



folio

Newsletter of the
Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

Volume 22, Number 5

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego CA 92131

March/April 2008

Ice Cream Social

Saturday, March 15 1-2:30
In honor of Ann Young Persons
retiring Youth Services
Librarian

From the President's Pen

British novelist Doris Lessing in her recent Nobel Prize address decried a decreased interest in reading books among more privileged youth in the developed world while describing a yearning for books and education among people in Zimbabwe, where she grew up, even as they struggle for food and water on a daily basis. Lessing noted that our writers of the future need exposure to the written word—to books—if they are to write themselves. Several hundred budding Scripps Ranch writers were recently given an opportunity to develop their expository writing skills in the Student Essay Contest, which the Friends of the Library helps sponsor each year. Although a virtual treasure trove of books, our Library is not "just" a repository for books but, through the efforts of SRFOL, also offers events for book lovers. Recently the Friends have had the privilege to play host to a popular author on humor and language and to a prize-winning journalist and coauthor of a book about building schools in the Himalayas. Our Book Discussion Group meets monthly for lively interchange with fellow readers. And the youngest members of our community are invited to entertaining monthly programs and offered incentives to keep reading during our popular Summer Reading Program. SRFOL helps keep the love of books alive! *Joan Reese, SRFOL President*



David Relin, coauthor of *"Three Cups of Tea"* signing the book at the SR Library for appreciative patrons. David spoke for over 150 people, telling the amazing story of Greg Mortenson in Pakistan.

Chatting with the City Librarian

Anna Tatar, the San Diego City Librarian, is passionate about the library and its partnership with the community. Anna told me a little about the impact of technology on the library and the community. In 2000, San Diego libraries had 90 computers for public use. Today there are 760! The SR Library was in the forefront of the shift when a \$20,000 grant from the Scripps Foundation in 1993 brought our computer lab to life.

Technology and community partnerships make it possible for the library to reach more people with more services. Via the "Live Homework Help" Web site any child with a library card can get immediate help from a live instructor. Homework Help lets the tutor communicate with the student via a 'white board' on the Web site. A partnership between the SD Library, SD Unified Schools and SENTRE Partners brings Homework Help to San Diego children.

I could have talked with Anna for hours but concluded with a question: What book have you read recently that you loved? Anna talked about how much she loved *"Three Cups of Tea"*, the 2008 "One Book, One San Diego" selection. Anna was impressed with Greg Mortenson and his mission to build schools for the children of Pakistan, to promote peace – one school at a time. We spoke for a while about this wonderful book and inspiring man. Finally we recalled the proverb that named the book: With the first cup of tea you are a stranger. The second cup of tea makes you an honored guest. The third time you share tea you become a member of the family. What a perfect way to end a delightful conversation. Thank you, Anna. Let's have tea again soon.

Dianne Seaman, Folio Editor

From Your Branch Librarian...

Spring is just around the corner as we look forward to special events in March and April. **The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library will be honoring Ann Young Persons, our dedicated Youth Services Librarian on March 15th.** Ann has been passionate about sharing good books with children and instilling the love of reading in them. She has conducted hundreds of story times for preschoolers on Tuesday mornings over the years. She also conducted a children's book club for several years, and worked closely with Sandra Hoyt, Children's Program Chair for the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, in making the annual Summer Reading Program at this Library as well-attended and enjoyable as possible.

A native of Montgomery, Alabama, Ann completed two master's degrees (Library Science and English) before starting her career as a Librarian at Washington University in St. Louis. Her next career move was to join San Diego Public Library in the early 1960s. It was in San Diego that she met her husband, Dean Persons, and became the mother of Bret Persons. Her southern manner and speech led to the title of "Miss Ann", which suits her so well. She will be greatly missed in her role at this Library, but her legacy of developing an outstanding collection and inspiring children and parents to read and enjoy books together will continue on.

We will celebrate the **15th anniversary of this Library on March 20th**, a week after the true anniversary of the opening, March 13, 1993. How many remember the thrill of entering a brand-new Library following the speeches, music, and balloons at the front entrance? Since that momentous day, this community and the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library and the Scripps Ranch Civic Association have helped us maintain the building and its collections (and the adjoining Evans Pond) so well that I often get comments from people that this seems like a new library!

We are benefiting from the assistance of our loyal volunteers, both students and adults. You are providing needed support to the library staff. We look forward to honoring you on Saturday, May 3rd, at a Volunteer Appreciation event. We continue to have openings for volunteers so please contact me at the Library if you are interested.

I look forward to seeing you on March 15th!

Nancy Corbin Assaf, Branch Librarian

What Have You Been Reading Lately?

"*The Glass Castle*" is Jeanette Walls' memoir of growing up in California, Arizona, and mostly West Virginia, with two very unfit parents. Her father was an alcoholic dreamer who could talk his way into a job, but never keep one. Her mother was only interested in painting. The kids scavenged for food. The family moved frequently, often "doing the skedaddle" in the middle of the night to avoid problems. Eventually, they settle in West Virginia, in the only house they could afford to buy - with one bedroom and no running water. This is an amazing story of how the family survived.

"*Mozart in the Jungle: Sex, Drugs, and Classical Music*" by Blair Tindall is part memoir, and part expose of the demise of classical music. It's the author's own story - starting to play the oboe in junior high school (because the instruments were giving out in alphabetical order, and by the time they got to the T's, only a few unpopular instruments were left), attending the North Carolina High School for the Performing Arts, studying and working in New York City. It's also about how funding for the arts has changed in the last twenty years, and about the struggling musicians who must try to live on part-time jobs and no benefits.

