



# Shore Lines



**2020, Issue 2.** The quarterly newsletter of the San Clemente Friends of the Library (SCFOTL)  
Friends of the Library Bookstore. 242 Avenida Del Mar. 949-276-6342. [www.sanclementefotl.org](http://www.sanclementefotl.org)

## Activities of the SCFOTL During Bookstore Closure

Friends of the San Clemente Library -

I hope this message finds all of you in good health.

In response to the state-wide stay-at-home order, the San Clemente Library and Friends' Bookstore remain closed until further notice. I wanted to let the membership know about two library-sponsored community programs that the San Clemente Friends of the Library are supporting.

With the current interruption in classroom education and uncertainties regarding social distancing when schools reopen, interest in online programs is high. The California State Library sponsors a Career Online High School (COHS) program, administered by local libraries, for students over the age of 19 to earn a high school diploma. We previously sponsored five scholarships for students graduating in 2018 and 2019. Here's a "bio" of one of the students we sponsored:

A.Z. earned his high school diploma with a focus in General Career Preparation through Career Online High School in April 2019. Upon graduating from the program, he shared that graduating from high school had been his goal for over 20 years, for he wanted to end the shame of not having a high school degree, as well as provide motivation to his daughter to follow through with earning her high school diploma.

In late April, the Board of Directors approved funding for five more scholarships. As the California State Library matches each of the scholarships funded by a library, ten students will have the opportunity to earn their high school diplomas. If you know someone who would like to pursue this opportunity, encourage them to apply at the Orange County Public Library website ([www.ocpl.org](http://www.ocpl.org)); there is a link on the home page.

The County Office on Aging requested help from the Orange County Public Libraries to provide books to complement their Meal Delivery Program, to brighten the day of seniors who cannot leave their residences. We contributed 59 books from our overstock bookshelves, and plan to help again as the need arises. With all of the spring cleaning going on, we expect to receive lots of donations once we're able to reopen.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your support of the San Clemente Friends of the Library - through your memberships and through the many hours spent volunteering. Hope to see you back in the bookstore soon.

Pete Wilkens  
President, San Clemente Friends of the Library

## Branch Manager's Report

Greetings Friends! San Clemente Library staff continue to work remotely during our stay-in-place order. OC Public Libraries is committed to the safety of staff and patrons while continuing to provide services to our community via our website and social media sites. As of today, we have no firm date for reopening the branch or the bookstore.

We are all learning how to operate using mostly online resources and services. Library staff have been able to continue our two monthly San Clemente Library Book Groups and our Knit Circle using the Zoom App. Digital book circulation has increased exponentially as patrons are able to obtain e-cards on our website. Take a moment to go to our social media sites. We are offering fun activities and information for our remote patron community. On our home page ([www.ocpl.org](http://www.ocpl.org)), under the slide show, click on the icons for Facebook and Instagram.



*Branch Manager Pam Chesney-Algar receiving books from Friends of the Library for distribution to seniors through the Meals-on-Wheels program.*

Although additional programming events at the library have been cancelled for the time being, during the months of February and March the Friends of the Library donated \$985.00 to Children's Programming.

With your financial support, library staff is working at home to create "grab & go" crafts to offer to patrons when we reopen. We are also developing a very rich and broad array of storytime resources: felt concepts, finger plays, songs and book titles in both English and Spanish; and we hope to offer online story times to families in the community soon.

Thanks to your largess, librarians continue to create orders for books and media. Once the library reopens, we will place these orders. This last quarter, thanks to your hard work, we were able to purchase adult books and media in the amount of \$2,478.00. You also donated \$2,229.00 for Juvenile and Youth books and media.

With school closures, the OCPL website has developed additional educational content and links to resources that assist students with learning from home. Additionally we are concerned with the question of how libraries can do their part to keep patrons and staff safe and healthy while still encouraging kids and families to keep reading during the summer. This year education experts are predicting that "Summer Slide" will be exacerbated by school closures.

