



FRIENDS

of the Sun City Libraries, Inc.

FRIENDS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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

MARCH 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 April 2019, issue should be submitted by Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

THERE'S MAGIC IN THE AIR This year's **spring banquet** is on March 21. This is the major recognition event for Friends volunteers. The goal of the Friends of the Library Board is to get every Friends volunteer to attend the event.



This is what you need to know:

1. **Sign up** on sheets available at your work location or with your coordinator.
2. **Thursday, March 21**, Palmbrook Country Club 9350 West Greenway Road, Sun City.
3. **5:00** happy hour, 5:30 program, 6:00 dinner, 7:00 magician Eric Giliam, who will put on a stage show.
4. If you **need a ride**, please call Sue Blechl at 623-972-3409 by Tuesday, March 19.
5. If you sign up, you will be called as a **reminder** of the date.
6. If you have signed up but **cannot attend**, please call Cathy Weyers at 623-876-0900 to cancel your reservation.

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BOOKS AROUND THE CORNER

The author of the month is **Clive Kussler**. His books will be **half price** for all of March. The American author is an adventure novelist and underwater explorer. An author of more than 70 books, he has been on *The New York Times* fiction best seller list more than 20 times. He is also the founder and chairperson of the National Underwater and Marine Agency. NUMA has discovered more than 60 shipwreck sites and numerous other underwater wrecks.

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.

January, 2019, Bookstore income was \$5,324.86, about **40% more** than January, 2018.

MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS Our featured Friends volunteer this month is **Carol Hager**, who works at Book Around the Corner. She has just started her third year of work there.

Libraries have been a part of most of Carol's life. Her first job was as a



library page at age 16 in western New York. She moved to Arizona in 1976, and finished her working career as the librarian at Thunderbird High School in Phoenix. "I love being around books," she says.

Carol enjoys her Bookstore volunteer job because of the interaction with other volunteers and customers. She is an animal lover, with a dog currently getting that affection.

Her reading favorites are British mysteries, like Agatha Christie and Ian

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Rankin. She also admits to enjoying non fiction “all over the place.” When her nose is not in a book, she also enjoys ceramics, sewing, beading, and other crafts.

One of Carol’s claims to fame is being on Jeopardy. It was on her bucket list, which kept her taking the test until she was asked to be on the show in 2005. She came in second.

BOOK FRIENDS At the Friends February Board meeting, Charlotte Klose, Book Friends coordinator, commended her **eight readers** for their devotion and quality work.

NEW “OLD” BOARD MEMBER **Jerry Walczak** was elected as a member of the Friends Board of Directors at the February Board meeting. Jerry was on the Board previously and resigned when he was elected to the RCSC Board. He has two years and 11 months of his six year term remaining.

CAMILLA HONORED Prior to calling the February Board meeting to order, **Camilla Kurbeka** was honored for completing her six year term with the Board of Directors.



Typical of Friends volunteers, Camilla will stay involved, agreeing to head the committee to organize the ten year anniversary of the Maricopa County Library District/Sun City merger, continue her Bookstore volunteer duties, and be her supportive self in so many ways for the Friends organization.

LIBRARY NEWS At the February Friends Board meeting, Brianna King, Library Manager, related being “**so busy**,” partly because of having staff



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gone to assist in staffing shortage at the El Mirage Branch Library.

The **changing stations** are now in place in both Libraries. The **charging station** for Fairway is being ordered.

Brianna is working on future programs on “**simple living**.” Such programs might include a “repair fair.” A repair fair probably would require the Friends assistance in recruiting skilled volunteers from the community.

The **Winter Reading Program** is under way. The nine-week reading program for adults runs until March 22, 2019. To

date, participants total 97 at the Sun City Branch, and 62 at the Fairway Branch.



OFFICERS ELECTED The current Friends Board of Directors officers were reelected at the February Board meeting. They are: **Marcia Davis**, President; **Sue Blechl**, Vice President;

Pat Bates, Secretary; and **Jessica Potter Slider**, Treasurer.

GOALS ADOPTED The Friends Board adopted its **2019 Goals** at its February meeting. The 2019 goals are on the last page of this *Newsletter*.

FRIENDS BOARD THANKED The following letter was read into the record at the Friends February Board meeting. “The **Men’s Octogenarian Committee** and all of the players that have participated in the Tournament the past several years would like to thank you for being our major sponsor! Without the Friend’s support, this Tournament could not be such an overwhelming success. As the Tournament Director, I would like to add my personal thank you. You have made my job much easier through your generosity. Please accept our gratitude and very sincere appreciation for your assistance. Sincerely, Jerome S. Walczak, Tournament Director”

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



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ASK TOM E The February question comes from Hiram People who asked Tom E, “What kind of paid staff positions are in our Libraries, and what do they do?”

