



The President’s Message—Cheryl Fletcher

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New Year Reflections - Cheryl Fletcher

Happy New Year!! We are still in search of someone to take over as president, but for now I'll continue as president on a month to month basis in order to support our wonderful libraries, our library community, and getting books into as many hands as possible. I've been thinking about new beginnings and the word revival comes to mind.

Revival: renewed attention to or interest in something. In 2025 I encourage you to renew an interest in Friends of Costa Mesa Libraries, as well as Donald Dungan & Mesa Verde Libraries.

R - Read!!! Join one of our book clubs, make reading goals on your own or track your books with an app like StoryGraph.

E - Educate yourself on the current issues that can have a positive as well as negative impact on your local libraries.

V - Visit your local library. When was the last time you stepped into your local library? Go!! There's a whole lot more than books at the library!

I - Invest in FOCML = an investment in your community. Renew your membership, or upgrade to an Annual Patron Membership or a Life Membership.

V - Volunteer your time and talents. We still need to fill positions on our board, or lend a hand and help us out when we have the Friends' booth at community events.

A - We Appreciate all the gently loved books that you donate to Friends of Costa Mesa Libraries Bookstores.

L - Library of Things is a wonderful program set up by OCPL and includes musical instruments, gardening tools, a sewing machine and outdoor games that can be checked out from Donald Dungan Library. Come into DD Library and see all that is available in the Library of Things.

In Memoriam

Alice Speakman was a volunteer at Mesa Verde Bookstore since 2012. She worked with our Friday group. She had been a school teacher but later in life gave much of her time volunteering. She would read out loud to the children who visited the bookstore and would also engage the customers with her charm. She was fiery and opinionated, but also a loving, giving and a great conversationalist.

Alice passed on October 25, 2024 and is greatly missed.

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Our Annual Meeting! - February 15th at 3:00 pm

A Love Affair With Writing

In Conversation With Author Richard Bausch

Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries presents a fabulous February program: *A Love Affair With Writing*, featuring award-winning author and esteemed Chapman professor Richard Bausch.

Join us on Saturday, February 15th at 3:00pm - the Adams Room of the Donald Dungan Library. The first 25 attendees will receive a complimentary copy of Bausch's novel PEACE, recently named in a New York Times list of 'best books under 200 pages.' The novel was also adapted into the 2020 film *Recon*.

Bausch has authored 13 novels and 9 collections of short stories (the 10th, *The Fate of Others*, will be released in spring). Among his long list of honors are The 2004 PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story, The Dayton Literary Peace Prize for PEACE, and, in 2013, the prestigious Rea Award for 'achievement and influence on the art of the short story.'

The event is free and open to the public, so invite your reader friends for an enjoyable discussion with our special guest, Richard Bausch.

Be a Friend!

Be a friend to your libraries and your community by joining Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries. We have many levels of membership, but an individual is only \$15 a year. You'll help the libraries support the Costa Mesa community with a variety of programs, including: cooking and crafting classes, literacy nights for local elementary schools, family fun nights, author events with free books for attendees, and creative kids programs. We are an all-volunteer organization working to make our libraries shine. So be a friend! And join—or renew—today!

Costa Mesa Libraries Are Here To Serve You!

See the QR Code for the Calendar



Sarita Dangond, Branch Manager
Donald Dungan Library
 1855 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa
 949/646-8845



Vivian Strabala, Branch Manager
Mesa Verde Library
 2969 Mesa Verde Drive, Costa Mesa
 714/546-5274

Hours: Mon – Thurs 10am – 7pm and Fri - Sun 9am – 5pm

OC Public Libraries www.ocpl.org

A Library for Everyone

Costa Mesa Libraries, part of OCPL, are community hubs, connecting people to essential services and resources and building communities of lifelong learners.

