



Volume 42 Number 5 May 2017 Kris Matarrese, Editor

May 5,6,7
**Shop and Buy
 Books and
 Much More !
 Volunteer, Too!**

Staff Appreciation Lunch

TO EXPRESS appreciation for ongoing service and support for our community, during National Library Week, Friends of the Alameda Library (FAL) provided lunch for the library staff. So Thursday, April 13th, FAL Board members Jo Winzenread and Luzanne Engh delivered 35 lunches to staff at Main, West End, Bay Farm, and Alameda Reads. The treats from Waterfront Deli included a sandwich, salad, a cookie, and a cold drink. Plus the Easter Bunny left some chocolates scattered on the serving tables. Providing lunch offers staff a welcome break and an opportunity to connect with other staff members while sharing a meal. ☐



Shop and Buy!

- ◆ Friday May 5, 6:30-9:00 p.m., \$5 Admission
- ◆ Saturday May 6, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Free Admission
- ◆ Sunday May 7, noon-4:00 p.m., Clearance, Free Admission



Help Out! We need volunteer Book Sitters, Table Watchers, Pre-Counters, Cashiers, and Hand Truck Drivers. Please contact Adair 510-865-0347 or ajNordicstar@outlook.com. Thank you! ☐



Library staff at the lunch table: (left to right) Sherry Carrai (Technical Processing), Carol Roth (Technical Processing), Paulette Brewer (Circulation)



A Celebration
of Trucks, Rigs,
Engines,
Bikes, Diggers,
Backhoes,
Police Cars,
and More!



COURTESY OF THE Alameda Free Library, Public Works, Alameda Municipal Power and both the Police and Fire Departments, the “Big Truck Bonanza” arrive at the City Hall parking lot every two years. April 8 it captivated youth and grown-ups alike. We wondered: Do big trucks serving all manner of functions beguile us in the same way as dinosaurs? Those extinct biggies are safely on display in museums; at the Library’s biennial bonanza, so were all these vehicles. Plus you got to climb on them! □



Daunting, Inspiring Film Debut

ENHANCING ITS stellar reputation as the place for serious and engrossing presentations, the Library, the Alameda Backyard Growers, and six other local groups presented the movie *Starfish Throwers*, developed to help ignite a movement in the world fight against hunger. According to the sponsors, “Worlds apart, a five star chef, a 12 year old girl, and a retired teacher realize how their individual efforts” have helped spur this movement. One of the viewers, Chuck, told us more. “The film itself is not free, but the preview is. And I can only say that the movie was very heartwarming. Try not to cry.” □





Juicy & Jazzy Volunteer Opportunity

ENJOY JAZZ? LOOKING FOR A WAY to support our library and work with enthusiastic volunteers? Friends of the Library need a ticket manager for our highly successful Live@theLibrary concerts, now in its ninth year. The series returns to the Stafford Room, Main Library, for three Saturday evenings, September through December.

Producer Eileen Savel, who helped originate the concert series with Ruth Bellikove and Luzanne Engh, is once again booking this year's program. Like many beguiling endeavors, the concerts grew from the ladies' passion for live music. Pursuing this pastime, they ventured to many Bay Area clubs, dives, and saloons, collecting impressions and business cards along the way. Thanks to their preparation, jazz artists of local, regional, and national renown have performed at the Alameda Library, and this year will be no exception. Dates and ticket information will be forthcoming in the Friends Newsletter, other news outlets, and social media.

In the meantime, The Live@theLibrary Concert Committee needs a volunteer to manage ticket sales for the fall 2017 concert series; duties run from mid-July to mid-December 2017. Concert dates are September 16, October 28, and December 2.

The job includes:

- ✦ Ordering tickets and posting concerts on a website
- ✦ Distributing tickets
- ✦ Managing an Excel spreadsheet to track ticket sales
- ✦ Collecting and recording proceeds from ticket sales
- ✦ Collecting tickets at the three concerts and managing the will-call list
- ✦ Reporting sales progress and producing final report

To volunteer, or for more information, please contact Luzanne Engh, 325-5776, luzengh@comcast.net. □



Ruth and
Eileen



Mads Tolling group 2016

CAN'T WAIT?

The Friends of the Library are sponsoring a free jazz concert Sunday April 30, 2:00 p.m., Main Library. Jazz artist Dave Rocha will be on board with his trio; selections include George Gershwin, Cole Porter and much more.

Book Club Corner



Ⓢ **Alameda Great Books**, 6:00 p.m., Family Study Room, 2nd Tuesday, contact Jeff, jeffhitchings.jh@gmail.com.

Image: Center above: While their group shot may be foggy, their discussions are always sharp and clear!

May: 9 reading: *Faust* by Goethe. News from Jeffrey: Some of our members joined with other Great Books groups in the Bay Area for a discussion of several of John Steinbeck's works in April at Asilomar in Pacific Grove.

Ⓢ **Alameda Library Book Club**, 6:30 p.m., 2nd Monday, contact Pam J, pamchung@aol.com. Image Left above: This picture shows only about one-third of this popular book club's members.

