

FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

The latest news, events and announcements from the FOTL



Photo by Don Leach, Courtesy of Daily Pilot

A Second Act

By Ray Rydell

When Sheila met Amber, The Butterfly Project was born, providing a second life for used children's books.

For most of the last 100 years, the basic tool to learn to read was a book, *Dick and Jane*. Reading became the key to education, literature, arithmetic, mathematics, history, chemistry, and the world of social living. So, it is little wonder that Sheila Plotkin, FOTL member since 2004, did not look forward to the monthly process of pulling the children's books that had spent two months on the used bookshelves. These 2-month old books faced an unknown future. But things were about to change when Amber Cambria made her monthly visit to replenish her stock of children's books.

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A Second Act

Continued from page 1

The two book lovers struck up a friendship when Amber started looking at the pulled assortment and Sheila encouraged her to take them all. The conversation between the two turned to books, literacy, and Little Free Libraries.

Amber is a teacher for the online public school, California Connections Academy. She makes regular trips to the Central Library with her 4-year-old son, Davide. She likes to visit the Used Book Store, looking for children's books \$1 or less to refill Little Free Libraries or to hand out at school events. Sheila invited Amber to return on the next day that she would be pulling books and Amber could take those unwanted books and distribute them.

Amber was pleased to see these unwanted books going to new homes and new readers. She and her son love butterflies and plant milkweed each spring for them. Thinking of the butterfly life cycle, Amber couldn't help but compare the rejuvenation of the unwanted books and thus the name Butterfly Project was born. With a name, Amber went on to create a Facebook page for people looking for children's books.

The next month when she told Sheila about the name and the Facebook page, Sheila said she had something for Amber. Sheila had found a notecard inside a donated book; it featured a monarch butterfly. The two agreed that this was meant to be. The butterfly card now sits on Amber's desk.

The Butterfly Book Project has proved a success with one organization supplying 120 books each year to a Westminster school. Each book has a note of encouragement for the reader. A high school student group has asked for books to help stock Little Free Libraries they are installing in the Fountain Valley community. The same student group needs children's and pre-teen books for a Little Free Library at the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Valley.

For those of you who don't know Sheila Plotkin, she has been a FOTL member since 2004. In that time, she has served as President for three years, volunteered in the gift shop for two years, and has spent the rest of her time in the Used Book Store. Her dedication is evident based on her statement: "I work Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 8 am to whenever."

A few other things you should know about Sheila: she spent 27 years working at Mervyns and was a volunteer at Fountain Valley Hospital for 30 years. She is 4 foot 6 inches tall, walks four miles a day, and has a personalized license plate that says it all: SMBTMTY, small but mighty.

Paul Bracciodieta
Marin Somoano
Marco Somoano
Rachel Somoano
David Martinez
David Meehan
Marsha Pagenkopp
Martin Reid
Timothy Wong
Stephen Kelly
Frances Ada Kai
Michael Dennis
MariaLucia
Gomez-Greenberg


Welcome New Members

Crystal Collino
Mark Orme
Anne Kim
Marilyn Reyes
David Valdez
Terry Rylski
Carol A. Craft
John Murphy

Marian Brennen
Wayne Henriksen
Connie Kahn
Deborah Parchen
Tri Ha
Eric Bies
Deb Lelcauk

Charlotte McClanahan
Lisa Thomaidis
Bridget Rosas
Terry Hauser
Josh Saucy
Margaret Robinson
Liviu Taplea
Anne Franklin
Veronica Cianciola
Tyler Stallings
Jacquelyn Alonso
Kathleen Ring
Leigh Haven-Severson
Doris Mandoki Family

AROUND THE LIBRARY



BOOK CLUBS

Central Library Book Club

Tuesday April 4th
Tuesday May 2nd
Tuesday June 6th

This first Tuesday of the month evening book club alternates monthly between online and in person meetings. April's meeting will be in person in the B Room at the Central Library. April's title is *One Italian Summer* by Rebecca Serle. Registration is required for both the in-person and online Zoom meetings.

Banning Book Club

Thursday April 20th
Thursday May 25th

The Banning Book Club has been moved to April 20th as the library is closed on April 27th for a Staff Development Day. It will resume on the last Thursday of the month in May. April's title is *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. May's title is *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle* by Stuart Turton.

Main Street Book Club

Thursday, April 20th
Thursday, May 18th

The Main Street Book Club Book Club meets at 12 noon on the third Thursday of the month. Bring your lunch (or not), but be prepared to discuss *Miss Benson's Beetle* in April and *Circling the Sun* in May.



