

# THE OPEN BOOK

Published by *Friends of the Poway Library*

[www.powayfriends.org](http://www.powayfriends.org)

October, November, and December, 2023

## ***Friends Book Store Manager Retires***

It is with regret -- but also some joy -- that we report that after more than 21 years, Friends of the Poway Library Book Store Manager John Williams has decided to retire. The “joy” part of this announcement is that although John will no longer act as Manager, he will continue to volunteer in both the Book Store and in the Back Room where the book donation processing takes place.

John began volunteering for the Friends shortly after the Library opened in its current location in 1998. At that time our Book Store was about half its current size and was only open 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. John accepted the position as Book Store Manager in the Spring of 2002. Under his management, the store began opening Tuesdays through Sundays, with evening hours on Tuesdays through Thursdays.

John guided the Book Store through the remodel of the entire Library facility a few years ago. At that time, the Book Store was temporarily moved across the Courtyard to the Meeting Room. The wait was worth it: our Book Store has nearly doubled in size and now features attractive wall display areas as well.

COVID-19 presented a completely new challenge: how to continue to raise funds while the Library and Book Store were closed. With the help of other dedicated volunteers, online sales of books were greatly expanded, an effort that continues today. Of course John was there to heartily greet our happy customers when the Book Store reopened in June of 2021.

When John announced his retirement, our first concern was that we wouldn't be seeing him anymore. He assured us that although he is stepping down as Book Store Manager, he will still work in the Back Room two days per week and his usual shift on Friday afternoons in the Book Store.



**John Williams**

John's retirement has presented the Friends with a challenge: who will be the new Book Store Manager? For the time being, we will operate as we have when John has gone on vacation: duties will be shared by Friends President Sharron Watson, Treasurer Susan Davis, and Publicity Chair Bob Masters. These three, along with other members of the “Back Room” crew are working to put down on paper the policies and procedures under which the Book Store and Back Room operate. This documentation will provide us with a framework to recruit and train a new Book Store Manager. You can be assured that when a new manager is named, we'll announce it in this newsletter.

In the meantime, please stop by the Friends Book Store to congratulate John and remember that it's not “goodbye,” it's “congratulations.”

# Message from the President of the Friends

Dear Friends,

Fall is in the air. Time for changing colors, ciders, and all things pumpkin. Holidays are busy times and can be stressful, so please take some time for yourself to relax. Curl up with a good book or movie. Our Book Store has a wonderful selection of books and DVDs as well as other media. Time to add a new recipe to your existing Holiday favorites? Come in and browse our great selection of cookbooks. Featured now on our main display table is our collection of Halloween movies and books. We also have a Specialty Display bookshelf (built by one of our volunteers) where we can focus on collections of books on a single subject. Currently we are featuring two collections: Trains and Railways and the American Civil War.



You've read on our front page about the retirement of our Book Store Manager John Williams. When you stop by to congratulate him, stay a while and chat. He loves to talk books with our patrons and if you are an avid walker, as he is, you can share your stories of walks around Poway.

In closing, please support the food drive by the San Diego Food Bank which is collecting foods to serve families in need. Our Library will be collecting food through Tuesday, October 31st during open hours. Foods needed: canned chicken and tuna, cereal, dry and canned beans, peanut butter, nuts and seeds, rice, canned and dried fruits, canned soup, canned vegetables, powdered milk, and infant formula.

Again, our thanks to all our members. Your support is invaluable.

Please have a safe and happy Holiday Season!

