



Library Reader

Ojai, California

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Jon Lambert

In a recent commentary Marcia Warner, President of the Public Library Association, wrote:

“Just as some sharks have to keep swimming forward or they will drown, librarians and libraries need to do the same. The e-book devices and technology that consume our time today will be antiquated a year from now. In five years, who knows what the future will hold? I do know that we as library professionals need to be aware of and embrace the next new thing; otherwise we will be left behind. The advent of the [insert your biblio-technology disaster here—Netflix, the Internet, VHS tapes, microfiche, the printing press, bound books] spells doom for libraries. E-books are only the latest biblio-disaster. Yet smart libraries and smart librarians are doing what it takes and swimming forward. They’re shaping a perceived disaster into a biblio-triumph.

Smart libraries and smart librarians are joining the conversation. They’re working with publishers and vendors and legislators to encourage policy and business models that factor in the needs of real people. They’re filling training and technology gaps in their communities. They’re adapting and evolving to make sure they can continue

offering real and valuable services to those real people and connecting to communities in ways never tried before. I am tempted to start listing the forward-thinking librarians and library directors who are embracing the ambiguity around them and taking technology in hand to create new services, new applications, and thinking in new ways about how we “do” libraries. But just as soon as I do, I will not know something or someone big, leave out something huge, and in the time it takes to get this article to print, half of them will be obsolete. Beyond e-books and the I’ve Fallen and technology flavor of the day, I believe that civic engagement and the library’s responsibility for public discourse, deliberative democracy, and cultural connection may be the next new responsibility that heaves us past the electronic this and Wi-Fi that.” (Public Libraries. May-June 2012, Vol. 51, No. 3)

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OVLFF
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Valid for One Free Book
at Twice-Sold Tales
... with our thanks ...

MEMORIAL DAY BOOK SALE- A HUGE SUCCESS

By Anne Shrage

At 8 a.m. on Saturday morning, enthusiastic book lovers were lining up on the library parking lot to pay for their purchases at the Annual Memorial Day Ojai Library Book Store Sale. While lively music filled the courtyard, hundreds of books were offered at prices ranging from 50 cents to \$2. Books that appealed to all ages with topics including politics, religion, history, cooking, self-help and gardening were available in addition to a large selection of children’s picture books. New this year was a specialty table that featured old editions of classics and collector’s items that were selected by book expert Joseph Ross, a volunteer and manager at the book store. Also featured was a colorful quilt made by a local artist that is being raffled off to benefit the library and library-related programs... The quilt is presently on display at the Book Store, “Twice Sold Tales” where raffle tickets can still be purchased; the winning raffle ticket will be drawn on Ojai Day.

The three-day event was OVLFF’s most successful book sale to date, raising nearly \$4,500. All proceeds go to the Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation (The Friends) to

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What's really nice to note is that our Ojai Valley Librarians are exemplars of what Ms. Warner is describing. Our libraries not only offer free access to one million books and other media objects but, through an active community orientation, are immersed in what she calls "civic engagement" and the encouragement of "public discourse."

As a community, aren't we lucky. This group, the OVLFF (aka The Friends) is an all-volunteer IRS nonprofit organization dedicated to helping keep our public libraries vital and vibrant. Thank you for your continuing trust and support.📖

help fund the many programs offered by and in the three Ojai Valley libraries.

The OVLFF extends its gratitude and sincere appreciation to Julie and Ernest Richar, bookstore manager and book sale manager, respectively, who put forth the enormous effort it took to stage this huge success. With the help of Joseph Ross and a fantastic troupe of dedicated volunteers, they labored for months doing the choosing, shelving, boxing and purging that was necessary to bring about the most successful book sale the Ojai Library Book Store has had. And, of course, our thanks to YOU for your continued patronage and support.📖



OVLFF Board - 2012

The Friends are pleased to welcome three new community members to the Board of Directors: CAMILLE HOLLY, KRIS HUMPHRIES and JUDY OBERLANDER.

The Friends also want to thank two members of the Board who have retired: MARTHA SCHAFFER who served on the OVLFF Board for two decades and was an architect of the praised SchoolLinks After School Homework Program, and JOHN MASON a past president of the Board and who devoted many hours to helping the OVLFF Bookstore grow and prosper. Their wise advice and commentary will be missed.