Hiram, Tom E knows from being in the Sun City Libraries that it is hard to tell one staff member from the other. They are all so good and so helpful. That is also true about the volunteers; but since you asked about staff, let Tom E not wander.

The five staff positions in our Libraries are:

Library Manager

Library Supervisor

Librarian

Library Assistant

Page

Brianna King is our current Library Manager. She is responsible for the management of both Sun City Libraries. Jackson Hadley is the current Library Supervisor. He assists Brianna, and spends most of his time coordinating Fairway Branch operations and programs.

The Librarian position is next in the line of authority. Librarians are required to have a Master’s degree in Library Science from an American Library Association accredited school. They are full time positions who, in addition to assisting the public at the customer service desk and with computer issues, coordinate and present special programs and maintain the library collection. Our current Librarians are Kate Moore, Steve Tompkins, and Vicki Novak.

Next in line are the Library Assistants. This position requires a high school diploma or GED and two years of customer service experience. Library Assistants can be full time or part time. They handle the majority of the day to day library tasks including working at the customer service desk, routing materials for hold requests, and lots of behind the scenes clerical work. They also work on special projects. The current Library Assistants are Anita Bodnar, John Guiliano, Sarah Parker, Nicole Voigt, Santo Maglio, Karla Brailo, Carol Vega, Amy Moriarty, and Yolanda Dutton.

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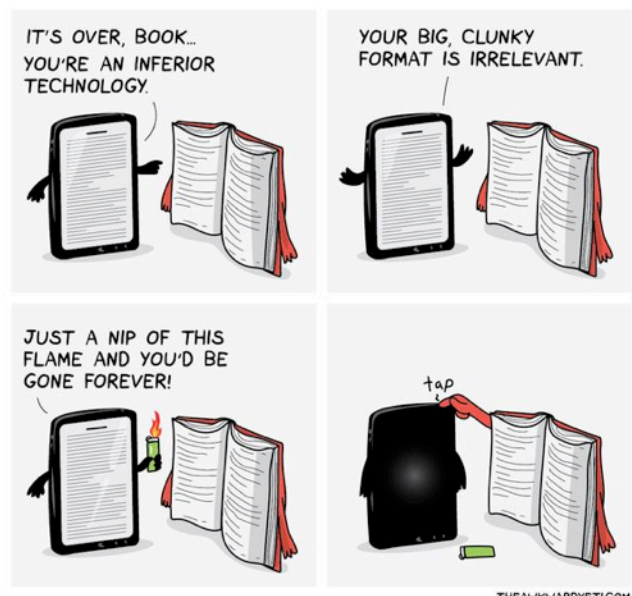
The Page position is the entry level library staff job. A Page processes and shelves library materials, and performs routine clerical duties to assist other Library staff. A Page must be 16 years old, possess English reading and writing skills, be detail oriented, and have great organization skills. All Page positions are part time, 19 1/2 hours per week. The current Pages are Mariah Crabtree and Elizabeth Hohman.

Brianna tells Tom E that positions rarely open. To apply, one should go to <https://www.maricopa.gov/> and “Job Opportunities” for information. Likewise, to volunteer in either Library, <https://mclidaz.org/> has a “volunteer” tab to hit for an application. Volunteering is often a good way for prospective staff to see if library work is as rewarding and fun as it appears to be.

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 April *Newsletter*!

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





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2019 Long Term Goals

- Promote lifelong learning within the community
- Continue to enhance our cooperative relationship with the Maricopa County Library District (MCLD) and RCSC
- Develop and maintain a strong volunteer program
- Maintain a sound organizational structure, policies, and procedures, with periodic reviews as necessary

2019 Short Term Goals

Library

- Champion and fund book drop project through implementation at Sun City Library
- Manage and fund book drop opening celebration
- Identify improvements in patron's program experience (program room experience, storage, capacity, availability, permanent rental idea, waitlist procedures, etc.)
- Manage and fund Library's 10 year anniversary celebration in August of 2019

Book Buddies

- Investigate and implement ideas to expand Book Buddy program to reach a higher volume of home bound library patrons

Book Friends

- Investigate and implement ideas to expand Book Friend program to take advantage of exceptionally high reader interest

Bookstore

- Update and expand Bookstore signage, including sandwich boards and sales flags
- Explore ideas for increased book sale space and additional Bookstore storage space at Sun City Library

Finance

- Determine if an additional finance volunteer would be beneficial, and implement as needed

Publicity/Outreach/Web & Records

- Implement new *Independent* column
- Maintain successful outreach program, analyzing efficacy of existing venues and exploring new venues
- Continue to enhance web site, increase viewers, and explore other social media

Volunteer Coordination and Activities

- Conduct volunteer satisfaction survey and analysis, implementing new ideas as feedback dictates
- Continue to improve communication between volunteer managers and Volunteer Coordinator
- Brainstorm and expand current list of volunteer opportunities to take advantage of increased community interest in supporting the Sun City Libraries