

The BOOKMARK

of the Redwood City Library Foundation

Volume 9, Number 1 Spring 2009

Of Dan and Greg Carmichael
Colleen and David Householder
Of Nancy Colvin
Marian Stull and Burt Press
Of Esther Giometti
Adele Stone
Of My Maternal and Paternal Grandparents
Silvia Vonderlinden
Of the Albert Jordan Family
Jerry Tinney
Of Monica Marie Lombardo
Rebecca Lombardo
Of Tyler Alexander Memole
Kerry J. Memole
Of Grandmother Deviben Patel
Neel and Reema Patel
Of Milton Polsky
Ron and Delphine Ipsen
Of Ted Pruss
James and Stavroola Jameson
Of My Parents Bill and Sady Robbins
Pamela Quinn
Of Marian Slavin
Rita Donovan
Of Irene E. Snyder
Dr. J. David Bukry
Of Catherine Vollmayer
Mary Aldrich
Patricia Bernard
Jim and Dolores Centis
Arloene Hamilton
Charles and Joyce Selby
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Shea
Patricia Walsh

REDWOOD SHORES CONTINUES TO HIT THE SWEET SPOT

Local companies, foundations, businesses, and individuals were extremely generous in their support of the Redwood City Library Foundation's campaign to raise \$850,000 for the opening day collection for the Redwood Shores Library. And, the public has responded with over-the-top use of the library and its outstanding collection.

On the opening day of the library, Saturday September 6, more than 1,200 people came to enjoy the grand opening festivities; 500 of these visitors received new library cards. The community that came and admired the building and the collection checked out about 10,000 items in the first two days of operation!

The number of visitors to the library has far surpassed expectations:

September 2008: 21,270
October 2008: 42,328
November 2008: 22,135
December 2008: 19,446
January 2009: 12,468

(gate counter disabled for 1 1/2 weeks)

February 2009: 24,150

GRAND TOTAL: 141,797.

(the first six months)

The overall circulation and attendance numbers are illustrative of the success of the Redwood Shores Library. At present, the library is circulating two-thirds the number of materials of the Main Library, while the Redwood Shores collection is one-third the size of that facility. In particular, the computer books and technology and sciences books are in high demand in the Redwood Shores community.

INTERPRETIVE CENTER DEBUTS

When you walk in the front door of the Redwood Shores Branch Library you will immediately notice mud in the lobby—an oversized replica of mud that is! The new Environmental Interpretive Center invites you to walk right through a piece of Belmont Slough mud blown up to 800-times life size.

Interactive displays involve visitors in food webs, camouflage, and bird adaptations, as well as the composition of water and tidal actions of the Slough. Rounding out the Center is a 300-gallon aquarium filled with fish found in the San Francisco Bay.

Split Rock Studios, a Minnesota firm of "museum outfitters," designed the Center. Its oozy-looking mud, known as eco-sculpture, was designed by Minneapolis artist Gina Louise.

The Interpretive Center debuted the evening of February 27 with a Donor Dessert Reception held to honor financial supporters of the Center and those who provided expertise and graphics to the dramatic design.

Over one-hundred guests enjoyed music by jazz duo Tangria, as well as truffles, cookies, cream puffs, and champagne. Mayor Rosanne Foust, city manager Peter Ingram, and library director Dave Genesy thanked



The Mud wall arrives

donors for their generosity. Also attending were several City Council members, the Redwood City Library Foundation co-presidents Cheryl Angeles and John Blake, executive director Celia LaRiviere, and many Foundation board members.

Interpretive Center project manager Jacky Averill expressed gratitude to the staff of the Marine Science Institute and members of the Sequoia Audubon Society. Both groups gave many hours sharing their knowledge and assistance to the design and informational signage.

The reception gave the Library and the Redwood City Library Foundation the opportunity to thank Colleen Cassity and Christine Tsang from Oracle, a major donor to the Foundation's opening day collection and to the Interpretive Center. The California State Coastal Conservancy gave generously to the project from state public environmental education funds. The Redwood City Library Foundation was pleased to be the fiduciary agent for the Interpretive Center fund-raising campaign. For further information about the Center contact Jacky Averill at 780-7016.



Guests browse the IC

LIBRARY SNAGS NATIONAL FIVE STAR RATING

Redwood City is very proud to announce that the Redwood City Public Library has received the coveted "five star rating" from the *Library Journal Index of Public Library Service*, a new public library national rating system instituted by the *Library Journal*.

