” was held on Saturday, October 25, and the net result was approximately \$2,200 which will go toward our local library programs. This sale was the first one in recent memory that was not held at the library. The new venue, courtesy of the Sierra Sands Unified School District, was at our “annex” located in the old Albertson’s shopping center.

Concerns about patrons finding our new location were alleviated by the excellent publicity provided by Vicki Siegel. Attendance was judged similar to previous sales and attested to by the amount raised. Among the many positive attributes of the new location were not having to move the many boxes of books and other media across town and the advantage of having several days before the sale to set up. It was also very nice not to have to worry about what the weather would be like on the day of the sale due to having the sale indoors.

An extra for this sale was the “after sale sale” held on the following Monday afternoon in which Friends’ members were encouraged to participate. Approximately twelve members came to fill bags with books and other items for \$2 a bag, raising about \$150 to add to the sale proceeds. This also helped our after sale clean-up effort.

Key to the success of our book sales are our many dedicated volunteers, including **John Anderson, Cathy Boomer, Pat Boyd, Sandy Bradley, Dave Burdick, Theresa Cooper, Tina Deal, Anna and Mary Garback, Colin Gillespie, Cara Griffith, Lynne Hetherton, Kathy Higdon, Kathy Jacobs, Mary Kus, Jo Lish, Ann Long, Dick and Penny Loper, Barbara Lyle, Caroline and Luke Manno, Terri Middlemiss, Sue Parker, Bette and Roy Parris, Carol Pearson, Doug and Trisa Philbrick, Neil Reynolds, John Rongish, Kedisha Samuels, Vickie Schauf, Robert Shaw, Vicki Siegel, Karen Sizemore, Jeannette Smith, Don Stapleton, Craig Stump, Betty Summers, Jeff Tobias, and Peter Wiley. Flo and Bill Eichenberg** were responsible for overall concept and coordination of the sale.

These folks put in many hours prior to, during, and after the sale. Without their help none of this would be possible. A mere “thank you” does not seem sufficient. Finally, a word of thanks to you, our members, for your continued patronage of our sales in support of our local public library.

Library “After Hours”

By Terri Middlemiss, Secretary

As a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Library was able to host an open house event the evening of September 18. We had delicious munchies and cookies for participants. We also had two “memory” boards, expertly put together by President Roy Parris. They were an excellent look back at our beginning and through our almost five decades of use. We also posted our tentative library expansion plans. Both the memory board and the expansion plan drew an enthusiastic crowd. We also were able to take people on tours of our library and show them the need for more room. Our new furniture and unobstructed window in the reading room looked terrific. It was a great opportunity to show members of the Chamber what our library has to offer and what it needs to offer more.

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Friends of Kern County Library since 1986. Visit the County Library web site at www.kerncountylibrary.org.

A Proud Partner of



Giving Locally, Helping Locally

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bcrfp@verizon.net

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schaufv@gmail.com

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(760) 371-3590
Gene_je_lish@yahoo.com

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Terri Middlemiss
(760) 377-5192
Catbird4@earthlink.net

Members-at-Large

Peggy Johnson
Penny Loper
Vicki Siegel

Branch Supervisor

Marsha Lloyd

Board Meeting Calendar

November 20, 2014
January 21, 2015
February 18, 2015
March 18, 2015

No meetings in June, July, or December

Meetings are held in the Library's Community Room at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Use the Community Room entrance on the west side of the Library

Library Hours

Mon.	Closed
Tues.	11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Wed.	11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Thurs.	11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Fri.	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sat.	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Closed

Phone: (760) 384-5870



President's Message

By Roy Parris



Since our last Newsletter, the Kern County Board of Supervisors adopted a 2014/15 budget which did not include a reduction in the Kern County Library. Given other budget reductions, this was a display of support. We owe a thank you to Supervisor Gleason and the four other Supervisors. This does not reestablish previous funding levels. However, along with the funding increase approved in last year's budget, it is a great start toward bringing the level of library services back to those of prior years.

