



Shore Lines



2022, Issue 3. 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

President's Message - Pete Wilkens

I wanted to start the newsletter with a "thank you" to our volunteers and members for continuing to support the San Clemente Friends of the Library through the hours worked in the bookstore and membership dues. This allows the Friends to meet our objectives of providing funding to the San Clemente Library to meet their needs. Earlier this month the Board approved three improvement projects requested by the library: 1) Permanent self-check stations meeting ADA requirements, to replace the rolling tables currently used; 2) A water bottle station to replace the existing drinking fountain, which will encourage patrons and staff to utilize their own reusable bottles (thereby discouraging single-use plastic bottles); and 3) Opaque privacy screens/dividers for the computer and laptop areas, helping to mitigate privacy as well as COVID separation issues.

The three projects have a total cost of just over \$20,000. All three projects are a very visible representation of the support that we provide. The water bottle station will have a plaque that acknowledges the contributions made by the Friends of the Library.

We have received some very nice donations in the last quarter, for which we are most appreciative. We have had particular success with these four books on eBay: 1) Carrie Fisher's novel "The Best Awful", signed and inscribed by her, sold for \$110, 2) "World Tour: Vintage Hotel Labels from the Collection of Gaston-Louis Vuitton" sold for \$140, 3) "The Big Book of the Hamptons", with architectural interior and exterior photos of beach house estates, sold for \$175, and 4) "Prehistoric Man of the Santa Barbara Coast", written in 1929 and including many photos and maps - including an 8-page fold out key map, sold for \$235. If you are interested in receiving notification of our books when they are listed on eBay, please let me know, and my wife Debbie - who researches and sells the books - will add you to her list. You can also go to eBay and search for the San Clemente Friends of the Library listings.

I recognize that I'm sounding like a broken record, but the Board continues to need your help. With the increase in business that the summer months has brought, and the steady stream of donations to process, the job of managing the bookstore and the volunteers who work in the store is quite an effort. Since we reopened about a year ago, Cass Jones has been filling both the Bookstore Manager and Volunteer Director Board positions. So first and foremost, we need to fill the position of Volunteer Director. This position ensures that the shift positions are filled, and that new volunteers receive proper training in our policies and procedures.

The second open position is that of 1st Vice President. This position is responsible for fund-raising (outside of bookstore sales), and for assuming the responsibilities of the President, as necessary. It is important that we fill this position for succession planning purposes, and to look for fundraising opportunities.

If you'd like more information on either of these two open positions, please contact me - or any of the other Board members.

Hope to see you soon in the bookstore.

From Bookstore Manager Cass Jones

I hope this finds you staying cool ... summer is definitely here.

The bookstore continues to receive a lot of great donations. Summer seems to have everyone going through their books. Our “Unique Finds” shelves, highlighted at the front of the bookstore, hold a number of treasures. We have also moved our “Vintage Books” to these shelves.



If you haven't been in lately, we moved Short Stories & Poetry to the “Classics” section. Hopefully people will notice them in their new location.

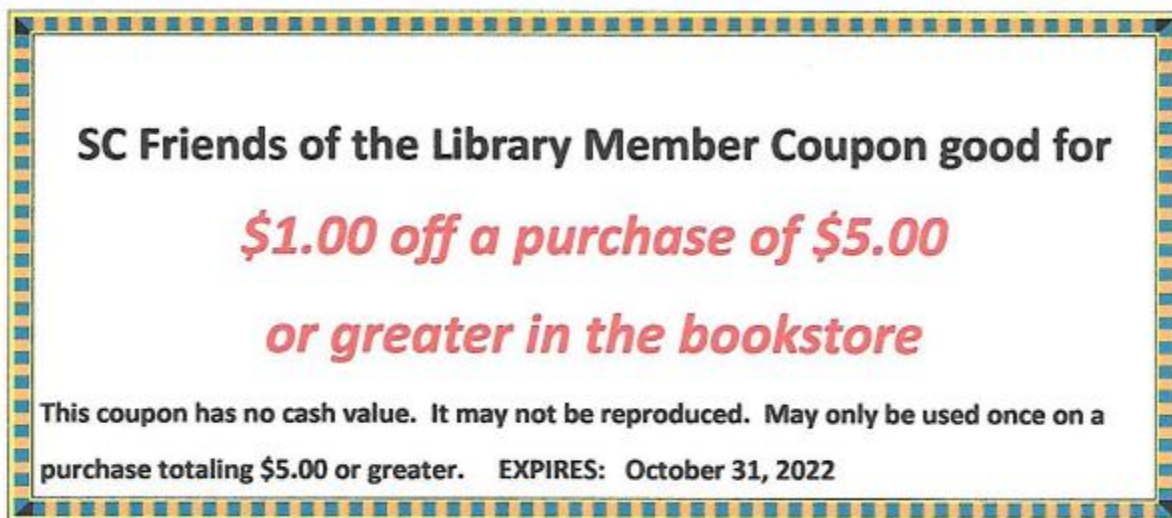
As a reminder, the bookstore hours have changed. You will now find us open Monday – Saturday, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. The one exception is the first Saturday of each month. We are open then, 10:00 am – 4 pm so you can visit us during the monthly Art Faire.

