

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Nanci Morrison



A new season is here and we are very excited that the Friends are celebrating our 50th anniversary! We are the proud recipients of a proclamation presented by the PS City Council as we have provided over \$1 million in financial support (currently over \$100K per year) and countless hours of volunteer support. We would not be able to do this without YOU. We are very appreciative of all those that support us through being FOPSL members as well as donors. Your partnership is critical to our success!

Even though we are not back to “normal,” progress IS being made. The library is open even though many activities are still done remotely through Zoom. We had a very successful silent auction last year and we are doing it again this year, November 10-14. We also will be having a CD/DVD sale in the library on December 4th. Be sure to watch our website for more details. Also, a reminder that Modernism tickets go on sale November 1st - we are sponsoring three events this February which you can read about in detail in this newsletter.

Your support has provided funding for the Summer Reading Program, Career Online High School, koi pond maintenance, Hot off the Press books, monthly craft kits for adults, teens, and children, passport pictures, and so many other projects. It is very easy to renew your membership or to donate by going to www.friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org. Thank you. ♥ Your Library!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Message from President
- New Merchandise
- Renovated JC Frey Building in our Sights
- Friends Present Three Events for Modernism Week 2022
- Online Auction
- DVD & CD Sale
- Treasurer's Report
- LGBTQ+ History & Archives of the Desert Inaugural Exhibit
- Library Programming Resumes (Virtually)
- Friends Receive Proclamation from the City of Palm Springs
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Make Sure to Renew Your Membership
- Save the Date



New Merchandise!

In celebration of our 50th Anniversary we have created specialty t-shirts, aprons and a tote bag to sell for a limited time. With a colorful image of the koi that we support monthly, this fun graphic is symbolic of all the ways the Friends support the Library. The limited merchandise goes on sale beginning October 1st in the Library and all proceeds go to continue the support of the Library. T-shirts are available for both adult (three colors and five sizes) and children (two colors, three sizes) and are \$25 for adults and \$22 for kids. The aprons come in three colors and are \$18 and the tote bags are \$20.

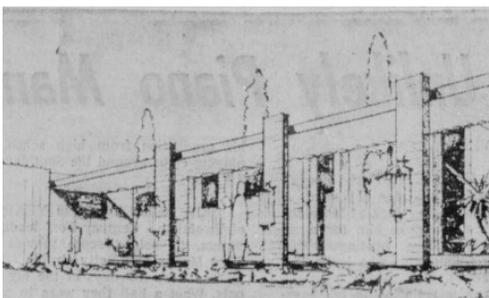
MESSAGE FROM CITY LIBRARIAN



Renovated JC Frey Building in our Sights

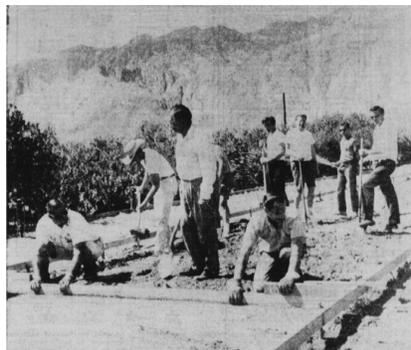
By Jeannie Kays

As we start to emerge from this pandemic, we are looking toward the future of the Library and what improvement projects we can accomplish. I am sure many of you are eagerly awaiting word about a possible renovation of the Main Library. We are ready! Palm Springs City Council is conducting a Strategic Planning retreat on November 20 to develop the City's priorities for the next two years. This meeting is open to the public with time set aside for Public Comment. In preparation for the City Council retreat, the Library Board of Trustees, Friends of the Palm Springs Library, and Palm Springs Public Library Foundation have individually created priority matrixes for their groups, setting goals for the next two years. The three groups came together on September 29, 2021 to discuss their priorities and to align their goals. To everyone's delight, the three groups were focused on the same goals: secure funds to support the library, raise money for a library renovation, help to create meeting space in the library, and get the JC Frey Building renovated.



