

Friends

Newsletter

May, 2009



President's Message

Mary Lou Klovee

The next meeting of the *Friends* of the Brentwood Library is scheduled for Wednesday May 6, 2009 at the Brentwood Library from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.. Board meetings are always open to the public, however, if you are unable to attend but have question and/or concern please call or send an email to me.

The County will be moving our Library in June and we will need help to move the *Friends* materials to the new location. Please let me know if and when you are able to help. (See the Librarian's message for more information on the move.)

I have been collecting historical information about our Library. Since the Library has moved four times, I believe that it is important to keep its history intact. I also think it is important to remember those individuals who had the vision to begin a library in Brentwood. The following are a few facts about the Brentwood Library that I thought you would be interested in reading. (Thanks to Kathy Leighton and Barbara Bonnickson who provided this information):

- The Library Association was formed in February 1914. Mrs Andrew Bonnickson chaired the new organization.
- 1914 - The first official Library building was built on the corner of 3rd and Oak Streets. The cost to build the 16 x 20 foot structure was \$400.
- January 5, 1915 - The Library and Reading Room was opened to the public.
- 1919 - A fire destroyed the Library building.
- 1920 - The Library Association purchased the domestic science building from the Liberty Union High School District for \$850 and moved it from the school campus (Maple and First street) to a lot on 648 Second street owned by the Balfour Guthrie Company for use as a library.
- 1931 - The Brentwood Library Association was reorganized and became the Brentwood Women's Club.
- 1933 - The Brentwood Women's Club and the Balfour Guthrie Company deeded the Library building and lot to the County.

Watch for more history of the Brentwood Library in the next Newsletter.

Mary Lou

Reach Mary Lou at 516-7484 or kmklovee@comcast.net

Librarian's Message

Leonard Roudman

The Brentwood Library is a happening place this spring. We will be moving in early June to our new location -- not in April as previously reported. Besides a number of wonderful children's programs (check out Lindsay duPont's column for details), in May the Library will be hosting a meditation program for adults in honor of the Contra Costa County Library Reading Festival and two weeks later we will present a resume workshop.



Library Moving in June

The Brentwood Library will be closing in early June and we will reopen on Monday, June 22 in our new location at 104 Oak Street. The newly refurbished facility is just across Oak Street from our present location. We will be moving into one-third of the building which we will share with Brentwood City workers. I have recently toured the new library and it is fantastic. We will have a lot more room for our materials even though the facility is not substantially larger than the current library. You will be able to check out and check in your own materials and Holds will be self-service. If you are interested in helping us with the Library move, please contact me at 925-634-4101.

Contra Costa County Library's 2009 Reading Festival
The Reading Festival is back -- and this year it's better than ever! For an entire week, May 3-9, the libraries in your community will bring you entertainment, insight, and authors -- free, fun, and right in your own backyard! Celebrate reading and writing and thought, connect with neighbors and friends and family, be a part of Reading Festival 2009.

Other Programs

East County libraries will play host to author, Omar Tyree on Sunday, May 3, 2:00 p.m. at Los Medanos College in Pittsburg in the Music Recital Hall, room 720. Tyree is a New York Times best-selling author, a 2001 NAACP Image Award recipient for Outstanding Literature in Fiction, and a 2006 Phillis Wheatley Literary Award winner for Body of Work in Urban Fiction.

The Brentwood Library, will host a meditation program on Tuesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center, across the courtyard from the Library. The workshop entitled *Deeper Into Meditation*, features Marshall Zaslove, MD. Board certified psychiatrist and long-time meditator Marshall Zaslove, MD, leads this helpful and stimulating

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“follow-up” workshop for new and experienced meditators, demonstrating the most natural and effective techniques of meditation.

For children, the Library will present a Latin American story time on Monday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m. in our story room.

Resume Program Scheduled for May

Are you hunting for a job and need to create a new resume or dust off your old one? The Brentwood Library is hosting a Resume Workshop on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Brentwood Community Center (across from the Library).

This workshop presented by Dave Mengel of Gemini Staff is designed to teach how to effectively set up a resume so that the job seeker can get noticed in a highly competitive job market. We will discuss what employers are looking for in an employee and how to display those traits and skills throughout the resume. During this workshop we will break down a resume into each of its sub-components and discuss how to go about getting employers to take the time to read it from top to bottom.

Dave Mengel who is the owner and President of Gemini Staffing. He received his MBA in 2007 and was recently awarded a second Masters Degree in Human Resources management from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

Leonard

Reach Leonard at 634-4101 or lroudman@ccclib.org



Live On In Books

Some people gain immortality in libraries by writing books. But even those of us who are not established authors can live on in books. We can do that by making a donation to the Contra Costa County Library. One way to remember the Library is in your will. Your gift will be enjoyed by generations of residents in your community, no matter what the size.

Your gift can buy items such as books, videos, compact disks, equipment, library programs that benefit the community and educate adults and children. Gifts of all sizes are welcome.

The Contra Costa County Library is most pleased to receive gifts at any time. Gifts of stocks and other property are as welcome as cash donations. If you wish to discuss a gift to the Library, please call the County Librarian, at 925-646-6423. If you are planning to include the Library in your will, you should also consult your attorney. All contributions to the Contra Costa County Library are tax deductible.

Youth Services Librarian’s Message

Lindsay duPont

The orchards are in bloom and the air is warming up as the Brentwood Library prepares for another fruitful spring!