This makes the Redwood City Public Library the top-rated library of any size in the Bay Area, and it is one of the two top-rated mid-sized libraries in all of California. Remarkably, there are only five libraries in California that achieved the five star rating, which is based on per capita measurements including number of items borrowed, number of visits, number and types of programs offered, attendance at activities, and level of public Internet use.

The *Library Journal* is the premier professional national publication for librarians, recognized as the standard resource for the industry. Its national rating of public libraries, the *Library Journal Index of Public Library Service*, identified only 85 "5 star" libraries in the entire United States. Overall, it rated 7115 public libraries, and the top libraries in each group got three, four, or five Michelin Guide-like stars, to rank their overall achievement.

Redwood City's Library system achieved this top-notch rating through the continuous hard work of the entire Library staff and the support of the Library Foundation, the City Council, and the community.

The Redwood City Public Library offers many free programs for children, adults, and families, and is the learning center of our community. For more information about library events and services you may access the library's home page.

It's Fast, Easy, Painless

Our technology makes online giving fast, safe and secure. Simply visit us at rclfdn.org and using your Visa, MasterCard or Discover card make a one-time gift or a recurring gift. You decide on the payment schedule and amount.

All Gifts Are Tax-Deductible

BENEFACTORS' CIRCLE HONORS GENEROUS LIBRARY DONORS

To recognize and honor donors who give at the level of \$1000 or more a year, the Foundation's Board of Directors is excited to announce a new program—the Benefactors' Circle. This new initiative provides a number of special benefits to members.

"These generous donors make a significant impact on children's literacy programs and adult education in our community," said Foundation co-president Cheryl Angeles, "in our current economy, their committed support is needed more than ever."

New Circle member Janet Hofmann said, "Redwood City has long provided excellent library service, but times are difficult for cities, and I expect there will be library budget cuts. I'm grateful that I can help to keep critical services alive with my membership."

The names of Circle members will be placed on a permanent plaque in the Main Library and appear in newsletters and on the Foundation website. Other benefits include an annual reception, invitations to library events, a personalized autographed book from a "Meet the Author" event, and a tour and lunch with a library staff member of choice.

The Foundation's current fundraising goal is \$250,000 to update the collection at the Fair Oaks Library in east Redwood City with children's picture books, teen non-fiction books, music and films, and adult English language fiction.

"In this largely Spanish-speaking community there is no lack of enthusiasm to learn, only a lack of materials," said Foundation co-president John Blake, "I believe that funding from our donors will provide those materials."

Individuals who are interested in joining the Benefactors' Circle may make donations by check or credit card. Credit card holders may donate online choosing monthly, quarterly, or annual payments. Simply visit www.rclfdn.org using your Visa, MasterCard or Discover card. All gifts are tax deductible.

For more information on the Benefactors' Circle, please call Executive Director Celia LaRiviere at (650) 780-7045.



Let's play make-believe

IN THIS ISSUE

Five Star Rating	Cover
Benefactors' Circle	Cover
From the Director	2
Fair Oaks Campaign	2
Thank You to Donors	2
In Honor/In Memory	2
Shores Library Is a Hit	4
IC Debuts	4



Redwood City
Library Foundation

www.rclfdn.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Redwood City Public Library has received a five star rating from the *Library Journal Index of Public Library Service*, a new public library national rating system instituted by the *Library Journal*. This makes the Redwood City Public Library the top-rated library of any size in the Bay Area, and it is one of the two top-rated mid-sized libraries in all of California (see cover article). We are, of course, greatly honored to receive this award. The following paragraphs give but a small sample of what makes the Redwood City Library such an outstanding public entity.

Over 180 people crowded into the cafeteria at Hoover school for the Second Annual Family Author Night, featuring Elizabeth Gomez, the wonderful local illustrator of many books and of the mural in the Family Place at the Main Library. Elizabeth gave a lively, funny, and moving presentation in Spanish, with English translation, about how she achieved her childhood dream of being an artist, thanks to her parents who strongly believed in education. In fact, her mother believed in education so strongly that she went to school when Elizabeth did, not having had the opportunity to do so before. Eventually, Elizabeth's mother made it all the way through the university.

It was a very empowering message for the Hoover community because Family Author Nights, as the name implies, are not just for students, but for their families as well. Entire families turned out to hear the talk, to eat dinner, and to cross their fingers in the hope that they'd win one of the prizes from the Big Raffle. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library, which sponsored the event, each student from kindergarten through fourth grade received a copy of one of Elizabeth's books. The best news is that there will be several more Family Author Nights this year, thanks again to the Friends.

