



Shore Lines



2022, Issue 4. 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 again this quarter 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. In addition to the purchase of books and media for the library this quarter, I'd like to highlight two other items of support that we've provided:

Over the last several years, we've provided funding for several scholarships for the Career Online High School (COHS) program. In early August, a student residing in San Clemente began her course work. The words from her application reinforce our commitment to this program, because of the impact that it has on individuals and the community. Asked why she wants to pursue a high school education she wrote: "I want to achieve this for myself. I am a stay at home mom who homeschooled my two children from kindergarten up to 8th grade. Now that my children are in college, I want to be able to get a job in the near future to make use of my free time."

Funding was recently provided to purchase sensory learning materials for programs tailored to children who may not be developmentally or socially ready for the more structured sit-down story times currently offered. This will also help fill some of the gaps created by COVID where parents had little access to outside support for teaching sensory development and social skills. As in the case of the COHS program, the sensory learning programs can make a real difference in our community, and the Board was pleased to receive the funding proposal from the children's librarian.

Just when you thought the elections were over, I need to let you know about our election of board members that will take place at the annual meeting in January 2023. We are currently seeking candidates for three open positions:

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 most important that we fill this position for succession planning purposes.

The third open position is that of Publications Director, currently filled by Jim Wall. This is the position that is responsible for the quarterly Shorelines newsletter. Jim has elected to not seek another term when his current term expires, in order to have more time for travel and other opportunities. We need to fill this position so that we can continue to advise the membership of goings on in the library, the bookstore, and how the contributions made by the volunteers and general membership are being used. Jim has done a fantastic job with the newsletter, and his contributions will be missed.

(President's Message continued)

We need your help! If you have an interest or would like more information on any of the positions, please contact Bill Rhodes, who is heading up the nominating committee. Bill can be reached at scfotl@gmail.com.

Hope to see you soon in the bookstore.

From Bookstore Manager Cass Jones:

I can't believe it's this time already:

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL

The bookstore has been very busy and we have received great donations during the past few months. We have reorganized some of our 97 categories.

"Little Books" have been renamed "Gift Books" and moved to beneath Collecting Reference. Audio Books have moved to the end of hardback fiction to allow the reorganizing of the music CD's section. Music CD's are now clearly organized with new inventory.

Holiday books & music CD's will go on display after Thanksgiving. If you are interested in finding a holiday book before then, please ask a volunteer. Be sure to check out the "new arrivals" cart each time you come into the bookstore. Current top selling hardback fiction are only \$8 --- better than \$26 - \$36 retail price.

The bookstore will be closed for Thanksgiving, November 24 & 25th and for Christmas, December 24 – 26th.

If you know of someone who loves reading, interacting with people and has some free time, please let them know we are always looking for volunteers. We can never have enough.

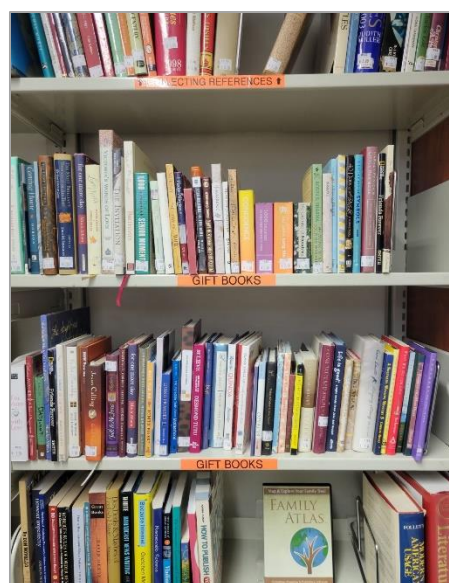
As a reminder, if you are looking for a particular book, you may fill out a 'book request' card. We check the cards weekly and will notify you if we receive your requested book.