*Sharron Watson*  
President, Friends of the Poway Library

## **Friends of the Poway Library Board of Directors**

President:	Sharron Watson	phone: 858-486-7033;	email: <a href="mailto:bswatson@cox.net">bswatson@cox.net</a>
Vice-President:	Wendy Wickenden	phone: 858-391-8652;	email: <a href="mailto:f.wickenden2@gmail.com">f.wickenden2@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Christina Niemeyer	phone: 858-679-8932;	email: <a href="mailto:ccniemeyer@cox.net">ccniemeyer@cox.net</a>
Treasurer:	Susan Casey Davis	email: <a href="mailto:treasurer.powayfriends@gmail.com">treasurer.powayfriends@gmail.com</a>	
Director-at-Large:	Joye Davisson	phone: 858-748-7441;	email: <a href="mailto:joyead@cox.net">joyead@cox.net</a>
Membership Chair:	Donna Findley	phone: 858-521-8476;	email: <a href="mailto:pdfindley@hotmail.com">pdfindley@hotmail.com</a>
Publicity Chair:	Bob Masters	email: <a href="mailto:rmasters@cox.net">rmasters@cox.net</a>	

## **Volunteers needed**

Are you interested in volunteering, but can't commit to a regular schedule? We need additional "Back Room" volunteers to process incoming donations of books and other materials. This work does not require you to sign up for a particular shift as in the Book Store. There is much more flexibility in when you would be volunteering. Candidates should be able to lift boxes of books (20 - 30 pounds) and be comfortable with using search engines to look up books on the computer. San Diego County requires background checks of all volunteers. For more information, please contact Sharron Watson, who is not only our Friends President, she's also our Volunteer Coordinator (see contact information above).

# ***Thank you for your membership!***

September was Friends of the Poway Library Membership Renewal Month. If you have not yet renewed your membership, we would really appreciate it if you would do so now.

The Poway Library is operated by San Diego County. The books and other materials are owned by the them and they employ our staff. The facility itself (that is, the building and grounds) is owned by the City of Poway.

Where do the Friends come in? We provide financial and volunteer support in a wide variety of areas.

As stated above, books and other materials are the property of San Diego County, but the Friends contribute to their purchase. Every year, including the time our Book Store was closed due to COVID, we contributed to the County's Matching Fund to buy books (both hard copies and digital) and to pay for magazine subscriptions. From 2018 through the current year we have contributed more than \$80,000 to the Matching Fund.

We hope you and your family enjoy the wonderful programs offered free of charge at the Library, including crafts, concerts, exercise classes, magicians, clowns and other performers. The people who provide most of these programs are paid professionals, not volunteers. Most of them are paid, not by your tax dollars, but by funds raised by the Friends.

While our Book Store and online sales account for the bulk of our funds raised, your membership is important too, and not just financially. With your membership in the Friends of the Poway Library you are showing the powers-that-be at both the City of Poway and at San Diego County that the Poway Library is important to you. You are telling them that a vibrant, well-equipped, professionally-staffed library is vital to the community.

As the Friends support the Library, with your membership you are supporting the Friends. We thank you for your on-going support!

# ***Matching Funds***



Friends Vice President Wendy Wickenden presented checks totaling \$10,000 to Librarian Kathy Jung for the County's Matching Fund. On far left, Director-at-Large (Past-President) Joye Davisson and at far right Friends Secretary Christina Niemeyer, observed the handoff.

It is the mission of the Friends of the Poway Library to support the Poway Library in accordance with the needs and desires of our members and the community at large.

Our "support" primarily takes the form of good old fashioned money. We take pride in being able to contribute to the County's Matching Fund for the purchase of books and other library materials. Among other things, the money will be used to purchase many of the popular book/DVD packages such as "Hot Right Now" and "Hotter Right Now." These consist of new bestsellers and box-office hits. Additionally, the Fund will purchase for Poway Library "second tier" adult fiction titles that possibly have been well-reviewed and/or have won awards but are not on the bestseller list. We will also have non-fiction hot topics that will include cookbooks, fitness, health, self-help, travel, finance and gardening.

For younger people we will have lots of new kids' picture and chapter books, graphic novels and popular teen titles.

Come to the Library and check 'em out!

