



FRIENDS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

A Monthly Publication by the Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc.

NOVEMBER 2017

WELCOME This is the tenth issue of the *Friends Volunteer Newsletter*. Its purpose is to keep communication open between Friends volunteers. The Newsletter will be emailed to volunteers, or delivered to their work places if no email address is available. Delivery will be on the first of the month.

Newsletter content will include Board or committee meeting announcements or reminders, social event meeting announcements or reminders, between meeting communication, special announcements to specific volunteers, proposals for review, Bookstore updates (sales, material needs, special volunteer needs), volunteer news of general interest, meeting minutes when appropriate, or any item of general concern to Friends volunteers.

Any Friend volunteer may submit information to Tom Everitt at tjever40@gmail.com. The Board President will approve copy before publication.

The next issue will be December 1, 2017. News should be submitted by Tuesday, November 28, 2017.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER MAILING

Unlike some previous mailings, the October *Newsletter mailing went smoothly*. Only two minor problems occurred, which were easily fixed. I have my fingers crossed that this one reaches you in the same smooth manner. Typing with fingers crossed, however, I find is much more difficult.

NOVEMBER BOOKSTORE SALE

Thursday, November 16 through Saturday, November 18, everything is *half price at the storewide sale*, with special 9:30 AM opening hours. Talk about the right sale at the right time. . .

Mark your calendar now for December 1 as the beginning of the *Christmas Boutique* at Books Around the Corner. The Monday only soft cover half-price book sale starts December 4.



Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9 are the next big *Fairway sale* dates. Mark that calendar!

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CLUB PRESENTATIONS Sue Blechl reported in the Friends October Board meeting that she has four bookings for the **Speakers Bureau**. As a reminder to all volunteers, if you know of a club that would benefit from this presentation, talk to a club member about it. Have that person call Sue at 623-972-3409.

BOOK BUDDY MEETING Friends Board member **Carol Hager** has agreed to take over responsibilities for the Book Buddy program. **Judy Wannamaker** has been the Chairperson of that Board Committee for the past four years. A meeting of the Book Buddies will be held on **Friday, November 3** at 10:00 AM at the Bell Library North Room. Refreshments will be served.

BOOK FRIENDS Charlotte Klose reported at the October Board meeting that she now has seven **volunteer readers**. They have been reading to the impaired residents of a memory care center.

LIBRARY NEWS Brianna King, Library Manager updated the Friends Board at their October meeting on a number of items. Although the new **charging station** has not been heavily utilized thus far, those who have used it have been most enthusiastic. Work

continues of the **seed library** which should be up and running soon. The investigation of the proposed **book drop** at Bell is moving forward. RCSC is going to provide quotes for the cost of putting it in place.

The Board approved two small **book carts** for the Fairway Library. The Friends Board is investigating the acquisition of **fabric bulletin boards** for the children's areas at Bell and Fairway.

The Library is considering buying a **projector** for the Bell meeting room as a permanent installation. The reason for the purchase is to have a projector for anyone to use, and for the convenience of not having to set up and disassemble it for every presentation. To maximize floor space, Brianna is checking out the feasibility of having the projector permanently mounted off the floor.

Brianna is also investigating the possibility of turning the bare space out the back door near the Bookstore into a **community garden/seating area**, with the potential of holding occasional outdoor programs.

MEET YOUR LIBRARY STAFF This month's featured staff member is **Library Assistant Anita Bodnar**.

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After moving here from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 2001, Anita started as a page with the Maricopa County Library District shortly thereafter. She has now worked for the MCLD for 15 years. She had experience from the small community library where she worked in the Pittsburgh area.

In addition to all her normal library duties, Anita serves as the volunteer coordinator for the Library at the Bell Recreation Center. She most enjoys meeting people new to the library, and telling them of all that it has to offer.

Mystery books are Anita's preferred reading area. When her nose is not buried in a Lisa Gardner or Janet

Evanovich book (her favorites), her eyes are glued to the television when the Pittsburgh Steelers are playing. One glance at her library desk will communicate her love for that team. Anita has two adult children, a son in Pennsylvania and a daughter in California.

MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS This month our featured Friends volunteer is Book Buddy **Elaine Thorfinnson**.



When she delivers library materials, being able to visit with homebound residents is the best part of her job. Being a good listener is vital.

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Elaine sold furniture while living in South Dakota. After moving to Arizona, she and her husband operated a floor covering store for 22 years. She has lived in Sun City since 2006.

Among her favorite authors are John Grisham, Phillip Roth, Jim Flynn, and Ken Follett. Otherwise, she enjoys golf, plays mahjong and bridge, and does a lot of traveling around the world. For excitement in her life, she recently went skydiving, and had a surprise wedding at her 50th wedding anniversary. Elaine has three sons and five grandchildren.

HOLIDAY DONATION REMINDER If you have extra holiday items you could donate to the Bookstore for the **Christmas Boutique**, it would be appreciated. If you have questions, call Mary Anne at the Bookstore, 602-651-2014.

BOARD MEETING The next meeting of the Friends Board of Directors will be Thursday, **November 9, 2017**, 9:30 AM, North Wing Room, Bell Library. The public is invited.

ASK TOM E The November question comes from a Friends volunteer who asked Tom E, **"As a relatively new**

resident of Sun City, I wondered how the Sun City Library got started. What can you tell me?" Ima Wonderin

Dear Ima, Here's what Tom E knows. Shortly after Del Webb sold the first Sun City homes in 1960, the need for a library was recognized. Sun City gave 820 square feet in the Town Hall Center (now the Fairway Recreation Center site) for use of a mini-library open three days a week. Records were kept in shoeboxes. The Maricopa County Library supplied the initial inventory of 2,500 books. Eight volunteers ran it.

Other significant dates are as follows:

1971--Library formed as a nonprofit corporation.

1972--2,500 square feet made available at the Lakeview Recreation center. First paid librarian hired.

1974--Library moved back to Fairway.

1976--Bell Recreation Center Library opened with 10,250 square feet.

1982--Library expanded to 50,000 volumes, serving 43,000 patrons, with 275 volunteers giving 50,000 hours of service.

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2009--Libraries become part of
Maricopa County Library District.

Today--677,494 items available.

Ima, Tom E sounds pretty smart,
doesn't he. Actually, he cheated. All
of this is a part of a document called:
"Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc.
History." You can see the entire
document at the Friends web site
<http://www.suncitylibraryfriends.org>.
Click on "About Us/In the News" at the
top of the Home page.

Tom E

Email me with your **question**, **concern**,
idea for improvement, **pet peeve** at
work, or any **general inquiry** you have.
Maybe your matter can be featured
and answered in the December
Newsletter!

*Tom Everitt,
Writer and Editor in Chief,
Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc.*

