Newsletter **SPRING 2017**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

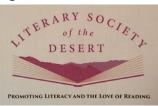
Jacque Wachs



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Cathy Brant for three wonderful years as the President of the Friends. Though she will be a hard act to follow, I was given the honor of assuming her role on March 14, after having had the pleasure to serve on this energetic Board for three years as Events Chair and as a member of the Board Development Committee. Cathy's continuing support in the smooth transition to my new po-

sition has been (and continues to be) deeply appreciated! Along with my fellow members, we thank her for her service as we continue to strengthen the Friends' commitment to preserving our Library and supporting the many programs and services it offers to the residents of Palm Springs as well as the thousands of visitors we entertain each year. In addition to increasing our Community Outreach efforts for our indispensably great Library, the Friends are now also in the process of planning the year's coming events – soon to be announced – where we hope to see all of you!

One such event for 2017 was the Friends' Annual Meeting on March 12th at Los Compadres, which had a wonderful turnout. Over 60 members savored our program featuring the Real Desert's Steven Brown (KVCR and PBS) and Jim Conkle, leading authority on Route 66 preservation, history and culture. Steve and Jim shared many memorably amusing and historical facts about this famous US Highway.



The Friends continue to be amazed by our generous supporters, having recently received a donation of \$1500 from the Literary Society of the Desert. We were subsequently awed to receive an additional

gift of \$150,000 from the estate of the Robert & Eileen Pollock Family Trust! You may recall that we received the first installment last December, and the Friends couldn't be more grateful, for these funds have arrived as we look to support the Library's renovation of the Children's Room. Such tangible support of our efforts definitely brings the Friends' "Love Our Library" slogan to fullest flower!



We'd additionally like to thank our Friends' Volunteers who have done a particularly outstanding job this year. Without each of you, we could not do what we do!

I look forward to serving the Friends and hope to get to better know more of you throughout the year.

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Jeannie Kays



4TH ANNUAL FAMILY FUN FEST

Have you ever seen 500 children together at once? We did on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at our 4th Annual Family Fun Fest. It was an amazing day filled with games, prizes and a free book for every child. The day was a veritable carnival for families because 16 community partners had set up booths and provided games and activities

for the children. Those who had booths were: Animal Samaritans, Agua Caliente Cultural Museum, Boys and Girls Club, The Center, Certified Farmer's Market, Desert Water Agency, FIND Food Bank, Marquee Academy of Performing Arts, Mobile Zoo of Southern California, Palm Springs Animal Shelter, City of Palm Springs Public Arts Commission, City of Palm Springs Fire Department CERT program, City of Palm Springs Mounted Police, City of Palm Springs Office of Sustainability, Palm Springs Power Baseball, and of course, Palm Springs Public Library. Thank you to our media partners After School Magazine, Desert Entertainer and MIX 100.5 for promoting our event. We do this each year during Spring Break to provide families with worthwhile, FREE activities in their neighborhood.

Our goal was to promote the library and our community partners, and - especially - to tell everyone about our upcoming events, especially Summer Reading, for which we'll be giving every child in the program a free, grade-appropriate book every week!



SUMMER READING 2017 begins June 12th

Join us for special events and performers, activities and prizes through July 20th! Register at the library or visit our **Summer** Reading Page 2017 for information about events and more details.

Wednesday, June 14 at 10:30 am: First Youth Program, grades Pre-K-5. Join us for *The Wacko Show*, an exciting magic show that mixes sleight-of-hand magic with comedy.

Thursday, June 15 at 3:40 pm: First Teen Program, grades 6 through 12. Make your own balloon creations.

Wednesday, June 14 at 2:00 pm: First Adult Program: Coloring is not just for kids anymore. Learn more about this latest craze, the healthy benefits and how to release your creativity; then color! Basic supplies and color sheets will be provided, but feel free to bring your favorites.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT Barbara Stanford, *Chair*



Welcome to our New Members!

