



# FRIENDS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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

## DECEMBER 2017

**WELCOME** This is the eleventh 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](mailto:tjever40@gmail.com). The Board President will approve copy before publication.

The next issue will be January 1, 2018. News should be submitted by Friday, December 29, 2017.

**HAPPY HOLIDAY PARTY** Volunteers are reminded of the Happy Holiday Party, 1:30 PM, **Friday, December 15**, Bell Recreation Center, Social Hall # 1, with special surprise entertainment.

**FAIRWAY SALE REMINDER** Friday, December 8 and Saturday, December 9 are the next big **Fairway sale** dates.



**BOOKSTORE DECEMBER SPECIALS** The **Christmas Boutique** at Books Around the Corner will last all month, as will the Monday only soft cover half-price book sale.

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**MEET YOUR LIBRARY STAFF** This month's featured staff member is **Library Assistant John Guiliano**. He



has worked for the Library District for five years, starting as a page at Northwest, and spending the last three years in Sun City working at both Libraries.

John spent about 30 years as a materials manager for a number of companies. He started out in New York, spent time in Minnesota, and came to Arizona in 1979.

In addition to working at the counter, John handles the books by mail

program, and works with the courier distributing materials. He enjoys helping Sun City residents, feeling he can empathize with their needs as a "senior" himself.

His reading preferences include America history. Otherwise, his three daughters and four grandchildren, all in the area, keep him quite busy.

**MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS** This month our featured Friends volunteer is **Valerie Myers**. She currently spends her "working" time in the Bookstore, which she has done since



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Maricopa County took over Library operation. Before that, she volunteered in the Bell Library.

Volunteering has always been an important part of Val's life. As a homemaker in Minnesota, she assisted at her local library. She also did her mom duty with the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Her children remain in Minnesota.

Val's major responsibility in Books Around the Corner is to work at the check-out desk. She also restocks shelves and other special duties as they arise. Mysteries, particularly cozies, are her favorite books to read, although she admits liking to read a little bit of everything. Working with the people who come in the Bookstore is what Val likes best about her job.

**BOARD MEETING** The next meeting of the Friends Board of Directors will be Thursday, **December 14, 2017**, 9:30 AM, North Wing Room, Bell Library.

**ASK TOM E** The December question comes from resident Yugo Byby who asked Tom E, "**Why is there a six year term limit on Friends Board of Directors?**"

Yugo, you are not the first to ask that question. When the latest set of Friends Bylaws were being discussed in 2010, many felt that organizations which allowed members to remain on Boards without limit got stagnant. Some Friends had experienced clubs where a small "power group" established an atmosphere where newcomers did not feel welcome. "This is the way we have always done it" was not to be the Friends operational style. The final agreement was that six years was enough to "drain the best ideas" of a Board member; then it was time for "fresh blood."

Tom E is able to speak from experience, having completed six years on the Friends Board as a Director, Vice President, and President. At the end of my term, however, I knew I had given my best. New ideas and leadership were needed. That has proven to be SO true. The organization has continued to grow, do more and better projects, serve more residents, and have more creativity than ever. There is no question in my mind that this policy will continue to keep the Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc. in the forefront of well run organizations.



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Past Board members don't stop being Friends. We all stay involved in other capacities, for example, writing Newsletters. Once one falls in love with this group of great volunteers, divorce is not an option.

The only problem with the six year term limit for Board members is the need for continual recruiting. In 2019, for example, three of the 12 current Board members will "retire." Maybe, Yugo, you would consider being the "fresh blood" the Board needs. Tom E can personally guarantee, you will not regret it!

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 January *Newsletter!*

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



"It's called 'reading'. It's how people install new software into their brains"