May 8 reading: *The Association of Small Bombs* by Karen Mahajan "Wonderful. . . Smart, devastating, unpredictable and enviably adept in its handling of tragedy and its fallout. If you enjoy novels that happily disrupt traditional narratives— about grief, death, violence, politics— I suggest you go out and buy this one, post haste." — Fiona Maazel, *The New York Times Book Review* **June 12 reading:** *The Vegetarian* by Han King "Ferocious... Kang has been rightfully celebrated as a visionary in South Korea... His glorious treatments of agency, personal choice, submission and subversion find form in the parable. There is something about short literary forms – this novel is under 200 pages— in which the allegorical and the violent gain special potency from their small packages... Ultimately, though, how could we not go back to Kafka? More than *The Metamorphosis*, Kafka's journals and *A Hunger Artist* haunt this text." — Porochista Khakpour, *The New York Times Book Review*

Ⓢ **Teen Book Club**, ages 13-18, 4:00 p.m., Stafford Room, 1st Wednesday, Hallie, hfields@alamedaca.gov. Image Right above: Three members flanking librarian Hallie. **Reading and watching:** During April they read *Everything Everything* by Nicola Yoon, and in May club members will see the movie based on the book. Book purchases, snacks, and film tickets underwritten by Friends of the Library (FAL)

EMBARK ON AN adventure with your library card as a ticket: it can get you into all manner of places, as near as Alameda Point and as far as Ukiah. With your card at the ready, visit the City of Alameda website and click on the Library. Creep down to the bottom of the page and click on "Discover and Go." Information, passes, and discounts are offered for dozens of places in Northern California.

The globally-renowned Alameda venue, Pacific Pinball Museum (PPM), at 1510 Webster Street, offers an outstanding value, a free pass for one adult and one youth, a value of \$22.50, plus you get to play pinball! (Try Gorgar, a personal favorite.)

Staff and curators use PPM games and displays to teach kids and adults (STEAM) Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math. They provide learning as well as sheer enjoyment. Look up PacificPinballMuseum.org for their hours. □



ADULTS ONLY: TILT yourself at the PPM every 3rd Friday; admission \$15. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., comedy begins at 8:00.



MEET 2017 FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY (FAL) OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS



TREASURER BILL GIBBS

What are your earliest memories of reading and books? In 1st grade – winning the class competition for number of books read at the Dixie Mountain Grade School, Scappoose, Oregon.

Do you enjoy “actual” books? Ebooks? I read real books, I enjoy turning pages.

What are you reading these days? Mysteries, historical biographies, newspapers, and golf and wine magazines, pretty much anything I can get my hands on with words therein.

You are hosting a literary dinner in your favorite Alameda restaurant. Who would you invite? Doris Kearns Goodwin, David McCullough, William Shakespeare, Jack London, and James Michener at the Gold Coast Grill, 1901 Park Street. It has a congenial owner and staff, a good bar, and great food. I would then sit and listen to words of wisdom from the assembled masters (and mistress) of the written word.

Tell about your personal involvement with the FAL. I wandered into a meeting of the former Friends group and left as Treasurer. I served on the Merger Committee and am Treasurer of the merged group – Friends of the Alameda Free Library, Inc., and the rest is history!

Fears about the future of reading and hopes for the Alameda Free Library? My concern is that real books are on their way to becoming obsolete, as they are more than 140 characters long. My hope is that the Alameda Free Library continues to expand its horizons and services to the citizens of Alameda – young and old. So join with Friends of the Alameda Free Library and support your local library!! ☐

"2,015 by 2015" Campaign Results

A CONCERTED DRIVE for funds by the Library Foundation (before the merger with Friends) raised some \$50,000 for library books and materials, also known as “collections.” According to Library Director Jane Chisaki, “Fifty thousand dollars could purchase 1,500-2000 items depending on the cost, and the dollars were divided among the selectors. It was used for hard copies of books, eBooks, DVDs, and audio books, for children, teens, and adults at all three locations, the Main and the two branches.” ☐

Notes from Kris, Our Editor

Contributors to this issue: Thanks to Jane Chisaki, Birgitt Evans of Pollinate, Luzanne Engh, Adair Jorgensen, Judith Lynch, Pacific Pinball Museum staff, Billy Reinschmiedt.

We would like to hear from you: *The Anthemion* is published by The Friends of the Alameda Free Library, P. O. Box 1024, Alameda CA 94501 or visit us at friendسالamedafreelibrary.org. Our email is friendسالamedalibrary@gmail.com Have a story idea, a correction or an image to share? Our deadline for the June issue is May 23. Please email inquiries to judithlynch7@gmail.com. ☐

DON'T MISS OUT on any Friends of the Alameda Library (FAL) events and announcements
Please send your email address



friendسالamedalibrary@gmail.com

Mission: Friends of the Alameda Free Library



***TO PROVIDE A VARIETY** of ways to contribute to the on-going services and growth of the Alameda Free Library for the enjoyment and benefit of the entire community.



***TO ACT AS STEWARD** for the library and its many services and programs through advocacy, volunteerism, and fund-raising to supplement public funding. ☐



2017 FAL officers and Board,
President: Karen Butter; Vice President: Kumar Fpanse; Secretary: Karen Manuel; Treasurer: Bill Gibbs; Board members: Eileen Bitten, Luzanne Engh, Marlene Greevich, Nancy Horton, Honora Murphy, Billy Reinschmiedt, Carole Robie, Eileen Savel, Cindy Silva, and Jo Winzenread. The Board meets the fourth Monday of each month except December, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Room of the Main Library. The public is welcome. ☐



Friends of the Alameda Free Library
P.O. Box 1024
Alameda, CA 94501
Return Service Requested

CALENDAR



Big Truck Bonanza	2
Book Sale May 5-7	1
Concert Volunteer Needed . .	3
Editor's Corner	5
FAL Mission	5
Fundraising Results	5
Help Out at Book Sale	1
Meet FAL Treasurer	5
Staff Appreciation Lunch . . .	1
Starfish Throwers Debut	2

What's Inside?



-  **April 30, FAL Free Jazz Concert (see p 3)**
-  **May 3 Teen Book Club (see p 4)**
-  **May 5,6,7 Book Sale (see p 1)**
-  **May 8, Alameda Book Club (see p 4)**
-  **May 9 Alameda Great Books (see p 4)**