

Friends ^{of} _{the} Idyllwild Library

Speaking Volumes

Marcia Krull, Editor

Summer 2017

Edwin Hansen, President

Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Friends of the Idyllwild Library

We have several intriguing programs coming up this summer and hope you will attend those that interest you!

“Plate Tectonics”

Plate Tectonics refers to the theory that Earth's outer shell is divided into several plates that glide over the mantle, the rocky inner layer above the core. The theory accounts for mountain formation, earthquakes, volcanoes, and other geologic phenomena. **Joe Migliori** will speak on Plate Tectonics giving us a visually enriching story of discovery and how the theory of plate tectonics works, a brief history of a scientific revolution.

June 14 @ 3:00 pm

“Man of the Mountain”

Dennis McGuire, the Man of the Mountain and a local architect, will give a video talk on local Idyllwild houses he has built, specifically how he incorporates the house into the landscape.

July 18 @ 6:00 pm

“Solar Eclipse Program”

This year, a total solar eclipse will be visible from the contiguous United States for the first time since 1979. Join **Larry Kawano** from AstroCamp, who will talk about this eclipse, which will occur on August 21st. There will also be programming for children that week on what an eclipse is and how it occurs, including how to look at the upcoming eclipse.

Aug. 19 @ 2 pm

Please note: Unless otherwise indicated, all events will be held in the Idyllwild Library Community Room.

Perry Dyke, Program Chair

Memorial Day Book Sale!!!

Saturday, May 27th, 10 am to 3 pm

Reading the News in the Age of Alternative Facts

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

Do you, like me, remember the days when reading the newspaper was the go to way to get the news? I used to read two or more papers during the week to be sure I was getting a balanced view of the current issues of the day. I would try to catch the evening news on television where I could find out what was most important and then read a news magazine or two to get a more in-depth perspective. I'm afraid those days of clearly knowing where to get accurate, thorough news are lost to me now. With the advent of cellphones, the internet and social media, the number of new sources has become so vast and so confusing that we need special instructions to become a critical news consumer. Only one thing is certain, there's more news available today than at any time in history.

I recently put together a brief presentation on reading the news on the internet and some of the tips, tricks and tools available to help you tell the difference between “fake news” and “alternative facts” presented as “the news” online. The focus was on the critical literacy skills needed to sift the accurate from the inaccurate. Some of the skills are easy to master. Others are not.

Here's the basics. We as readers have the responsibility to critically evaluate what we are accepting as true. As consumers of information, we need to consider whether the news we receive fills our information needs or not.

Journalists and the news media base their reporting of the news on several key factors. Is the story they are telling new? Is it interesting or significant? Is it about people? Is it unusual? The Society of Professional Journalists' (SPJ) state in their Code of Ethics, “Ethical journalism strives to ensure the free exchange of information that is accurate, fair and thorough. An ethical journalist acts with integrity.” There are four

principles forming the foundation of ethical journalism: seek truth and report it, minimize harm, act independently and be accountable and transparent. Obviously, not all journalists or those that report news are members of the SPJ. Some are just everyday Joes expressing their opinion. Some are groups of seemingly well-qualified thinkers. They may believe what they are reporting as "news", but they also could be looking to benefit financially or spread propaganda for their own agenda.

Luckily there are some tools available to help with the evaluation process. College students are taught information literacy skills that include an appropriately named tool, the CRAAP test. The acronym stands for currency, relevance, authority, accuracy and purpose. There is a CRAAP worksheet available to evaluate sources using a number rating system. If a source rates high, it's safe to assume you are viewing a good news site.

Looking at evaluation from the opposite point of view, there are five points to be considered when looking for fake news. First and most indicative of fake news is that it cannot be verified. Second, fake news appeals to emotion with little use of facts. Third, authors of fake news usually aren't experts or are not experts in the field they are reporting in. Fourth, if the information is only in one location and can't be found anywhere else, be critical of its value, and lastly, fake news comes from fake sites. If any of these conditions exist when reading an article online, consider the facts and opinions offered to be suspect. Also, it's often difficult to find information on any or all of these five points. Good sites will make these points readily available.