(From Bookstore Manager continued)

Be sure to check out our CD's at 25¢ each. We constantly receive new additions and have divided them into categories to help you find your treasure. Our DVD's are a great buy at \$1 each, boxed sets priced higher. Don't forget our tote bags at \$5 each ... they make a great gift.

In this newsletter we have included a coupon for Members Only to use on your next trip to the bookstore. The coupon is good until October 31st. Enjoy and have fun shopping. All of us at the bookstore thank you for your continued support. Every sale goes directly to help fund library programs, book purchasing and other needed items.

See you in the bookstore.



Library Staff dressed as tourists to celebrate the first day of Summer Reading 2022, Off the Beaten Path!

Branch Manager's Report

By Melanie Shay

The library had a very successful 2022 Summer Reading Program. Our theme was "Off the Beaten Path." The branch chose to focus on the outdoors, camping, and wildlife. In a break from past Summer Reading Programs, we held our larger programs on the lawn next to the FOL Bookstore rather than inside the Community Center. We averaged about 200 visitors at our SRP events that included Wild Wonders, Kids Imagine Nation, and Christopher T. Magician. Our in-house programs like Stories and S'mores and Create a Tote Bag were also quite successful with an average of 80 participants. Staff and patrons alike enjoyed the chance to interact and come together off the beaten path, or in our case on the lawn. We hope to keep up the momentum created these past few months and look forward to introducing several new programs to the community such as our adult Classic Cinema Club and our Sensory Storytime and Play. Meanwhile, our virtual summer reading program had 186 participants, which is up 75% from last year. The library couldn't have made these gains in programming and participation without the support of the Friends of the Library.

On the staffing front, we had three open positions to fill after we returned from the pandemic. With the hiring challenge, thankfully, we were able to fill one of the spots. Catrina McAllister, a native of San Clemente joined our staff in July as a Library Assistant. She is new to the system, but she comes highly recommended and has proven to be a great fit so far. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado, and she enjoys surfing and working with animals.

As the school year starts again, the library looks forward to increasing our outreach to the local schools, but we also look forward to reaching out to the senior communities. Patrons are starting to come back to the library, but we aim to be proactive and start meeting people where they are... schools, local festivals, senior centers. As part of the community and ideally a hub for the community, we need to start making our presence, our services, and our mission known.

Thank you for helping make Summer Reading 2022 a success!



Families waiting for "Kids Imagine Nation" to start. SRP 2022

Planning a Road Trip?

Try an audio book to pass the hours on the road. We have a collection of audio books to choose from that are reasonably priced (only 50 cents a CD). There are thrillers by James Patterson and James Lee Burke, classics like "Around the World in 80 Days," poetry read by John Lithgow, history, and even stories to keep young people entertained, including "Better Nate Than Ever." I have found that listening to audio books with family members gives us something to talk about during long road trips, and we take away a shared memory of a good story.

You can also get travel inspiration from "Charles Kuralt's America" and other travel adventure books, maps, and tour guides in our Travel section. Come check out the Friends of the Library Bookstore and prepare for a new adventure!