*(Branch Manager's Report continued)*

The library will “Dig Deeper” and conduct an entirely online Summer Reading Program. Patrons can register for individual or family accounts to keep track of the time they spend reading and complete other challenges to earn points, digital badges, and the opportunity to win system-wide prizes. There will be options for Pre-readers, Children, Teens and Adults so families can have a reading program tailored to their specific needs. Want a sneak peek of the fun that’s in store for this summer? Sign up for the Spring Reading Program, *Read, Learn, Discover @ Home!* by visiting <https://ocpl.bookpoints.org>.

The San Clemente Friends of the Library continue to play an important role in our library services even while the branch is closed. Thanks to the bookstore for your generous donation of books to the Office on Aging. These books are being distributed to Meals-on-Wheels seniors. And, your generosity in funding five (5) Career Online High School scholarships is going to change lives. Our San Clemente Friends of the Library continue to go ‘above and beyond’ when it comes to supporting our services!

I send greetings from library staff to each of you. We miss seeing you, and look forward to reopening and operating in a way that reflects our ‘new normal.’ Meanwhile, thank you for your steadfast support and stay safe!

Sincerely,

*Pam Chesney-Algar*

Branch Manager, Librarian III

OC Public Libraries | San Clemente Library

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***From Membership Director Sharon Hein:***

**GREAT NEWS!**

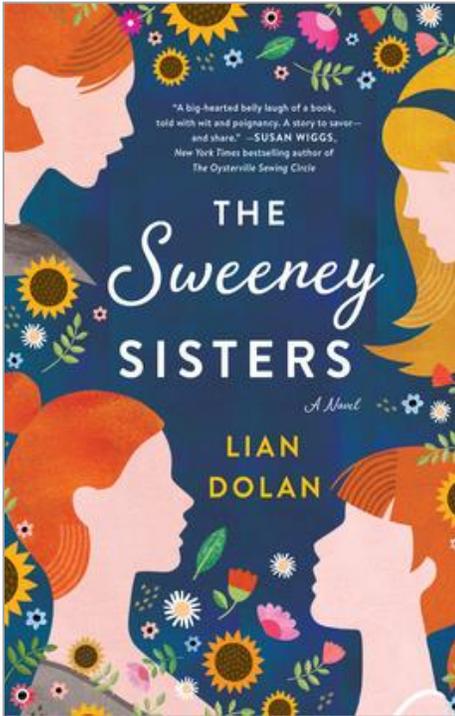
The SCFOTL Board of Directors is very pleased to announce that due to the pandemic, ALL memberships will be extended for three months.

There is nothing for you to do.....I will take care of it all. If you have received a renewal notice, you may send it in and be assured your membership will be extended.

We hope this will bring a little sunshine into your day as we continue to practice “Safer at Home”.

## WAYR : What Are You Reading?

### *The Sweeney Sisters*



My most recent read is entertaining and heart-tugging. The Sweeney sisters grew up as a happy threesome in the idyllic seaside town of Southport, Connecticut. But after their mother's death from cancer fifteen years ago the sisters drifted apart. When their father, Bill Sweeney, an internationally famous literary lion and college professor universally adored by critics, publishers, and book lovers dies unexpectedly, his shell-shocked daughters return to their childhood home to throw an Irish wake to honor him.

As guests pay their respects and reminisce, one stranger, emboldened by whiskey, has crashed the party. It turns out that she too is a Sweeney sister.

When journalist Serena Tucker had her DNA tested on a whim weeks earlier, she learned she had a 50% genetic match with a childhood neighbor—Maggie Sweeney of Southport, Connecticut. It seems Serena's chilly WASP mother, Birdie, had a history with Bill Sweeney—one that has remained totally secret until now.

Once the shock wears off, questions abound. What does this mean for William's literary legacy? Where is the unfinished memoir he's stashed away, and what will it reveal? And how will a fourth Sweeney sister—a blond among redheads—fit into their story?