# John Williams' Birthday/Retirement Party

Friends of the Poway Library had much to celebrate: not just John's retirement as Friends Book Store Manager, but also his 86th birthday. Our potluck party included the volunteers with whom John currently works, plus we invited past volunteers, one possible future volunteer (in 20 years or so, maybe?) and Library staff, past and present.



At left, from left, Alison Leighton, who assists with online book sales, with daughter Lizzie (who obviously is fascinated by John) and John Williams.



At right, John with Mike and Susan Davis.



At left, from left, Volunteer Harry Abbott and Friends President Sharron Watson.



At right, John with past volunteer Carol Elliot.

With John at right, from left, are Librarians Kathy Jung, Seon Lee, and Farrah Mazhari. Seated, Karen Baluyot (left) and Marisa Lowe (in front).



Special thanks go to **Sharron Watson** for organizing the party and for creating exquisite Hawaiian-themed decorations.



Volunteers, past and present: seated: Kay D'Acquisto; kneeling in front: Alison Leighton with daughter Lizzie; Linda Tucker, Rose Myers.  
 Middle row, left to right, Joye Davisson, Sharron Watson, Mike Davis, Eileen Capotosto (in black), Susan Davis, Christina Niemeyer, Fanzia Mohammed, Donna Teeter, Wendy Wickenden, Carol Defenbaugh, Carol Elliot, Stephanie Rex.  
 Back row, left to right, Jeanne Rogers, Harry Abbott, Blaine Sample, John Williams, Bob Masters, Donna Findley, Bob Richardson, Chuck Henry, Bill Watson.



At left, from left, Fanzia Mohammed, Linda Tucker and Christina Niemeyer.



At right, from left, Joye Davisson, John Williams and Dorothy Courtney.

# Friends of the Poway Library Members

The Friends of the Poway Library would like to thank you, our members, for your continuing support. We also want to give recognition to our original founding members. In 1989, this handful of people got together to begin what has become a vibrant organization. To all of our members, we say a heartfelt THANK YOU!!!

## Founders

(names as shown on commemorative plaque)

Harry "Bud" Barber	Stephen & Katherine Marsh & family
Wayne & Linda Brannon	Nancee & Ron Prast
Kris & Joe Coxsey	Randy & Joey Prast
Jan & Christine Goldsmith	Samuel & Evelyn Robinson & family
Barbara & Tom Ivory & family	George & Barbara Ruge
Alan & Emma Johnston & family	Stephen & Susan Sheldon

## Lifetime Members

Mr. & Mrs. Farouk	R. Tyler Given	Mary McHeffey
Wendy Aston-Martin	Vicki Harden	Sapna Mehta
Laura Buck	Mr. & Mrs. Peter Houser	N.C.R.
Bob & Jennifer Closson	Kammann Family	Alexandra Page
Jim Crawford	Walt Kinney	Dr. James & Marilyn Stevenson
Barbara Curran	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Kopperud	Dr. & Mrs. Neil Tarzy
Joye Davisson	Larry Kroepel, M. D.	Tierra Bonita PTA
Chris Ferguson	Charlie & Barbara Lerma	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Youssi
Barbara Foley		Carolyn & Chris Zona

## Associate Members

Linda & Rick Basinger  
Ellen Kohls  
Bob & Lisa Masters  
Jean & Bill O'Daniel  
Robert & Bonnie Welch  
Sharon Wesemann

## Sponsor/Business Members

Helen Cothran  
Paul & Donna Findley  
Celeste Larson  
Christina Niemeyer & Bob Zeller  
Kathlyn Roberts  
Mary Whitehead

## Patrons

Kris & Hank Acquarelli	Nancy Hitchcox	Tom & June Robinson
Carol & Steve Anderson	Cloy Hull	Jeanne Rogers
Dave & Ginny Decoteau	Nancy Jalaty	Norine Sultana-McCall
Carol Defenbaugh	Debbie Lambert	Sharron & Bill Watson
Donna & Terry Hayes	Candus Leonard	Richard & Bonnie Weier
Debbie Hibbs	David & Gail Narevsky	