There are more tools available but the goal of all of them is to critically examine not only the news but the news source. Unlike when I originally began following the news, today we have the ability to tailor the news to meet our personal needs and views. We can choose sources that have political leanings similar to our own or those without political bias. The choice is ours. Do we believe everything we find published on the internet or do we evaluate it critically and get more accurate, timely news?

For more information:

- [PEW Report - Younger-adults-more-likely-than-their-elders-to-prefer-reading-news](#)
- [Society of Professional Journalist](#)
- [Evaluating Information - applying the CRAAP Test](#)
- [CRAAP Test Worksheet](#)



President's Message "At the Peak"

After our insightful program on "A Straight Guy's Journey to Acceptance," in which Tom Cosgrove spoke about his reaction to his sister's coming out as a gay woman, I decided to review a book that I half-read a decade ago, entitled *And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic*, a 1987 book by San Francisco Chronicle journalist Randy Shilts. This book chronicles a time when fear overshadowed common sense and understanding. It was the era of the horrific Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) of the 1980's. The book was eventually a best seller. It stresses that this disease is caused biologically and that denial and apathy caused it to spread as virulently as it did. *And the Band Played On* is about people, community, and organizations that are affected by AIDS. Our federal government was reticent to fund the AIDS project because of denial and homophobia, and, as Shilts explains the title, "...it is a way of saying 'business as usual.' "

And the Band Played On takes us through the first five years of the unfolding epidemic of AIDS and the responses -- fear and indifference as well as courage and determination. "It is at once a history and a passionate indictment that is the book's central and often repeated thesis:

The bitter truth was that AIDS did not just happen to America - it was allowed to happen.... From 1980, when the first isolated gay men began falling ill from strange and exotic ailments, nearly five years passed before all these institutions - medicine, public health, the federal and private scientific research establishments, the mass media, and the gay community's leadership - mobilized the way they should in a time of threat. The story...is a drama of a national failure, played out against a backdrop of needless death."

The Reagan Administration virtually ignored pleas from scientists and physicians and cut funding mercilessly. They sent their agency executives to mislead Congressional committees by saying that researchers had everything they needed. When funding did increase, some scientists carried on interagency disputes. The National Institutes of Health and Human Services, the Communicable Disease Center, and others engaged in domestic and international wars for prestige and delayed the progress of finding a cure for the disease. Some medical journals delayed or neglected publications with articles about AIDS and public health agencies skirted

the subject altogether. Even the media avoided the story until the AIDS death of actor Rock Hudson in 1985.

The book studies the situation in several ways: The medical stumbling over clues, the tracking and charting of cases, the clinical story of physicians struggling to both treat and care for AIDS patients, the hospital dilemma with finding beds and medical necessities, and the anguish, terror, rage, and miserable deaths of suffering human beings. There is also the political and cultural story, the response of an uncertain and scared society. *And the Band Played On* is a masterpiece of investigative reporting. It reveals the reasons why the AIDS virus was allowed to spread unchecked during the mid-1980's. Our most trusted institutions denied or ignored the threat. After the publication of this book, the way that AIDS was diagnosed, discussed, and treated changed in the following years.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/1987/11/08/books/plenty-of-blame-to-go-around.html?pagewanted=all>

Edwin Hansen, President

Children's Program – Story Time

“Read It, Read It, Read It!” is the theme of the new display board in the children's area at the library. This is exactly what we are doing during story time, and we plan to continue to “Read It, Read It, Read It!” throughout the summer.



During April, we observed Earth Day with stories and games about the importance of recycling. We welcomed a special guest, Patti Hudson, U.S. Forest Service Volunteer, who discussed the important topic of “Leave No Trace.” Also during April, we observed caterpillars become chrysalides (cocoons) and transform into Painted Lady butterflies. We released them on a beautiful spring day, which happened to coincide with our celebration of *Día de los Libros y Niños*.

For “May Day” we read stories about flowers and gardening. The children learned about the concept of left and right as they danced around a May Pole. Also, in May, we hosted a children's tea party and the children made keepsake footprints. Children explored space during May, and we finished the month with a visit from Wildlife Biologist Ann Bowers, U.S. Forest Service.