The eleven volunteers that make up the OVLFF Board of Directors meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Ojai Library. We encourage any person who is interested in our group and/or wishes to speak with us to attend these meetings. You can always contact us through our website: www.ovlff.com or e-mail: contact@ovlff.com. Come! Join us and, if you have an abiding love and interest in libraries, consider joining the Friends' Board.📖

OJAI VALLEY LIBRARY FRIENDS & FOUNDATION

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OVLFF Board - 2012

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ROTHENBERG PHOTOS ON EXHIBIT

Twice Sold Tales, the Ojai Library Book Store, is currently featuring a display of the "Store Windows" photos of local photographer, Fred Rothenberg. These are unique photos that have been printed on specially prepared aluminum sheeting that is water and scratch proof. Rothenberg and his wife Ila recently completed and exhibited a series of photos chronicling the construction of the new Libbey Bowl. Several of his works are on permanent display at the Ojai Community Hospital and Continuing Care Center.

The Rothenberg photos are mounted on the book store walls. There are 13 photos on exhibition and all are images of store windows in and around the Arcade. They are presently for sale and priced at \$175.00 each and are ready for hanging. Fred and Ila are donating half the proceeds of the sales of Ojai Store Windows photos to the Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation (OVLFF).

This is an exceptional opportunity to see this incredibly distinctive collection of photos. Be sure not to miss it! Visit the library bookstore soon.📖



[Editor's note: with apologies- the pictures are much more striking in color!]

DON'T MISS OUR 'QUILTING' OPPORTUNITY

The Friends have been given a colorful, handmade quilt (4 feet x 4 feet) for the expressed purpose of using it as a 'fund raiser.' The parents and children in Ojai's "Smart Start" program were responsible for picking the fabric samples that are the heart of the quilt, and the quilt squares reflect all sorts of things, from Care Bears and puppies, to butterflies and airplanes... even dusty cowboys.

All proceeds from the sale of the quilt go to the three libraries in the Ojai Valley: Ojai, Meiners Oaks, and Oak View. The money the libraries receive from OVLFF (The Friends) enables them to purchase books, materials electronic learning devices, and sponsors programs for young and old area residents.

This colorful, hand-made quilt can be yours for \$1.00. The Friends are holding a raffle between now and Ojai Day in October. At the end of Ojai Day we will pick a winning ticket. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six tickets for \$5.00.

The Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation operates Twice-Sold Tales, the used bookstore next to the library in Ojai. Tickets may be purchased there any day of the week between noon to 4:45p.m. Additionally, a picture of the quilt and the ability to purchase raffle tickets are available in each valley library.

What a nice opportunity to obtain a one-of-a-kind piece of Ojai memorabilia for only a 'buck.'📖

SCHOOLINKS: SPOTLIGHT ON MARQUI BURY

By Anne Shrage

Remarkable is a good word to describe Schoolinks volunteer, Marqui Bury. Three days a week Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Marqui arrives at the Homework Center to work with students who need assistance with a homework assignment or require special help with reading. Ms. Bury especially loves to work with younger students, K through 4th grade, and there is not a doubt that they love to work with her. They bring her little notes of affection, present her with special



Marqui Bury

cards and their eyes shine when she reads to them. "Is Marqui here?" they ask, with downcast faces if she is not. She has whimsical drawing skills as well, and helps them when they have to illustrate an essay, poem or book.

Marqui was born in San Francisco and raised in Virginia and California. She went to college in Seattle, Washington after serving in the Peace Corps in Nigeria where she taught at a boy's school. She married, and with husband Bob, raised two children, Jennifer and Rebecca, in the Washington D.C. area where Bob worked. When they were ready to retire, they returned to California and, fortunately (for us), chose to settle in Ojai. Ms. Bury also volunteers at the library at Krotona and can often be observed digging weeds and planting wildflowers on the meadow preserve maintained by the Land Conservancy.

The Schoolinks program is one of the many programs sponsored by the OVLFF. The Homework Center is open to students from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and begins at 1 p.m. on Wednesday to accommodate the elementary students who get out early that day. Without outstanding volunteers like Marqui Bury, we would be unable to function as successfully as we do. For more information you can contact Anne Shrage at 640-1016 or Julie at the Ojai Library-646-1639 or on line at www.ovlff.com.

LIBRARIES: TECHNOLOGY'S CHALLENGES (AND OPPORTUNITIES)

Excerpted from the ALA 2011 State of America's Libraries Report

The ongoing digital revolution is challenging librarians to keep up but at the same time holding out the prospect of future library services that incorporate new philosophies, new technologies and new spaces to meet the needs of all users more effectively than ever. In a sense, the technological advances of the past decade – or the past year — are leading the library community to rethink the very definition of "library," what one analyst calls "the sense of place, of service, and of community that has characterized the modern library for the last century."

