

WHY DOES READING MATTER? By Mark Smith, Vice President, West Coast Operations, Library Systems & Services, Inc. (LSSI)



We are getting ready to launch this year's summer reading program. Once again this year the Riverside County Library Youth Team has done an outstanding job in preparing for this, including a new round of their back-by-popular-demand Jump Start programs that are attended by staff from the Riverside County Library System as well as the surrounding libraries. This year's bug theme should be really fun for the kids.

But it is important to remember why we do the summer reading program at all. I have been reading the new report from the National

Endowment for the Arts, called "To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence." This is an amazing report outlining how reading in the U.S. is declining and the consequences of that fact. Here are some of the findings:

- Nearly half of all Americans, ages 18 to 24 read no books for pleasure and that number fell 7 points from 1992 to 2002.
- Less than one-third of 13-year-olds are daily readers.
- The percentage of 17-year-olds that read nothing for pleasure has doubled over the last 20 years.
- 15-24 year olds spend only 7-10 minutes per day on voluntary reading; by contrast the same group spends about two hours watching television each day.

Why does it matter? Here's why:

- Kids who read more score significantly higher on academic achievement tests.
- The number of books in the home is a significant predictor of academic achievement (this statistic is amazing—it is a direct and steady correlation across all types of testing).
- Reading test scores for 9-year-olds—the one group that have shown no declines in voluntary reading—are at an all-time high.
- Deficient readers are more likely to be high school drop-outs: One-third of Basic-level readers have dropped out of high school.
- 38% of employers find high school graduates deficient in reading comprehension.
- More than 60% of employed Proficient readers have jobs in management, or in the business, financial, professional and related sectors.
- Only 18% of Basic readers are employed in those fields. 56% of adult prisoners read at or below the Basic level.

Enough? The evidence is incredibly compelling on every level. Reading is the key to success in school and later life. What the summer reading program does is create excitement among kids for reading, especially during the summer months when many are out of school.

You all are doing very important work for these children and for society as a whole whenever you hold a library program or get a child interested in reading.

Thank you and have a great summer reading program!

SPECIAL FRIEND AWARDS

We congratulate our Special Friend Award winners and thank them for demonstrating exemplary service for Friends' endeavors.



*Sue Zane (left)
TPL Friends
Bookstore*

*Merry Stout (right)
GML Friends
Bookstore*

Presented by: Stan Williams



*Deborah Poole
Program Committee*

Presented by: Janet Regier

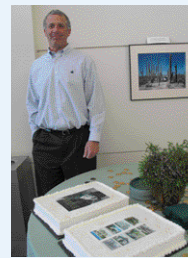
ANDREW CARNEGIE PROGRAM

By Deborah Poole, Chair



*Deborah Poole with
Bob Conacher*

Great Highland bagpipe music played by piper Bob Conacher welcomed Temecula literati on April 13th. The celebration, held at the Temecula Public Library, kicked off the start of National Library Week. Nonfiction author, Peter Krass, was the guest speaker. He held our interest with his story "Carnegie" - the biography of Scottish born Andrew Carnegie, whose benevolence built 2,811 libraries. Guests discovered that the Adult Program Committee of the Friends can throw a terrific party - complete with complimentary Scottish fish stew and cake. Many thanks to the librarians and one and all for your interest in these celebrations of the written word.



Peter Krass

We invite YOU to be a guest at our next event.

LOCATIONS/HOURS



TEMECULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

30600 Pauba Road 951.693.8900

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday . . . 10 am - 9 pm
 Friday . . . 10 am - 6 pm
 Saturday . . . 10 am - 5 pm
 Sunday . . . 1 pm - 5 pm

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday - Saturday . . . 10 am - 4 pm
 Sunday . . . closed
 951.693.8990



GRACE MELLMAN LIBRARY

41000 County Center Drive

Renewals/Information .951.600.6262
 Volunteer Coordinator .951.600.6267
 Recorded Message . . .951.600.6270

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday . . . 12 Noon - 9 pm
 Tuesday & Wednesday .10 am - 6 pm
 Thursday & Friday . .12 Noon - 5 pm
 Saturday . . . 10 pm - 3 pm
 Sunday . . . closed

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday - Saturday . . . 10 am - 4 pm
 Sunday . . . closed
 951.296.3737



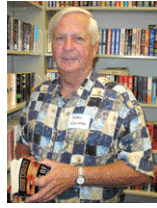
QUARTERLY NEWS ON THE WEB...

The News is now available to read on the Web. Check out the Libraries' Website at:

www.friendsofthetemeculalibraries.com

Remember this address! Log on often, for here you will find the most current information about the many wonderful activities and programs available at the Temecula Libraries.

BOOKSTORES REPORT



by Stan Williams,
 Bookstores Manager

We offer our sincere thanks for your continued donations of gently used books, DVD's, CD's and VCR tapes. Both of our bookstores need a constant supply of inventory to keep up with customer demand. Arrangements can be made for pickup of larger donations by calling 951.699.1056.

Volunteers Needed for the Summer!

If you have a few hours to spare and would like to join the Friends in supporting the Temecula Libraries, please call Merry at 951.693.1713 or Gera at 951.587.8589.

DON'T MISS THE ANNUAL

Sidewalk Sale!
Bag Your Own Bargains

Mark your calendar.

Saturday, October 18th
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Grace Mellman Library
 Bookstore at 41000 County
 Center Drive, Temecula.

When you sell a man a book, you don't sell him 12 ounces of paper and ink and glue—you sell him a whole new life. – Christopher Morley



SCRAPBOOK ITEMS WANTED



The Historian is collecting items for inclusion in the Friends' scrapbook. If you have newspaper/magazine articles, photos, programs, flyers, or other materials about Friends' activities and events that would be suitable for our historical records, call Sharon Cooney at 951.694.3019 or leave the items at the Temecula Library Friends Bookstore. Please include correctly spelled names of persons in photos and dates for all items.



Friends of the Temecula Libraries

P.O. Box 817 • Temecula, CA 92593

Nonprofit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Temecula, CA
 Permit No. 142

\$15 Flash Drives

The Temecula Public Library Friends Bookstore is selling 128 MB Flash Drives for \$15.00.

ON SALE NOW!