OCPL helps our communities learn, explore, connect and have fun! Our programs explore arts, culture, health, civics, science, history and technology. Career and business resources assist job seekers and small businesses. Online, library patrons access databases, research materials, stream videos, listen to eBooks and receive reference services and homework help via chat.

OCPL introduced the [Library of Things](#) collection in 2024. Costa Mesa Donald Dungan houses a portion of the collection.

An online [study room reservation](#) system was introduced in 2024. Costa Mesa Donald Dungan has two study rooms, which were booked 70% of the time in 2024:

1,364 users
 2,787 bookings
 4,310 hours used

Approximate combined 2024 Donald Dungan and Mesa Verde Library statistics:

300,000 patrons visited.
 400,000 items were borrowed.
 42,000 patrons attended 851 programs, storytimes, book clubs, craft and author events.
 28,000 internet hours were used.
 150,000 wireless hours were used.
 7,883 new and replacement library cards were issued.

Why buy when you can borrow?

Please visit your branch in person or online at www.ocpl.org/events for current programming information, including storytimes, author events, book clubs, and fun events for children, teens, and adults!

Your Membership Matters

Dear Friends,

Once again the holidays were here and gone in a flash! It is unbelievable that we are in 2025 already. The friends are going to continue with our membership perks into the New Year.

All members who have joined or renewed for 2025 or have a Lifetime Membership will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a \$25.00 gift card to a local business, a friend's book bag or a \$5.00 bookstore coupon. These drawings will be held 4 times a year. Here are the winners for our first drawing for 2025.

- * Karen and Joe Barloon >> \$25.00 giftcard to Raising Canes
- * Morten and Marcia Kieler >> Friend's bookbag
- * Rachel Peri >> \$5.00 bookstore coupon

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries invites you to join or renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Become a Friend now and your membership will not expire until December 31, 2025.

We have provided a membership form in the newsletter or you may join on our website. Your membership expiration date is printed on your newsletter address label. For our members who receive the Binding by email please contact us for your expiration date.

Be sure and stop by one or both of our great bookstores for some great bargains on books. We hope that you are able to join us at our next book sale event.

We appreciate your continuing support very much and hope to hear from you soon.

Cheryl and Maurice Dollison

V.P., Membership

Special Thanks to Our 2025 Patrons!

Karen & Joe Barloon	Chloe & Edward Conti	Megan Delaney	Irene Engard
Shannon Gibson	Darlene Griffin	Cheiko Ishiyama	Deborah & Terry Koken
Lane & Linda Koluvek	Julie Lawson & Family	Deborah Lucas	Ellida Maki
Patricia & Russell McFarland	Susan & Michael McGuire	Miroaki Nakamura	Ursula G. Oien
Tina Reinemann & Denise Palaferri	Terry Ratfield	Barbara & Dan Rycroft	Mike & Sandi Scheafer
Nora Sharpe	Bert Smith	Elizabeth White	Ethelyn A. Wilson
Bonnie Winslow			

