PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS
Cathy Brant

One of the nicest things I've found is how loyal the members of the Friends and the Library Boards are. As an example, we have three former Board members continuing to lend a hand and their expertise when needed. Vaughn Simon, a Board member for many years, served as Vice President then President.

He began sorting books in the Library cataloging room in 2000. He says that at that time, the room had one desk for volunteers. Sally Hunter, the librarian, was a big help to him. Vaughn still volunteers at our Annual Book Sales.

Another helpful member is Bob Trogman. A typographer, teacher, and type designer, he continues to do his magic for this newsletter each quarter. While on the Board, he served as newsletter editor and President.

We are very pleased to welcome back Milt Levinson for a second term on the Board. A Valley resident for 42 years, he is a retired pharmacist. Milt previously has served on the Library Board of Trustees as member and President. He has also served on the Friends Board and was its President.

We were very sorry to see our Board Treasurer, Mike Thompson, retire. He has chosen to volunteer for other worthy organizations, but continues to serve on the Events Committee. Taking his place is long-time Library volunteer, Bruce Maughan. Bruce works many hours in the Library—so many that I actually thought he was on the staff! Originally from Massachusetts, Bruce is retired. He spends most of the year in the Valley. He has much experience serving as treasurer for many other non-profits.

We are very grateful to Vaughn, Bob, Milt, Mike and Bruce for their continuing years of dedicated service.

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES
Jeannie Kays

“Accessing the Past” Adds Desert Sun Content

Have you ever wanted to look back at old Desert Sun newspapers and see what happened on a certain day? Previously, you had to know exactly what date you wanted to search for, and then, make an appointment at the Palm Springs Public Library to view our microfilm. If you have ever looked at a newspaper on microfilm, you might remember that carsick feeling you got when you advanced the reel. Want to print? Good luck getting a clear copy. With the Library’s new project, “Accessing the Past,” those days are over!

Simply by visiting www.accessingthepast.org you can click on our featured Desert Sun collection, and start your search. We currently have 1944-1973 available. We are expanding content and soon will be filling in the gaps. Once our project is complete, we will have full-text versions of The Desert Sun from 1934-1999 that are completely keyword searchable. You will be able to download an article, the full page, or the full newspaper issue.

This project was made possible, in part, by the Institute for Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. The Palm Springs Public Library has received two grants from the California State Library totaling $120,000. Hopefully, the library will receive grant funding for a 3rd year to continue the project. To further enhance “Accessing the Past,” the Library Board of Trustees has provided $50,000 to purchase a high-quality, archival-level scanner. The Webb Foundation has donated $2,500 to help with the purchase of the scanner and related equipment. We hope to begin staff demonstrations on the scanner soon.

For a full list of community partners, visit www.accessingthepast.org. We hope that once the scanner is ready, our community partners can start adding content online. Jeannie Kays, Julie Warren, Scott Biegen, or any of the Librarians can answer questions you might have about the project. We will be looking for volunteers to help scan our archive. We will gladly train you!
BORN TO READ PROGRAM UPDATE

Julie Warren

The Friends of the Palm Springs Library, partnering with the Library, a local Licensed Educational Psychologist, and Desert Regional Hospital, are sponsoring the “Born to Read” Program. Distribution of the early literacy kits to families of newborns will begin this summer. The hospital will include a voucher in the materials it provides to each birth mother. Offering a brief program description, this voucher may be redeemed at the Library.

The complementary kit includes a reusable tote stocked with two board books, a bib, child development information and a list of local resources. The Friends have funded the first six months of the program. Two grant applications for more financial support have been completed. We will continue looking for other appropriate grant opportunities and resources. With 300-350 babies born each month at the hospital, the Friends are excited about sharing the importance of early literacy and reading with so many families.

ANNUAL BOOK SALE BRINGS IN MORE THAN MONEY!

Donated CDs, DVDs, and audio tapes are popular sales items. An innkeeper from Brawley spent the entire four hours during our Members Preview selecting books for the library of his bed and breakfast. Another long-time Friends member spent not only Friday evening, but Sunday morning buying books and CDs, (many of them foreign language books), for his home in Joshua Tree. He entertains guests from all over the world.

A young couple, newly-arrived teachers from back East, spent three days picking out books for their classrooms, and for their own personal use, joined the Friends, and volunteered to help.

Our volunteers spent hours sorting, arranging, and restocking the tables for the three days of sales. Many of them having made significant purchases of their own, were heard to say, “I just had to have that one”; “I need every book I can find on Jackie Kennedy”— or “everything written by Evanovich, Grisham, Sandford,” and many other best-selling authors.

For some reason, books we don’t want cluttering our bookshelves suddenly take on new lives.

Sales this year remained consistent with current trends, due to the growing popularity of downloadable ebooks. The Friends raised over $6,000 to help pay for the Summer Reading Program starting in June.

BOOK SALES

Richard Ellis

We are happy to report another successful annual sale that was well-attended. Thank You to all the fine volunteers who made the March sale work so well: Charles Zimmer, Linda Futterer, Barbara Stanford, Jeff and Laura Miller, June Famalos, Mike Thompson, Marilyn McCurdy, Edith Balbach, Wanda Turman, Judith Pittman, Dorothy Trethewy, Jacquie Wachs, Jim Murdock, Tim Tracy, Mary Latulippe, Cathy Brant, Marie Weigel and her two sons, Mary-Ann Kaestner, Sue Sutton, Judy Searle, Chris Seidel, Maureen Augustine, Molly Mowat, Vaughn Simon, David Gray, Debbie and Brad Spencer.