*The Sweeney Sisters* is equal parts cautionary tale and celebration—a festive and heartfelt look at what truly makes a family. A fun fast read, the *Sweeney Sisters* is available on-line to order in hardcover, large print and digital.

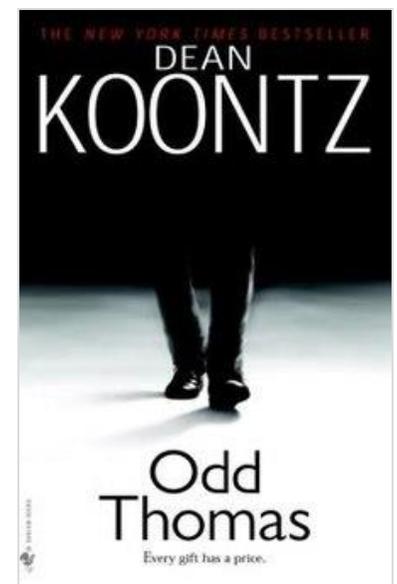
*Submitted by Erin Spriggs, Board Vice President*

### *Odd Thomas*

Recently we watched Odd Thomas on TV and I liked the character so much I downloaded the second book by author Dean Koontz on my Kindle. Little did I know that would lead to a third, fourth, fifth and more downloads of Odd Thomas adventures!

Targeting the Young Adult audience, these are supernatural thrillers mixed with a variety of good vs. evil characters. I found them entertaining, and what more can you ask for during this stay-at-home time?

Happy reading everyone! Mary Chase, Board Secretary



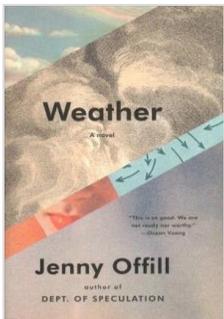
## WAYR : What Are You Reading?

While the past months have affected us all in similar - and different - ways, one constant has remained and that is a desire to endure this situation and return to “normal” life. We hope to emerge in a sane, sensible world but instead are facing fears, unknowns, economic crises, and political divisions that often seem unsurmountable, even in our local environment.

How to deal with this? If you are me, you read, you listen, you think (and sometimes curse!). Since we have been at home, unable to visit freely with family and friends, each day rolls out in a different way. One consistent activity has been reading which provides entertainment and/or diversion, but also serves as a source of contemplation on individual growth, the human condition, and our current situation.

Several contemporary books emerge as outstanding for me in this time. While the themes may not necessarily sound “light” there is plenty of humor and interesting observation in both.

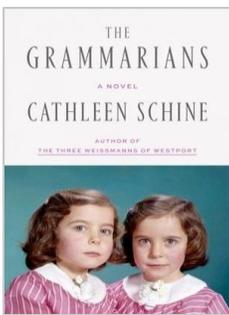
### **Weather** by Jenny Offill (2020)



This book is very timely. The writing style can be described as “autofiction “ (a subject open to debate; basically it is considered to be a fictional form of autobiography, which is hard to distinguish from any novel). The narrator is a librarian of sorts who also answers twitter feeds dealing with issues such as global destruction and rising fascism (sound familiar yet?). The writing style is unusual, short paragraphs that contain random facts and observations that made me laugh aloud despite the often cynical and sometimes clinical view presented by the narrator. There is something compelling in her fears and reactions that made this book stick with me. There are some very funny revelations and an image search led to a review

on NPR with this apt description: “This is the kind of book you may not want to read in public, because you will be too tempted to share Offill’s tart observations with anyone not wearing earbuds.”

### **The Grammarians** by Catherine Shine (2019)



Shine is one author that I always tend to enjoy and I was glad to read her latest book during this pandemic. It is the story of two identical twin sisters who grow up in Manhattan in the ‘80s, obsessed with words and grammar from a young age. Their lives converge and diverge in many ways, evolving from their “twin language” as young girls to their estrangement and back again. Both the humorous and the thought-provoking aspects of this book come from the contemplation and conflict of the role of grammar and the rigid rules often surrounding it (each chapter begins with an obscure definition from Samuel Johnson’s dictionary published in 1755). This is a heartfelt book with smart literary references and comic appeal.