10 WONDERFUL LIBRARIES REPURPOSED FROM UNUSED STRUCTURES

by Emily Temple. Found on www.flavorwire.com

Last week, the internet went crazy for an abandoned Walmart in McAllen, Texas, that was recently converted into the country's largest single story library, winning its category in the 2012 Library Interior Design Competition in the process. Inspired, we went on the hunt for other libraries that were born from unused and abandoned structures, from the large (drill halls and supermarkets) to the small (phone booths and shipping containers). After all, what better way to recycle just about anything than to turn it into a center for knowledge? Click through to check out a few libraries that rose from the ashes of other structures, and let us know if we've missed any from your town in the comments![]

[Editor's note: check out the other libraries shown in the article by calling up this website: www.flavorwire.com/309136/10-wonderful-libraries-repurposed-from-unused-structures].



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"Technology" continued from page 4

At issue are libraries' changing needs in terms of physical space; what a book or a journal or a database looks like; how to organize, store and distribute information; and how best to promote information literacy in schools and other settings. Not at issue is that librarians will continue to play a key role in the provision of these and other services. "The nature of the landscape may shift," analysts say, "but the need for a navigator will remain."

In fact, libraries already are making good progress in the 21st Century. For example:

- Computer usage at public libraries continues to grow.
- The availability of wireless Internet in public libraries is approaching 85 percent, and about two-thirds of them extend wireless access outside the library.
- Almost all academic libraries offer e-books, as do more than two-thirds of public libraries. For most libraries, e-books are still a small percentage of circulated items — but represent the fastest-growing segment.
- A battle over the future of widely used e-books was joined when HarperCollins announced that it will not allow its e-books to be checked out from a library more than 26 times, raising the possibility that e-books that are not repur-

urchased would be available at the library for only about a year. "People are agitated for very good reasons," said ALA President Roberta Stevens. "Library budgets are, at best, stagnant. E-book usage has been surging. And . . . there is grave concern that this model would be used by other publishers."

- Libraries are also making voracious use of social media and Web 2.0 applications and tools to connect with patrons and to market programs and services. More than 90 percent of the respondents in a survey of library administrators/managers, librarians and other staff called Web 2.0 tools important for marketing and promoting library services. Social networks and blogs remained the two most popular, with many libraries also continuing to use photo-sharing tools and online video.
- Facebook, Twitter and blogging tools top the list of Web 2.0 and social media tools in use by libraries, but as one survey respondent observed, even these "are only as effective as the user."

[ALA- American Library Association].

COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMING AT THE OJAI LIBRARY:

Children and Adults are inspired by the art of "Mime"



The Ojai Valley Library and The Ojai Academy for the Arts collaborated on a fun filled one hour event one Saturday in July, teaching the art of pantomime. Ojai resident Candace Hull and her brother John Mackey, who came up from Los Angeles to be a part of the experience, taught a very special class which inspired the participants and the audience alike. All of the attendees who participated learned self expression without the use of words, and had a grand time. Everyone left saying they were going home to practice and put on their own "Mime Show".

This activity continues the Library's belief in utilizing our community's talent. Candace Hull has been involved with the art of pantomime for over 35 years fostering creative interactive learning through music, drama and movement. The Ojai Academy for the Arts, an Ojai nonprofit (www.ojaiacademy.org), is dedicated to educating and empowering artists- of all ages. The Academy has worked with the Ojai Library on previous occasions developing children's programs. Keep in touch with the library for what's happening there (www.vencolibrary.org/locations/ojai).

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LIBRARIANS KEEP ACTIVE

The battle against censorship goes on and, thanks to the efforts of librarians across the country, thousands of people read from banned or challenged books during Banned Books Week. Leading the 2011 Top Ten List of Frequently Challenged Books, compiled annually by the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) were "And Tango Makes Three" (by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson) and "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" (by Sherman Alexie). Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World," a perennial "favorite" in this category, was No. 3; it has been stimulating would-be censors almost continuously since its publication — in 1932. Banning books! If you don't want to read it., don't pick it up!

Technology in the library continues to advance in high gear. Librarians labored — largely with success — to keep up with and to harness the power of social networking, which was also expanding and changing almost by the minute. Access to the entire collection of the Ventura County Library System (roughly 1 million books, DVDs, CDs and other media) is available on-line (www.vencolibrary.org) with your selection delivered to your local library. And the replacement of the dated computers with new ones keeps this trend rolling. 📖



*"... a circulating library in a town is
an ever-green tree of knowledge."
Richard Brinsley Sheridan (1751-1816)*