



Shore Lines



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope this issue of our quarterly Shore Lines newsletter finds all of you in good health.

Since our last newsletter, the Library has opened for contact-free curbside pickup, and return of books through the book drop-box. The library and bookstore facilities remain closed to all but the Orange County Public Library (OCPL) staff, in order to best protect the public, staff, and partners (such as the Friends' volunteers). Unfortunately, there is no forecast at this time as to when the libraries and bookstores will reopen. Cass provides additional information in her section as to some of the logistics toward reopening.

We have resumed our monthly Board of Directors meetings, using Zoom conferencing. While the Library facility remains closed, OCPL is conducting a wide variety of programming online. In support of the Summer Reading Program, we provided Barnes and Noble gift cards for an opportunity drawing for the participants. Thanks to our volunteers, members, and patrons, the San Clemente Friends has developed sufficient reserves, such that we can continue to fulfill all of the library requests for funding.

I know that many of you have used the stay-at-home period to cull through your personal libraries, and are anxious to donate books, DVDs, and CDs to the bookstore. Unfortunately, based on direction from OCPL, donations are not accepted at this time. Your willingness to store these donations until such time as we're able to accept them is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your continued support of the San Clemente Friends of the Library.

Pete Wilkens
President, San Clemente Friends of the Library



BOOKSTORE MANAGER MESSAGE

As we continue to move through summer, I know everyone is anxiously awaiting the reopening of the bookstore At this time, I cannot give you a date. There are several things we will have to do before that happens.

Since we lease our space from the Orange County Public Library system we are contractually bound by the guidelines they set.

Right now, each library branch is being assessed per the State Library and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines to prepare for additional services when they reach the next step. OCPL, when appropriate, will visit each Friend of the Library (FOL) area and determine what needs to be done to accomplish the same safety measures they implement in the branches.

We have some hurdles to overcome before reopening. Right now, the libraries returned book quarantine has increased to 96 hours. With holding to the same guidelines, the bookstore would have to quarantine donated books 96 hours.. our problem is where. As you all know, we do not have the space to store a large quantity of books, CD's, or DVD's.

The OCPL will advise us of their guidelines for our reopening. It will then be presented to the Board of Directors to determine if we can meet the guidelines.

As we progress, we will communicate any further information.

Stay safe and healthy.

Cass Jones, Bookstore Manager

Branch Manager's Report

Hello Friends!

In spite of closures and limited services due to the Pandemic, San Clemente Library was able to provide a 2020 Summer Reading Challenge online – children, teens, and adults logged their reading on the Book Point OCPL website, claimed virtual badges, and enjoyed many of the Virtual Programs scheduled for Summer Reading Program (SRP) on Facebook and Instagram.

The Challenge officially ended August 2nd, and the winners have been selected from each branch; children and teens who logged at least 10 hours and adults who logged at least 3 books were eligible for prized drawings. The lucky 9 winners drawn will each receive \$50.00 gift cards for Barnes & Noble. Thanks to the San Clemente FOL for supporting our community during this all online summer program! Their very generous donation of \$450.00 benefits our loyal library patrons.

The San Clemente Library opened for curbside service on July 16th. Since then we've had 6,590 curbside transactions. Our patrons are delighted to have access to the OCPL Public Libraries' collection. This has meant putting safety and sanitation protocol into action in order to provide the safest service to patrons and safe working conditions for staff. San Clemente Library Staff is so grateful for the PPE supplies supplied by generous FOL funds. We have purchased face shields and disposable gloves to augment the supplies we receive from the County.

(Branch Manager's Report continued)

Patrons are now able to order books and/or new library cards and pick them up by curbside delivery. Our online digital books and resources have increased circulation by 30%. All returned and transferred items are being quarantined for 96 hours before being handled by staff. This time period is based on the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Battelle test. OCLC is a nonprofit global library cooperative providing shared technology services, original research, and community programs so that libraries can better serve their districts.