Mary Chase, Secretary



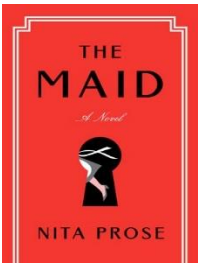
A selection of Audio Books available



Travel adventure books, maps, and tour guides



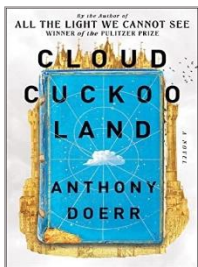
What Are You Reading?



THE MAID by Nita Prose
From Barbara Feige

This novel, published in January 2022, is essentially a who-done-it with personality! It combines a heart-warming story of a hotel maid who “thinks differently” with the mysterious death of a frequent guest and its consequences. Molly Gray loves every aspect of her job in a high-end NYC hotel. Her challenges, however, begin at home since her lifelong companion and only other link to the outside world, her Gran, has recently died.

What others consider beneath them, Molly Gray considers a privilege - from the moment she awakens and dons her uniform, to carefully stocking her cart, and to the pride she takes in restoring every room to perfection. After discovering a suite in disarray and its wealthy occupant (“Mr Black” - shades of “Clue”!) dead in bed, Molly bonds with other committed employees - soon to be friends - and discovers that while some may judge her intelligence and position, her honesty and unusual insights lead to a resolution that is charming and satisfying.



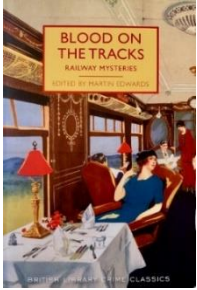
CUCKOO CLOCK LAND by Anthony Doerr
From Barbara Feige

This book, published in 2021, received much publicity and has been on my reading list. Doerr, the author of six books including “All the Light We Cannot See”, is an interesting and poetic narrator. This novel combines the compelling stories of separate individuals in various times periods on Earth.

At first the disparate characters and time shifts can be baffling. Using rich description and elements of mystery, the book ultimately relates how the wisdom and preservation of written materials is so essential to human existence. It begins with a Greek narrator and his unfolding tale from the first century, translated by a mysterious Zeno, a character who recurs in time and impact. It follows five characters, a young orphaned seamstress in the Ottoman Empire who discovers the ancient battered manuscript, a young man across town with a facial deformity, a modern day teenage ecoterrorist, an old man, Zeno, and a young girl apparently on a futuristic journey to escape the reality on Earth along with the collected information of the ages. The plot becomes clearer, excitement builds, and the resolution is particularly timely in light of current events.

Doerr greatly admires libraries and librarians and much of the book is an homage to collectors and repositories of information and its guardians as protectors of humanity.

(What Are You Reading? continued)



Blood on the Tracks - Edited by Martin Edwards, published in 2018
From Pete Wilkens

From the editor, Martin Edwards, on this collection of short stories celebrating the classic railway mystery:

A signal man is found dead by a railway tunnel. A man identifies his wife as victim of murder on the underground. Two passengers mysteriously disappear between stations, leaving behind a dead body.

Trains have been a favourite setting of many crime writers, providing the mobile equivalent of the “locked-room” scenario. Their enclosed carriages with a limited number of suspects lend themselves to seemingly impossible crimes. In an era of cancellations and delays, alibis reliant upon timely train service no longer ring true, yet the railway detective has enjoyed a resurgence of popularity in the twenty-first century.

Both train buffs and crime fans will delight in this collection of fifteen railway themed mysteries featuring some of the most popular authors of their day alongside less familiar names. This is a collection to beguile even the most wearisome commuter.

As a train enthusiast and a fan of mysteries (in particular the locked-room variety), I thoroughly enjoyed this collection of short stories. The stories are presented chronologically; the earliest was written in 1898, the latest in 1957. I appreciated the diversity in the stories and authors’ writing styles - and even figured several of them out.

[Google It!](#)

Library in the Woods



Barbara Feige

From Membership Director Sharon Hein

In case you missed it.

The Membership Recognition plaque in the bookstore has been updated. Welcome and thanks to our newest members added to the plaque—ERIN and TONY SPRIGGS. The next time you are in the bookstore, please take a moment to seek out the plaque. It is proudly hanging to the left of the emergency exit door.