Literary Stitchers

Friday May 12th & Friday June 9th

Knitters and needlecrafters of all ages and abilities are invited to this afternoon book club that meets on the 3rd Friday of the month. Perfect for those who want to work on their favorite project while engaging in stimulating book conversations. Literary Stitchers meets in the Talbert Room at the Central Library.

To see a complete list of all book club offerings for adults 18+, please visit <https://hbpl.libguides.com/adults/bookclubs>.

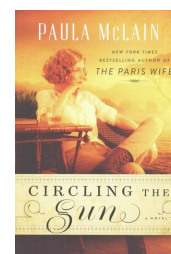
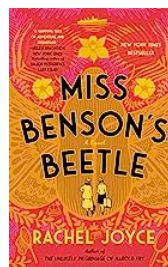
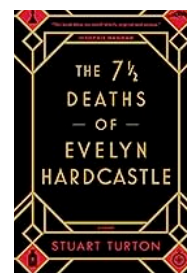
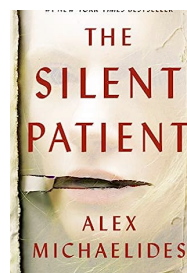


Summer

READING PROGRAM

BEGINS JUNE 24TH

Summer reading fun isn't just for kids! Spend the summer reading and you could win a beach parking pass! We'll have many events celebrating Summer at the Library for adults, so check for details on hbpl.org

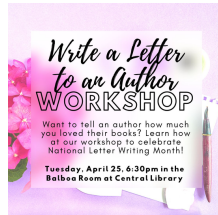


Poetry Workshop

In honor of National Poetry Month, Main Street will be hosting a poetry workshop. Local poet and teacher Kathy McGuire will walk the class through different types of poetry and exercises to get your creative juices flowing. Main Street Library, Saturday, April 8th 11:00am-12:00pm Registration is required. to register visit <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10479537>



Write a Letter to an Author Workshop



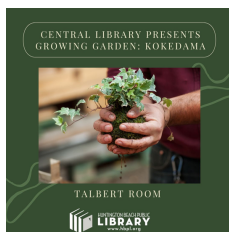
Have you ever read a book you loved so much that you wanted to tell the author but didn't know how? Learn how to reach out and offer support to writers you want to encourage at this letter-writing workshop, led by an author, to celebrate National Letter Writing Month in April! Central Library, Balboa Room *Tuesday, April 25th 6:30-8:00pm* Registration is required <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10526500>

Growing Garden

This Growing Garden program is dedicated to learning about which plants go together, why, and how to provide a good home for different types seeds or plants in one pot. We will plant a sample of companion seeds in a biodegradable pot for you to take home. Registration is required. At Oak View Branch Library, *Wednesday, April 12th 6:30pm-7:30pm* Registration required: <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10514088>



Growing Garden: Kokedama



Our next Growing Garden class is all about kokedama! Kokedama (苔玉, in English, literally "moss ball") is a ball of soil, covered with moss, inside of which a plant of your choosing grows. Supplies will be provided, but please bring any decorative accents you would like to add. Registration is required.

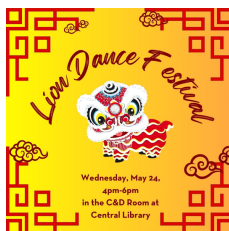
Saturday, April 22 - 11:00am - 12:00pm
To register visit: <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10442939>

HB Community Café

Come to the HB Community Cafe. We are bringing neighbors together, one conversation at a time. Contribute your thinking and listen to the experiences of others. Welcome to the table! Registration is required. *Wednesday April 26th and Wednesday May 31st 5:30pm-8:00pm* To register for April visit: <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/9594994>



Lion Dance Festival



Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with us this May at our very first Lion Dance Festival, open to all ages! Participate in our craft activities, learn how to make boba, and enjoy some snacks and refreshments. Then stay for a special Lion Dance performance by students from Magnolia High School, followed by a Q&A to learn more about their experience! This event will be held in the C&D room on the lower level of the Central Library. *Wednesday, May 24th 4:00pm-6:00pm*

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Judy S.

"Returning to her library roots"

BY MIKE SMITH

Judy grew up in the great farm state of Nebraska, in a little town by the name of Bloomfield. Judy attended grade school and high school there and then moved on to the University of Nebraska, where she majored in Business/Economics. Upon graduation, Judy went to work for Lincoln Liberty Life Insurance.

