

Friends ^{of} _{the} Idyllwild Library

Speaking Volumes

Marcia Krull, Editor

March 2015

Ed Hansen, President



President's Message "At the Peak"

Libraries in the Digital Age

I am sure you have noticed that libraries have changed radically in the past sixty years. For many years the purpose of the library was to purchase and collect books, to make them available to the public, and to preserve them. Well, times have changed and libraries now serve a broader purpose. The digital age has changed things and people are now making some daring predictions. There are some who feel that paper will soon be obsolete as a means of recording information. Library historian Fred Lerner states that "messages will be sent, and literature preserved, in digital form." All literature, past, present, and future, will be available through worldwide computer networks. Lerner also implies that in "a 'paperless library', all users will be equal, and neither wealth nor location will pose a barrier between the reader and the information he or she needs." One asks, how will authors be compensated for their efforts? How will readers locate the information they want? Lerner asks, "In whose interest will it be to make all of these resources freely available?"

With questions like these, I think it is apparent that there will always be a place for old-fashioned libraries with printed books. There is an aesthetic value with some books, the Gutenberg Bible, the medieval works of Geoffrey Chaucer, and, of course, the plays and writings of William Shakespeare, to mention a few. I do not feel that the need to exhibit and preserve these masterworks will be taken away by computer science. Our digital future may bring changes in the way information is produced, transmitted, and kept available. It will increase access to the use of recorded information. The function of the library has always been to select and catalog material that the public wants and needs.

The librarian must choose library material most appropriate to the users' needs. These tasks will not disappear. Someone will always have to perform them, if not the librarian then an employee or a volunteer. The

expertise in bibliographical instruction and reader guidance can be applied equally to electronic media and to printed publications. There is always a need for persons to collect, catalog, preserve, and guide. The tasks of the librarian remain constant: "to collect and preserve the record of human accomplishments and imagination, and to put this record in the hands of those who would use it." The same science that produced the Universal Decimal Classifications can be applied to the World Wide Web. The expertise of many librarians can be as well applied to the digital network as to printed publications. We are very lucky to have so many ways in which to access information, printed and electronic. Our library also has an extremely knowledgeable and cooperative staff which is always available for help and advice. All we have to do is to take advantage of our considerable resources.

Happy reading!

Ed Hansen, President

Editor's Note: For those who wish to learn more about this topic, you might like to read *The Story of Libraries: From the Invention of Writing to the Computer Age*, available from Amazon or through the Riverside County Library System.

Love Hemingway? Take Note!



Dr. Nancy Sindelar, educator, author, and Hemingway scholar, will commence her four-part Hemingway seminar on March 31st in the Library's Community Room from 3 – 5 p.m. For more information, see p. 3 of this newsletter.

Bookstore Report

Thanks to all patrons for your continuing support of the Friends' Bookstore. We are happy to welcome new volunteer Callie Wight. She is working in the fiction section, and we know you will enjoy her enthusiasm and fresh perspective. We welcome volunteers, so please let us know if you have some free time and a desire to help us keep our bookstore attractive and organized.

Gay Reeves, Book Sale Chair

Children's Program – Story Time Winter 2015 Report

The year 2014 departed with children arriving at the library dressed in their pajamas ready to hop onboard for the "Polar Express Pajama Party." Golden tickets were issued to each child as a boarding pass. Rachel Torrey took the children on a fun imaginary train ride, and hot cocoa was enjoyed by all.



To get the New Year 2015 off to a big start, a huge snow plow arrived at the library for story time. Our theme was "It's Snowplowing Time." The children listened to snowplowing stories read by Virginia Lumb. They were able to meet two snowplow operators and see a huge snowplow up close, and some children had a chance to blow the air horn. The snow plow was graciously brought to the library by the Riverside County Transportation Department.

In conjunction with the Idyllwild Film Festival, Saturday, January 10, we had a full house for the Second Annual Idyllwild Library Children's Film Festival, which consisted of eight film shorts for children of all ages. Everyone munched on delicious complimentary freshly popped popcorn. Many families expressed their appreciation for this event and are looking forward to next year's festival of cinema.

On the last Monday of January, the children were treated to stories about "Playful Penguins on Parade" presented by Karrie Morlan. The children learned the height of various penguins and how they measured up to them. They hopped like penguins on a bubble-wrap hopscotch for a popping good penguin time. Each child made a penguin to take home.