Since March 30, we have been waiting for the praying mantis nymphs to emerge from their egg pod (ootheca). Finally, on May 5, 2017, they arrived. Come in and watch our praying mantises molt their exoskeletons as they grow into adults.

Summer is fast approaching, and we cannot wait to begin an exciting summer reading program. Our summer reading theme is “**Reading by Design.**” The summer's programs are based on STEAM activities (**science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics**). The following is what has been scheduled for the children's and teen programs:

- MONDAY STORY TIMES** (10:30 a.m.) will include:
- June 5 - **Kick-off with Sandii Castleberry, “Singing Your Way to Reading”** – This program integrates reading and music with children's literature and folk songs.
 - June 12 - **Body Science** with Tawny Harrington
 - June 19 - **The Creature Teacher** with author and science teacher Sherri Domenigoni
 - June 26 - **Numbers in Action** with Rachel Torrey
 - July 3 - **Postal Workers Appreciation Day** - A field trip to the post office with Postmaster Kelly
 - July 10 - **Boats Float** with Sally Hedberg
 - July 14 - **Color Science** with Terryann Halloran
 - July 24 - **Summer Reading Party - “The Abraca Wacko show” with Ramon Medellin**
 - July 31 - **A Barrel of Monkeys** with Rachel Torrey

SUMMER VIDEO WORKSHOP - Wednesdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28 – Based on the Lego movie “Everything is Awesome” with Wendy Watts

STEAM WORKSHOPS - Thursday afternoons; 1-3 pm
 June 8 - **Calder Mobile & 3-D Printing** -- Helen Hixon
 June 15 - **Lava Lamps** with Tawny Harrington
 June 22 - **Origami and Engineering** with Helen Hixon
 June 29 - **Folded Book Art** – Susan Righetti and Karrie Morlan
 July 6 – **Towers** with Helen Hixon
 July 13 – **Robots** with Robert Righetti and Donna Barber
 July 20 – **Vibrating Colors** – Elanie Moore
 July 27 – **Mosaic Coloring/Geometric Art** – Don Dietz

COMPUTER CODING CAMP - Fridays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; July 7, 14, 21, 28; 11-12 noon

SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENTS

June 10, 1-2 p.m. - **Anime Your Way** with Carlos Nieto
 June 24, 25 – **STORY BOOK WALK - LEMON LILY FESTIVAL** at the Nature Center
(Story Book Walk based on Sherri Domenigoni's "The Lemon Lily Fairy")
 July 8, 1-3 p.m. – **HENNA TATTOO ART** with Jen Hajj
 July 15, 12-2 p.m. – **National Pet Fire Safety Day** with Idyllwild Fire Dept., ARF, Living Free and Mayor Max

Be sure to let your family, friends, and neighbors know about all the wonderful activities we have at the library. **The adult kick-off is a "Mocktail Party" scheduled for Tuesday, June 6th from 6 to 8 p.m.** However, check with the library for the adult summer reading events. There is something for everyone. Most importantly "Read It, Read It, Read It!" this summer.

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

Membership Report

During the last three months, we have had many membership renewals and several new memberships in the Friends of the Idyllwild Library. Renewed Family Members include Karen & Don Doshier, Elanie Moore, Marilyn & David Buck, Maureen & Richard Dodson, Carol & Richard Haney, Patricia & Richard Schwartz, Kathy & Ken Luber, Sallie L. Warwick Family, Shannon & Jon Zorn & Family. Renewed Individual members include: Antje Banks, Jan Jaspers-Fayer, Betty Wilcox, Helen Atik, and Ileana Lee. We also had a renewed Business membership for Alex Virtue Real Estate.

We also want to welcome new Individual members Irena Carlson and Susan Hanson as well as new family members Tobias, Art, & Deb Varnado. Finally, we are most grateful for donations from Maureen and Richard Dodson and from the Idyllwild Rotary Anns!

Roz Tilson, Membership Chair

MEMORIAL DAY BOOK SALE!



Once again, the Friends of the Idyllwild Library will be holding our semi-annual Book Sale! All books are just 25 cents each!

Date: Saturday, May 27th, 10 am to 3 pm.