The Main Library saw our biggest KinderCard Super Saturday yet! This annual program works to ensure that every child in Redwood City kindergarten—public and private—receives a library card. This program has been proven to help young children develop an early love of reading and learning, and to understand that the library is a great place to learn and grow. More than 650 people attended, and over 200 kindergartners proudly got their library cards! With the help of staff, along with teen volunteers, the children also received goody bags with library information, a book in Spanish or English, a library card holder, a pencil, and an eraser. We are very proud of this program.

Dave Genesy
Director

FAIR OAKS LIBRARY BOOK CAMPAIGN

From its 1972 beginning as a tiny one-room space as part of the Fair Oaks Community Center, the Fair Oaks library attracted patrons like bees to honey. It did not take long before the hive-like library became too crowded and in 1995 the library moved to its present location on Middlefield Road, sharing space with the County Social Services offices.

Time and use have taken their toll on the library, but it remains vibrant and heavily used with numerous daily programs for children and adults, a variety of outreach programs, and special cultural events including The Day of the Dead, Day of the Children/Day of the Books (*Día del Niño/Día de los Libros*), and *La Gran Posada*.

Budget considerations have weighed heavily on the library. For the last several years Fair Oaks budget for replacement and upgrade of the collections was \$50,000 per year without any adjustments for inflation and soaring book prices. Even this budget recently faced cuts of nearly 50%. Many shelves of high-demand items are half-filled and the children's collection is almost in tatters.

In view of this dire situation the Redwood City Library Foundation has committed to raise \$250,000 to refresh the entire book collection. This money will be used to purchase books, DVDs, and other materials with relevant, high-interest material in English and Spanish. Approximately half of the new collection will target children and teens with picture books, fiction and non-fiction, magazines, and family-oriented multimedia. The other half will provide critically needed English and Spanish-language materials for a community that is, overall, becoming more proficient in English and needs additional materials to support this trend.

The mission of the Redwood City Library Foundation is to increase the financial support for the library's services, collections, and programs, thereby helping the library to meet the expanding needs of its diverse community. Our goal for the Fair Oaks Library is to strengthen and enhance their collection.



Proud Readers at Family Author Night

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

\$100,000 and over

Redwood Shores

Oracle Corporation

\$50,000 and over

Redwood City

Beverly Hemphill Trust

\$20,000-\$49,999

Los Altos

Moore Family Foundation

\$10,000-\$19,999

Mountain View

Electronic Arts Foundation

Redwood City

Friends of the Redwood City Library

Woodside

The Keech Family

Gordon and Betty Moore

\$5,000-\$9,999

Redwood City

W.L. Butler Construction, Inc.

San Leandro

Sausal Corporation

Santa Clara

Peery Foundation

Saratoga

Scandling Family Foundation

\$1,000-\$4,999

Burlingame

Norcal Waste

La Quinta

Doering Family Foundation, LTD.

