



FRIENDS of the SEASIDE LIBRARY

May 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

By the time you receive our Newsletter, I will have been catching up on my reading during the past two weeks or so. Yes, another knee surgery, right leg this time. A tough way to find time, but I do know how to put the time to good use! Recently in a grocery store, a young girl about nine or ten years old was walking the aisles with her mother, oblivious to the world, while reading a book. I smiled at her and she said it was too good to put down. Her mother said she enjoys reading most everything. How simple life is for her. How wonderful that she has found the pleasures of reading.

As always, please invite a Friend or Neighbor to join us. I hope to see you at our Quarterly General Membership meeting on Wednesday, May 21st.

Working Together We Do Make A Difference!
Nancy M. Amos

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Access to knowledge is the superb, the supreme act of truly great civilizations. Of all the institutions that purport to do this, free libraries stand virtually alone in accomplishing their mission. No committee decides who may enter, no crisis of body or spirit must accompany the entrant. No tuition is charged, no oath sworn, no visa demanded. Of the monuments humans build for themselves, very few say "touch me, use me, my hush is not indifference, my space is not barrier. If I inspire awe, it is because I am in awe of you and the possibilities that dwell in you." **Toni Morrison**

Membership Highlights

Our members renewing since February:

Helen Arroyo, Stephanie Booth, Germaine Fiske, Cathleen Freeman, Patricia Lintell, Yoshiko Matsushita-Arao, Margaret Osborne, Gloria Russell, Dorothy Victorino, and Elizabeth West.

Special thanks to our Supporters:

Nancy Amos, Alicia O'Neill, and Fred & Karin Schwoerke.

Thank you all for being a part of
Friends of the Seaside Library
Lolita DuBose, Membership Chair

Friends present an Author Discussion, Poetry Reading, and Book Signing

Join us on Saturday, May 17, at 1 pm in the Library as the Friends host a presentation and book signing by two members of the Central Coast branch of the California Writers Club. Light refreshments will be served.

Author and photographer **Anita Alan** was awarded a Gold Medal at the Independent Publisher Book Awards in 2007 for *Big Sur Inn: The Deetjen Legacy*. Formerly an editor, flight attendant, teacher, and educational consultant, she has turned to writing full time.

Poet **Lisa Meckel**, recipient of the Prize for Poetry at the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, is also a playwright, actress, and credentialed Early Childhood Education teacher. She has authored a collection of poems titled *Moments*.



Librarian's Message

The end of February was sad for the Seaside Branch: we said goodbye to our beloved Principal Librarian Crista Cannariato, who moved to Sacramento and to our Literacy Assistant, Monica Gonzales, who chose another career path. Then, the Literacy Office, for many years hosted in Seaside Branch, moved to our new Administrative Office in Marina. We felt abandoned and empty for a while. But fortunately our wonderful friends and supporters and our many spring activities, as well as planning for the future, have helped us cope with these losses. We are confident we will soon have another excellent Principal Librarian and the Literacy Program is growing rapidly in its new location.

We are very pleased to announce that at the end of April Mary Housel will be joining the MCFL team as our newest Managing Librarian for Adult Services and Collection Development. Many of you may remember Mary from her days as an on-call Librarian at the System Reference desk. Recently she worked for Pacific Grove Library.

Seaside reads "Fahrenheit 451" in March

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. March 22nd Seaside Library participated in a Big Read of Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" by holding a lively discussion of an old but still current book about the importance of books.

Seaside enjoys "The Spiderwick Chronicles" in March

Librarian Lori Chan worked with the children from the Seaside Branch Library to make fun crafts and displays based on the popular series "The Spiderwick Chronicles" by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black. As a result, MCFL was one of only 5 libraries nation-wide to win a contest sponsored by

Paramount Pictures for special displays and creative children's programs and receive a private screening for 300 library members of the recently released "The Spiderwick Chronicles" movie. The screening took place in Osio Theatre in Monterey on March 29th. It was enjoyed by adults and children alike. Thank you, Lori!

To celebrate April, the National Poetry Month, Monterey County Writes Poetry!

MCFL invited county residents of all ages to celebrate National Poetry Month by writing poems and having them published on MCFL's website. Look for them in mid-May. We are also announcing our annual Cowboy Poetry contest. Cowboy Poetry entries are due by June 13th. The theme for the Cowboy Poetry gathering this year is "Cowboys and Cabernet" and it will take place on July 13th in Salinas.

Summer Reading is around the corner.

Sign-ups start June 16th with performances beginning the week of June 23rd. You will want to "Bee at the Party" as MCFL celebrates insects at Summer Reading 2008.



"Studies show that parents do their best teaching while reading to their young children, and it really pays off. Two-year olds whose parents read to them early and often show more advanced language skills than children read to less frequently, an advantage that seems to last well into the grade-school years. Books tend to broaden the vocabulary parents use with young children, and also offer a great way to stimulate a child's own speaking, provided you use them as a stepping-off point for conversation... Books are without doubt the most effective tool for teaching language, and the great thing about them is that they are available to all, free of charge, from your public library."

from What's Going on in There? How the Brain and Mind Develop in the First Five Years of Life by Lise Eliot, Ph.D., neurobiologist and Assistant Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy at Chicago Medical School.

BOOK CLUB CORNER



Debating just in time for February Library Lovers' Month! *Book Club to Go* program.

Our new program *Book Club to Go* was officially launched on February 23rd with several representatives of local book clubs, including our own, "Food for Thought", present. The Seaside City Council was represented by Tom Mancini (seen with Crista in the picture above). Book club members are invited to use their MCFL card to check out tote bags containing ten paperback copies of a book, a list of discussion questions and discussion leader tips for a period of six weeks. Less than two months after launching the program we have 40 titles available, including several in Spanish. We have 13 book clubs using our program, and 22 bags checked out, returned or reserved. For more information check montereycountyfreelibraries.org/bookclubtogo.

Friends of the Seaside Library "Food for Thought" Book Club meets once a month on Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Seaside Branch Library. Come and tell us about your favorite books. No preparation required, no commitment expected. Everybody is invited. Next meetings: May 3rd, June 7th, July 12th, August 9th 2008.

For more information call 831-899-2055

Non-fiction Readers Discussion Group meets every third Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon at the Seaside Branch Library. Just the facts (history, science, architecture, hobbies, travel, archaeology, poetry, music, etc.). Everybody is invited.

For more information call Nancy at 831-375-0962

Recommendations from the Food for Thought Book Club Members

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life by Barbara Kingsolver

The Fifth Woman by Henning Mankell

God of Animals by Aryn Kyle

Knitting Circle by Ann Hood

Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression by Mildred Armstrong Kalish

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks

Protect and Defend by Vince Flynn

Rules by Cynthia Lord

Three Bags Full: A Sheep Detective Story by Leonie Swann

Woman Betrayed by Barbara Delinsky

These titles are all available through MCFL. Check the Library website, www.co.monterey.ca.us/library, or ask a librarian.

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR LIBRARY LOVERS



I am a library book
Treat me with care
So I can be passed on
To others and share

My contents can be read
From cover to cover
Please turn my pages gently
So I can recover

Don't leave me open
Just in case I am broken
Please use a thin bookmark
As a reminder token

If by chance
Should I need repair
No sticky tape please
Pass me to a Librarian for care

I trust in you
To care for me
So I can be read
Eternally

—Jeanette Moore