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2021 Newsletter

Friends of the Portola Valley Library



Serving our Community...

Welcome Back to the Library!

"A library card provides opportunity for discovery and access to a rich and diverse world. It empowers you to make change and experience new stories,"

MARLEY DIAS

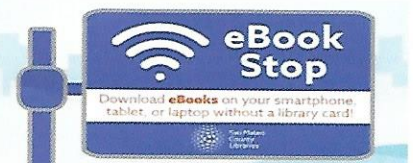
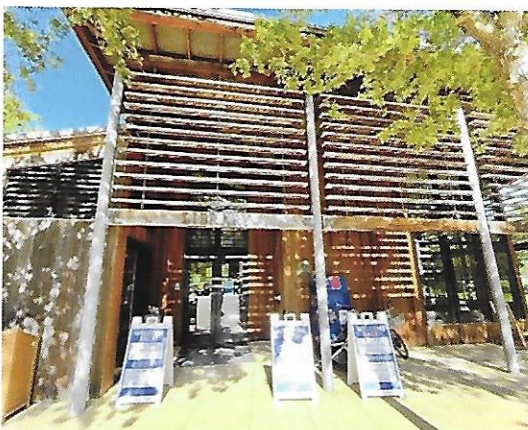
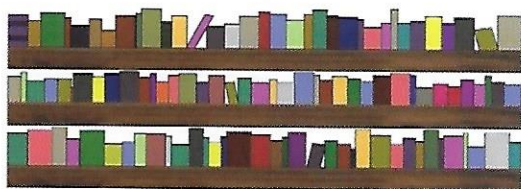
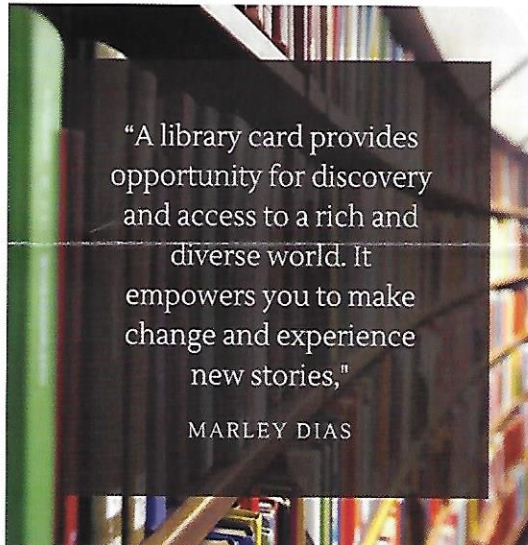
This past year and a half have been a challenge for everyone as we adapt to the new normal. Our local Portola Valley Library with the support of the San Mateo County Library system has continued supporting our community even during the pandemic. As of August, our library has been opened 6 days a week, with Mondays and Tuesdays 10am to 8pm and Wednesday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm. Masks are required for all patrons. All facilities and equipment are available. The Friends Book Store is back up and running, so come checkout our ever-changing offerings. Family Storytime has restarted being held outdoors Wednesdays 10:30 to 11am. More in-person programs are being evaluated for later this fall -- stay tuned.

A silver lining from the shutdown is Curbside Services have continued. Simply pull into the designated space in front and call or text. Your items will be delivered to you while you stay in the car.

There is an abundance of online resources that were activated and heavily utilized during the shutdown that continue to be available. Check out examples of the eBooks and Audiobooks at smcl.org/online-resources/. In addition, browse the virtual live events that have continued to be offered along with recorded video material at smcl.org on the web. You'll find interesting author talks, ESL conversation clubs, yoga, crafts and more.

We have some lovely new outdoor furniture if you're looking for a serene place to read and relax. We're so fortunate to have our amazing outdoor spaces at the Town Center and are so thankful to be in Portola Valley. Hope to see you back at the library soon.

Kwok Lau, President, FOPVL



Meet Cindy Rowe!

