

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

FEBRUARY 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 March 2019, issue should be submitted by Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

THERE'S MAGIC IN THE AIR That is the theme for this year's Friends **spring banquet** at Palmbrook. The time is here to mark your calendar. The date is Thursday, March 21, 5:00 p.m. Sign up sheets will be at both Libraries toward the end of February.



A professional magician will be the evening entertainment. Additional information will follow; but you are being notified now in order to have all volunteers attend the recognition ceremony. **Save the date!**

BOOKS AROUND THE CORNER

The February author of the month is **Jack Higgins**. His books will be **half price** for the entire month. The British author's real name is Henry Patterson,

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age 89. He is one of the best selling authors of popular thrillers and espionage novels.

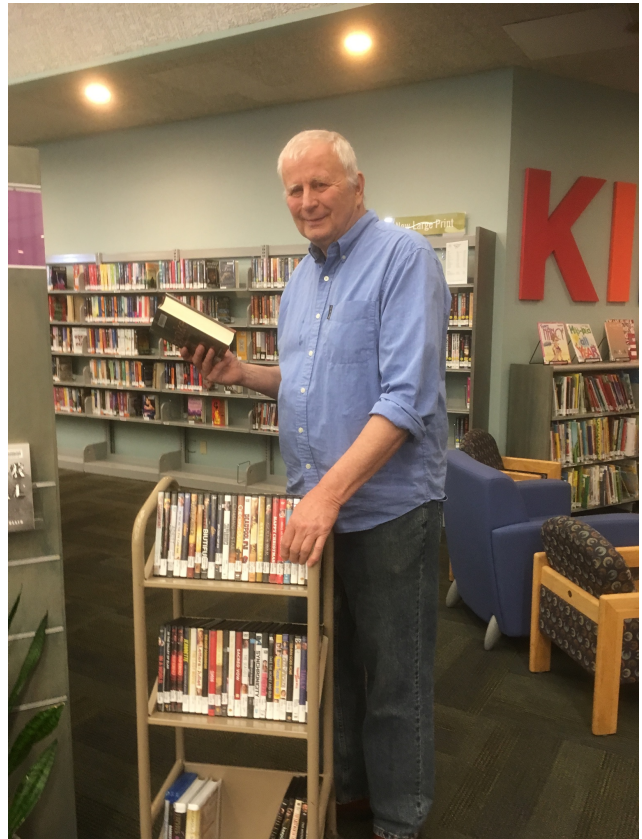
January through April on Monday only, **soft cover books** will be half price. These sale items are the larger books with soft covers, as differentiated from standard sized paperback books.

The half price Bookstore wide **sale in January** brought in \$1,585.

Bookstore sales in 2018 totaled \$46,068. This is a record amount, \$5,399 and 12.5% more than in 2017. In addition to the hard work of Bookstore volunteers, a big thank you needs to go out to community members who made book, magazine, puzzle, CD, and DVD donations in 2018. Thank your friends and neighbors when you see them.

MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS Our featured Friends volunteer this month is **Einar Kvaran**, who works at the Sun City Library. He has worked there for about four years. Shelving books and movies are his primary duties.

Einar moved to Sun City from Dixon, New Mexico, where he was the town



librarian. He has liked libraries since he was a kid. His past career taught him the importance of volunteers, which he described as “extremely necessary.” “Doing my part in helping” is why he volunteers now.

A variety of books provide Einar’s reading habits. He enjoys historical novels, biographies, and author John Grisham. Beyond his love for reading, he has many other interests including: 1) writing and editing for Wikipedia; 2) visiting Duffy Dog Park with his dog



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(he helped in the formation of the Park); 3) performing for happy hours as a percussionist with his brother; 4) and admitting to being addicted to thrift stores for movies and music shopping.

LIBRARY NEWS At the January Friends Board meeting, Brianna King, Library Manager, reported on the Sun City **Library drop box** project. Library staff made some safety and access suggested modifications to RCSC.



The **Winter Reading Program** has begun! Join for a fun and informative nine-week reading program, just for adults. This year's theme is Explore

New Worlds, and runs from January 22-March 22, 2019. Log the books you read, and complete challenges to earn points. Each participant will receive a free ticket to a spring training game at Camelback Ranch in Glendale. If you read 10 books or reach 100 points by March 22, you will be automatically entered for the chance to win the grand prize, a telescope!

RCSC REPRESENTATIVE **Sue Wilson**, treasurer of the RCSC Board, has been named as the representative to the Friends Board.

BOOK BUDDY PROGRAM **Monica Fallon** will assume responsibility for Book Buddy volunteers as a result of **Arlene Schindler's** resignation from the Board of Directors. A sincere vote of appreciation goes out to Arlene for her past service, and Monica for assuming the new responsibility. The Book Buddy program currently has 22 drivers, all of whom have at least one Buddy.

WEB SITE STATS Marcia Davis, president and web site coordinator for the Friends, reported at the January meeting that visitors to the Friends



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web site have increased at a steady pace. Marcia created the web site in the summer of 2014. Viewership has **grown steadily**, starting with 152 unique visitors in January, 2015, to 718 unique visitors in December, 2018. The **870% increase over four years** hit its high point in October, 2018 when 721 different persons visited the site.

One does not have to be different or unique to use the web site; just check it out at www.suncitylibraryfriends.org.

BOARD MEETING The next meeting of the Friends Board of Directors will be Thursday, **February 14, 2019**, 9:30 a.m., North Wing Room, Sun City Library.

ASK TOM E The February question comes from volunteer R. Ticutate who asked Tom E, **"I've wondered what happens if I sign up for a Friends volunteer event and then can't attend. What should I do?"**

R., I'm so glad you asked. The Board Committee that handles social events request volunteers to sign up in order to determine how much food to order. For that reason, it is always good to

cancel if you cannot make it to the event you signed up to attend.

Some times it does not make a big difference; but for most events it does. When 10 persons who signed up to attend the Christmas event did not show, 10 persons worth of food was wasted. For the spring banquet honoring volunteers, we pay in advance for the meals of the number of volunteers who indicate they will attend. When eight didn't show last year, that got expensive. That money could have gone to library purchases or programs, rather than paying for food not eaten.

This year when you sign up for the spring banquet, we will ask for a phone number to call you to remind you of the event. We really do want you there.

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 March *Newsletter!*



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

A Library Valentine