Judy got married and eventually moved to Louisville, Kentucky, due to her husband having been transferred there by General Electric. A few years later, Judy's husband was offered a transfer to Monroe, Connecticut and they gladly took it to escape the humidity of Kentucky.

While living in Monroe, Judy became interested in volunteering at the local library. Her mother had been a librarian and Judy felt this was a great way to give back to her community. Judy became very invested in her library volunteering and helped to spearhead the development of a new building which was completed in 2008.

A couple of years later Judy travelled to Huntington Beach to visit her daughter. While there, she took note of the great climate and a few years later, when her husband retired, they relocated to Huntington Beach.

It did not take long for Judy to start volunteering at Central Library in Huntington Beach. She started out as the cashier in the gift shop in 2012. As other volunteers left the library, Judy stepped up into other roles and is now one of the buyers for the gift shop.

Judy loves working in and buying for the gift shop because it offers interesting and unique items that come from small, local vendors, like non-digital toys. She also enjoys interacting and talking with all the pleasant clientele who visit the gift shop. The Friends of the Library are grateful for Judy's dedication and commitment.

SPRING PICKS

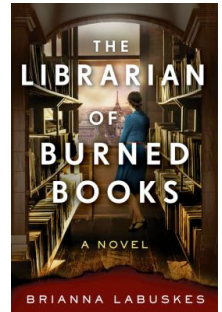


From the Library's Collection

The Librarian of Burned Books

by Brianna Labuskes

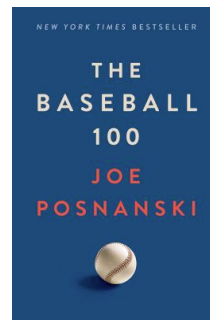
A captivating novel about books, libraries, and friendship during World War II. It features courageous women who fight censorship and Nazism with their love of books.



The Baseball 100

by Joe Posnanski

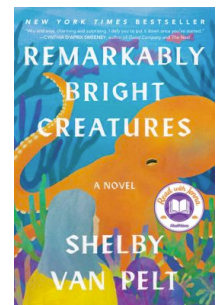
With spring officially here, the baseball season is upon us, which makes this book especially appealing. It's all about the best players in baseball and is packed with baseball lore.



Remarkably Bright Creatures

by Shelby Van Pelt

A heartwarming novel about the friendship between a lonely widow, a young man, and a giant Pacific octopus that lives in an aquarium.



MEMBERS ONLY USED BOOKS SALES

Save the Date

MAY 19
AUGUST 18
NOVEMBER 17

Teatime

By Carol Daus



The FOTL annual Valentine's Day Tea was a complete delight for those who attended on February 16. Members and guests were treated to high tea and a wide array of sweet and savory snacks, from classic cucumber sandwiches and smoked salmon crostini to berry scones and chocolate-covered strawberries. Once again, the dainty mismatched teacups and saucers, generously donated over the years by FOTL members, were a big hit!



The featured speakers included two accomplished local authors, Cristina LePort, M.D., and Janis Thomas, who shared their experiences about the craft of writing and getting published in a competitive marketplace. LePort's first novel, *Dissection*, is a medical and political thriller and Thomas's latest novel, *Finding Grace*, is a paranormal family suspense drama. Following their lively presentations, they signed books and chatted with guests.



Special Event: Vietnam War Veteran and Author

William B. Scott, former *Rocky Mountain Aviation Week and Space Technology* Bureau Chief, was the featured speaker at an author's presentation for FOTL members and their guests in March.

A Vietnam War veteran, Scott spoke about his new book, *Combat Contrails: Vietnam*, which includes 18 stories told by combatants who fought on the ground, in the air, and over the water. Following his talk, Scott held a book signing; proceeds from sales of this book support organizations for wounded warriors.

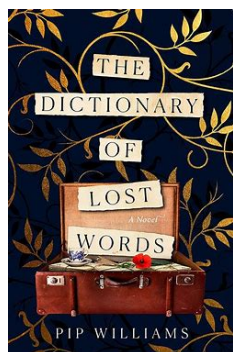
Book BUZZ

BOOK REVIEWS BY FOTL MEMBERS

THE DICTIONARY OF LOST WORDS

by Pip Williams

REVIEWED BY
CAROL DAUS, FOTL NEWSLETTER EDITOR



The Dictionary of Lost Words is a compelling, well-researched novel for lovers of historical fiction. Published in 2020, the story is about Esme Nicoll, a young girl growing up in the early 20th century in Oxford, England. As the daughter of a lexicographer working on the first Oxford Dictionary, Esme becomes

fascinated by words and their meanings. Over time, she notices words and definitions that have been omitted from the Oxford English Dictionary. As a result, she starts to compile *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, which includes words and meanings related to women's and common folks' experiences that often go unrecorded.