Individual

Barbara Balbach John Bancroft

Joan & Nicolas Behrmann

Barbara Purgett Jan Swallow Peter Van Houten Kathy Weyer Kimberly White

Family

Sheila Driscoll Ashley Dunphy M. Rosalind Hoover Nancy & John Mannes

Thank you for your Renewals at Patron Level and above:

Platinum Richmond Foundation

Gold Michael and Sheila Kahn

Patron Drs. Craig & Michelle Borba

Robert Collins Lynne DeVries

Richard and Mary Ellis

Sammy Rafael Laurie Ridgeway Penny Shaw Burt Spivack Ralph Thornton Wanda Turman Marie & Lee Weigel

Thank you for your Donations:

Robert Collins Laura & Jeff Miller Jan Swallow

We Love It When You



ANNUAL MEETING



More than 60 Friends' members and guests joined us for a lively meeting on March 12th at *Los Compadres Clubhouse*. Library Director Jeannie Kays presented an update about on-going events and the Friends efforts to raise money for special programs.

After a tasty luncheon, the highlight of the afternoon was a presentation by **Steve Brown** (KVCR & PBS) and **Jim Conkle**, one of the leading authorities on Route 66 preservation, history & culture, who reminisced about their decades of "kicks on *Route 66*."

During their slide show and narrative, both Steve and Jim recounted stories of the people they met, the milestones reached, the markers installed and of the many unique sites and events along the road. One of the highway's current attractions is the new *Mojave Trails National Monument* on which Jim worked extensively, gathering public support for it on behalf of Senator Dianne Feinstein and the Wildlands Conservancy.



Members also approved the re-election of three Board members whose terms had expired in January – Milt Levinson, Wanda Turman and our new President, Jacque Wachs – and welcomed the addition of two new members, Michael Hirschbein and Jay Dunaway.

MODERNISM EVENTS

Since William F. Cody, chief architect of the Library Center building, was honored during the 10-day Modernism week, the Friends hosted three Events. The 10-day *FAST FORWARD* exhibit featured milestones in Cody's life and work, and over 40 Friends volunteered to staff the exhibit, keeping track of attendees and providing insights into the displays. On February 20th, the Friends hosted a lecture by Laura Sorvetti, Special Collections & Archives Librarian at the Robert E. Kennedy Library, CA Polytechnic State University/San Luis Obispo. Also attending were Cody's delightful daughters, Cathy Cody Nemirovsky and Winilyn Cody Brady. After the lecture and filmed interview of Cathy chatting with local architecture expert, Michael Stern, everyone enjoyed appetizers and wine in the iconic central atrium while the koi watched wordlessly.



Pictured at the ribbon-cutting opening the Cody Exhibit were (I. to r.): Nona Watson, CEO PS Chamber; Nicolette Wenzel; Cathy Cody Nemirovsky; Winilyn Cody Brady; Lisa Voessler Smith, CEO PS Modernism Week; Eric Chiel, Twin Palms Neighborhood Organization (which donated \$500 to help with the expense of the exhibit); Cathy Brant; Jo Lauria, Curator, A+D Museum-Los Angeles; Library Director, Jeannie Kays and a representative from Senator Stone's Office.

AUTHOR EVENTS

On January 28th, the Friends kicked off a busy winter season with a lecture by best-selling author **Jacquelyn Mitchard** at a buffet-style brunch created by the chef of *Mr. Lyons Steakhouse* and the owners of delightful local eateries *Cheeky's* and *Birba*. Those who attended not only received a copy of her latest novel, but

also enjoyed a brunch and complementary glass of champagne, Bellini or Mimosa. Following the meal, Ms. Mitchard read a passage from her new novel **TWO IF BY SEA** and shared several amusing stories about becoming the first author in Oprah's Book Club series. Afterward, she signed attendees' copies -- of which we still have 5 available (\$20).



Last month, the Palm Springs Li-

brary hosted author **Wade Rouse** (writing under the pen name **Viola Shipman**) as homage to his grandmother. **THE HOPE CHEST** is the second in a series of novels that uses the theme of self-discovery through family heirlooms and the resulting memories which help people who have lost a part of themselves find joy again.