As usual, the Library has been bursting with excellent *Friends*-funded entertainment. Local storyteller Kirk Waller drew a crowd for his “Tales to Take you Far and Away” program in March. Kirk used to work at Brentwood Parks and Recreation, and many old friends (and new fans) came to enjoy his hilariously animated performance. Our “Chill Out with a Book” Winter Reading Program was also a success, and 75 finishers skated away with prizes and a free book donated by the *Friends*, as well as a free ticket to High School Musical on Ice!

Spring programs included P&T Puppet Theatre’s April 14th presentation of “The Prince and Princess Puppet Show,” which delighted crowds for National Library Week. Later, on April 28th, Suzi the Bunny Lady hopped by to read stories and introduce children to her cotton-tailed friends. Suzi is a volunteer for Contra Costa County Animal Control, and she educates children about rabbit care. Attendees had the opportunity to meet a “Flemish Giant,” which is an absurdly large breed of rabbit—just look it up on Google!

On May 19th, the Brentwood Library will welcome “Miss Sparkles and Ravioli the Clown,” a talented performing couple who have been entertaining kids for years. June 30th will bring a visit from acclaimed New York musical group, “Flutesweet and Tickletoons,” who will introduce the children to their original music, featuring live flute playing and singing. This will be our last program held in the Brentwood Community Center, so stop by to make some memories! But don’t worry -- the show will go on in July when our K-6 programs move to the Liberty Adult Education Center, on the corner of Pine and Second. We even have a new program day—the grand kickoff will be at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29th, when Contra Costa County Animal Control returns with a canine ambassador to teach dog safety!

Which reminds me -- changes are coming to our little Library! In early June, the Library will close for two weeks while we move to our new location just across the street. We’ll have more computers, more room for books, and self-service holds, so you can pick up your reserves without waiting in line! More information about the move is coming soon -- keep your eyes open!

In other exciting news, Summer Reading is almost here! Our theme this year is “Be Creative,” and all ages can join in the fun, from June 8 through August 17th! Grab a reading record in the Library, or participate online at ccclib.org!

I’ll conclude with a book recommendation. For those of you who have never read J.M. Barrie’s *Peter Pan*, or those who have been too long absent from Neverland, it’s time to reacquaint yourself with the timeless charms of the Darlings

and their adventures. For kids, the book contains perennial favorites like pirates, fairies, and children with complete autonomy and no bedtimes. Adults can treat themselves to a layered understanding of this rich tale, with its nostalgia for the imagination of youth, and clever turns of phrase that render it as irresistible as its hero.

My affection for the book lead me to record it for Contra Costa County Library's "Chapter a Week" podcast, (accessible from ccclib.wordpress.com or ccclib.org/youth) which broadcasts library staff as they narrate various stories and books. Listen straight from the website, or download recordings to an MP3 player for stories on the go. *Peter Pan's* first chapter will debut in June, and I encourage you to visit to uncover the many treasures the podcast has to offer. Search for my name to find readings of my favorite childhood stories. I hope you enjoy them as much as I have.

Have a joyous Spring, and don't forget to clap, if you believe in fairies.

Lindsay

Reach Lindsay at 634-4101



Provide Feedback to Your County Library

Take the time to send in comments about the services and programs of the Contra Costa County Library -- including the virtual services available from its Web site. If you have an opinion, question, or suggestion, please tell them about it at: http://ccclib.org/askaquestion/comments_form.htm or leave a comment at OurLibrary in MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/ourlibrary>



Membership Chairperson's Message

Donna Coker

I want to thank each and every one of you who renewed their memberships in *Friends* of the Brentwood Library after receiving our recent letter.

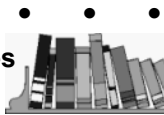
Our organization depends on funds raised from your memberships, from donations, and from ongoing book sales at the Library. These funds provide for the purchase of new library books and allow *Friends* to sponsor the monthly Childrens' programs and the annual Brentwood City Read. We also anticipate *Friends* funds will be required to help support Library needs resulting from the move to its new location.

Membership options are shown on the last page of this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Donna

Reach Donna at 513-0654 or djcoker@att.net



**Book Sale Continues
In Library Lobby**

**Hardbacks \$1.00
Paperbacks \$.50**

Important Meeting Dates and Times to Remember

The next *Friends of the Brentwood Library* meeting will be held on May 6th, 4-5 p.m., in the Brentwood Library.

The East County Writers Group meets each Thursday of the month. On the second and fourth Thursday it is a morning meeting, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at the Round Table Pizza Parlor, on the corner of the Highway 4 Bypass and Sand Creek Road.

There is also an evening meeting on the first and third Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. For information on the evening meetings, contact Mel Stolhand at 634-3805.

We welcome anyone interested in writing, no matter the subject. Our group is friendly and encouraging, and consists of writers at every level. Some are published authors, while others are beginners.

If you are unsure of your writing ability, we welcome you to come and listen to our stories. Maybe you will get the bug too. Come and join us. We are interested in your story.



The Brentwood Arts Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 734 Third Street. For more information on the Arts Commission, contact the City of Brentwood at 516-5444.



Brentwood Library 751 Third St., Brentwood CA

Phone : 634-4101

a branch of the Contra Costa County Library
ccclib.org

Branch Librarian **Youth Services Librarian**

Leonard Roudman

Lindsay duPont

Friends Officers:

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Vice President Fran Alcorn
Secretary Diane Alexander
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