I: Welcome to FOPVL, Cindy! Tell us how you were recruited and why you agreed to be a Friends of the PV Library Board. What is your role on the Board?

C: Donna recruited me when she decided to try pickleball. She came to class and talked to me about the Friends. She said there was work to be done that required my skill set. I was a software engineer in my working career and had volunteered in two different libraries over the years. On the FOPVL Board, I am currently the Secretary and Chair of the Archives committee.

I: What programs would you like to see our library sponsor/support?

C: Anything to do with fostering reading for children. I believe that early reading habits last a lifetime.

I: We love your enthusiasm for starting pickleball in our town. It's a great way

to get exercise and pull our community together. How did you get started learning to play and then subsequently take on the "ambassador" role?

C: A tennis friend took me out to try this new sport. I played in Palo Alto for a year and a half and just got tired of driving there to play. Portola Valley was looking for ways to use the under-utilized tennis courts, so we agreed to do a demo day to see if there was interest. Forty-eight people signed up to try pickleball that day. So I applied to the US Pickleball Association to be an ambassador, became a certified instructor, and began teaching and hosting pickleball at the town center. The Portola Valley Pickleball Club has grown continuously to nearly 200 players and we play seven days a week.

I: What are your other interests?

C: Sailing (we have a sailboat in San Francisco), biking, skiing, reading, crafts (crochet, macrame, upholstery and sometimes knitting), and taking on-line



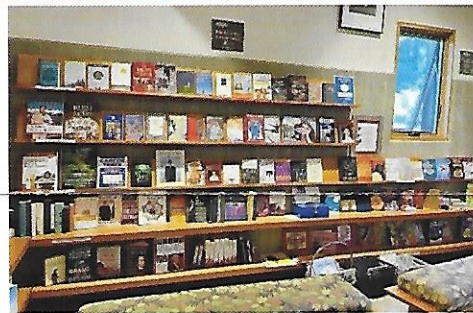
Five FOPVL board members play!

courses through Coursera and EdX. I have taken over 80 courses since I retired – everything from Exoplanet exploration to Chicken Welfare!

I: Care to share any fun "did you know" tidbits about yourself?

C: I have a brown belt in Shotokan Karate and a black belt in Tae Kwon Do, which I earned when I was in my 30's and 40's and used to teach the children's class at the old PV Town Center. I like long bike rides on trails and have done five very long rides – all over 400 miles.

Come out to the courts to meet Cindy!



Book Sales Open Again!

We are excited to offer our Friends' Alcove Book sales again. Come by to check out the wide variety of selections. We also thank you for your book donations. Due to limited space, currently we can only accept 12 books per family. Please bring your books to the volunteers on duty in the Alcove on Tuesdays from 1:00 until 3:00 PM. Please do not leave books outside or give them to the library staff.

Jo Ann Mitchell and Lin Pearlstein, FOPVL Board Members

Please donate!

We understand you have many needs and requests to manage, but please consider contributing to FOPVL in your annual giving. Your donations help extend FOPVL sponsorship to support enrichment programs and events for all ages, as well as specific Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment expense requests to enhance the functionality of our library spaces. Please use the enclosed envelope or visit our website to submit your contribution. We welcome your donation via check or online via credit card/PayPal.*

www.FOPVL.org/donate-now

*Checks payable to:
"Friends of the Portola Valley Library"

Tax ID#: 23-7006543

Interested in joining FOPVL?

Like Cindy, if you are interested in learning more about FOPVL and possibly joining our Board, please contact Donna Mackowski at dwmackling@yahoo.com.