Rendering of the building in 1965

The JC Frey Building, originally called the Jaycee Community Building was dedicated May 19, 1966 by the JayCees (AKA Junior Chamber of Commerce; age limit is 35 years old) as a social gathering space for any group to use. The building is roughly 4,000 square feet and consists of a 2,394 square foot Card and Assembly Room and an 814 square foot Conference Room, plus restrooms, snack bar, and office area. It cost \$30,000 to build. Dr. Russell G. Frey donated \$10,000 for this project and the building was named in his honor. The building took about three months to build. Once constructed, the building was deeded to the City of Palm Springs with JayCees having the ability to use the building upon request.



The JayCees got down and dirty and even poured the slab for the building. Now that's dedication!



JayCee President Dick Arnold with California Governor Ronald Reagan in 1969

It is our hope that we can get this building renovated so that we may use it to its full potential. Once renovated, we expect to host Friends of the Library Book Sales, store the Library's archival material, and have the ability for the Friends of the Library to hold their meetings there. The possibility exists that we could use the space for other small meetings or events as well. By improving this space now, it gives us the option to use it as a temporary library location when the time comes to renovate the Main Library.

Helping us is as easy as **1, 2, 3!**

1. Get involved by reaching out to the City Council Member for your district to advocate for funds for the library.
2. Apply for projects benefitting the Library through the Measure J Community Initiated Project Application. www.PSMMeasureJ.com
3. Donate to the Friends of the Palm Springs Library.

Friends Present Three Events for Modernism Week 2022

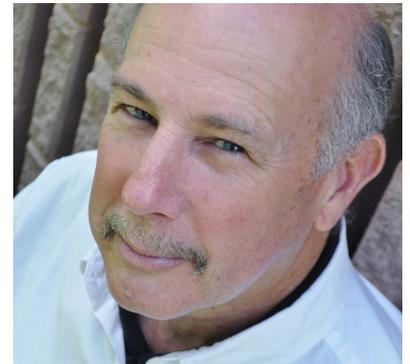
By Julie Warren



Each year since 2016 the Friends have created and hosted events during Modernism Week to help raise funds for the organization to continue our support of the Library. There have been a variety of events throughout the years including house tours, lectures, exhibits and cocktail parties. This year the Friends are creating three separate events which we feel will be very successful and fun! **Tickets for all Modernism Week 2022 go on sale November 1st online at <https://modernismweek.com/>.**



Building on the success of a previous exhibit, the Friends will present a dishware exhibit called “The Jack, King & Queen of SHAPE: Ben SEIBEL, Russel WRIGHT & Eva ZEISEL: An Exhibit of Rare Dinnerware”. Friends Board Treasurer Jay Dunaway has an extensive collection of rare and beautiful dishware that he is willing to let the Friends display and exhibit. The first year’s exhibit titled “Atomic Age Tablescapes: An Exhibit of Delicious Dinnerware from 1955” got a fantastic response from attendees and inspired the vision of this second show, focusing more on the masters of the time. This exhibit will showcase the Modern tablescape of the 30s, 40s and 50s which was predominantly dominated by three designers BEN SEIBEL, RUSSEL WRIGHT and EVA ZEISEL. Attendees will see examples of their designs, including whole lines and rare patterns. A must-see exhibit for fans of mid-century modern dishware! The exhibit will be downtown at the Welwood Murray Memorial Library in the Cornelia White community room. It will be open from 10:00AM to 4:00PM seven of the ten days during Modernism Week 2022 and tickets will only be \$10 so we think this will be a popular event.



The second event will be a lecture by nationally recognized architect, author, historian, and critic Alan Hess. He will be talking about Mojave and Sonoran desert architecture and how America’s desert southwest has contributed to modern architectural trends and major innovations. The lecture will be at the main Palm Springs Public Library on **Saturday February 26th from 3:00 to 4:30PM** in the Learning Center. Tickets are only \$25 and as with past lectures by Mr. Hess, we expect to sell out.