The children also participated in the "Blind Date with a Book" program during February. The program was for patrons of all ages and involved checking out a wrapped library book. The reader discovered what he/she chose once he/she got home and unwrapped the book. Inside each book was a ticket for a special drawing for either a Valentine handmade quilt or a Valentine Teddy Bear.

For Groundhog Day, the children made groundhog puppets. A library Valentine treasure hunt designed to familiarize the children with the layout of the library was a lot of fun. Chinese New Year was observed again this year as well.

As part of our community outreach, Susan Righetti participated as a guest reader at Town Hall for the recreation program during the Presidents' Week Break and will do so again for Spring Break.

As we reflect on past programs and anticipate future special children's events, we wish to say "Thank You" to the Friends of the Library for all of their support, without which these exceptional programs would not be possible.

Susan Righetti, Children's Program Coordinator
Mary Zimmerman, FOL Children's Program Liaison

Idyllwild Library

54401 Village Center Dr., P. O. Box 68
(951) 659-2300

Hours

Monday and Wednesday

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tuesday

12 – 8 p.m.

Thursday and Friday

12 – 5 p.m.

Saturday

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Closed Sunday

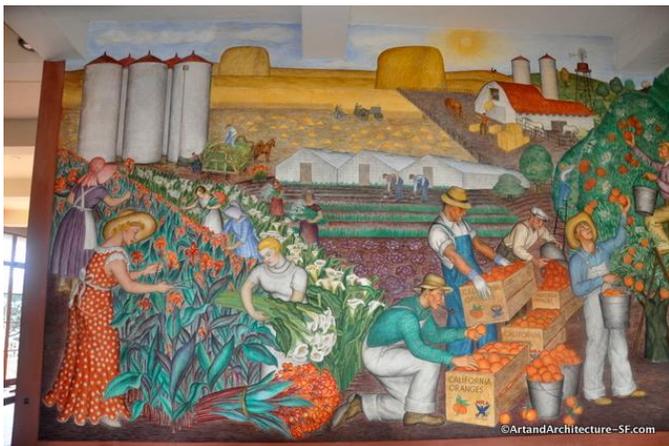
Branch Manager: Shannon Houlihan Ng

Assistants: Gayla Young & Colleen Tell

Page: Susan Righetti

Upcoming Events for Spring

Penelope Engard Spoken Words History Lecture: WPA Murals



On March 23rd, Penelope Engard will continue her lecture series with a talk on the WPA Murals, which were commissioned as part of Roosevelt's New Deal during the Great Depression. The event will be held in the Library's Community Room beginning at 4 pm. The Friends of the Idyllwild Library invite you to attend Ms. Engard's informative and entertaining lecture.

Note: This presentation has been rescheduled from Feb. 23rd which was canceled due to inclement winter weather.

Idyllwild Friends of the Library Hemingway Seminar



The Friends of the Idyllwild Library are pleased to present a four-part interactive seminar entitled "Ernest Hemingway: His Literature, His Life, His Legend" facilitated by Nancy Sindelar, Ph.D. The course focuses on the places, people and activities that worked to create the legendary man who courted many life-threatening

adventures and glamorous friends while writing articles, novels and short stories that captivated the world. The course will take participants to Oak Park, Illinois; Italy; France; Spain; Key West, Florida; Kenya; Cuba; and then back to the US. Hemingway's personal relationships and experiences will be linked to the Hemingway Code and the content of his novels and short stories, while the progression of places where the author worked

and chose to live will be linked to his style and rituals of writing. Participants will be asked to read and discuss Hemingway's literature, while background information will be based on Sindelar's research for her recent Hemingway biography, *Influencing Hemingway: The People and Places That Shaped His Life and Work*.

The topics for the four sessions are shown below.

3/31/15

- ❖ Introduction to the life and work of Ernest Hemingway
- ❖ Life in Michigan and the short stories

Suggested Reading: "Indian Camp" and "Soldier's Home"

4/14/15

- ❖ Italy and the impact of World War I

Suggested Reading: *A Farewell to Arms*

4/28/15

- ❖ France, Spain, Bullfights and the Hemingway Code

Suggested Reading: *The Sun Also Rises*

5/12/15

- ❖ Key West, Deep Sea Fishing and African Safaris

Suggested Reading: "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"

- ❖ Spain, the Spanish Civil War and then Cuba

Suggested Reading: *The Old Man and the Sea*

All sessions will be held in the Library's Community Room from 3 – 5 p.m.