Our Very Special Friends Our Life Members

Judy & Norman Ablett	John D. Adams, Jr.	Susan & Richio Aikawa	Richard Alexander
Susie & Harlan Andersen	Janette Anderson	Laura Anderson & Ted Schulman	
Lisa & Joe Banning	Toby & Peter Baran	Kathy & Jess Bequette	Carolyn Bjork
Darcy & Ross Bolton	Millie & Myron Bonca	Dale Braun	Wendy Bryan
AA & Audrey Burnand	Chris Cameron & Bill Butler	Steph Campbell	LuAnn & Rick Campo
Ken Cave	Victoria Chau	Susanna Clemans	Jon & Katie Crawford
Tracey & Hugh Daschbach	Victoria Davis	Marian & Pete Dickey	Cheryl & Maurice Dollison
Joan M. Donahue	Jane & Randy Embrey	Susan Baer Epstein	Patricia Evans
Lori Ann Farrell	Lois & James Fisher	K. & J. Fitzpatrick	Cheryl & Jonathan Fletcher
Marilyn M. Fry	Mae Gale	Joanne C. Gant	Sydney & Larry Gielow
Thomas & Judith Gielow	Mary Ellen Goddard	Tamar & Dan Goldmann	Elizabeth Grant
Anne Hinkle	Mary Hornbuckle	Cheryl Hosman	Raymond & Branka Hubbard
Ruby Hunt	Diana Jason	Diane Richardson Johnson	Hans Kammeyer
Debby & Terry Koken	Sue & Kurth Krause	Janet Krochman	Judith & Andy Lamb
Peggy Lenhart	Regina Lesley	Susan Lester	Rachel Levin
Lea Lowe	Carolyn Marsh	Jeff Mathews	Christy McAnlis
Robert Mohr	Katherine Monsour	Barbara & Steve Morihoro	David Morihoro
Sandra & Joe Moyer	Brion Munsey	Crystal Nay	Sherrie & Darrell Neft
James M. Neighbors	Dolores N. Nevins	Minh Nguyen	Thuc X. Nguyen
Emily Nytschik	Cheryl & Bob Ooten	Sue Paskerian	Elizabeth V. Pattison
Diane Pavesic	Roberta & Avi Peri	David & Jessica Pierucci	M. & D. Pietenpol
Cynthia Reynolds	Roz Mattson Riessen	Lene & Jim Righeimer	John D. Rittenhouse
Carolyn Russell	Dianne Louise Russell	T. & R. Rutledge	Barbara & Dan Rycroft
Tina & Ken Ryder	Terry Sanders	Candi & Tony Sary	Arlene Schafer
Sandi & Mike Scheafer	Belinda Schober	Laurie Schoner	In Memory of Judy Shane
Marilyn & Terry Shaw	Willa Sigler	Gene Stanley	Dean & Donna Stapleton
Barbara Steck	Trinh Al & R. Tasedan	Barbara Thibault	Carolyn Thomas
Pauline Thomas	Janet Thompson	Aniz Uhler	Sam & Cindee Watson
Patricia Weed	Laurie & Larry Weichman	Kathleen West	Joyce Woerner
Alison & Andrew Wright	Van O. Wright	Donna Yelich	Arlene Young
Kathie & Ray Young			

Los Angeles Libraries and the Fires

The Los Angeles Public Library's Palisades Branch Library was destroyed, and of course there may be others. Now we should stop and recognize the unwavering dedication of libraries to show up and step in where they can and to serve their communities with supplies and information. FEMA representatives have used seven libraries throughout Los Angeles County to answer residents' questions and help them apply for disaster relief, Los Angeles County Topanga Library operated as a temporary shelter, and have been handing out supplies to residents. One way you might want to help is to donate to the American Library Association's relief efforts at: <https://www.ala.org/aboutala/offices/cro/getinvolved/disasterreliefforts>.

Friends of the Library—Business Members

 <p>Pat O'Toole-Davis Property Manager/Broker pat@patodavis.com Office: 949.631.4855 Cell: 949.631.4855</p>	 <p>Public Affairs Department 1965 Placentia Avenue Costa Mesa, CA 92627 tel: 949.631.1201 fax: 949.574.1036 info@MesaWater.org</p>
 <p>Raul Jara 2033 Harbor Blvd. Costa Mesa, CA 92627 949.642.8113 fax: 949.642.7150</p>	 <p>Bob Ooten Comedian or 0010 714 545 9613 message bobbyooten@aol.com facebook Bob Ooten #bob_ooten</p>
 <p>Mike Scheeler Agent, Lic. #0640331 1051-B Baker Street Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3742 Bus: 714-435-0300 mss@spennet.com www.mikescheeler.com</p> <p><small>The photo copyright goes to the photographer.</small></p>	 <p>Lil' Pickle FAMOUS SUBMARINES</p>

What Can You Do To Combat Book Banning?