Wishing you the best of holidays,

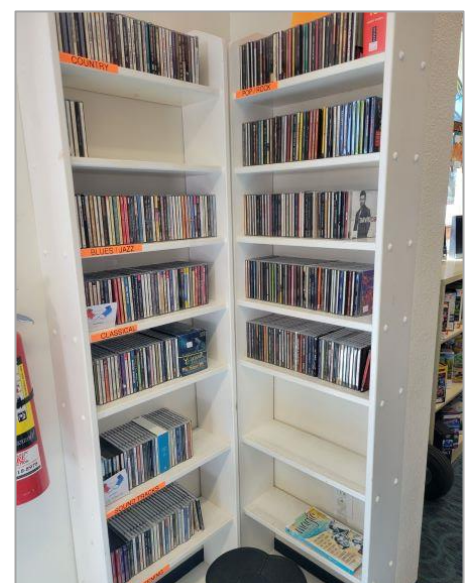
Cass



New Arrivals cart



Gift Books



Music CD's section

Branch Manager's Report

By Melanie Shay

Fall at the library is off to a brisk pace. Storytime attendance and family programs are well attended. In September and October, we had 790 children participate in Storytime. In addition to the continuing Toddler, Preschool, and Bilingual Storytimes, we also now offer Baby Storytime, which has become our most well attended program. At our Brettso the Great Halloween Magic Show and Costume Parade we had 96 participants. This year we also offered some Halloween fun for the adults with our Downtown Ghost Walk led by storyteller and local historian, Jim Hamilton.

Our regular monthly adult programs like our book groups, adult crafternoon, and needlework circle are going strong. These programs build camaraderie and community while allowing for diverse perspectives and cultures to come together in a safe environment. Our needlework circle knitted and crocheted over 50 beanies for Knots of Love Vets and have started creating Blankets for Seniors through Grandma's House.

Last quarter, the library received 340 books funded by the FOL. From large print to graphic novels to best-selling fiction and board books we were able to add \$8,417.15 worth of books to our collection. These new additions kept my staff busy with processing and tagging all of them with books plates acknowledging the generous contribution of the San Clemente Friends of the Library.

As we head towards the end of this year, I will be challenging my staff to find ways to generate more interest and participation in Adult Programs. The program room should be as packed at Author Visits, Music Performances, and How-to presentations adults as it is for storytimes and magic shows.

For the winter season we have a wonderful "There's sNOW place like the library" Open House planned with music, crafts, and goodies available for the whole family. We would love to see SCFOL members stop by and help us celebrate another successful year. Your hard work makes all this possible.

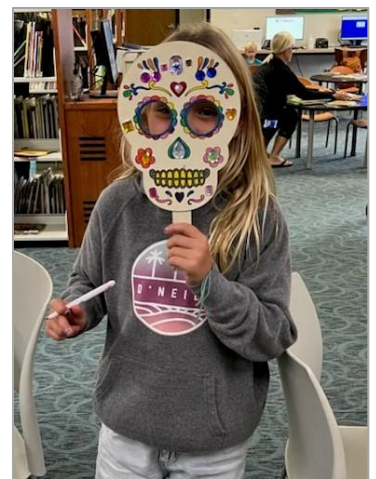
Recently at the Library (*images submitted by Melanie Shay*):



Brettso the Great and Staff members Serene and Catrina during the Halloween Magic Show



Downtown Ghost Walk led by local historian Jim Hamilton



Dia de los Muertos skull craft

A hand holding a round, light-colored cookie decorated to look like a skull. The eyes are large, orange, and textured. The nose is a small black triangle. The mouth is a wide, black, jagged grin. The top of the head is decorated with colorful sprinkles and green icing swirls.

A photograph showing a row of books by James Patterson standing upright on a shelf. From left to right, the visible spines are: 'THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD' by Colson Whitehead (orange spine), 'JANE GREEN' (green spine), 'ANNE PERRY' (red spine), 'SEA OF TRANQUILITY' by Emily St John Mandel (blue spine), 'Jennifer Egan The Danish Girl' (rainbow striped spine), 'When Cats & Dogs' (dark green spine), 'When Cats & Snakes' (dark red spine), 'HILL COUNTRY' (yellow spine), and 'RUN, ROSE, RUN' by Holly Parton and James Patterson (large book with a woman running on the cover). Each book has a small white label at the bottom of its spine indicating it's a 'LARGE PRINT' edition. The background shows a window with blinds and some foliage outside.