Stop by the library for a detailed flyer and to sign up. There is a suggested donation of \$20 for the four-part seminar, and pre-registration is requested.



The Friends Remember a Friend

Mickey Miller Regal was an important member of the community here when she lived on the Hill, and she was one of the early supporters and Life Members of the Friends of the Idyllwild Library. For many years, she was the newsletter editor. She mentored me when I took over doing *Speaking Volumes* and is responsible for the pattern of clear, concise placement of articles during my time as editor. She brought to the task her experience from working for the San Diego Union and I truly believe she was always one of our greatest assets. We are sad to know that she is no longer with us, but we remember her with love and joy.

Adele Voell, Past President



**Submitted by
Shannon Houlihan Ng
Librarian & Branch
Manager**

Reading is usually a solitary activity, just you and the author having an intimate conversation. But in Idyllwild, that's not always the case. Though we do have an unusual number of readers in our small community, we also have a long history of groups of people meeting on a regular basis to share their love of reading, literature and the written word. I recently put out the word that the library would like to support the many book groups in our area by requesting several copies of their next book choice from other branches of the Riverside County Library System and its Inland Library Network partners. We offered to make them available for check out here at the Library. The response was exciting and warmed my librarian's heart.

I heard from no less than six active clubs here on the hill. They are as varied in membership as they are in their book choices. Some have been around since 1995 while others were started just last year. Each has its own perspective on the value of reading together. Everyone agrees that they read books they never would have considered without their book group and the discussions they engendered.

The oldest currently active club was started by Jane Stonehill when she owned a bookstore on upper North Circle. The group doesn't have a name. It doesn't need one. The group has been meeting since around 1995, with a membership of fifteen to twenty people. They choose paperbacks to keep the cost of the books affordable. Their next book selection is *Unbroken* by Lauren Hilldebrand. They are not currently open to new members but frequently share book recommendations and reviews with us at the library.

The Creekstone Book Club began as the ICRC (Idyllwild Community Recreation Committee) Book Group in 2009. It was started by Laurie Gillett and Chris Singer, the proprietors of the Creekstone Inn and the Silver Pines Lodge, respectively. Their membership and social focus has changed little since they began. Member, Arthur Connor shared, "The club's mission has been diversity of reading pleasure

as well as a conviviality of attitudes in the company of books and each other." They meet once a month and visitors are welcome. Their book selection process is unique on the hill. Each member knows a year in advance which month will be theirs to choose the title. Their first read was Garth Stein's, *The Art of Reading in the Rain*. Their meetings include a full meal and wonderful conversation.

Most groups meet once per month although the Ladybug Readers do take the summer off. They choose an author and each member reads one or more of their books over the summer and then they talk about them all together. They have also been known to choose a longer book and save it for summer reading. They have been meeting in members' homes for over ten years. Their founder, Mary Zimmerman, began the group because she wanted to meet with other women to expand on her own reading choices. It has grown into a large group with members including both full and part-timers. Two ladies whose primary homes are out of state read every book the group selects even when they aren't able to attend. This creative crowd has read books in anticipation of seeing the upcoming movie together and reads at least one classic per year. They also read works by local authors each year. Both Joanne Bischoff and Diane Noble have shared their books with them. Like many of the other book groups in town, book selection is by consensus. Members make suggestions from any and all genres and the most popular suggestion becomes their next read. I'm also proud to share that the library was instrumental in helping them choose a name. Apparently when they tried to reserve the Community Room, a staff member suggested they needed a name. It just might be that we influenced their name choice because we were celebrating ladybugs for story time that day.

Two other groups merit mention here. The Spirit Mountain Retreat also supports a book discussion group. Their selections support their vision and their mission. Participants are invited to awaken their inner story and see how it connects with the larger story around them. They often choose a title and will talk about it at several meetings by suggesting a number of pages or chapters to read for each gathering. Their latest book is *An Altar of the Word* by Barbara Brown. Both Margaret Mary Leusch and Mary Morse encourage new readers to join them.