Thanks to the efforts of local builder/entrepreneur Jim Gregory and his Village Retreat Festival, about \$1,078 was generated as the initial deposit in a fund which the Board has agreed to designate for "Future Library Expansion" (FLE). Mr. Gregory and his staff developed a conceptual design for a 7,500 sq. foot expansion at the current library site. This drawing is not intended to be the end of the discussion of library expansion options, but rather the beginning of this discussion. Thank you to Mr. Gregory for the building plan, fundraising assistance, and his support for our most recent Special Sale.

Library standards and the County long term plan for a Ridgecrest library service area justify a 20,000 sq. foot library. We currently have a 7,500 sq. foot library with critical deficiencies. For example, if the community room is used when the public library is not open, there is no access to restrooms. The space we have available for children/teens in our library is woefully inadequate. The list can go on. The FLE demonstrates our community commitment to that goal of upgrading our library. Per Board agreement, the FLE Fund will be reviewed no later than five years from now to determine if the funds still need to continue to be reserved for that purpose or used for other support of the library. In the interim, options (grants, public/private partnerships, special library districts, etc.) will be investigated with the hope that the IWV will someday have a library sized to fit our needs.

Other events which have occurred in the past three months include two sales of donated teaching materials and one of our semi-annual specials sales. These events have taken a lot of time to get materials organized and priced. Much of this effort was performed by Bill and Flo Eichenberg and their pricing and sorting crew. Though it is not nearly enough recognition, a sincere thank you is forwarded to Dr. Vickie, Bill, Flo, and the entire crew for their many hours of work.

People-related events occurring recently include the retirement of the Director of Kern County Libraries, Sherry Gomez, and the selection of her replacement, Nancy Kerr, who will begin 1 December. Ms. Gomez was our guest at our September Board meeting. It gave us an opportunity to thank her for her many years of service to the County and more recently her support for the FRBL. Also, our Ridgecrest librarian for the past 36 years, Marsha Lloyd, announced her retirement effective 6 February. Marsha will be greatly missed.

See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**, Page 3



LIBRARIAN'S

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By Marsha Lloyd, Branch Supervisor

All of the library's new furnishings have arrived and are being enjoyed in the public areas. The Fiction Room has a comfortable sofa and chairs with tablet swivel arms. Three side tables have electrical outlets for easy use with mobile devices, too. For posters and handouts we now have a corkboard kiosk and a large literature displayer.

The Fiction Room windows were recently tinted to help keep out the heat or cold better, and the old draperies and rods have finally been removed.

We thank the Friends of the Library for funding all of these wonderful enhancements for the library for the enjoyment of the community!

The Ridgecrest Petroglyph Festival is coming up soon and the library will be a part of it. Our meeting room will be a venue for visiting middle and high school students to hear a presentation and do related activities about Native American petroglyphs on Thursday and Friday, November 13 and 14. Then on Saturday, November 15, the library will screen two DVDs, *Talking Stone: Rock Art of the Cosos* (1:30 pm) and *Visions in Stone* (2:30 pm), in the meeting room.

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my plans to retire from my position as branch supervisor. My last day will be Friday, February 6, 2015. The community of the Indian Wells Valley and surrounding areas has been so supportive of the public library and its mission to provide access to resources that enrich lives. The library is well-used and an important part of the quality of life in the community. I thank the Friends for their many years of support and advocacy for the library. It has helped the library to stay viable and relevant to our users. It is hard to leave so many friends in this library family ... dedicated co-workers, Friends, volunteers, and patrons. Thank you.

See you at the library,
Marsha Lloyd
Branch Librarian

REMEMBER, BOOKS, MAGAZINES, T-SHIRTS, AND BOOK BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR ONGOING SALE AT THE LIBRARY.

President's Message *(continued from Page 2)*

Our 19 November Board meeting is our annual membership meeting per FRBL By-Laws during which we have our annual election of Board members. All FRBL members are welcome to attend all meetings, but in particular please attend the membership meeting and vote. If you are interested in volunteering for a Board position, by all means please attend. We have candidates for almost all positions including a well qualified candidate to replace me after my four years as President of the Board. I plan on staying very involved with the Friends, but in other capacities. Elsewhere in this Newsletter, Terri Middlemiss announced that she will be stepping down as Secretary after six years. She has done an excellent job as Secretary; thank you Terri.

