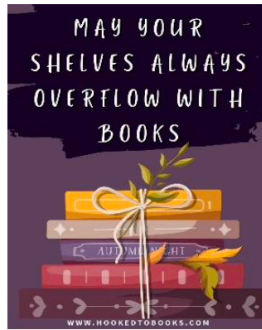


In this issue:

- Silver Linings for our Library!
- Meet our Newest Board Member
- Open House with Frozen Treats
- Our Budget Process



2022 Newsletter



Friends of the Portola Valley Library

Serving our Community...

Silver Linings for Our Library

Garrett Kuramoto, Portola Valley and Woodside Branch Manager

A library is the delivery room for the birthplace of ideas, a place where history comes to life.

- Norman Cousins

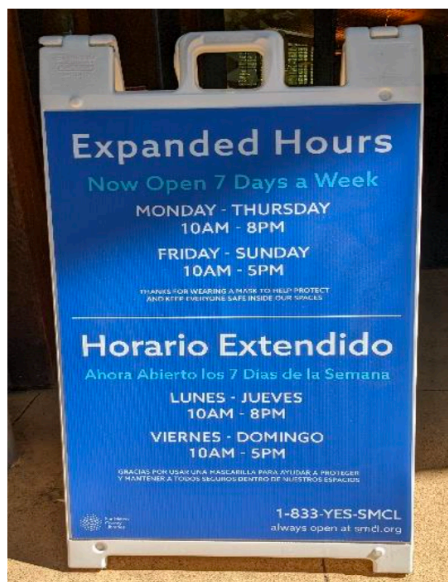
Public libraries are valuable resources for communities along with being a safe retreat for learning and exploration. Families with young and school-age learners especially utilize the many services of the library... from enrichment programs, social and fun opportunities, to vital access to information.

COVID response closed down library facilities for public access and initially community access was lost. Our San Mateo County library systems and staff responded quickly and creatively by shifting programs and access to online. We provided access to digital books, audiobooks, and video streaming. We began curbside pickup for online ordered books. Our dedicated staff worked diligently to provide these online services and resources. Due to these efforts, these virtual resources continue even as our libraries are now open again. Invigorated by our reopening, we are offering new programs and services with an emphasis on programs for children, who have been among the most affected by interruptions to schooling

and socialization. Expect to see an increased number of weekly story times and the return of regular, in-person after-school enrichment activities. Music has always been popular in PV and live performances will return regularly, often coinciding with cultural events and holidays. We celebrate diversity in our community! And our popular author talks and informative lectures will continue and expand this year, both in-person and virtually.

With enhanced funding, our library has extended hours and added Sunday hours. New hours provide increased opportunities for everyone to visit the library more often.

The experience with the shutdown has made the community acutely aware of its value. We move forward more focused and inspired to reimagine what the future library physical and virtual spaces can offer.



Meet Karen Fisher, Newest Board Member!

Q: Welcome back to FOPVL, Karen! You were a past co-President of the Friends of the PV Library Board. Please tell us about that experience.

A: Thank you! I am glad to be back. I thoroughly enjoyed my time serving the FOPVL. We tackled some meaty things, in particular ensuring the library was included in the new town center campus. I also served with some very special people; folks I never would have come across otherwise, and I learned so much from them.

Q: What made you interested in rejoining the Board? What would you like to contribute?

A: We once again are looking at a substantial issue. As our town contemplates the possibility of a significant increase in population, so too should the FOPVL start tackling how best to help the library proactively plan for this change.

Q: How do you think FOPVL can best serve our community?

A: That is simple – ensuring the Portola Valley Library is strong and thriving. Strong public libraries are bedrock to a civilized, informed citizenship as it opens its doors to all citizens.

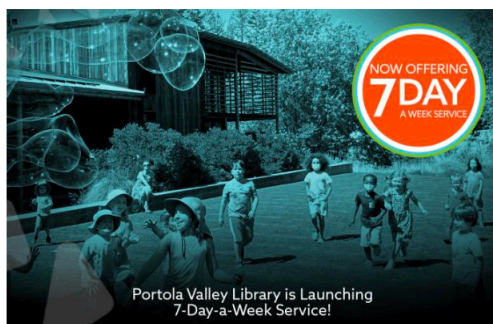
Q: What programs would you like to see FOPVL sponsor/support?

A: I will always support youth programs because capturing people when they are young lays a foundation of life-long library lovers. As I have mentioned, we need to think ahead about the needs of a larger population and then figure out what programs to offer. For example, do we need more space? More books in different languages? Do we need to tailor existing programs to appeal to newcomers or are there going to be entirely different tastes and requirements to manage?



One of the more exciting things about libraries is how they are reexamining what they offer. For example, one can actually borrow a sewing machine now! I know of other libraries that offer a venue for kids to pick up a school lunch tucked inside a book bag.

Technological changes create a myriad of opportunities, both for what we offer and as tools to enhance patron's experiences at the library, but often these opportunities are expensive. We can help the library take advantage of these prospects. I am eager to support any program that expands the appeal of the Portola Valley Library.



