



Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

131 E. Las Flores Avenue 📖 Ridgecrest, California 93555

Home Page: www.ridgecrestfriends.org

Quarterly Newsletter

November 2016 - January 2017

Fall Book Sale

By Bill Eichenberg, Treasurer

Our fall book sale took place on Saturday 17 September and Saturday 24 September 2016. The weather cooperated and helped to facilitate a large turnout. The first Saturday netted approximately \$ 2,300 and the second Saturday brought in \$ 1,300, for an overall total of just over \$3,600, which compares very favorably with our prior sales. All of the monies raised will go toward enhancing the operation of our local Ridgecrest Branch Library.

This sale could only have been as successful as it was because of the hard work and dedication of the almost 60

volunteers who gave of their time and energy

to make it happen. Preparation for the sale started several weeks before with the set-up of tables and the unpacking and arranging of the books and other media for the public to view and select from. Schedules were developed for volunteers who worked the day of the sale to bring out new items to replace those that had been sold. After the sale more volunteers were needed to repack those books that had not sold and needed to be returned to stock.

These semi-annual

sales are very popular with the community and are a major source of revenue for the Friends. Thanks to the generous donations of used books and other media by our members and the public we are able to offer a great selection of material at very reasonable prices. Since all of this effort benefits our local library everyone wins. Thanks to all of you who helped put this on and those of you who came out and made purchases. Don't forget that we sell books and media at the library during open hours, and we have new material weekly so come by and check us out.



REMEMBER, BOOKS, MAGAZINES, T-SHIRTS, AND BOOK BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR ONGOING SALE AT THE LIBRARY.

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Friends of Kern County Library since 1986. Visit the County Library web site at www.kerncountylibrary.org

A Proud Partner of



Giving Locally, Helping Locally

Board of Directors

President

Sandy Bradley
(760) 371-3590
sandy.bradley@verizon.net

Vice President: Memberships

Carol Pearson
(760) 375-7258
capears66@iwvvisp.com

Vice President: Book Sales

Victoria Schauf
(760)-384-8042
schaufv@gmail.com

Treasurer

Bill Eichenberg
(760)375-8798
billeichenberg@mchsi.com

Secretary

Barbara Lupei
(760)375-0304
lupei@verizon.net

Members-at-Large

Peggy Johnson
Vicki Siegel

Past President

Roy Parris

Acting Branch Supervisor

Charissa Wagner

Board Meeting Calendar

November 16, 2016
January 18, 2017
February 15, 2017
March 15, 2017

No meetings in June, July, or December

Meetings are held in the Library's Community Room at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. **YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** Use the Community Room entrance on the west side of the Library

Library Hours

Mon. Closed
Tues. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Wed. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Thurs. 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Fri. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sat. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sun. Closed

Phone: (760) 384-5870



President's Message

By Sandy Bradley



Bad libraries build collections
Good libraries build services
Great libraries build communities.

R. David Lankes

I have been thinking a lot about this quote. I have been able to visit many libraries throughout the world and especially in the U.S. I am very excited about the ones in Colorado and Ohio. Those two states understand the worth of libraries and continue to invest in them. They see the value to their communities, and many of their libraries offer wonderful resources – my favorites are the maker spaces. Sadly, this is not yet true here, as our county and city budgets remain constrained.

As I speak to Ridgecrest residents about the library, I hear concern, but I also hear hope that our library may improve in the future. People have told me that they want to see greater resources for the youth in our city. The library has done a great deal to improve services to teens. We see poetry and video projects, STEM kits, Legos and craft programs. The collection includes young adult literature and graphic novels. We'd like to improve on that with a homework center and a Maker Space.

Right now that is just a dream, but as long as we have dreams and hopes we will continue to work to reach as many of them as possible. We know that dreaming is not enough, we must follow up with actions. So, we have met with our county librarian, Nancy Kerr, and our field representative, Denny Kline. We shared our dreams and hope to find space and support to make them a reality.

I hope you will share with us what you want the library to be. Let us know what is important to you in a library, and what we can do to improve our library. Our staff is excellent, but we can work on resources, space, and financial support. We are moving forward and hope you will join us.

Gift Certificates make great holiday stocking stuffers for those book-lovers on your list! The Friends of the Library has them available in the bookshop in the Community Room any time there's a volunteer on duty Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. They can be in any denomination from \$5 up and can be used to purchase anything in the store - even movies and CDs. You can have your choice of festive colored envelopes to fit any special occasion!



