



River
FRIENDS
OF THE
LIBRARY



September, 2022

Guerneville
Occidental
Forestville



River Friends Newsletter

VIEW FROM THE STACKS

Terry Gwiazdowski, President

Hope you're having a lovely summer! As most of you know, the Guerneville Regional Library was given an interior refresh this Spring. It reopened on Thursday, June 2 to much fanfare and the newly refurbished inside looks fabulous!

Guerneville Library has a new branch manager—Melanie McCallum. Mel seems to have fit right in with the rest of the staff. Please do drop in and get to know her.

Our fundraiser at the Rainbow Cattle Company in Guerneville on June 7 was very successful. We had over 35 raffle items, most of them gift baskets with a free service and related books such as two free hours of construction work and a few DIY manuals. We made almost \$1,400.00!

Our Spring Book and Bake Sale ran from June 29 through July 2 with a free day for the community on Tuesday, July 5. We made almost \$2,500.00 and sold many books and sweet treats.

We had an informational booth at the second annual Rio Fest on July 9. We talked with folks about the newly renovated library and the many programs offered there and gave away a free book to anyone who visited the booth. Allison, the children's librarian also held a story time for kids. A good time was had by all!

We were part of the July 14 Guerneville Farmer's Market. Stuart, the teen librarian brought over a Wi-Fi hotspot and anyone who wanted could join in to use the Internet while shopping or selling produce.

And last but not least, we had a booth at the Come Together Festival in Guerneville on Saturday, August 20. This was a combination Sesquicentennial celebration for the town of Guerneville, centennial for the old Guerneville Bridge and tenth anniversary of Rockin' the River.

Please save the dates of our Fall Book and Bake Sale (delayed from September) which will run from Wednesday through Saturday, October 19-22.

As always —

THANK YOU for your support!



River Friends of the Library

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Friends Website:

www.riverfriendsofthelibrary.org

Library web site:

www.sonomalibrary.org

Like us on Facebook/Twitter: @RFOLGuerneville

We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3)

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Spotlight On	2
Summer Book Sale	3
Library Reopening	4
Give Back Tuesday	5
Rio Fest	6
Come Together Festival	7
Garden Volunteers	7
Board Reports	8

BY THE NUMBERS

- Events so far this FY: 7
- Volunteer hours: 461+
- Volunteers at events: 73+

SPOTLIGHT ON: BRANCH MANAGER—MEL



MEL @ GUERNEVILLE

Mel, our new branch manager has been on the job about 3 months. She has worked in libraries for about 20 years and she credits the librarians at San Francisco State for her career interest because she was impressed with how they handled requests for private library patron information under the Patriot Act.

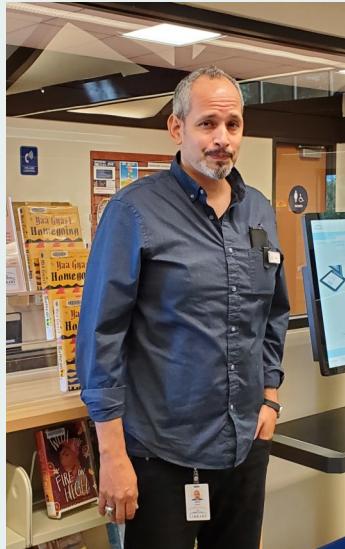
What Mel likes best about libraries is that they are free and egalitarian for all people. Public libraries are the last place in society where you can visit and just be. Mel believes her role includes support for social justice issues.

Mel doesn't have a favorite book but she mentioned Ursula Le Guin and James Baldwin as among her favorite authors. She is currently reading "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi, a monthly selection for the book discussion group for adults at the Library.

Mel's hobbies include making art and going to art shows. She also enjoys a good walk and hiking. Welcome Mel!

Come see your new library and get to know the new staff.

SPOTLIGHT ON: ADULT LIBRARIAN—JASON



JASON @
GUERNEVILLE

Jason is the very new adult services librarian. He will serve as the librarian on Sundays once those new hours are determined and start toward the end of this year.

Jason's first job was as a Page at the Santa Clara City Library. He worked in various positions at several library systems over the last 20 years. He credits his job at Stanford Law Library working with students in a leadership role as the assignment that cemented his career in libraries.

He believes that libraries are welcoming and available to everyone and that they enhance people's lives through lifelong learning.

As for a favorite book or author, Jason likes Euro Noir books in the mystery genre. His favorite author is Jean-Claude Izzo. He is currently reading "The Wheel of Doll" by Jonathan Ames.

Among Jason's hobbies he loves playing guitar and also writes poetry and stories. And believe it or not, he enjoys working on his house. Welcome Jason!

SUMMER 2022 BOOK AND BAKE SALE REPORT

We had a great summer book and bake sale which ran from Wednesday June 29 through Saturday, July 2. This is the last one that Ursula will be spearheading. Thank you Ursula for all you have done for the River Friends of the Library!

We had 23 volunteers who spent almost 300 hours on this sale. We had 11 folks who baked all the great goodies we sold as well.

The community really came out for this one and we made almost \$2,500.00 from the books, odds and ends, and sweet treats. Because of the July 4th holiday, our free day for the community was held on Tuesday, July 5.

Afterwards, volunteers took the remaining materials to local thrift stores so none of the items were discarded.



We need a new Book and Bake Sale Chair. Thank you Ursula!

SUMMER SALE CONTINUED

In addition to Ursula I wanted to highlight Peter Andrews, Peter Bulkley, Duane Nibblett, Lonnie Hoyt and Damien Olsen for their help with getting us ready for the sale and helping with the remaining books.



SUMMER SALE

LIBRARY REFRESH REOPENING



LIBRARY REFRESH

The Guerneville Regional Library had a complete renewal inside with all new shelving, furniture, computers, a new service desk and many new books and other materials.

