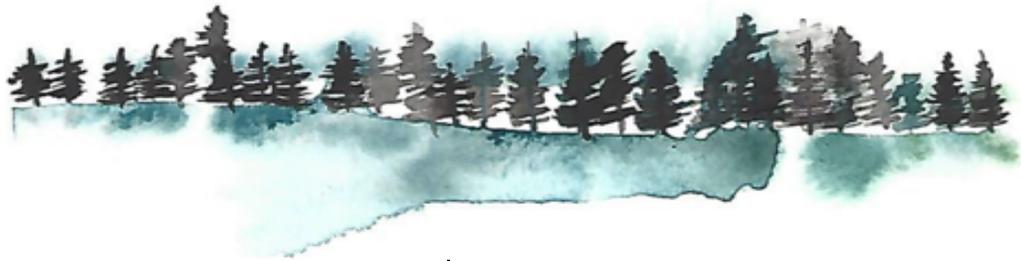


Speaking Volumes

Marcia Krull, Guest Editor

Winter 2022

John Mathys, President



Upcoming Events Sponsored by Friends of the Idyllwild Library

Note: Unless otherwise specified, all events are in the Idyllwild Library Community Room

Idyllwild Friends of the Library Board Meeting

Dates: Jan. 3, Mar. 7 at 9:30 a.m. Feb. 7, 4:00 pm.

For more information on upcoming programs, check our branch calendar at www.rivlib.net or the Friends' webpage at <http://www.friendsofityllwildlibrary.com> or go to the Library's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IdyllwildLibrary/>

Opportunity Drawing – April 4



"Together Again" created by Dawn Miller, Mountain Quilters of Idyllwild

Quilt is on display in the Library.

TICKETS: \$5/ticket or 5 tickets/\$20. Pay by Venmo, Paypal, or cash (Library Bookstore cashbox). Pick up tickets in the Library. *Proceeds benefit Idyllwild Community through activities sponsored by Friends of Idyllwild Library.*



President's Message "At the Peak"

Volunteering

Have you ever felt like you have a lot of time on your hands, or you are a little bored? Have you felt secluded and alone and wondering how to meet others? Volunteering is a way to reach out to others and to find enjoyment in your life.

7 Reasons to Volunteer

1. Connect With Others

Is it just us, or is meeting new people the hardest thing in the world?? One of the best things about volunteering is that it brings people together who share common interests, which makes it so much easier to build friendships. You'll skip the awkward getting-to-know-you stage because you'll already know their interests and values.

2. Improve Your Physical Health

Besides just getting out of the house, volunteering has loads of other benefits for physical health. Research has shown that people who volunteer are less stressed, less likely to develop high blood pressure, and have fewer symptoms of chronic pain. If that's not enough, there is also evidence of a lower mortality rate in those who volunteer. Get out there, people!

3. Improve Your Mental Health

Volunteering can help increase your self-confidence too, which leads to a sense of accomplishment and pride. Not to mention, all the benefits that come with social interaction and connecting with others in a meaningful way.

4. Learn New Skills

It's never a bad idea to learn something new. What's that they say? Learn something new every day? We're not saying you have to volunteer every day, but even once a week/month is a sure-fire way to pick up some new life skills.

5. Practice Your Existing Skills

If you're looking for a little more meaning beyond your 9-5 job, consider using your skills in a volunteer role. You'll be able to put your professional skills to good use in a role that makes a difference in your community.

6. Find Your Purpose

Giving back to your community creates a sense of belonging and purpose in your work. You'll feel like your work or organization is truly making a difference in the lives of others, which is a dang good feeling if you ask us. You'll find out pretty quickly that, although you're *technically* there to help others, you end up helping yourself just as much.

We at Friends of the Idyllwild Library need volunteers to become board members. This is a great way to help the library thrive and to promote community involvement. We meet every first Monday of each month at 9:30A.M. @ the library. Come join us.

John Mathys, President

Children's Programs

We are so delighted to finally resume story time and children's events in the library after our long break due to the pandemic restrictions. It is so good to see our past story time attendees as well as welcome new ones.