The Idyllwild Contemporary Book Club was begun just under a year ago by Gina Genis. She was looking for a group to share contemporary writing about subjects and issues relevant to today's readers. Fiction or nonfiction, humor, satire, and something worth talking about is all fair game for these readers. They also choose books by local authors. The month's selection is *Aridtopia: Essays on Art & Culture from Deserts in the Southwest United States* by Tyler Stallings. Mr. Stallings will be attending their next meeting.

Lastly, the Library also has a book group. The Fireside Book Group is open to anyone interested in talking about the book selected. Visitors are always welcome and the next book is chosen by those in attendance at the last meeting. We have read everything from classics, popular nonfiction and several contemporary authors. Our last book was Joy Sikorski and Michael Silversher's *Tamar of the Terebinths*. Both authors were available to answer questions and give some background history at the last meeting. Book recommendations are always welcome from anyone who visits the library.

Contact information for each of these groups is available at the library. If you know of another group that would appreciate the library bringing their books to Idyllwild for their members, please let the staff know. We would love to know what you are reading.

Membership Update

It is a pleasure to have so many new and renewing members as well as special donors who enable us to keep our library open extra days and hours as well as to contribute funds for all types of media and programs and to enrich our library's technology.

We have a new category of donor, "Benefactor," and we take great pleasure in thanking Judith and Ronald Shenkman for becoming the first Benefactors of the Friends of the Idyllwild Library. We also welcome new Life Members Tricia & John Mathys, Elizabeth Miller and Neil Bell, Susan Simmons, Dr. Roland Bush, and Merrie Von Seggern, and new Family Member Michael Boyer. Your support is much appreciated.

Our thanks also go to renewing Patron Member, Diann Coate, renewing Individual Members: Ginny Anderson, Teresa Brouwer, Jan Jaspers-Fayer, Elaine Hoggan, Barbara Jones, Warren W. Monroe, David Pekrol, Carol Scanny, Jo Shinkle, and Annette Wassell, and to renewing Family Members Marilyn & David Buck, Jack & Becky Clark, Lois Fletcher & Ernest Clements, Dick

Dorisse & Morry Copeland, Janice & John K. Dawson, Linda & Michael Fuller, Pam Goldwassser & Tim Wurtz, Susie & Richard Hampson, Sue Ibrahim & Jim Wymer, Nancy & Ben Killingsworth, Mary & John K. Kracha, Diana & Terry Kurr, Jane & Daniel Levy, Joan McCullough, Thomas & Marlene Pierce, Joan McGovern-White, Colleen & William Tell, and Alex & Valerie Virtue. Thank you all for your support.

Roz Tilson, Membership Chair

Editor's Note: If you have renewed your membership or joined the Friends in the past five or six months and have not been recognized in the December 2014 or March 2015 newsletters, please contact Roz or me to make sure we have your current information.

Editor's End Notes

Unexpected Gifts

I wanted to share with you an experience I had following the distribution of the previous Friends of the Library (FOL) newsletter in December. I discovered too late that some computer gremlins got into my spreadsheet and pasted a batch of email addresses two or three times, eradicating the ones that were there originally. This resulted in multiple copies of the newsletter being sent to half a dozen members, while other members received nothing. Fortunately, another Board member emailed me to ask why she had not received the newsletter, and I discovered the problem and was able to correct it. I re-sent the newsletter to those who had not received it and sent a brief apology to those who had received multiple copies.

So why am I telling you this story? Well, it is because it had a most interesting and fortuitous outcome. One of the members to whom I had sent an apology responded with a reassuring comment telling me that these things happen and I shouldn't worry about it because that's what the Delete key is for. I responded, thanking her for her understanding. She replied, and we continued our email correspondence before finally making a date to meet and become acquainted.

We have since met and discovered that we are kindred spirits in many ways, and we continue our email correspondence now as friends. I am grateful to the FOL for giving me an opportunity to write this quarterly newsletter, which indirectly brought me the gift of a new friendship. We all know that Idyllwild is a special place, and our wonderful library helps bring people together to celebrate in many diverse ways.

Marcia Krull, Editor

A "Friendly" reminder: Each emailed newsletter saves the FOL 49¢ which can go toward funding valuable library services! Let us know if you are ready to make the switch!

ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE IDYLLWILD LIBRARY!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Individual Annual..... \$10.00
- Family Annual \$15.00
- Organization or Business Annual \$25.00
- Individual Life \$100.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor..... \$1000.00

Name _____

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