



Library Reader

Ojai, California

Spring 2014

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

OVLFF owns the parcel of land on which our used bookstore is situated. This land and building (historically, Edward Libbey's Land Office, built in 1922) had been purchased by The Friends from Jock VanDyke in 2003. Our plan at that time was to make the property available to the Ventura Library System as part of a complete rebuild of the Ojai Library, something that, for several reasons, turned out not to be possible. Instead, the Friends used the building to create our used bookstore--Twice-Sold Tales. Our new plan is to use the building and the land for a combined bookstore/conference room.

The current bookstore building will be razed, except for the historic façade, and replaced by a new building approximately twice its size. We are hoping that the new building will be able to utilize almost all of the available lot space and will consist of a 600 square foot bookstore on the street side with a 590 square foot meeting room, in the rear, adjacent to the Secret Garden area of the library. The conference room will have access through the Secret Garden as well as through the bookstore.

Several circumstances have recently come together to allow us to move forward with this plan:

- OVLFF owns the parcel of land and the building outright.
- The City of Ojai continues to support the concept of a meeting room being constructed and recently voted to waive all internal fees related to the project.
- Since the parcel of land is within the City of Ojai OVLFF does not have to attempt to work with the county in moving construction plans ahead.
- Because of the generosity of Robert Geres and Nina Shelley OVLFF is in a position to fund the construction project.

The Friends have engaged Cornerstone Architects (here in Ojai), and building plans have been drawn and refined with input from the OVLFF Board and bookstore volunteers. A copy of the current plans can be viewed on our website at www.ovlff.com.

Ojai Library
Book SALE
Memorial Day Weekend
Sat, Sun, Mon, May 24, 25, 26
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
in the Ojai Library parking lot & patio
Hundreds of Books!
50 cents to \$2.00
Sponsored by the Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation
& its bookstore, Twice-Sold Tales

ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND BOOK SALE

The Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation (OVLFF) and its used book store, "Twice Sold Tales" once again invites you to its Annual Memorial Day Weekend Book Sale- Sat, Sun, and Mon (May 24,25,26) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will be held on the patio and parking lot of the Ojai Library, 111 E. Ojai Avenue. A huge amount of high quality books will be available at prices that range from 50 cents to \$2.00.

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See "Book Sale" on page 2

While the Ojai Library will have priority use of the meeting room whenever it is not so used the facility will be available to the people of Ojai. We are excited about the promise of adding a meeting room that will alleviate the disruption created by the many groups that currently meet in the Ojai library and that will offer our community an additional gathering space.

This project would not have been conceived without the support you and others have given to The Ojai Library Friends. It could not be undertaken as easily as it currently is without the generous legacy gifts of two library supporters and the willingness of our architect to operate at a significant discount, plus the support and encouragement of The City of Ojai. And it is the constant support offered to The Friends by you, the supporters of our public libraries and the OVLFF that allows us to continue our activities.

Thank you, thank you all. ✨



All proceeds go to the OVLFF, to be used for library programs such as SchoolLinks- the after school homework center, Storytime for Toddlers, Summer Reading Programs and English as a Second Language tutoring, as well as books and equipment for all three Ojai Valley libraries.

The huge assortment of hardback and paperback books include fiction, biography, history, religion, politics, cookbooks, gardening, self help topics and a varied selection of children's books. Look for the collector's table filled with specially priced old and rare books. For further information visit <http://www.ovlff.com> or visit the OVLFF Facebook page. ✨

**OJAI VALLEY LIBRARY
FRIENDS & FOUNDATION**

646-4064 info@ovlff.com
<http://www.Ovlff.com>

OVLFF Board - 2014

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Help someone communicate.

Fellow Ojai Valley residents who don't speak English well need help learning...

- to talk with teachers
- to help children with homework
- to talk with health care workers.

VOLUNTEER! Give one hour a week to help your neighbor, An Application Form is available at the Ojai Library: ESL/Laubach language program.

✨

PAWS TO READ – Summer Fun!

All three Ventura County libraries in the Ojai Valley are planning a plethora of story times, crafts, and events to make sure this is a “dog-gone” good summer!

Our summer kicks-off with special appearances by The Reptile Family:

3:00 pm on Thursday,
May 29 @ Meiners Oaks
Library

3:30 pm on Wednesday,
June 11 @ Oak View Li
brary

11:00 am on Saturday,
June 14 @ Ojai Library

Come in and “fetch” some good books. Our reading program, where children and teens earn small prizes for reading, begins Monday, June 2nd.

You can “sniff out” the date/time details of story times, crafts and special events when the schedule comes available mid-May.

One final note - as Groucho Marx said, “Outside of a dog, a book is man’s best friend. Inside of a dog it’s too dark to read.”