## Individuals/Families

Ann Albertson	Philip Headley	Roger & Eve Pearce
Jan Ash	Nichole Jones	John Peters
Gerard Braun & Mari Kleven	Joseph C. Kennedy	Abby Polin
Irma Cabrera-Bainbridge	Hakki Korkmaz	Aurora C. Pulido
Dorothy & Jeff Courtney	Jean Krsnak	Galina Rovner
Michael L. Davis	Marisa Lowe & Pat Driscoll	David Sanford
Susan Casey Davis	Kalina Lowery	Deborah & Neil Schneider
Blaine & Geneva Dennis	Linda Malesardi	Katie Somsel-Longmore
Trisha Evonsion & Clifton Little	Susan Moreland	Elaine Stark
Josie M. Ford	Dee Ohlsson	Ronald & Rachelle Stenger
Sue Fox	Wayne & Marla Overly	Guoliang Tao
Gaudette Family	Charles Patroske	Donna & Larry Teeter
Michael Hadlow		Wendy Wickenden

This list reflects new/renewal memberships since our last Newsletter, with the exception of those members who requested to remain anonymous. If you believe your name has been erroneously omitted, please contact our Membership Chair, Donna Findley, at [pdfindley@hotmail.com](mailto:pdfindley@hotmail.com).

## Poway Community Library

13137 Poway Road, Poway, CA 92064

Telephone: 858-513-2900

web site: www.sdcl.org

### Hours

Monday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday: 12:00 noon - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Friends Book Store

P. O. Box 1333, Poway, CA 92074-1333

Telephone: 858-513-2862

web site: www.powayfriends.org

### Hours

Monday: Closed

Tuesday & Wednesday: 12:00 noon - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## Volunteer Activities

Most of the Friends volunteers work in our Book Store or in the Back Room processing donations, but we also help out in other areas.

Volunteer Bob Masters is known as Mr. Fix-it at the Library. He is excellent at keeping all those book carts rolling.

Volunteer Jeanne Rogers helps out with the Teen After-Hours parties, where Volunteer Susan Davis regularly serves pizza (she is a certified Food Service Manager).

Thank you to these busy volunteers for taking on these additional duties!

## Friends of the Poway Library

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### ANNUAL DUES

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family: \$10/year  |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron: \$25/year             |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor/Business: \$50/year   | <input type="checkbox"/> New     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate: \$100/year         | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$250/year         |                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$1000/one time only |                                  |

### Special Matching Fund

Donation Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Cash  
 Check (Check # \_\_\_\_\_)

Please make checks payable to **Friends of the Poway Library**

P. O. Box 1333, Poway, CA 92074-1333

I would like to volunteer to help the Friends:

- in the Book Store  
 in the Book Store Work Room  
 at Courtyard Book Sales  
 Please do NOT mention my membership/  
donation in the Friends newsletter

Friends of the Poway Library  
is a non-profit, volunteer organization.  
Memberships and donations are tax  
deductible as allowed by law.

**Thank you for being a Friend!**



***Friends of the Poway Library***  
***2023 - 2024***

***Giant Book Sales***

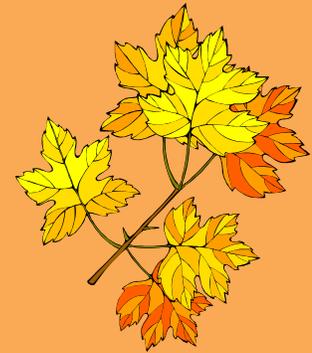
***plus DVDs, CDs, puzzles, games and more!***

***Giant Fall Sale***

**Saturday, November 18, 2023**

**Open to the public: 10:00 - 4:00**

**Friends Members Only: 9:00 - 10:00**



Mark your calendars for 2024 Book Sales:  
March 23, July 20, and November 16, 2024

Sales are held in the Courtyard of  
Poway Community Library  
13137 Poway Road