The third event is a house-tour, and this year the Friends have secured a fabulous house! Dubbed “the Lost Cody”, this house in Indian Wells, once restored, is a showpiece of mid-century architecture designed by architect William F. Cody. Originally designed for developer Fillmore Crank and actress Beverly Garland in the early 1960s, the 2,205-square-foot home features floor to ceiling windows and other iconic design features. It was dedicated as the fourth historic landmark in Indian Wells in 2019. Tours will be offered every thirty minutes and the current homeowner Karlyn Neel will be on hand to answer questions and share the tale of this architectural gem. The house tour will be on **Wednesday, February 23rd from 10:00AM until 2:00PM**. Tickets are only \$40.

If you are a member of the Friends and are interested in helping out at any or all of our Modernism Week 2022 events please contact the **Friends Volunteer Coordinator Laura Miller** by calling the Friends phone number **760-668-8838** or emailing her at info@friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org with the subject ‘Volunteering for MW2022’.

Online Auction

By Gary Maehara

Back by popular demand, and in honor of the Friends 50th Anniversary, the Friends of the Palm Springs Library bring you another fabulous auction and opportunity to raise funds to support our library!

From **November 10 to November 14** our auction will be live on [32auctions.com/Friends of the Palm Springs Library](https://32auctions.com/Friends%20of%20the%20Palm%20Springs%20Library). Please review the the auction items that include rare books, bundled books by genre, beautiful art pieces, a few vintage items, and of course the themed gift baskets. All monetary donations are used to support the Library's important programs and services such as the Summer Reading Program, Teen Programs, Book Clubs, maintenance of the koi pond, purchase of new books, DVDs, ebooks, and audio books. Let the bidding begin!



DVD & CD Sale

By Richard Ellis

After two long, quiet years, we are happy to announce that the Friends will be having a big DVD and CD sale (with some audiobooks too!) on **Saturday, December 4th**. The sale will feature thousands of DVDs and CDs at very low prices and is being held inside the library from **10 am until 2pm**.

Join us! And please bring your own bags if you can.

We hope to be able to announce dates soon for a big three-day sale in early 2022! Please check our website.



Treasurer's Report

By Jay Dunaway

None of our members will be surprised to hear that the past 18 months of Covid have proven financially challenging for the Library, particularly after the City cut PSPL's budget by \$100K! Fortunately, The Friends – that is, you and I and every active member – were able to take much of the sting out of that unexpected deficit by providing almost \$92,000 in supplemental funds, especially thanks to those benefactors who've bequeathed notable legacy endowments over the years. Without such community generosity, the Library wouldn't have been able to fund its most important programs: Children's Storytime, Summer Reading, Career Online High School, Passport Services, AccessingthePast.com, and Hot Off the Press selections of the newest best-sellers among others.

Now that we seem to be squeaking through the COVID knothole, The Friends' have begun gearing up to re-awaken the community to the improvements the City is planning: upgrading the central Library & J.C. Frey buildings' infrastructures, as well as reconfiguring Sunrise Park as a whole – each of which will require massive community involvement. With such exciting plans on the drawing board, we naturally anticipate seeing our Membership and Donation rates recover from the 50-65% deficit suffered during the 'Great Sequestration' as life returns to near-normal.

With such clear, immediate goals in sight, The Friends' have also started to renew our fundraising efforts for these improvements through Book Sales (online and in-house); new tempting "reading koi" merchandise (T-shirts, Aprons & Tote bags) and Modernism Week events (as noted elsewhere) – all of which we believe will stimulate your enthusiasm in supporting The Friends' efforts to enhance our Library's mission.

In short, your involvement is our biggest goal for a successful, seamless transition to a "new and improved" future. As 2022 beckons, life for the Palm Springs Public Library community is about to take a giant leap forward for all concerned. So, stay tuned... and come back soon!

The newly formed organization, *LGBTQ+ History & Archives of the Desert*, announces that it will hold its Inaugural Exhibition, *Sharing Our Desert's LGBTQ+ History*, during the November Pride celebration. An official event of Palm Springs Pride, the exhibition will be at the **Welwood Murray Memorial Library** in downtown Palm Springs, located at 100 S. Palm Canyon Drive. The exhibit will be **FREE and open to the public** during the following times:

- Thursday, November 4 from 6-8 p.m.
- Friday, November 5 and Saturday, November 6 from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, November 7 from 12 – 5:30 p.m.

