Friends of Orange Public Library Newsletter

Organized March 1959 Spring 2012

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Message from the President….

When it comes to reading, I admit to being old-fashioned; I prefer a real book I can hold and turn pages. However, the publishing world is undergoing the biggest change since, perhaps, the invention of the printing press and libraries have to keep up with the technology. Our Orange Public Library system has announced that Ebooks are coming---rather than checking out a physical book, you will be able to have it appear on your Ebook reader for the period of the checkout. Once the bugs are worked out, the Friends will be supporting this new service while we continue to support acquisition and use of physical books.

Meanwhile, we have been honored for support of electronic publication already underway. The Orange Community Historical Society awarded us this year's Florence Flippen Smiley Award for our support of digitization of old community documents in our History Center at the Main Library Building. The Center's collection of old city directories and newspapers has seen very limited availability because the documents are fragile and their content is largely unknown except through laborious page-by-page searching. Four years ago, the Friends committed to the library support for scanning these documents and putting them on computer database so that they could not only be easily seen but could be searched by computer to find specific references. Say you want to know about a business that existed in Orange in 1925---on the database, you can enter the business name and immediately see all references to that business. Completing this project will take an estimated ten years and nearly $100,000. Your Friends organization recently granted $8000 for the next phase of this project bringing our total support to date to $40,000. We thank the Historical Society for recognizing our efforts and are pleased to see the project nearing the mid-point. Local historian Phil Brigandi also advises that Florence Flippen Smiley, for whom the award was named, was an active FOPL member.

No history or future concepts here: You, members of FOPL, should mark your calendars for a big book sale on Saturday, March 17. Come at 9:00 o'clock for an **exclusive member preview sale** before the doors are opened to the general public at 10:00. Our goal is to move out our backlog of books in storage so we shall be offering the lowest prices ever. This may well be our only community sale this year, so don't miss it. See the information elsewhere in this newsletter for details.

Thank you for your continued support through your membership. Your membership directly helps the Library.

See you on the 17th, Peter

If you're looking for us online, shop at www.amazon.com/shops/bookstore407

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Just a Reminder: the Orange Public Library Foundation will be holding their 2012 Library Legacy Gala on Sunday, April 22, 4 pm to 9 pm at the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center.

Admission is $75 per person. Smoked and mesquite grilled BBQ, beer tasting, live music, a presentation of native wild animals, and live and silent auctions are among the special features of the event.

One highlight will be the presentation of the *Library Legacy Awards*. The following distinguished persons and organizations have been chosen for special recognition in 2012:

- **Joanne Coontz (Community Leadership Legacy Award)**,
- **The St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation (Education Legacy Award), and**
- **The Mead Family (Local History Legacy Award).**

For information about ***2012 Library Legacy Gala*** tickets**,** please contact the Library Foundation:
www.oplfoundation.org (See link to ***2012 Gala*)**
(714) 288-2470

City of Orange Public Library Foundation
407 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, CA 92866
Non-profit Federal ID # 33-0803671

Volunteer Spotlight

Genny Gebhardt has been a volunteer with Friends of Orange Public Library for the past few years. She arrived in California in the 1950s from Kentucky; her husband at that time had an opportunity to get his Masters in Physics at USC. Genny is an avid reader and loves to play bridge. She has two sons; one, a doctor in Florida whom she visits, and her other son lives nearby in Orange. Genny has three grandchildren and one great grandson in Seattle. Shane, 1 1/2 years, will be visiting his great grandmother this month. Genny retired as a resource coordinator at the Regional Center of Orange County. Please stop by our Bookstore and meet with Genny. She volunteers on Mondays 1:00-3:00.

YOU MAY DANCE A JIG!

It's not the typical way most people celebrate St. Patrick's Day, but why not start a new tradition? You don't need to be Irish to get lucky at our sale! If you're on the way downtown to O'Hara's, stop off and see us first. We know we'll have the best deal in town: no green beer, but we'll save you some green! For our members, we will open one hour early at 9 am. We open to the public at 10 am and the sale goes until 3 pm in the Community Room of the Main Library, 407 E. Chapman Avenue. If you are not a member, or need to renew, we will be selling memberships at the door for the first hour. Although it is not officially Spring until March 20th, we are doing our "Spring cleaning" on the 17th. Our basement is full of books and this will be a BIG sale! And that's no blarney!

What Do You Geek?

Everyone has something they are passionate about – something they geek. Maybe you geek football or hip hop. Maybe you are passionate about organic gardening, classic movies or volunteering. Perhaps you just geek the weather.

The Orange Public Library "Get Your Geek On" campaign began on February 14. If you'd like to share what you geek, call (714) 288-2410, check our website www.cityoforange.org/library, or come to the library to find out how to participate in this fun free program!

Whatever you geek, serious or fun, the public library supports you. The public library inspires and empowers. With Internet access, knowledgeable librarians and local programs, it is an important resource for your community. And for millions of Americans, it is their only access to essential resources they need to improve their lives. For many, the library is not a luxury, it is a necessity.

The **Geek the Library** campaign is brought to you by OCLC, a nonprofit library cooperative, with funding by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. **Geekthelibrary.org** does not support or oppose any candidate for public office and does not take positions on legislation.

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2012

It's time to join or renew with Friends of Orange Public Library! Membership is open to all interested residents, businesses, and organizations. Membership period runs from January 1 to December 31. Contributions to Friends of Orange Public Library are tax deductible to the extent allowed by federal law. (Fed. Tax ID#33-0150200)

Checks should be made payable to Friends of Orange Public Library (FOPL). Please cut off this form And return to FOPL/407 E. Chapman Ave./Orange, CA/92866-1591.

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Address_____

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Easy Reader	$10/yr
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Bibliophile	$250 one-time fee

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Newsletter preference (circle one) By mail By e-mail

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