We are very pleased to announce a **new children's program** at our library: **Bilingual Story Time with Patricia McComas**. Patricia retired from a thirty-five-year teaching career and brings her bilingual Spanish

teaching skills to story time. This program promotes early literacy and creates a great language environment by hearing and practicing another language.

Patricia also includes singing traditional Spanish songs. At our November story time, Patricia treated the children to some delicious authentic Mexican snacks. Bilingual story time is a great opportunity for families to share in cultural and linguistic diversity.



We are so grateful and thrilled to have master storyteller **Rachel Torrey** return to story time. She expresses so much passion and liveliness during each of her story times. She is beloved by all the children for fun, fun, fun story times.

Returning volunteer **Carol Mendoza** deserves a big thank you as well for faithfully preparing crafts each week and doing a superb job. This is a very important component of story time. Take home theme-related crafts serve as a reminder of what children learned at story time. Some of the benefits of arts and crafts for children include: developing fine motor skills, improving hand-eye coordination, boosting self-esteem, encouraging self-expression, socializing, promoting creativity, and enhancing decision-making skills.

Welcome to a new volunteer story time reader, **David Wieder**, who recently read all about bats to the children during our "Bats Story Time."

Stella Krone has been assisting with our afterschool **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering Arts, Mathematics)** program. She brings a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge to the program. Thus far, we have had two fun and informative afterschool



STEAM workshops. The first workshop the children learned about the chemistry of slime and got to make slime to take home. The second workshop involved engineering. Children built structures by making geometric shapes using candy pumpkins and toothpicks.

The first Wednesday of October we observed **National Fire Prevention Month with the Idyllwild Fire Protection District**. Three of the local preschools joined story time, which was held in front of the library. The children listened to stories, learned about fire safety, met firemen, and explored a big fire engine and an ambulance. Children were gifted fire hats, badges, and coloring books. **Kutsch**, the new Idyllwild Fire Department fire dog, and his handler **Paul Riggi** were a big hit with the children. Thank you to **Chief Mark LaMont** for sending his crew along with **Adam Rodriguez**, IFPD Training Officer, and **Rachel Teeguarden**, IFPD Administrative Assistant, for helping to coordinate this informative event.



This fall, we collaborated again with the **Idyllwild Park Nature Center** for outdoor story times. It was wonderful enjoying the beautiful fall days at these story times. We were thrilled to have skilled bird watcher and nature photographer **Robin Roberts** share her photographs and discuss the **Birds of the San Jacinto Mountain** and **World Migratory Bird Day**. We also participated in the **Trail of the Acorn** event. We created a **Story Walk** along a newly developed trail at the nature center. A Story Walk is a fun activity for families (or anyone) to read a book while walking on a trail. Story Walks promote literacy, physical activity, and community involvement. For making the outdoor

story time possible, we thank the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District; Idyllwild Park Nature Center; **Steve Perez**, Riverside County Parks Ranger; and the Friends of the San Jacinto Mountain County Parks, especially **Mary Rider** and **Denise Ohrazda**, president and past president, respectively.



Mark your calendars and tell your friends and families when children’s programs occur. You can also check the Idyllwild Library Facebook and calendar pages.

- **Story Time** is held Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
- **Bilingual Story Time** occurs at 10:30 a.m., the first Wednesday of each month.
- **STEAM program** is the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30 p.m.

As we reflect on past programs and anticipate future children’s programs, 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

Bookish Traditions

I suspect you and I share many traditions where books are an important part of the cultural and family history we pass down. As a family historian, I treasure the family bibles and classic books passed down through the generations. I often give books to newborns, graduates, brides, and birthday boys and girls to encourage books and reading in their lives. I annually participate in World Book Day, National Comic Book Day, All Hallows Read and several versions of library-centered literacy events.