The Unite Against Book Bans website (<https://uniteagainstbookbans.org/>) has a toolkit for political advocacy against book bans. Steps they recommend are:

- Contact decision makers such as local, state and federal politicians to express your concern about book bans. Petitions that express the view of many people can have a large impact.
- Contact local media to alert them to efforts to challenge or ban books. Or write a letter to the editor to express your concern.
- Mobilize your community to speak out against efforts to ban books. Use social media tools to raise awareness of the issue.
- Read and talk about books, including those that have been challenged or banned. You might consider recommending a banned book to your book club!

The top banned book:

Gender Queer by Maia Kobabe—Challenged for: LGBTQIA+ content as sexually explicit.

One of the best places to go for more information on book bans is PEN America, which stands at the intersection of literature and human rights to protect free expression in the United States and worldwide. In the last school year PEN reports the highest number of book bans ever: 10,046!



Supporting Excellence in Library Services Since 1960

Our Libraries

Donald Dungan Library

1855 Park Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA 92627
949.646.8845

Mesa Verde Library

2969 Mesa Verde Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714.546.5274

Friends Used Book Stores

located at

- Mesa Verde Library
- Donald Dungan Library

Contact Information

Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries
2969 Mesa Verde Drive East
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714.438.0517

www.friendscmlibraries.org
friendscmlibraries@att.net

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Level	Amount	Benefit Description
Circle One		
Individual	\$15/year	<i>The Binding</i> newsletter, e-mail notification of special events and activities.
Family	\$20/year	Same as above.
Patron	\$50/year	Same as above, PLUS Friends tote bag & acknowledgement in each issue of <i>The Binding</i> newsletter and our website.
Life	\$200	Same as above, PLUS placement on Life Membership rolls in our libraries and in each issue of <i>The Binding</i> newsletter.
Business/Organization	\$100/year	Same as Patron, PLUS business card size advertisement in each issue of newsletter and a framed sponsorship certificate suitable for framing.
Benefactor	\$500	Same as Patron, PLUS recognition at our book used stores.
Life Business	\$1,000	Same as Business/Organization for Life.

Name/Contact:

Street:

City, State, Zip:

Phone:

Business Name:

Email:

Website:

How would you like to receive *The Binding*? Circle one: Email or Postal Mail

Membership, Circle one: New or Renewing

Please make checks payable to: **Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries.**
Mail check & Membership Application to address listed under Contact Information, Attention Membership.

Thank you for your membership and help.

Want to help more?

Please volunteer a little of your time. We Train!

If your interested in volunteering,

please circle areas of interest below or specify an interest, we will give you a call.

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Bookstore | • Serve on a Committee | • Serve on Friends' Board |
| • Public Relations | • Membership | • Other _____ |
| • Marketing | • Book Sale Day | _____ |

THE BINDING

The Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries
2969 Mesa Verde Drive East
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Web: www.friendscmlibraries.org
E-mail: friendscmlibraries@att.net
Phone: 714-438-0517



Friends of the Costa Mesa
Libraries



@friendsofthecostamesalibraries



Winter 2025

“The Binding” is published four times each year—Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July), Fall (October). The Binding is for the staff, volunteers, and members of the Friends of the Costa Mesa Libraries.

Current Board Members of the Friends:

- President—Cheryl Fletcher
- V.P. Membership—Cheryl & Maurice Dollison
- V.P. Programs—Candi Sary
- Secretary—**Open**
- Treasurer—Branka Hubbard
- The Binding—Steph Campbell, Editor
- Webmaster—**Open**

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Articles for submission should be written in Microsoft Word and emailed to scampbell0128@gmail.com with “Newsletter Submission” in the subject line. Photos are encouraged. Submission does not guarantee publication.

PLEASE NOTE: The expiration date of your membership is now located above your name on the mailing label (shown above). If your membership has expired, please complete the enclosed **Membership Application** and mail it to our address or contact Friendscmlibraries@att.net