San Clemente Library is proud to be one of the branches in our system to provide funds for OCPL's Career Online High School Program. This program is specifically designed to reengage adults into the education system and prepare them for entry into post-secondary career education or the workforce. Five of these scholarships will be awarded to residents of Orange County thanks to the San Clemente FOL.

Finally, now that our curbside service has been successful and is running very smoothly, we are preparing the library premises as we anticipate opening for limited services. Patrons will be able to browse, check out items, and use public computers per CDC and County guidelines. We have no date for reopening at this time, but we will be prepared.

I would like to personally thank the FOL Board for the opportunities they provide the library. I am retiring effective this month and want to say how lucky I've been to work with such a wonderful, talented group of volunteers! Thanks to our FOL board, volunteers, and members for your patience, support, and continued volunteer engagement with the library during these last months.

Pam Chesney-Algar, Branch Librarian

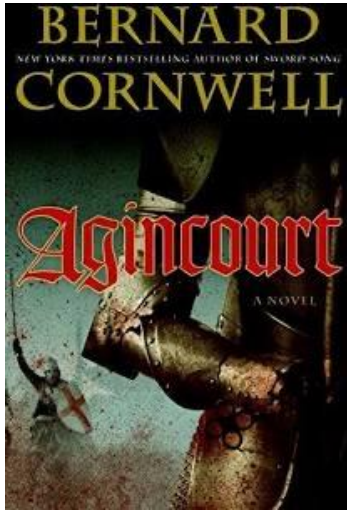
[A Little Covid Relief:](#)



Romance novels written
during Covid-19
will be like...
"And then she slowly
slipped her mask down,
revealing her warm red
lips, and her blushed face,
and as their eyes met, he
gently removed her gloves."

Submitted by Board Secretary Mary Chase

WAYR : What Are You Reading?



I've long nursed a curiosity about the historical fiction of Bernard Cornwell, author of the Saxon Tales and the Richard Sharpe novels. So when I learned that he had also authored **Agincourt**, an account of King Henry the Fifth and his military campaign in France in 1415, I opted to see how his version of the events squared with one I'm somewhat familiar with from my reading of **The Face of Battle** by British military historian John Keegan.

Cornwell tells the story from the point of view of an archer in the English army – Nathaniel Hook. It's an appropriate choice since archers constituted 80% of King Henry's force of 10,000; the remaining 2000 were men-at-arms. As the story unfolds, the reader learns that the bow being used in battle is the English long bow with an effective range of 250 to 300 yards; that it's constructed of yew, different parts of the wood serving unique functions in the weapon; that the arrows are fashioned from birch and fledged with goose feathers; that there are different points an archer will fit to the arrow depending on the nature of the threat.

Cornwell also provides the backstory of King Henry's campaign in France : he's there to pursue his claim to the French throne. Henry lands his army at the harbor of Harfleur and lays siege to the fortress there. His interest is to secure a base of operations for future military endeavors. The siege lasts longer than Henry had expected and costs him dearly : he loses a third of his army as casualties of war and to disease. Now, as the season for battle closes, he needs to leave some engineers and soldiers at Harfleur to rebuild and garrison the town.

France at this time is engaged in a civil war, but the opposing parties eventually manage to put aside their differences and come together en masse to repel the English invader. King Henry and the remains of his army, having left Harfleur, are marching across country to Calais for the journey home. They're short of provisions and exposed to the elements; some are still suffering from dysentery. Imagine their dismay when they crest a hill and find an army three to four times their number opposing them. There's more to the story . . .

I found that Bernard Cornwell's account of King Henry the Fifth's military campaign in France adds to my understanding of the history of that time. There's a richness of detail in his description of objects from that period and at the same time a respect for the major outlines of the drama he's trying to bring to life.

To those readers who would prefer a war of words I'd recommend Shakespeare's "**The Life of Henry the Fifth**": the central event of that drama is the battle of Agincourt. In his account the French army has an advantage of 5 to 1 over the English army. On the field of battle, Henry encourages his followers:

*"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers;
For he today that sheds his blood with me
Shall be my brother"*

Submitted by Jim Wall