Submitted by Julie Albright (OJI), Deborah Fletcher (MNO) & Sharon Dykstra (OKV) ✨

BOOKS FOR SALE FROM DIGITAL DINOSAURS

By Sue Kougatz

The OVLFF has been in the book selling business for some time. The Twice-Sold Tales bookstore on Ojai Avenue by the library has been selling the books donated to the OVLFF for many years and we thank you for your support. What you may not realize is that over the last year OVLFF has been selling books online as well.

In the back of the library, in the parking lot, is a small wooden shed that fills up with books donated by the community. There’s a great variety of books donated, including textbooks. These textbooks had been a bit of a dilemma because the bookstore would not commonly have customers interested in school textbooks. Some of these books can be quite expensive but we had no way of contacting interested people.

Enter Half.com and Amazon Marketplace. These are online new and used book sale sites. Even though most of us volunteers are more paper oriented (dinosaurs) we took up the challenge and now have a small inventory of books for sale online at those two sites. We are listed as “OVLFF.”

School books were the start of online sells for OVLFF and they continue to be the majority of sales made. Surprisingly it’s not the large textbooks that make up the bulk of sales but the smaller paperbacks included in a class list of needed books. As you might imagine, the donations and the sales of these books ebb and flow with the school year. January and September are our biggest months.

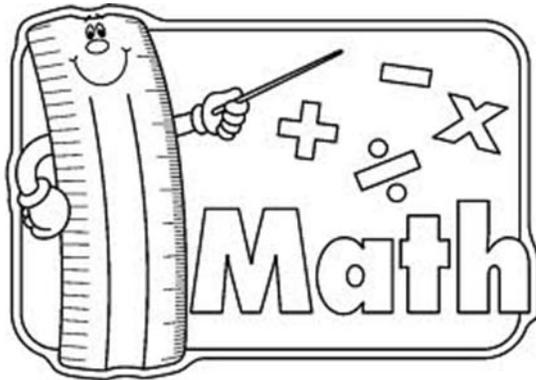
We have also been fortunate to receive several collectable older books that have been sold, and beautiful art and cooking type books that we also sometimes sell online. Big picture books, because of their size, are often more expensive to ship than their online value.

Through your continued donations OVLFF has entered the digital world and now can support the library in yet another way. Perhaps the book you need is online for sale by OVLFF and it could be shipped straight to your home!

Ojai is a well read community that supports the library by recycling books and stories. Thank you! ✨

OAK VIEW SCHOOLINKS IMPROVE BASIC MATH SKILLS

By Debbie McConnell, Oak View Library
Homework Center Coordinator



While assisting students with math homework, it became clear that many were hampered by not having memorized their times tables. Discussions with Sunset Elementary School's 2nd through 6th grade teachers confirmed that students who hadn't mastered multiplication by memory were struggling with more complex math problems.

The **Multiplication Masters** program is our response to this need. This incentive-based program is specifically designed for students needing extra practice and help learning their multiplication tables. Upon signing up for the program, each student's proficiency is tested so they start the program at their own level, with the goal of mastering multiplication facts through the 12's. Students use flash cards to help them practice and, when they are ready, they request to be tested on their next level. A small prize is earned each time a new level is mastered. Students can also play multiplication bingo when a large enough group is assembled, yet another fun and interactive way for them to practice their multiplication.

Student response has been so positive, we are considering offering additional programs to strengthen students' skills in addition/subtraction, fractions and decimals, division, and learning place values.

This program would not be possible without the support of OVLFF and its membership. Thank you!

*The Oak View branch of the Ventura County Library is located in the Oak View Park & Resource Center at 555 Mahoney Ave., Oak View. The library is open Monday-Thursday, 1-6 pm and Saturday, 10 am-2 pm. The Schoolinks Homework Center hours are from 3-5:30pm, Monday-Thursday. **

DO CAVIES TALK? The effect of anthropomorphic books on children's knowledge about animals

A group of researchers have investigated the effects on children of anthropomorphizing animals in children's literature. Their conclusions are worth noting:

Many books for young children present animals in fantastical and unrealistic ways, such as wearing clothes, talking and engaging in human-like activities. This research examined whether anthropomorphism in children's books affects children's learning and conceptions of animals, by specifically assessing the impact of depictions (a bird wearing clothes and reading a book) and language (bird described as talking and as having human intentions).

In Study One, 1, 3, 4, and 5-year-old children saw picture books featuring realistic drawings of a novel animal. Half of the children also heard factual, realistic language, while the other half heard anthropomorphized language. In Study Two, the first study was replicated using anthropomorphic illustrations of real animals. The results show that the language used to describe animals in books has an effect on children's tendency to attribute human-like traits to

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VOLUNTEERING AT THE BOOKSTORE

By Susan Bee

It doesn't take long to discover that volunteering at Twice Sold Tales requires a wider knowledge than of just the literature possibilities the used book store offers. Located right next to the library and in the very heart of Ojai, the store attracts customers from the valley, from all over the country and indeed the world. These customers often have the expected and more challenging questions; 10 common and uncommon questions I have been asked in the last several months are below.