LIBRARIAN'S

By Charissa Wagner, Acting Branch Supervisor

CORNER

Summer Reading Challenge statistics are in, and we had a very successful summer. We had a total of 334 children, 21 teens, and 25 adults finish the "Read for the Win" Summer Reading Challenge of reading 10 books or more. In fact, there was a total of 5,005 books read by Ridgecrest Branch Library borrowers in June and July of 2016. This summer we tried having activities more often in response to people requesting activities on other days because certain days didn't work out well for them to attend. It was a lot of work but we managed to have activities on multiple days of the week, every week of Summer Reading Challenge.

Of course, it would not have been successful without the wonderful support of the Friends and the community. Here is a list of sponsors:

- McDonalds** (free ice cream cone)
- Pizza Factory** (free kids pizza bread and kids drink)
- Baskin Robbins** (free ice cream scoop)
- Little Caesars** (free breadsticks)
- Bear Hugs** (free frozen yogurt)
- Albertson's** (free reusable fresh fruit card)
- City of Ridgecrest Parks & Rec Dept.** (free one time use Pinney Pool pass)
- Jack-in-the-Box** (free shake or free fries)
- Red Rock Books** (4 \$5 gift certificates)
- High Desert Fitness** (2 personal training sessions or 5 class pass)
- Just Imagine** (manga, comic books, table game guides)
- Evan Etoch Memorial Foundation** (sponsorship of the Stuntmasters BMX Impact Show)
- Indian Wells Brewing Co.** (36 four-packs of soda)
- Roaming Dog Kitchen** (\$96 in gift certificates)
- Pure Healing Foods** (20 free smoothies)
- Maturango Museum** (\$50 in gift certificates)
- Walmart** (\$50 in gift cards)
- Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library** (themed incentives, plus Wild Child Bubble Adventure, E & M's Reptile Family, ii V I Jazz Trio, and numerous individual events throughout the summer)

The library is working hard to transform our image of being "a building with books" to being something more in the community. Community partnerships are definitely a way to do that. This past August, there was a partnership formed between the Desert Empire Fairgrounds, Ridgecrest Addiction Awareness, and the Ridgecrest Branch Library to plan a Glow Run. Funds raised from this event would be used to target programs for our teen population. The Glow Run was a huge success, with \$900 going towards each group involved, and the date is already set for Glow Run 2017. Another new event the library put on was a Pub Trivia with permission from Casey's Steaks and BBQ. The Pub Trivia event is something that Beale has been doing monthly at a local brewery. Casey's was determined to be the best location for a Ridgecrest Pub Trivia event, and there were 5 teams and 26 people in attendance. The current plan is to start up again in 2017 with a regular Pub Trivia every other month. Teams of 3-5 people test their brains and at the end, the winning team members get to choose a \$10 gift certificate.

(See **LIBRARIAN'S CORNER**, Page 4)

(**LIBRARIAN'S CORNER**, continued from Page 3)

Some exciting news! Kern County Library has received a \$75,000 Library Services and Technology grant from the California State Library to start a pilot project at the three busiest branches: Beale Memorial, Ridgecrest, and Southwest. The "We Tech So You Tick" grant will provide digital literacy workshops, portable chargers, Chromebooks for in-house checkout, and wired furniture (similar to what has already been purchased by the Friends). When the Community Surveys were done at the Kern County Library branches, two technology priorities were identified: seating and tables to plug in their devices and more technology training and workshops. Since digital literacy and internet access are now needed for many daily tasks, this project will address needs of the communities served by the Kern County Library system in an attempt to bridge the gap. We should be seeing this new stuff in the coming months. And in other exciting (and related) news, this means that the money that was previously earmarked for additional furniture can now be spent on other things.



Little Free Libraries

Photos courtesy of *Little Free Libraries.org*



Many of you have seen some of the small libraries in yards in town and in other communities. There are a variety of designs but most of them are small and have only one or two rows of books.

In Ridgecrest, two are registered in the official guide to Little Free Libraries with the Little Free Library Organization, littlefreelibrary.org. Others exist but may not be officially numbered and registered. These little libraries fill in the gaps for many who may find travel difficult or expensive and those who may be socially isolated.

The usual mini library is tiny, and is housed in a wooden box or covered shelf. It operates on the simple principle of take one and leave one. Some are well built and painted or crafted into barns, trains, and other interesting shapes. They are only censored or controlled by the users themselves. Some may separate children's books from adult books, yet few experience problems of graffiti, theft, or damage. No charges for borrowing, or late fees are incurred. There is no policing and rarely are policies needed.

There is one organization, Little Free Libraries, littlefreelibrary.org, that provides appropriate guidelines and blueprints. They encourage registration and a small fee that entitles the library steward to a sign and number. That allows one to put the library on the world map.