We have a "working board" which is a strength which allows much more of the money raised to go into supporting the library. It also means that we need to have volunteers who love books and libraries step up to fill the roles as the veteran volunteers move into other roles. Nobody can do everything, but if everybody will just do something, nonprofit organizations such as ours will be able to make this world a much better place.

Happy shoppers flocked to our fall sale on Saturday, October 25.



An added bonus for FRBL members this year was the "after sale sale" held on Monday, October 27.



FRBL participated in the Village Retreat fund-raiser on October 10. We sold some of our "special books" and books donated by event host Jim Gregory.



Although disappointing in terms of turnout, our special teachers' sale raised \$292.55.

Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice-President-Memberships

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our library support group. As usual, our big sales always bring in a welcome complement of new members.

Valeria Aguilar
Jane Baxter
Dan & Diane Bishop
John De Rosa III
Makena Foster

Jerry Hinman
Lori Holm
Heather Kebler
Shirley Kidner
Ellen McDonough

Carol Sue McKenzie
Neil Reynolds
Aida Stafford
Peter Wiley

Please note your renewal date that appears on your mailing address of this newsletter. I will send renewal notices via postcard or e-mail to remind you, but it helps a lot when you notice and respond. **When you do renew, please include "Friends" on your envelope address so Marsha can quickly route it to us.**

I will be retiring this December as Secretary of the Friends' board for six years. When the call went out in the newsletter for volunteers those years ago, I felt the pull to help. I have thoroughly enjoyed working on the board with two dynamic Presidents and the other enthusiastic board members. We have accomplished many projects and gotten other ones started. Now it is time for me to step aside as an elected board member.

It is an exciting time for our local library. Please consider becoming a board member, even Secretary, and help to continue our forward momentum. Our library and its part in the local community have become even more important than before. As an important volunteer, you will be appreciated by the staff, patrons, and future library users. You will be part of a forward thinking, vital, and active board. It is fun and rewarding!

Terri Middlemiss

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____

Memberships Are Renewable Annually

Organization/Business Name:

(Business memberships start at the \$50)

Individual Name: ☐ Miss ☐ Mrs.
☐ Ms. ☐ Mr.

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Type of Membership (check one):

- ☐ Individual..... \$5.00
☐ Family \$10.00
☐ Sustaining \$25.00
☐ Sponsoring \$50.00
☐ Benefactor \$100.00
☐ Other Contribution..... \$ _____

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Please make check payable to:

Friends of the Ridgcrest Branch Library

Please mail or bring to:

**Ridgcrest Branch Library
131 E. Las Flores
Ridgcrest, CA 93555**

I am interested in helping in Friends of the Ridgcrest Branch Library activities. I am especially interested in (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Book Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Answering E-mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Book Sale in the Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet Book Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pricing Books for Sale | | |

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

AltaOne Federal Credit Union
 Literacy Council of IWV, Inc.
 McDonald's of Ridgecrest
 PackWrap
 Ridgecrest Automotive
 Ridge Writers

Rusty Warren's Automotive
 Sierra Sands Unified School District
 TJ Frisbee Bicycles
 TOBOCO Traders
 Vincent Avalos, Edward Jones Investments
 WACOM

Please let these generous contributors know that you appreciate their support of our Library.

BOOK STORE HOURS

MONDAY—CLOSED

TUESDAY—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY—1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FRIDAY—CLOSED

SATURDAY—9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY—CLOSED

SPECIAL NOVEMBER BOOK SHOP HOURS:

*CLOSED THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13,
 for special Petroglyph Festival event

*CLOSED WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, UNTIL TUESDAY DECEMBER 2
 for Thanksgiving holiday

Regular hours on Veteran's Day November 11

Saturday, November 15, open with volunteer 9:00-11:00 a.m. only



REMINDER



Check the date on your mailing label! Is it time to renew your membership?
 If so, please take a moment to fill out and return the application on the other
 side. Not time to renew yet? Pass the application on to a friend!

Nonprofit Org.
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