It is such a pleasure to work with all of you. Next year we will be moving the Annual Sale to the last weekend of February allowing more people to attend. Mark your calendar.

Please visit our new Nonfiction Sale Shelf in the library lobby! It’s just opposite our original Sale Shelf and features biographies, history, health, cooking, spirituality, art and much more. We’ll be fine-tuning the selection and adding category signs to the new shelves in the coming weeks. Remember that all the proceeds from the books on our sale shelves go toward supporting the library!

Watch in May for our new bookmarks highlighting dates for our Summer and Fall sales! We’ll also be hosting couple of pop-up sales during the Summer Reading Program.
READ TO THE RHYTHM!
Palm Springs Public Library
Programs for Adults.
Summer Reading, June–July 2015

[NOTE: all programs take place in the Learning Center of the Library. For more information, visit the Library to go to www.palmspringslibrary.org.]

JUNE 2015

Monday, June 1st Summer Reading Begins! Read To The Rhythm at the Palm Springs Public Library. A program for all ages, special events and performers, activities and prizes through July 23rd! To register, come in to the Library or go online for more details.

Tuesday, June 2nd Read To The Rhythm–Movie Musical Tuesdays at the Palm Springs Public Library. Today’s film will be Singin' In The Rain (rated G) and will be shown at 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 10th Read To The Rhythm–Bird Singing: Perspectives on Indian Social Song and Dance at the Palm Springs Public Library. A panel discussion with distinguished bird singers and dancers. Panelists will discuss aspects of traditional bird singing and dancing past and present, and what the future holds for this unique performance practice. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 16th Read To The Rhythm–Movie Musical Tuesdays at the Palm Springs Public Library. Today’s film will be Mamma Mia (rated PG-13) and will be shown 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 24th Read To The Rhythm–Key Players in Rock N’ Roll at the Palm Springs Public Library. A quick look at some of rocks greatest innovators with College of the Desert Professor Mikael Jacobson. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 30th Read To The Rhythm–Movie Musical Tuesdays at the Palm Springs Public Library. Today’s film will be The Sapphires (rated PG-13) and will be shown 2:00-4:00 p.m.

JULY 2015

Tuesday, July 7th Read To The Rhythm–Movie Musical Tuesdays at the Palm Springs Public Library. Today’s film will be A Mighty Wind (rated PG-13) and will be shown 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14th Read To The Rhythm–Movie Musical Tuesdays at the Palm Springs Public Library. Today’s film will be Beach Party (NR) and will be shown 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22nd Read To The Rhythm–Adult Summer Reading Finale–Big Band Era Films at the Palm Springs Public Library. Film historian, Christopher Perry, will give a short presentation about the heyday of Hollywood musicals then we will watch “SECOND CHORUS” The 1940 musical starring Fred Astaire, Burgess Meredith, accompanied by Paulette Goddard with Artie Shaw’s Big Band, will be shown on a reel projector! This special program will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and include giveaways and the Grand Prize drawing for the XBOX 360 KINECT!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Barbara Stanford

Thank you for these Very Special Gifts to the Library:
- Palm Springs Woman’s Club–$1,000
- Mrs. LeeOna Hostrop–$1,000

Welcome to our New Members!

Patron ($100):
- Jandt, Fred

Individual ($20):
- Burney, Phil
- Carnahan, Donnie
- English, Everett
- Fernandez, Sanchie and Tony
- Fonseca, M.L.
- LoFaro, Michelle

Family ($30):
- Peck, David and Duca, Dennis
- Rios, Rudy
- Sexton, Janice
- Smith, Angel and Tony

Thank you for your Renewals at Patron and Above:

Platinum ($1,000):
- The Richmond Foundation

Patron ($100):
- Allardyce, Bernard
- Futterer, Linda
- Rafael, Sammy
- Scheibner, Paul and Irene
- Seidel, Christopher
- Spivack, Burt
- Stanford, Barbara
- Thompson, Mike
- Thornton, Ralph

Thank you for your Generous Donations:
- Eckdahl, John Edward
- Kieley, Kitty

“...I cannot think of a day in my life when the library didn’t exert a potent attraction for me, offering a sense of the specialness of each individual’s curiosity and his or her quest to satisfy it.” –Scott Turow
Intro: the following is a letter from our former Board Member Arnold Rotman, who passed away recently. His son, Ethan, gave it to me at the memorial. It shows his unique wry sense of humor. Enjoy!–Cathy Brant

March 22, 1965

Simi Branch Library
Ventura County Free Library
Simi, California 93065

Re: Ethan Rotman—Renki, Cowboy Small (No. 1531)
Attention: Mrs. Catherine Chadwick:

Dear Mrs. Chadwick:

With reference to your letter of March 17, 1965 re the above matter kindly be advised that I discussed the matter with my son, Ethan. Although he steadfastly denies any complicity in the destruction of the book, his known eating habits and his own self interest make of him a rather untrustworthy person with reference to credibility. As he has been brought up to love and respect the wide world of literature and books—to the point where his present stated highest ambition is to attain the first grade so that he may learn to read—I am sure that any misfeasance on his part was negligent rather than intentional.

He has contribut[ed] his total quick assets in the amount of 25 cents toward payment of the charge for damages. In addition thereto he has been advised that he must forego his privilege of borrowing books from the Library upon his next visit, which, I can assure you, is a punishment to him.

I apologize for any inconvenience caused you and enclose my check in the sum of one dollar in full payment of your charge for damages,

Very truly yours,

ARNOLD J. ROTMAN

N. B. I am advised by Mrs. Rotman that the “brown substance” you found to be heavily encrusted on certain pages of the book is most likely peanut butter and need cause you no concern.

A. J. R.