1. Is this the library? Answer: No, the library is right next door. This is the used book store that supports the Ojai, Meiners Oaks and Oak View Libraries.

2. Where is your section on Virgin Martyrs? Answer: Well, we really don't have such a specific section, perhaps you could find something on that subject in "Spirituality", or perhaps a religious bookstore would be more helpful.

3. Where is the other bookstore in Ojai where many of the books are outside? Answer: That is Bart's Books on Matilija St., walk left 2 blocks to Canada, turn right and walk up 1 block.

4. Is Krishnamurti buried in Ojai? Answer: I don't know for sure, but I think he was cremated. The Krishnamurti Foundation on McAndrew Rd. would

know. [Researched Answer: Krishnamurti was cremated, and his ashes spread in the U.S., England and India.]

5. Where can I go in Ojai to see Condors? Answer: While some have seen them from various locations in the Los Padres Forest, Hopper Mountain Refuge in Fillmore is the best place, but you can only go there if you are permitted and escorted. I have seen them twice at Lake Piru. The Friends of the California Condor sponsors field trips, check out their web site.

6. I donated two boxes of books to Twice Sold Tales a month ago and have changed my mind, could I get them back? Answer: No, I'm sorry, but we cannot be responsible for returning donated books. You could certainly look for them on the shelves or at the upcoming sale.

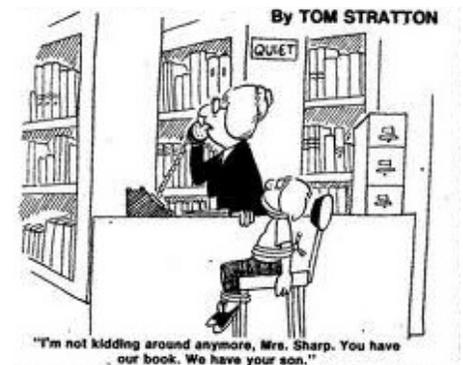
7. Is there a Mulberry Farm in Ojai? Answer: I have never heard of it, perhaps the Visitor Center would know. [Researched Answer: There is a Mulberry Farm on Los Osos Rd. in Meiners Oaks].

8. I'm tired of Grisham and Paterson type mysteries, which authors would you recommend? Answer: My favorites are Harriet Doerr, Kent Haruf, Carol Shields, Elizabeth Strout and Abraham Verghese.

9. Can you recommend a hike in the Ojai area? Answer: Depending on the weather and skill level, Ojai Meadows Preserve, Shelf Road, Casitas Lakeview Trail, Piedra Blanca, or Lion's Camp Trail. The store has a trail map for sale.

10. How can I get to Taft? (Asked by a distraught, disheveled young woman.) Answer: I don't know of any public transportation from Ojai directly to Taft. But I can call Greyhound and see what they offer, or you can use the phone to contact a friend to help you. Inquiries to Greyhound revealed that the young woman would have to get to the Oxnard Bus Station, catch a bus to Bakersfield, then a bus to Taft for more funds than she had available. After refusing any other assistance, she left for Hwy. 33 to hitchhike to Taft.

Volunteering at Twice-Sold Tales... an opportunity to meet all sorts of people. ✨



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Return Service
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animals, and that anthropomorphic storybooks affect younger children’s learning of novel facts about animals. These results indicate that anthropomorphized animals in books may not only lead to less learning but also influence children’s conceptual knowledge of animals.

*Researchers: Patricia A. Ganea and Kadria Simons-Ghafari (University of Toronto, Canada), Caitlin F. Canfield (Boston University), and Tommy Chou (Florida International University). **

THANK YOU MIM

Martha Schaffer, a long serving member of the OVLFF Board of Directors, passed away just short of her 100th birthday. The Board was enriched by her personality as well as her thoughtful comments over her many years of volunteer service to the Ojai Library and The Friends. Martha could be found, even as her eyesight faded due to Macular Degeneration, as a volunteer in the Ojai SchoolLinks program where she could be heard saying to young children “Read that to me and I’ll help you with it” and they all loved her. She will be missed and well-remembered. Thank you Mim. *

OJAI LIBRARY GETS NEW CARPET

By Mary, Lynch- Ojai City Librarian

The Ojai Library was closed for three days while Alan Evarts and his crew from the Ventura County Library System came in to lay new carpet- yes, NEW CARPET! Come see it soon before somebody spills something on it! We didn’t have much choice and the carpet is rather dark and modern looking for this ninety-year-old building but it is NEW and clean. We are all really pleased. *