To create her dictionary, she leaves the sheltered world of the university setting to meet a colorful range of people whose words will fill the pages. The events take place during the height of the women's suffrage movement and World War I, which add an interesting backdrop to the story.

Inspired by real events, this thought-provoking story celebrates the power of words and how they connect us to the past, present, and future. It's not surprising that the novel is being adapted into a mini-series for television!

Shopping MADE EASY

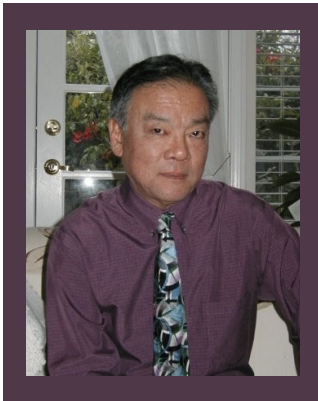
AT THE FRIENDS GIFT SHOP

Easter, Passover, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day, graduations, weddings...Just a few of the many events we celebrate this Spring. The Friends Gift Shop has that unique gift and greeting card for these and other special occasions. Be sure to stop by to see the enticing array of gifts, home décor, jewelry, toys (focused on creativity and imagination), journals, notecards, plus so much more. The Shop is operated 100% by volunteers. FOTL and FOTCL members receive a 10% discount on regularly priced merchandise. All the proceeds are donated to the library. For your gift shopping needs, and to support your library, be sure to visit the Friends Gift Shop.



Remembering

Randy Hagihara



Randy Hagihara, a long-time volunteer of the Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library and former FOTL newsletter editor, passed away at his home in Huntington Beach in January. He was 72 and had been battling esophageal cancer for a couple of years.

A highly talented and respected editor of the *Los Angeles Times* for over 20 years, Randy was known for his no-nonsense, can-do demeanor, and he loved mentoring young journalists. He joined the *Los Angeles Times* in 1990 as deputy city editor and then moved onto roles as city editor and night city editor of the Orange County bureau at a time when print newspapers played a vital role in society.

He later became *The Times'* senior editor for recruitment and headed up Metpro, the newspaper's minority recruitment program with helped many journalists find jobs at *The Times* and other publications.

After he retired, Randy spent considerable time volunteering for FOTL. In addition to being the newsletter editor for three years, he also volunteered in Used Books, helping collect and sort books, and he frequently assisted with author luncheons and other special events.

Among the volunteers he worked with, Randy was known for his dry sense of humor and sincere kindness. "Randy was a man in the best sense of the word, and I loved him like a brother," says Used Books volunteer Larry Utsler. "We were impatient and ornery like back-of-the-class schoolboys when many of the Friends' board meetings rambled on, but we were both committed to volunteering to make the library stronger."

According to MaryEllen Ellick, FOTL recording secretary, "Randy was one of the first FOTL board members I met. I can still remember attending my first board meeting, standing off to side and not sure what to do with myself. Randy came up and gave me a warm welcome to the meeting and introduced himself. Since that time, I saw him demonstrate his friendliness in all he did as a board member. He never hesitated to pitch in with a luncheon set-up, snapping a few pictures for the newsletter, and being comfortable working in the background. I am sure he is missed not only by me, but many others who were fortunate to know Randy."

Randy's wife of more than 40 years, Janet, died in 2021, as did a stepson Ian Kawata. Randy is survived by stepson Sean Kawata and a granddaughter.

USED BOOKS STORE & FRIENDS GIFT SHOP

The Used Books Store and Friends Gift Shop are both located on the main floor of the Central Library. Friends receive a 10% discount on regularly priced items at our Gift Shop and exclusive access to Members only sales throughout the year at our Used Books Store. Visit www.fotlhb.com for more information.