For a list of PV library programs/events, go to: <https://smcl.org/locations/1V/>

We truly appreciate our generous community's contributions. For a list of last year's donors, go to: <https://www.fopvl.org/2020-2021-donors-1>

FOPVL Board of Directors

Kwok Lau, President
Sally Shimada-Lee, Vice President
Cindy Rowe, Secretary
Susan Adams, Treasurer
Sue Chaput
Sue Crane
Lenora Ferro
Donna Mackowski
Jo Ann Mitchell
Lin Pearlstein
Gloria Knowles Rosenthal

Major Donor Recognition Event

...Memories that linger... constant and true

Recently, the Friends held a spirited gathering in honor of major donors whose exceptional generosity proved critical to our organization's mission as stewards entrusted with initiating and sustaining a bricks-and-mortar library in our town and its relevance to our community.

Though seemingly long overdue, recognition of these "donors extraordinaire" is timely still; their gifts continue to give financial support, affirmation of community, and devotion to our beloved civic institution.

In 2005-2006, when plans were underway for the new town center, no FOPVL members were invited to participate and no library building appeared on the blueprints. Following that stunning revelation and our expressed concern about it, we were told not to assume the existence of a library in the new town center.

With advice from several Friends of longstanding, we appealed to our community, calling publicly for a "fairy godparent" to initiate a Friends' fundraising effort. The first focus was to ensure a library building would be part of the new town center; the second goal to raise funding for the new library's furnishings and equipment.

An anonymous donor was the first to respond, inspiring significant donations from those we honored at the Major Donor gathering. We followed that success with a sustained community drive and achieved wide support for the new library.

For us, as current Friends of the Portola Valley Library, the gathering was a long-awaited privilege, and duty-bound to continue our mission, were determined to express our gratitude at last. The occasion served to underscore publicly the civic ideals embodied in local libraries and in the power of communal advocacy through voice and action.

The gathering celebrated and honored our neighbors and friends who stepped forward to rescue our library at a critical juncture in its history. We are most grateful to them all.

Semper bibliotheca!

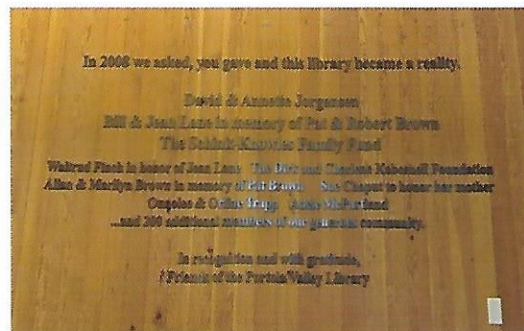
Lenora Ferro, FOPVL Board Member



Bud and Onnolee Trapp



Rachel, Lin, Susan, Anne-Marie



Visit the library to see the new major donor recognition wall!

In stories treasured and told
It's our selves
Through memories we unfold.

If captured in written ways
Our truth goes on, yet stays.

Then, in the sweet bye-and-bye
We never grow old or die.
(c)lf

Rest in peace, Louise Hamm,
knowing that you remain present,
your example of loveliness abiding
and snug in the hearts of those of us
privileged to have shared in your
earthly tenure.

Note: Louise devoted 30 years of service on our board and was a patient and extraordinary advocate for our library.



Lenora Ferro and Sue Crane



Honored guests at the gathering

To build up a library is to create a life. It's never just a random collection of books.

~ Carlos Maria Dominguez



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Portola Valley Library
 Telephone: (650) 851-0560
 Website: www.smcl.org
 Monday-Tuesday, 10am-8pm
 Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm

ECRWSS

POSTAL PATRON

PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028



Meet our Portola Valley/Woodside Library Staff...

- Garrett Kuramoto, Branch Manager
- Amy Selmi, Senior Librarian
- Eileen Browning, Circulation Supervisor
- Alice Erickson, Librarian
- Kathryn Wiszowaty, Community Program Specialist
- Marie Fong, Senior Library Assistant
- Valerie Castillo, Rachael Hood, Valery Marin Revolorio,
- Jamie Westfold, Library Assistants
- Kyle Stephens, Mark Tanaka, Lee Tran, Library Aides