Two years ago, Wade donated ten copies of his first novel, *The Charm Bracelet*, to our *Hot off the Press* collection. This year he continued the tradition by donating ten copies of *The Hope Chest*. Later that evening at one of the Library's free lecture events, he discussed the novel and read passages from it.

BOOK SALES *Richard Ellis*

The Friends began our series of "Warehouse Clearance" Bag Sales on April 12, which will allow us to clean and re-organize our storage space. Through the generosity of Friends' members, we have simply received more fiction books than we can possibly sell, so we are holding three Bag Day sales to clear the warehouse and start fresh!



The first sale, held during Family Fun Fest in the stadium, was very well attended and brought us

\$545.00 in a mere four hours! The next **\$4 BAG SALES** are during the Library's Summer Reading programs on **Saturday, June 17** and **Wednesday, July 12** – from 9 am to 1 pm – both in the Frey Building (in front of the Library) on Baristo. We are also having a special **FICTION SALE** in the Library lobby on **May 6**, from 10 am to 1 pm, so you can stock up for your summer!

Currently, we are requesting donations of non-fiction books, as these are the type most frequently requested at our sales – and we never seem to have enough. We are in particular need of biographies, cookbooks and children's books, but *all donations are welcome*.

As always, none of the Book Sales would happen were it not for our amazing volunteers. Give volunteering a try the next time we email you. It's always enjoyable whether you work at the sale itself or help set up for it. You'll meet some wonderful people and someone is sure to recommend your next great read!



LIBRARY EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, April 26th AUTHOR LECTURE

Nancy Sindelar presents "A Visit to Papa's Places"

The author of *Influencing Hemingway:The People and Places That Shaped His Life and Work,* Sindelar will take us on a tour of the places Ernest Hemingway lived and worked and then discuss their impact on the legendary author's writing. The lecture will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center.

Friday, May 5th AUTHOR LECTURE

An Evening with David Sedaris

Presented in partnership with the Palm Springs Cultural Center, this special event will be hosted at the Camelot Theater. Sedaris will be discussing his latest book and much more! Tickets are limited and if available can be purchased at www.davidsedarisontour.com.

Saturday, May 6th

"Overview of English Research"

A presentation by the Palm Springs Genealogical Society with guest speaker David Flint. This FREE program will be from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in The Learning Center (TLC).

Wednesday, May 10th

FILM SCREENING

Return of the River

This film offers a story of hope and possibility amid grim environmental news through a story about people and their connection to the land they inhabit, capturing the tenacity of individuals who would not give up on a river.

The screening will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center.

Available now at Destination PS!

FRIENDS of the PALM SPRINGS LIBRARY

Water Bottles

Desk Sets (in fuschia, gray, royal or orange)

Tote Bags

"LOVE OUR LIBRARY"





FRIENDS OF THE PALM SPRINGS LIBRARY

300 South Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, California 92262



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What I'm reading now...

Chris: Just read *The Wars of the Roosevelts*, by William J. Mann. Fascinating!!

Cathy: Recently finished *Commonwealth*, by Ann Patchett. A real page-turner!

Richard: *Messenger of Truth,* by Jacqueline Winspear – because someone at the January Book Sale was kind enough to hand me the first Maisie Dobbs mystery. I'm now well into the fourth in the series and can't wait to get back to it. Smart, involving and filled with terrific characters. What more can you ask?

Linda: I'm reading *The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert for the Welwood Book Club. I didn't think I would like this book, but it is timely and superbly written. Kolbert is a science writer who discusses the planet's escalating extinctions among plant, animal and human life. If you are interested in (or skeptical of) environmental issues, this is a book for you.

Jeannie: Chasing the Dime, by Michael Connelly.

Jacque: The Boston Girl, by Anita Diamant (author of The Red Tent), is about an intelligent, Jewish immigrant girl growing up in early 20th-century New England.