USED BOOKS STORE HOURS

Monday	1pm - 7pm
Tuesday - Thursday	10am - 7pm
Friday & Saturday	10am - 4pm
Sunday	12pm - 4pm

FRIENDS GIFT SHOP HOURS

Monday	1:30pm - 4:30pm
Tuesday - Saturday	10:30am - 4:30pm
Sunday	12:30pm - 4:30pm

MESSAGE FROM FOTL PRESIDENT DINA CHAVEZ

As we welcome Spring I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our amazing FOTL volunteers. Our dedicated volunteers have donated countless hours working in front of and behind the scenes to raise funds and support our wonderful library. Friends of the Library volunteers work tirelessly in our Used Books Store and Friends Gift Shop purchasing, sorting, pricing, stocking, cashiering, answering questions, fielding phone calls and so much more. Our board members are always busy at work managing Memberships, Programs, Used Books and the Friends Gift Shop. Our Newsletter team works hard to bring this quarterly newsletter to our Members to keep you up-to-date on the FOTL and the Library. Not to mention the behind the scenes work on marketing, social media, publicity and graphic design. We are so grateful to have such a robust and diverse group of people willing to give so much of their time for this worthy cause.



In May the FOTL will once again hold elections to vote on a new slate of Officers. As I reflect on my time as FOTL President I am filled with such fond memories and proud of the achievements and progress we have made as an organization facing difficult challenges these past three years. It has been a wonderful journey and I will always be grateful to all of volunteers, members and patrons that make being part of this fantastic organization something I will always be proud of. Thank you all for your support and patience with me on this wonderful journey.

MESSAGE FROM LIBRARY MANAGER JESSICA FRAMSON



Happy Spring to our Library Community! A big change recently in the Library is that the Community and Library Services Department has said farewell to our Director, Chris Slama, who had worked in this city for over 30 years. We wish him well on his next adventure but will miss his leadership. In the interim, Deputy Director Ashley Wysocki will be the Acting Director, and we are so glad to have her on our team! She has been a friendly face at numerous Library programs and events and will continue to be, so make sure to say hello and congratulations to Ashley when you see her. National Volunteer Week is April 16-22, when we say thank you to all of the dedicated and passionate volunteers we have here at the library. A huge contingent of that volunteer cadre comes from our Friends of the Library and we are grateful for your support! There's a wide array of volunteer opportunities available at the library and with the Friends, so if you're interested in supporting us in this way, visit our website to fill out an

application. So many things are coming up over the next few months at the Library: a new automated materials handling system, various cultural celebrations, book clubs, programs and events, and the kick off of our all-ages Summer Reading Program in June. Stay in touch with us and find out about all of these events through our Facebook and Instagram pages and on our events calendar at hbpl.org. See you all at the Library!

FRIENDS Membership Form

Contributions are tax deductible

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ Yes, I would like to help the environment by receiving all FOTL correspondence by email.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS New Renewal Date: _____

I would like to volunteer:

- Friends Gift Shop Friends Used Book Store
- Events Support Program Coordination
- Newsletter Production

Annual Membership Dues		Other Membership Options
<input type="checkbox"/> Seniors (55+) \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$50	

Mail to/or deposit form and payment at the Friends Gift Shop (Central Library, main floor):

Huntington Beach Library, 7111 Talbert Ave., Huntington Beach, CA 92648

To join by credit card or for additional information, go online at: www.fotlhb.com

Rev. 8-1-19



7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

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FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

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Huntington Beach Library Central Library Information

Address: 7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

Hours: **Monday 1PM - 9PM**
Tuesday - Thursday 9AM - 9PM
Friday 9AM - 5PM
Saturday 9AM - 5PM
Sunday 12PM - 5PM

Website: www.hbpl.org

Public Services: (714) 842-4481

Meeting and Banquet Rooms: (714) 960-8839

Children's Library: (714) 375-5107

Friends Gift Shop: (714) 375-8429

Branch Locations and Hours

Banning 9281 Banning Ave. (714) 375-5005

Monday - Closed **Friday - Saturday 9AM - 1PM**
Tues. - Thurs. 9AM - 5PM **Sunday - Closed**

Helen Murphy 15882 Graham St. (714) 375-5006

Monday & Wednesday 1PM - 7PM **Friday 9AM - 2PM**
Tuesday & Thursday 9AM - 2PM **Saturday & Sunday Closed**

Main Street 525 Main St. (714) 375-5071

Monday - Closed **Friday & Saturday 9AM - 5PM**
Tuesday - Thursday 9AM - 6PM **Sunday - Closed**

Oak View 17251 Oak Lane (714) 375-5068

Monday - Friday 9AM - 9PM **Sunday - Closed**
Saturday 9AM - 1PM