Please donate!

We hope you will consider contributing to FOPVL as part of your annual giving plan. Your donations enable FOPVL to support ongoing enrichment programs and events for all ages and purchase equipment to enhance the library's resources.

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 Karen, 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 Portola Valley library programs and 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/2021-2022donors>



Book Alcove a Favorite Stop

The Friends' Alcove continues to be a favorite stop for all patrons. Our selection is varied and is renewed weekly. We thank our patrons for honoring our request to bring no more than 15 books at a time, on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, when we are there to accept them. (Please do not leave books outside or give them to the library staff.) The funds raised from book sales go to the FOPVL general fund.

**Jo Ann Mitchell and Lin Pearlstein,
Board Members**

FOPVL Board of Directors

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

FOPVL Hosts Open House

with refreshing frozen treats at Town Picnic

At the Portola Valley Town Picnic on September 17, the Friends hosted an open house to meet and greet our community with free frozen treats and FOPVL book bags.

What a delightful day of meeting and talking to so many of our treasured community and library patrons!

It was a pleasure hearing comments about what you like about our library. Thank you for sharing them on our graffiti board! We especially enjoyed chatting with families and our young library members about what makes our PV library special.

Here are a few comments...

- Love reading books
- The book nook
- Learning from the beetle lady
- Storytime, children's books
- 3D printing
- Activities, movies, music
- Newspapers and magazines from around the world
- A quiet place to relax, retreat and escape the heat
- Emergency office when home wi-fi is out
- Very helpful & friendly staff
- Beautiful environment



Library Graffiti Board

Please visit our library often and enjoy the expanded hours!

Sally Shimada-Lee, Vice President



Sally, Kwok, Cindy, Karen, Susan



Sally and Kwok with ice cream banner



Happy girls with ice cream and book bag



Community enjoying a beautiful day



Our budget process

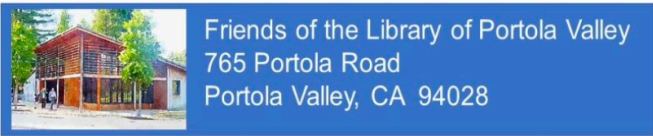
The Mission of the Friends of the Portola Valley Library is to promote and augment the development and use of resources and services of the Portola Valley Library for the benefit of local residents. Our mission has a short-term component in providing annual support for library programs and a long-term component in accumulating an endowment for library capital improvements.

Because our funding source is donations from you, the members of our community, our financial dealings must be conservative, transparent, and sustainable. To be conscious and deliberate about meeting our financial goals, we recently revised our annual budgeting process. We are now using this three-step process:

1. Practice income-based budgeting, designating the current year's donations for the coming year's library programs. This provides the San Mateo County Library with a realistic and clear expectation of our support for its future plans.
2. Cover the Friends' operating expenses and special events with monies from book sales and investment income.
3. Place excess monies into conservative investments that grow our endowment fund, enabling FOPVL to contribute to major capital expenditures such as a future facility expansion.

Please continue to support the FOPVL in our work to ensure the library is the "busiest place in town!"

Susan Adams, Treasurer

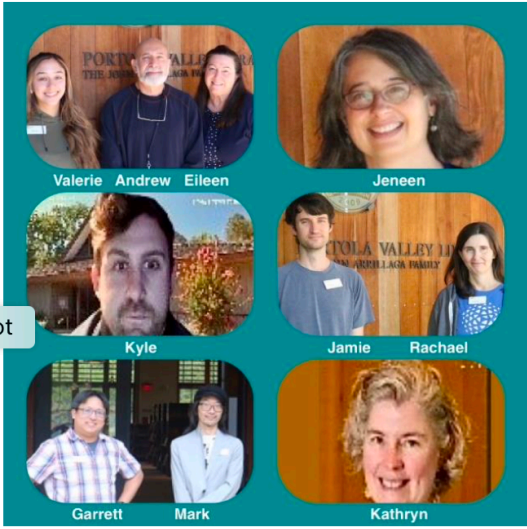


Friends of the Library of Portola Valley
 765 Portola Road
 Portola Valley, CA 94028

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
 MENLO PARK, CA
 PERMIT NO. 581

Portola Valley Library
 Telephone: (650) 851-0560
 Website: www.smcl.org
 Monday-Thursday, 10am-8pm
 Friday-Sunday, 10am-5pm

ECRWSS
 POSTAL PATRON
 PORTOLA VALLEY, CA 94028



Valerie Andrew Eileen

Jeneen

Kyle

Jamie Rachael

Garrett

Mark

Kathryn



Meet our Portola Valley Library Staff...

Garrett Kuramoto, *Branch Manager*
 Eileen Browning, *Circulation Supervisor*
 Jeneen Nammar, *Librarian*
 Kathryn Wiszowaty, *Community Program Specialist*
 Valerie Castillo, Rachael Hood, Jamie Westfold,
Library Assistants
 Andrew Hernandez, Kyle Stephens, Mark Tanaka,
Library Aides

Screenshot