The book ends with a particularly applicable (non-spoiler) last line: **“RELAX AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT”**.

Submitted by Barbara Feige, Board Publicity Director

## *From Bookstore Manager Cass Jones:*

Dear Members,

I am sure you are like me and have cleaned out many closets, drawers, and spaces in your home. I have found things I didn't know we had ... most will probably find their way to a thrift store as if I haven't needed them in years I probably don't need at all.

Helping my husband Tim in the garden has been wonderful. Having started all his seeds in little pots and then we transplanted. We will have to start a Farmer's Market in our back yard when they all start to produce ... 9 vegetable beds.

As the bookstore manager, you probably think I would be catching up on reading a few of the 50 books I have in my home library .... Haven't picked up one! Knitting, painting, and cooking have been my go-to projects. I am happy to say I have lost some weight ... I don't know what that says about my cooking.

Hopefully we will be able to open the bookstore in the near future. Until then, stay safe and healthy!

Cass

### *eBay Book Sales & eBay for Charity*

During the closure, we have continued to sell our collectible books on eBay. To date, we have sold 21 books netting approximately \$650 for the Friends of the Library. We look forward to the donations we'll receive when we're able to reopen.

To help us reach our goals, we invite YOU—our San Clemente Friends of the Library community—to participate in the eBay for Charity program.

Start now with these easy steps:

Add San Clemente Friends of the Library as your favorite charity on eBay today!  
<https://www.charity.ebay.com/charity/San-Clemente-Friends-of-the-Library/2165508>

- As YOUR favorite charity on eBay, you can now directly donate to San Clemente Friends of the Library at checkout when you purchase any item.
- You can shop for any items on eBay in which the proceeds are donated to our charity. Check out San Clemente Friends of the Library's charity shop here:  
<https://www.charity.ebay.com/charity/SanClemente-Friends-of-the-Library/2165508>.
- You can sell your own items on eBay and donate a percentage of the sale price to benefit San Clemente Friends of the Library.

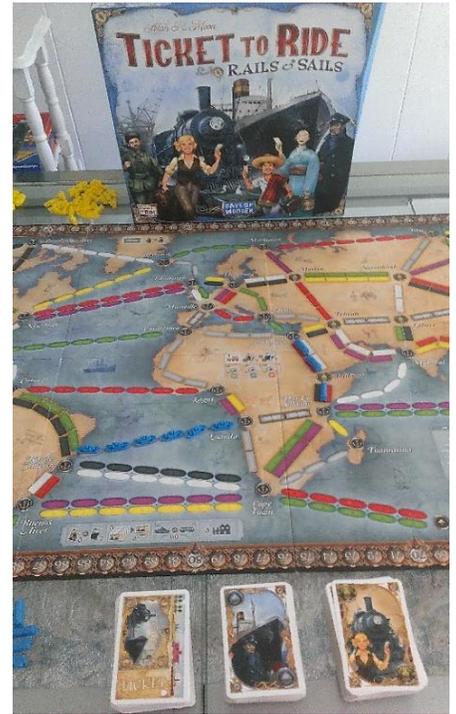
All of these efforts allow you to easily support the San Clemente Friends of the Library. Your donations are tax deductible and as a charitable seller, eBay rewards your support by offering you a fee credit based on your donation percentage to San Clemente Friends of the Library.

Your generosity makes you an example of why the San Clemente Friends of the Library community is so special and shows the impact we can have together through individual acts of kindness.

## Board Game : Ticket to Ride "Rails & Sails"

Since COVID-19 lock down, my husband and I have been playing board games. Ticket to Ride "Rails & Sails" is one of our favorites. Each player gets tickets to destinations around the world. (A good geography lesson!) You use trains and boats to reach your destination and gain points. Cut off by your partner? Lose points for destinations you cannot reach. Good 2-person game, also fun for up to 5 players.

*Submitted by Mary Chase*



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