A collection of approximately 15 hand-knitted hats, likely made from wool, arranged on a patterned surface. The hats feature various designs, including solid colors, horizontal stripes, and textured patterns. The colors range from red, green, and yellow to blue, teal, and white. The hats are of different sizes and styles, some with ribbed brims and others with more complex patterns. The background is a light-colored fabric with a subtle, repeating geometric pattern.

A photograph showing a large stack of cardboard boxes, many labeled 'BIO DATA' and 'L', arranged in a room. A desk and chair are visible on the right side of the frame.

Los Angeles in the 1960's: fire on the hills of Bel Air, riots in Watts and on the Sunset Strip, weekends in Malibu, late nights at the Daisy discotheque, uproarious openings at the Ferus Gallery, and the convergence of Pop Art, rock and roll, and the new Hollywood. At the center of it all, one inspired, improbable, and highly combustible couple - Dennis Hopper and Brooke Hayward - lived out the emblematic love story of '60's LA.

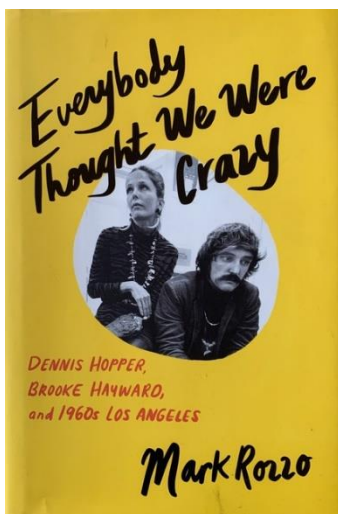
(What Are You Reading? continued)

Everybody Thought We Were Crazy is at once a fascinating account of the extraordinary, art-filled life that Hopper and Hayward built together and a deeply researched panoramic cultural history. It's the intimate saga of one couple whose own rise and fall - from youthful creative flowering to disorder and chaos - mirrors the very shape of the decade.

I was drawn to the book after reading a positive review in the Wall Street Journal - mainly through the references to all of the 1960's rock and roll figures. The Beatles, Jefferson Airplane, The Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones and The Byrds are all featured. The Byrds are most prominent, playing nightly at Ciro's on Sunset Strip, performing at Jane Fonda's 4th of July party in 1965, and recording the soundtrack for the Dennis Hopper & Peter Fonda movie *Easy Rider*, released in 1969. (Henry Fonda asked the Byrds to turn down the volume at the 4th of July party, but Peter Fonda told them to ignore his father.) Lots of good stories about interaction between the musicians, actors, writers, and artists - all revolving around Dennis & Brooke.

The book provided an introduction to, and appreciation for the modern artists that were starting to make their mark - Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Ed Ruscha, among others. Andy Warhol introduced his Campbell Soup can series of 32 paintings at the Ferus Gallery in LA; five were sold - one to Brooke and Dennis, who were patrons of many of the emerging artists of the day. (At the new Orange County Museum of Art, they have an Ed Ruscha painting on display; interesting to see it after reading the book.)

All-in-all, a very satisfying book.



What Are You Reading?