The year-end holidays provide even more opportunities to continue longstanding bookish traditions. We have been sharing Holiday Advent Calendars in my family for generations. A few years ago, I gave a book a day to my grandchildren as a modified Advent calendar. Each year on the day the community lights the Christmas Trees in Idypark, we hear a public reading of the classic poem and book, The Night Before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore. On Christmas Eve, we read



it at home to celebrate the excitement of Santa's impending arrival. Most years I share a collection of Christmas pop-up books at the library, and we happily celebrate "Seasons Readings" with book displays and programs. And, of course, books are an important part of the gift giving. My grandchildren each receive something they want, something they need, something to wear and something to read. These traditions are an essential part of what makes our Holidays bright.

But there's one tradition I heard of several years ago that has yet to be incorporated into our Holidays. *Jólabókaflóðið*, or [Jolabokafloð](#), is an Icelandic tradition that is spreading worldwide and it's time to bring it to Idyllwild. The word "Jalabokafloð" translates to "Yule book flood" and is pronounced "[yo-la-bok-a-flot](#)." For seventy-five years, since 1944, when Iceland became independent from Denmark, Icelanders have been purchasing books for family and friends to gift on Christmas Eve. The tradition began during the lean years after WWII when imports were difficult to come by. Paper was one commodity that was still available. Most of Iceland's publishers save new books for publication during the Christmas season from September through December. They present an annual "Journal of Books" to every citizen. On Christmas Eve, everyone who received a book as a gift is encouraged to spend the evening, after dinner, reading their gifts.

This sounds like a tradition we should adopt in Idyllwild! So, this year, to begin the tradition of Idyllwild's own Jolabokafloð, the Library sponsored an open house on December 21, 2021 and invited Idyllwild's local authors to come and offer their books to the community as gifts

for Christmas Eve reading. I look forward to sharing this new Holiday tradition with you in years to come.

Shannon Houlihan Ng, Librarian & Branch Manager

Idyllwild Reads 2021

Idyllwild Reads - Book Talks

Idyllwild Reads - Book Talks launched in virtual format with author Josh Stallings in conversation about his newly published novel TRICKY. The ZOOM audience drew fans from Florida to San Diego and set the stage for three other Book Talks during 2021.

Idyllwild Reads – Idyllwild Book Fair

In September 2021, Idyllwild Reads hosted its second local authors' book fair at Idyllwild Park. The Fair also doubled as a Book Sale which found a new home for more than 1500 books.



Membership Report

“Libraries are a cornerstone of democracy—where information is free and equally available to everyone. People tend to take that for granted, and they don’t realize what is at stake when that is put at risk.”

-- Carla Hayden, 14th Librarian of Congress

Hello, friends. I have a happy heart, thankful for our library and your support.

In the past, each month I sent out renewal reminders for membership dues. In October, we notified you by email and our newsletter that your yearly membership fees are due. Doing this once a year for all members will save money on stamps and simplify our process.

You can mail in your membership fee, make a donation, or activate the monthly recurring donation by going to our website www.friendsofidyllwildlibrary.com clicking on membership, and choosing your membership category.

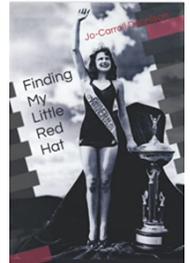
Thank you if have already done so.

Jeri John, Membership Chair

Editor’s End Notes

This edition of “Speaking Volumes” is dedicated to Marcia Krull, who is retiring as editor after more than six years. Marcia kindly guided us through our first edition, and she will continue her service on the Board of the Friends of the Library.

Marcia is a lifelong educator and indefatigable traveler. She and husband Ron settled in Pine Cove in 1980 and have given much to their beloved community. Most recently Marcia was a part of the team that helped her long-time friend Jo Carol Dennison publish her autobiography, “Finding My Little Red Hat”.



“E”, Library Friend, Editor

Idyllwild Library

54401 Village Center Drive
PO Box 68
(951) 659-2300

Hours

Monday and Wednesday
10 am - 6 pm
Tuesday
12 - 8 pm
Thursday and Friday
12 - 5 pm
Saturday
10 am - 4 pm
Closed Sunday

Branch Manager: Shannon Houlihan Ng
Library Assistants: Colleen Tell, Susan Righetti,
Yumi See, and Maygen Morlan



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Friends of the Library
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