



FRIENDS

of the Sun City Libraries, Inc.

FRIENDS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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

JANUARY 2019

WELCOME The *Friends Volunteer Newsletter's* purpose is to improve communication between Friends volunteers. The *Newsletter* is emailed to volunteers on the first of the month, or delivered to their work places if no email address is available.

Newsletter content will include Board or committee meeting notices, social event meeting announcements, 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 4mymate@embarqmail.com. The Board President will approve copy before publication.

News for the February 2019, issue should be submitted by Tuesday, January 29, 2019.

BOOKS AROUND THE CORNER

The Bookstore **half-price sale** will be Friday, January 18 and Saturday 19, 2019. The hours for the sale will be from 9:30 to 4:00.



January through April on Monday only, **soft cover books** will be half price. These sale items are the larger books with soft covers, as differentiated from standard sized paperback books.

Despite being in an adult community, the Bookstore has a large selection of **children's books**. These books are for early readers to early teens.

The November **sale at Fairway** brought in \$747. Although it is quite a project to move all the books to and



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from Fairway for the sale, the Fairway community is so appreciative, the sale will continue.

The Bookstore also has a new **chair** for customers, new **phones** at the front desk for volunteer convenience, and a revolving **magazine rack** on order to be installed soon.

Through November, Bookstore sales total \$42,199. This is already more than 2017, with December sales yet to be included. Part of the reason for this is hard working Bookstore volunteers. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

VOLUNTEER HOURS NEEDED As a non profit organization, the Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc. must file an end of year report to the Federal Government. A portion of that report is an accounting of the number of **volunteer hours**. That is why you will soon be asked for the number of hours you volunteered for the Friends in 2018.

Precision is not required. Make your best **estimate** of how many hours you gave to the Friends, including your travel time. That number should be

submitted to the coordinator of your work area (Library, Bookstore, Book Buddy, Book Friend, Board member, Committee member). Those numbers will be submitted to Ruth Polansky, Volunteer Coordinator, who will total them for just the number to put in the report.

MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS This month our featured Friends volunteer is **Alyson Abraham**. Alyson started



volunteering at the Fairway Library in 1999 after moving to Arizona from



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Pennsylvania in 1998. She began by assisting with collating and copying. She now works on Mondays cutting scratch paper for use in the Library.

Alyson enjoys seeing Fairway patrons and friends from her “catbird seat” work area. Yolanda Dutton, Fairway Library Assistant, describes Alyson as “friendly, courteous, and special.”

Volunteering at the Library is not her only Sun City activity. Alyson is in aqua aerobics in the Aqua Fitness club at Sundial. The Zumba Fitness Club at Sundial also is a favorite of hers.

CORRECTION In one’s senior years, one may not hear clearly, or may not read one’s notes carefully. Such was the case in December’s Meet Your Volunteers article. The corrected facts about **Linda Wilson** are: 1) Linda was a manager of a company store for McDonalds; and 2) she spent seventeen years in the San Francisco bay area. My apologies, Linda

BOOK FRIENDS Charlotte Klose is recruiting additional **readers** for memory care patients at memory care facilities. Despite recently getting two

new recruits and having seven current readers, Charlotte would still prefer more. The facilities want readers to come more often. If you, or someone you know, would enjoy being a part of this very rewarding program, contact Charlotte at 623-337-5337.

LIBRARY NEWS At the December Friends Board meeting, Jackson Hadley, Library Supervisor, reported that recent **music programs** had been a big success. Some of these programs have been after hours. Positive comments also have been made about **Morningstar and Value Line**.

A **Book a Librarian** program will be implemented to assist patrons one-on-one with electronic devices and library services. The **changing table** at Fairway is scheduled for installation.

SUN CITY LIBRARY DROP BOX Jerry Walczak, RCSC representative to the Friends, reported at the Friends December Board meeting that the Library drop box project is **out for bids**. Two of three bids have been received. All architectural work is complete. When done, the short term parking



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area in front of the Library will be eliminated.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH The next **Friends outreach program** will be Tuesday, January 15 at the First United Methodist Church of Sun City.

The Friends of the Sun City Libraries **Farmers Market** booth does not seem to meet the Friends outreach needs, and may be discontinued. The Library and the Friends will have a joint booth at the **Discover Sun City** event on January 16.

BOARD MEETING The next meeting of the Friends Board of Directors will be Thursday, **January 13, 2019**, 9:30 a.m., North Wing Room, Sun City Library.

ASK TOM E The January question comes from Will U. Readmore who asked Tom E, “**When did the concept of Friends of the Library start? Is there a national organization? Did it start in America; and, if so, how long ago?**”

Dear Will,

You are just full of questions, aren't you, Will! Tom E will do his best to ease your inquisitive mind.

First off, most Friends of the Library groups operate independently. The Sun City Friends group is not involved with any other Friends organization. The Friends of the Phoenix Public Library has sponsored an occasional conference, and invited all Friends groups in the area to attend. Our Friends group has been a part of those conferences, and learned a lot by sharing with other Friends groups.

According to Wikipedia, “Friends of Libraries groups are supported by a division of the American Library Association, called *United for Libraries USA*. The division was formed in 2009, when *Friends of Libraries U.S.A.* and the *Association for Library Trustees and Advocates* joined forces. *United for Library U.S.A.* provides many resources for Friends of Libraries groups. . .” Our Friends group has utilized their web site for ideas and suggestions.



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The organization does establish the National Friends of Libraries Week. In 2019, it will be October 20-26. The Week's purpose is to celebrate Friends, promote community groups, and raise awareness of the work of Friends groups.

Insofar as when the first Friends groups started, and were there ones before American institutions, Tom E does not know. He leaves you to keep digging for that answer. If you do find it, let him know. He, too, has an inquisitive mind.

The Friends of the Sun City Libraries, Inc. is not a dues paying organization. To become a Friend here all you have to do is volunteer for the organization. There are plenty of opportunities. Stop by our Bookstore at the Sun City branch Library at the Bell Recreation Center and ask how you can support our Libraries. Will you?

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 February *Newsletter!*

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

*The trouble with
quotes on the internet
is that you never
know whether or not
they are genuine.*

Abraham Lincoln