The Little Free Library organization was founded in 2009 by Ted Bol to honor his book-loving mother. He hoped to meet Andrew Carnegie's library number of approximately 2,500 libraries and he has well exceeded that goal. The website tells that now over 40,000 Little Free Libraries exist worldwide. They explain their goal is "to promote literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges worldwide and to build a sense of community as we share skills, creativity and wisdom across generations".

These libraries have their own discoveries to share. As a visitor looks in the box, he or she usually finds something new. Fiction readers might find a book on birds; a history buff might find a book of poetry. Some readers include notes and reviews of the books inside, others try not to make any marks. Each individual embarks on their own special adventure as they seek a book from a very limited selection. Instead of finding the small collection an obstacle, it is viewed as a challenge – to locate some book still worthy of one's time. Serendipity rules here.

The greatest enjoyment comes to the "steward" as he or she learns what books are popular, and often meets new neighbors, and makes new friends. A recent note to a steward read – "We just moved to the neighborhood and Ridgecrest. Delighted to have this little library just up the street. Dropped off a few books. Thanks for the local sprit." What a great reward for sharing books!!



Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice-President–Memberships

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our library support group.

**Kristianne Aberer
Nelda Berntson
Anita Dahling
Kathy Gonzalez
Gregory Green
Larrane Jeter
Glen McCartney**

**Janice Norcross
Michael Rehbein
Jevdet Rexhepi
Joyce Seibold
Heidi Smith
Aaron Wooldridge**

Please note your renewal date that appears on your mailing address of this newsletter. I will send renewal notices via postcard or e-mail to remind you, but it helps a lot when you notice and respond. **When you do renew, please include “Friends” on your envelope address so that library staff can quickly route it to us.**

<u>FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP</u>													
Date: _____ Memberships Are Renewable Annually													
Organization/Business Name: (Business memberships start at the \$50)													
Individual Name: <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr.													
Mailing Address: _____													
Phone: _____	Email: _____												
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; vertical-align: top;"> Type of Membership (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Individual..... \$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining..... \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsoring..... \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor..... \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Contribution\$ _____ </td> <td style="width: 20%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal </td> <td style="width: 40%; vertical-align: top;"> Please make check payable to: Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library Please mail or bring to: Ridgecrest Branch Library 131 E. Las Flores Ridgecrest, CA 93555 </td> </tr> </table>		Type of Membership (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Individual..... \$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining..... \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsoring..... \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor..... \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Contribution\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Please make check payable to: Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library Please mail or bring to: Ridgecrest Branch Library 131 E. Las Flores Ridgecrest, CA 93555									
Type of Membership (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Individual..... \$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining..... \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsoring..... \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor..... \$100.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Other Contribution\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Please make check payable to: Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library Please mail or bring to: Ridgecrest Branch Library 131 E. Las Flores Ridgecrest, CA 93555											
I am interested in helping in Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library activities. I am especially interested in <i>(check all that apply)</i>.													
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Annual Book Sales</td> <td style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Newsletter</td> <td style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Answering E-mail</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Book Sale in the Library</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Internet Book Sales</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Board Member</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Special Events</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Pricing Books for Sale</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Answering E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Book Sale in the Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Board Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Events	<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me	<input type="checkbox"/> Pricing Books for Sale		
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for the Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Answering E-mail											
<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Book Sale in the Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Book Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Board Member											
<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Events	<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me											
<input type="checkbox"/> Pricing Books for Sale													

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

AltaOne Federal Credit Union
Heritage Montessori School
KP PRODUCTIONS Graphics/Banners/Signs
Literacy Council of IWV, Inc.
McDonald's of Ridgecrest
PackWrap
Pizza Factory

Ridgecrest Automotive
Ridge Writers
Rusty Warren's Automotive
Sierra Sands Unified School District
TJ Frisbee Bicycles
Vincent Avalos, Edward Jones Investments
WACOM

Please let these generous contributors know that you appreciate their support of our Library.

BOOK STORE HOURS

MONDAY—CLOSED

TUESDAY—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

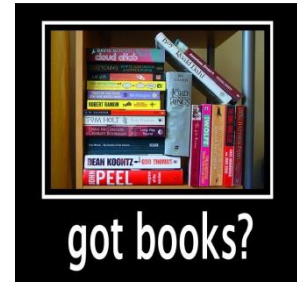
WEDNESDAY—11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY—1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FRIDAY—CLOSED

SATURDAY—9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

SUNDAY—CLOSED



Check the date on your mailing label! Is it time to renew your membership? If so, please take a moment to fill out and return the application on the other side. Not time to renew yet? Pass the application on to a friend!

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ridgecrest, CA
Permit #77

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
131 East Las Flores
Ridgecrest, CA 93555
Return Service Requested