Menlo Park

Stanford University

Redwood City

Alyn Beals and Dani Gasparini

David Genesy

Arloene Hamilton

Georgi LaBerge

Lawyers for the Library

Matt Leddy and Gail Raabe

Sequoia Hospital

Redwood Shores

Robert Craig Birner

John Campbell

Michael and Nancy Fadis

Robert and Jean Gilmore

Suresh and Suman Gir

Robert and Rachel Kwong

Zhiyong Li

Vidyut and Ramesh Lingamneni

Peggy Maguire

Craig and Sharon McCollam

Mason, Christina and Chloe Ng

Michael Nickas

Neel and Reema Patel

Sanjay, Minal, Shanil and Shrey Patel

Pon and Associates

Redwood Shores Community Association

Robert and Ana Schmidt

Andrew Stulbarg

Mao T. Wang and Carol Y. Lin

Greg and Lyn Wilbur

Bob Wilson and Clara Munley

Andrew, Hannah and Christina Young

San Carlos

Nektar Employees Foundation

Shores Press

San Francisco

Swinerton Management and Consulting

San Mateo

Franklin Templeton Investments

International Brotherhood of Electrical

Workers Local Union No. 617

Toni, Robert and Tiffany Murzi

\$500-\$999

Markleeville

Yvonne Chen

Milpitas

Shapell Industries of Northern California

Palo Alto

Cheryl Angeles

Redwood City

Dr. J. David Bukry

The Honorable Rosanne Foust and The

Honorable Jim Hartnett

Friends of Jacky Averill

William and Janet Hofmann

The Matteson Companies

Optimist Club of Redwood City

Saf Keep Storage

San Mateo Credit Union

Greg and Catherine Trindle

Redwood Shores

James and Kellee Cross

Jennifer de Castro

Anthony Gibbs

Patricia Murdock

Mr. and Mrs. Brad Nelson

Bob and Kathy Piziali

Paul Swain and Mary Wu

Lisa and Chris Tow

John and Wendy Tseng

Joshua and Suzanne Tseng

Christina Tung

Phil Waters

Woodside

John and Carol Hamilton

\$250-\$499

Atherton

Dawn Yates Black

Redwood City

John Blake

Sandra Cooperman

Filice Lansford Development Corporation

Audrey Hargis

Celia LaRiviere

Rountree Plumbing and Heating

Vela Corporation

Redwood Shores

Miguel Caamano

George England

Fully Alive Community Church

Karen and E.J. Melzer

Joe and Jenny Wucher

Hong Xia and Angie Weiping Ye

San Carlos

Piziali and Associates

San Mateo

San Mateo County Community Colleges

Foundation

South San Francisco

First National Bank

Woodside

John Blackmore

Stephen and Jeanne Schapp

\$100-\$249

Peoria, AZ

Jane and Keith Hixenbaugh

Washington, DC

Hewlett-Packard

Williamsport, MD

Mr. and Mrs. Banks

Belmont

Trudy Marin

Danville

Tom and Karen Abbott

Menlo Park

Dr. Bernard Ross

Oakhurst

Mario Rendon

Portola Valley

Dr. and Mrs. Donald Coluzzi

Redwood City

The Honorable Ian Bain

Joyce Abbot

Mary Aldrich

John Allen

David Amann

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Barrick

Odelia Braun, M.D.

Kyra Carswell

Gordon Chamberlain

Louis and Barbara Cobarruviaz

Joan DeBrine

Samir and Lily Deeb

David Dill

Kit Fung

Annette Howitt

Peter Ingram and Yvette Pirie

Matthew Jacobs

Billy and Stacy James

Carol Johnson

King's Union 76

Stephen and Maria Leaf

Sharon Levin

Emilio and Jean Lopez

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ludwig

Jane Miller

Patricia Nugent

Mr. and Mrs. William Oldfield

Maura and Erik Sincoff

Patricia Walsh

David and Dorothy Wright

Redwood Shores

Eric Berg

Denise Brosseau

Joanne Bruggermann

Andrew Cary

Milton Chew

Jackie Cockreham

Jennifer and Derby Davidson

Vicki Delegeane

Mavis and Pat Dianda

Rita Donovan

Jansie Farris

Laura and Gerrit Hendriksen

Martha and Randy Hooper

Les Hsu

Nancy Kelly

Chienchun Ko

Judy Lee

Kathy Lin

Ann Christy, Noah and Roger Marcelo

Joey and Joanna Nguyen-Delgado

Holly Ong

Carolyn J. Sadler

Alexander and Demmi Santana

Jeanne Sartor

Julie Taylor and Lindsay Jones

Jason Tung

Barbara and Rick Urrutia

San Mateo

Anderlini, Finkelstein, Emerick & Smoot

Sunnyvale

Thomas Kam

Woodside

Mark Sanders

IN HONOR

Of All Who Serve

Paul Swain and Mary Wu

Of Napoleon Williamson Birner

Robert Craig Birner

Of Charles and Fran Bulanti's 60th Anniversary

Marian Stull and Burt Press

Of Connie Cameron

Annette Howitt

Of Natalee and Evee Cross

James and Kellee Cross

Of Samantha Devol

Carolyn J. Sadler

Of Mary Estakhiri

Betty Berg

Of Johanna and Luke Hendriksen

Laura and Gerrit Hendriksen

Of Kathy Hoekenga

Annette Howitt

Of Janet Hofmann

Mr. and Mrs. George Plotnikoff

Of Kennedy Middle School

Patricia Nugent

Of Celia LaRiviere

John and Carol Hamilton

Of Florence LaRiviere

Bill and Nancy Spangler

Of June and Wally Levin's 50th Anniversary

Marian Stull and Burt Press

Of the Marcelo Family

Ann Christy, Noah and Roger Marcelo

Of Marianne Marx's Speedy Recovery

Gloria and Howard Levin

Of Marion Mathews

Carol Mathews

Of Elizabeth Munley

Bob Wilson and Clara Munley

Of Mason, Christina and Chloe Ng