Instead of being closed completely for the entire several month project, the library chose to only be closed totally during a few weeks. For the rest of the time, there was minimal service through the community meeting room. Folks could return their materials, check out their holds and use the one or two public computers briefly.

The library reopened to much fanfare on Thursday, June 2nd at 10 a.m. The River Friends contributed the refreshments and snacks for the grateful community who were very happy to have their library fully refreshed and looking fabulous!

Our Halloween event will be Monday, October 31 from 3-5:30 p.m.

LIBRARY REFRESH PICTURES



FLOWERS DONATED BY
OUR LOCAL SAFEWAY



GIVE BACK TUESDAY FUNDRAISER

We had a great fundraiser at the Rainbow Cattle Company in Guerneville on July 9. Our volunteer extraordinaire, Jennifriend had a great idea for raffle prizes. We put together baskets with gift certificates for a special service such as a massage coupled with Yoga books, two free hours of construction work coupled with DIY manuals, and many more. Lots of volunteers donated items, searched for applicable books, brought great baskets and then worked to put everything together.

We served a delicious dinner of both vegetarian and meat lasagna, bread, salad and a great assortment of dessert goodies for \$5.00. Thank you to our local businesses who donated items and to all the cooks and bakers.

Russian River Sister of Perpetual Indulgence—Sister Yanita Letgo got the crowd excited and ran our raffle. Everything was claimed and I hope all the gift certificates get used. We made almost \$1,400.00 from the sale of dinner and raffle tickets. The Cattle Company also donated 10% of the bar that night as well. It was a lot of work and very, very much fun!



FUN-RASISER!

Thank you to all our event volunteers. You ROCK!

GIVE BACK TUESDAY PICTURES



FUN-RAISER!

RIO FEST INFORMATION BOOTH



RIO FEST

We had a small but lively group at the second annual Rio Fest celebration on July 9 from 1 to 7 p.m.

We had all the informational brochures and flyers both for the Guerneville Library and for our upcoming events.

Duane and Ursula handled set-up. Jen, Anita and Ginger handled the 2-4 p.m. shift and Terry and Jen were on duty from 4-7 p.m. We gave out a free book to everyone who visited our booth.

Allison, the Guerneville Library children's librarian had a story time in the afternoon with many children in attendance. A fun event for all!

The Fall Book and Bake Sale dates are October 19-22. Save the dates!

FARMER'S MARKET INFORMATION BOOTH



FARMERS MARKET

On July 14, the River Friends hosted an informational booth at the Guerneville Farmers Market from 3 to 7 p.m. Thanks to the seven volunteers who spent a total of 17 hours in readying the booth and serving in the booth. They were Anita, Ursula, Duane, Ginger, Norma, Terry and our Teen Librarian Stuart.

Our new branch manager, Mel came by on her day off to show the visitors and vendors how to connect to the Library's big, new Wi-Fi hotspot. Stuart was a great help in answering visitor questions about the Library and its programs.

We had a selection of books for sale and information brochures as well as flyers on upcoming events. We also had our button maker for folks to use.

We are looking for more volunteers to organize and run this event so we can partner with the Farmers Market every week next year. Come join us—these are fun, weekly events!

COME TOGETHER FESTIVAL

Seven volunteers helped with staffing, set-up, and break-down of the booth at this special event. Ursula, Duane, Norma, Damien, Dee, Anita, Elizabeth and her husband, Peter volunteered a total of almost 30 hours.

Allison, the Guerneville Library children's librarian brought the big, portable Wi-Fi hotspot and touched base with many of the parents and children in attendance. It was a very hot day so there was no story time held.

Besides the usual informational flyers and brochures, we handed out free books, coloring pages, bubbles and tote bags. The free books and some of the bags were donated by the Library.



COME TOGETHER
FESTIVAL

Winter Wreath and Bake Sale is December 10 from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m.

LIBRARY GARDEN UPKEEP VOLUNTEERS

The River Friends also keeps the library garden in tip-top shape. We recently purchased a new sun umbrella for the picnic table and we got a few new ceramic critters to add to the bunny and turtle we already had.

Ursula has been the driving force for this program and the original team of Linda, Ginger and Ursula expanded this May to include Pam.

In addition to watering and weeding, the garden crew plants new flowers and other landscape plants and adds soil amendments as needed.

There are also two standing planter boxes that the Children's Librarian Allison is planning to use to encourage children to plant vegetables and learn about nature and ecology.



GARDEN CREW

OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

Terry Gwiazdowski,
President
Chair, Newsletter

Damien Olsen, Vice President
Chair, Readers Theater

Anita Elam, Treasurer

Elisa Baker, Secretary

Book and Bake Sale
VACANT

Gina Dallara
Chair, Membership

Publicity Chair
VACANT

Young Writers Contest
BJ Kowal

Art Committee Chair
VACANT

Angie Orr, President Emeritus

RIVER FRIENDS BOARD REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Report for the period May 1, 2022—September 7, 2022. These are the major revenue sources: Book Sales of \$3879.42; Online Book Sales through Book Forest of \$917.32; Book Cart and Forum Room sales of \$515.26; Donations of \$310.05; New member and renewal dues of \$305.00; other income: \$314.74

Major expenses include: Meeting expenses of \$961.04; Library requests of \$515.23; Forestville storage unit rental of \$325.00; supplies and materials of \$347.45

Gross profit of \$5,154.14 with a net profit of \$3,525.00. Our current balance is \$57,115.20.

Membership Report

We have 114 members who are current on their membership dues. This includes our 55 lifetime members. We have received \$375.00 in donations since the beginning of April.

River Friends of the Library
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Mailing label here