By Barbara Feige

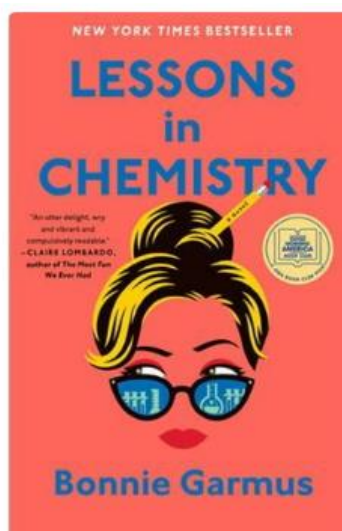
***Lessons in Chemistry* - Bonnie Gamus (2022)**

This book is an interesting and often amusing depiction of the trajectory of a determined single mother and trained chemist in mid-1950s America. Elizabeth Zott believes that there is no such thing as an "average" woman, and this becomes apparent early in the novel when she takes a position in a research institution where her male colleagues dismiss her work. Elizabeth unexpectedly falls in love with a brilliant and quirky coworker who changes her perspective. "Chemistry" ensues; they become a couple and are adopted by a lovable stray dog named Six-thirty, so called for the time he appears in their life. Ultimately, Elizabeth faces challenges in her life and career.

(What Are You Reading? continued)

There are a number of witty and laugh-aloud moments and situations that verge on improbability in Gamus's first novel. Elizabeth stays firm in her convictions that women can do anything and manages to maintain that perspective when circumstances force her to forgo a PhD. Ten years after the book opens, Elizabeth is a single mother of a daughter named Mad and needs to support the family. In an unexpected chain of events, she begins to host an early TV cooking show and manages to defy expectations by entertaining while instructing a new generation of women to combine cooking and science. She sidesteps expectations by reinforcing the intelligence of her audience, encouraging new attitudes and accomplishments.

You do not have to be a woman to enjoy this book, but most women will relate, at least in part, to Elizabeth's frustration at not being taken seriously in the male-dominated world of science. There have been a number of books written on this topic and while this is a fictional story, it tells the tale with an element of humor and insight that makes it highly readable. The characters are likable, including Six-thirty, trained by Elizabeth (a believer in animal intelligence) to recognize over 600 words. The dog's inner voice and total devotion along with daughter Mad's perspective elevate the story. ***Lessons in Chemistry*** is an enjoyable book that has now been made into a series that will air on Apple+ starring Brie Larson in 2023.



What Are You Reading?

By Mary Chase

Elly Griffiths is a British author who crafts modern mysteries with a hint of history, humor, and mysticism. The stories are as much about the cast of characters as the archeological history of Great Britain. The main character is Ruth Galloway, a forensic archeologist who specializes in bones. Ruth likes lists, neat trenches, her cat, teaching at a local university, and living by a secluded salt marsh. Long buried bodies are uncovered, involving Ruth and her friends in many mysteries, both historical and modern. I recommend Elly Griffiths books as a comfortable and satisfying read. I am currently on Book 7- ***The Ghost Fields***. To date, there are 13 Ruth Galloway books and I plan to read all of them. The Friends Bookstore currently has Elly Griffiths Book 8- ***The Woman in Blue*** in the hardback fiction section. Although the characters and relationships follow a chronological timeline, I believe the books can be read as stand-alone novels. Maybe it's time you tried someone new?

(What Are You Reading? continued)



On the Benefits of Volunteering

By Jim Wall

If you enjoy the company of books and the people who read them, then you may be uniquely qualified to serve as a volunteer in the Friends of the Library Bookstore. Additional benefits include:

- meeting our cadre of volunteers, a diverse group of people from our community who have a common interest in supporting the San Clemente Public Library;
- meeting other members of the Friends of the Library, who support the Bookstore with their membership dues and book contributions;
- and meeting our customers, who hail from all parts of the globe and frequent our store to renew their quest.

We are all in the same boat: all of us are volunteers. Come to think of it, our books are volunteers too!*

(On the Benefits of Volunteering continued)

*For six years it has been my duty and delight to serve on the Board of Directors in support of the San Clemente Public Library. Is there a more important publicly funded institution in San Clemente? Our work at Friends of the Library serves a lofty purpose, I believe; and I feel confident that my peers on the Board agree. They are a professional and dedicated group of people who are helping set the course for the growth and development of the Library. I take my hat off to them, not only for helping me with text and images as I prepared the newsletter, but for keeping their eyes on the prize as they go forward- a Library that fully meets the needs of our community. I'll see you in the Bookstore!