As one of the best-known LGBTQ+ locations in the world, the exhibition is designed as a chronological history of events, organizations, and individuals to highlight the history of the greater Palm Springs area that has made it such a welcoming place for the LGBTQ+ community.

Library Programs Resume (Virtually)

By Julie Warren

Programming at the Library is in full swing, however, due to COVID cases surging and City restrictions, for now all programs are virtual. We hope that we can restart in-person programs in the new year, but all that will be dictated by the situation. Until then the Library staff is finding creative ways to present programs and experiences to the community.

All the book clubs have resumed for the season. Participation seems to be steady and some people, who are snowbirds love having the opportunity to attend virtually during those times they aren't in Palm Springs.

This year the Youth Librarian added a new weekly story time in Spanish. This is not bi-lingual but all in Spanish! We are excited to reach out to this part of our community and provide this program to those families.

Adults have the opportunity to join a once-a-month memoir writing course, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, and led by Friends Board member and author Kathy Weyer. Each month has a different theme to help inspire creativity to help capture their memories, refining their skills and recording their stories for posterity.

Lectures came back too! In October there were two scheduled; desert ecologist and author Jim Cornett talked about the "Wonders of the Coachella Valley" and Mussie Witkies reviewed the basics about Medicare enrollment and answered questions. There was also an October to-go craft kit for adults to make Yarn Pumpkins. Check the website for upcoming November and December programs!

To celebrate Halloween this year the Library planned a *Spooktacular Drive-Thru* family event, outside in the Library parking lot. On Wednesday, October 27 from 4-6p.m. families will drive through the parking lot, stopping at different stations to pick-up treats. The PS Power baseball team, Parks & Recreation, Mizell Center and the Friends all joined in the fun!

So, as you can see, there is always something for everyone at the Library! Check the monthly events calendar on the Library's website at pslibrary.org and sign up to receive the monthly electronic newsletter to make sure you don't miss out!

Friends of the Palm Springs Library

Board of Directors:

Nanci Morrison, President
Richard Ellis, Vice President
Jay Dunaway, Treasurer
Kathy Weyer, Secretary
Rosemary Flaherty
Jonathan Goldman
Michael Hirschbein
Christine MacCalla
Gary Maehara
Laura Miller
Edward Pollard
Chris Seidel
Ginger Semple
Wanda Turman

Friends of the Palm Springs Library
300 S. Sunrise Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

phone:

760-668-8838

email:

info@friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org

web site:

www.friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org

NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK

Oct. 17-23, 2021



United for Libraries
Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations
A division of the American Library Association

www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek

Friends Receive a Proclamation from the City of Palm Springs

On Thursday, October 14, 2021 the Friends President Nanci Morrison received a proclamation from Mayor Christy Holstege and the City Council of Palm Springs to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Friends of the Palm Springs Library.



Volunteer Opportunities

If you're looking for a fulfilling way to spend your free time, than look no further! There are many volunteer opportunities available with the Friends; from book sales to helping at library special events, writing and marketing projects and more. If you're interested in learning more contact our the **Friends Volunteer Coordinator Laura Miller** by calling the Friends phone number **760-668-8838** or emailing her at info@friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org

Make Sure to Renew Your Membership

If you haven't already, please make sure to renew your annual Friends membership. Each renewal helps us in our efforts to provide the Library with the funds needed to continue offering programs, outreach and enhanced collection offerings. Renewal is easy online, just go to our website, click on 'Membership' from the home page and you can renew online with your credit card in seconds!

Save the Date & Mark Your Calendars:

November 1st - Modernism Week 2022 tickets go on sale at www.modernismweek.com

November 4-7 Free LGBTQ+ History & Archives Exhibit at the Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

November 10 - 14 Online auction, go to [32auctions.com/Friends of the Palm Springs Library](http://32auctions.com/Friends%20of%20the%20Palm%20Springs%20Library) to bid!

December 4th - Media Sale inside the main Library, in the Friends book sale area, selling DVDs, CDs, Audiobooks, from 10AM - 2PM