Sue Brunkow, Past Folio Editor

Live Homework Help Free Online Tutoring

Daily 1 p.m. - 10 p.m. Grades 4-12.
Get help in Mathematics, Science, English and
Social Studies

Go to the web site: www.sandiegolibrary.org with your library card to get started. Click on "Live Homework Help" on the right side of the page. Contact the Library staff at 858-538-8158 if you have any questions.

SCRIPPS RANCH FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY 2007-2008 OFFICERS & CHAIRS

President/Publicity	Joan Reese	Branch Manager	Nancy Assaf
Past President	Kathleen Downs	Children's Programs and Summer Reading Program	Sandra Hoyt
Vice President/Membership	Gail Harriss	Folio Editor	Dianne Seaman
Secretary	Michelle Reents	Volunteer Coordinator	Open
Treasurer	Diane Hunter	HodgePodge/Special Events	Victoria Mazelli
Book Discussion Group	Crystal Clearwater	Music Programs	Barbara Measelle
Grace's Book Nook Manager	Kathi Busch		

Library News

Grants Add to our Collection!

Our Library was fortunate to receive a grant of \$5,000 to develop the DVD collection for children and to add additional non-fiction children's titles of special interest. The donation was partially matched by the City of San Diego and grew to \$7,500 in purchasing power. DVDs in a variety of subjects, including movies, are flying off the shelves as children and parents discover these wonderful new additions to the collection. Series include *American Revolution*, *Ancient Civilizations for Children*, *Colonial Life for Children*, *Composers' Special Services*, *Great Americans for Children Video Series*, *Pioneer Life for Children*, *Real World Science Series* and much more. The new books include a number of sports biographies and books about animals. We are grateful for the continuing loyal support of the Scripps Foundation.

Friends of the Library Membership Drive

Our annual membership drive is underway. Most readers of the *Folio* are on our mailing list and have received letters requesting membership renewal for 2008. Special thanks to those of you who did not wait for a request but mailed in your renewals in January and early February.

We are always eager to have new members and extend an invitation to everyone to join in supporting this very special branch library by becoming a member of the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library. A membership form is in the *Folio* for your convenience.

Gail Harriss, VP Membership

Literacy Essay Contest in Progress



A collaboration of the Friends of the San Diego Public Library, the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, the San Diego Unified School District and KPBS is sponsoring the 11th Annual Writing for Literacy Essay Contest. There are 304 writers from Scripps Ranch schools, grades 4, 8 and 10. A winner from each grade level will be chosen to represent Scripps Ranch in the city-wide competition and represent the district at the Grand Prize Ceremony at the Balboa Park Club on May 1, 2008.

Students write about improving the world or a significant understanding from a book or the importance of free public libraries or the role of the library. Nancy Hitchcox, Sandra Hoyt, Diane Hunter and Barbara Measelle are the judges for the SR competition. The Scripps Ranch Awards Ceremony will be held on **April 23 from 6:00 to 7:00 at the Library**. Winner's names will be announced in the next *Folio*.

Sandra Hoyt, Children's Programs

Tax Forms

The Library has a variety of 2007 California Tax forms available. We do not carry federal forms, but can refer people to locations that offer them or assist with online retrieval of forms from the IRS web site.

Do You Have A Library Story?

Tell me about a great library experience you or your child has had. Was there a special program? A special book? A special person at the library that just made your day? Email me at dseaman@san.rr.com.

SCRIPPS RANCH FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Date: _____ Please begin/renew my membership: ___ New Membership ___ Renewal

___ Student/Senior \$8 ___ Individual \$10 ___ Family \$20
___ Sponsor \$30 ___ Business \$50 ___ Lifetime \$250

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email _____

I would like to volunteer to help...

___ in the Library ___ as a SRFOL Board member ___ with events
___ with children's programs ___ selling books in the Book Nook ___ with fundraising
___ with music programs

Please make checks out to: Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library. Membership is tax deductible.

Mail to: SRFOL Membership Renewal, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131-1252



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Special Events at the Library...

Every Tuesday:

Storytime for Preschoolers, ages 3 to 5, 10 to 10:45 a.m., in the Children's Area.

Saturday March 15, 1-2:30 p.m.:

Farewell to Miss Ann – Ice Cream Social to honor Ann Persons.

Sunday, March 16, 2:30 p.m.:

“The Pleasure of Your Company” presents flutist Lori Bell, a Grammy nominee, in a program entitled “From Bach to Bebop.”

Thursday March 20, 3:00 p.m.:

Children’s Program: Celia Lawley, the Fiddler Girl, presents an Irish program that includes singing and dancing and involving the audience in singing and clapping. Lemonade and cake will be served afterward to celebrate the Library's 15th birthday.

Wednesday, March 26, 6:30 p.m.:

Book Discussion Group: “Three Cups of Tea” by David Relin and Greg Mortenson.

Thursday, April 17, 3:00 p.m.:

Terry "Z" -- Storyteller specializes in the works of Dr. Seuss, folk and classic tales.

Sunday, April 20, 2:30 p.m.:

“The Pleasure of Your Company” presents The Virtual Strangers, a bluegrass band, led by Mike Tatar.

Wednesday, April 23, 6:30 p.m.:

Book Discussion Group: “*Mountains Beyond Mountains*” by Tracy Kidder.

Wednesday, April 23, 6:30 p.m.:

Awards Ceremony. 11th Annual 2008 Student Writing for Literacy Essay Contest

save the Date

Saturday, May 3, 11:00 a.m.:

Volunteer Appreciation Potluck Brunch

Library Hours

Monday and Wednesday:

12:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday:

9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday: 12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Library Closed: Monday, March 31 for Cesar Chavez Day.