Location: In front of the Idyllwild Library.

Great books, great deals! Come browse and buy!

Support the Friends of the Idyllwild Library in our mission to support the Library!

Gay Reeves, Book Sale Chair

Treasurer's Report

Account Balances, Income & Expenditures YTD as of April 30, 2017

- Membership income is up \$128.70 from where it was in March of last year.
- Bookstore sales are down \$433.01 from where they were in March of last year.
- Unrestricted income was \$672.22 which is \$283.57 less than this month last year.
- Unrestricted expenditures were \$651.22 which is \$6,992.86 less than this month last year.
- Income exceeded Expenditures by \$21.00
- The total balance in the checking and money market accounts is \$60,127.24

Year to date expenditures as of April 30th, 2017

Security cameras and installation (from Building Fund), Town Crier ads, lilac watering, supplies, Logan Creighton – Amazing Grace presentation), Explore Idyllwild Map, Sandii Castleberry – June children's program, magazine subscriptions, postage, Nook subscriptions, Living Color (December Program), Illinois Library Association (SRP), Katya Williamson – writing workshops, children's supplies, books.

Tricia Mathys, Treasurer



Volunteer Report

On March 23, the Idyllwild Library and The Friends of the Library hosted their Volunteer Recruitment Event in hopes of encouraging more volunteers to sign up to assist with numerous projects and activities. Staff members spoke about how to become a volunteer, including filling out an application, identifying participants' skills, and determining their preferences in terms of the type of volunteer work they would prefer doing.

The library is looking for help with reshelving books, computer work, and children's events. There is also a need for help with book sales for the Book Store managed by the Friends of the Library. Gay Reeves (F.O.L. Board Member) spoke of how the "Friends" are the "Fundraising Arm that supports the Library staff by selling books that contribute to funds for activities and events provided for the town." There is also a growing need for volunteers to specialize in graphic arts, retail experience and social media that could help enhance the existing program. If you are interested in volunteering, you can contact the Library Staff at (951)-659-2300 or Warren Monroe, Volunteer Coordinator, at wwmonroe@earthlink.net. TEENS: Do you have Community Contribution Requirements? Come volunteer during our Summer Season and check-out our TEEN Area.

Warren Monroe, Volunteer Coordinator

Editor's End Notes

Welcome to summer in Idyllwild! The warm weather has arrived along with Pacific Crest Trail hikers and many visitors from off the hill. Our library sees an increase in patronage during the summer months as well, and we welcome off-hill visitors along with our regular patrons.

Since the newsletter goes out to our membership, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the Friends of the Idyllwild Library who, in turn, support programs and services provided by the Library. If by chance your membership has expired, we make it easy to renew. You can mail in a renewal using the application form on the back page of this newsletter, or you can easily renew online at our website at <http://www.friendsofityllwildlibrary.com/>. Look for the link for Membership/Donations at the top of the page, and just follow the instructions.

There are lots of other links on the webpage that you might like to explore. For example, you can click on "Events" and see a list of events scheduled for the remainder of the year. Keep in mind, though, that new events may be added, so check back regularly! Current and past issues of the newsletter may also be found on the webpage. If you are interested in our silent auctions, which take place from the 1st Tuesday to the 3rd Tuesday of each month, you can see a list of the books to be auctioned.

Our website is still in development, so you may notice that some pages have not been updated. Bear with us, though, and know that we are working to make the website a useful tool that members and non-members alike can visit to learn more about our library.

One more thing that I would like to mention is that we are still mailing out hard copies of the newsletter to about 65 members, which costs money (for paper, printing, and stamps) that could otherwise be used to purchase books and supplies for the library as well as for special programs that we offer to the community. Those who have email addresses receive the newsletter electronically, which costs no money and provides a superior product as well. The digital version is in full color, compared with the printed version that is black and white. Also, the digital version frequently includes live links that can be clicked to go directly to the information shown in the link. I mention this in case any of you who are currently receiving the paper copy of the newsletter have an email address and would be willing to switch to the digital version of the newsletter. If so, please send a message with your email address to mkrull@roadrunner.com. We promise not to share it with anyone!

Marcia Krull, Editor

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

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