

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jacque Wachs
Happy 2018!



We have two exciting goals this year that include partnering with other organizations in Palm Springs and increasing an awareness of the Friends in the community.

So far this year we have been working toward meeting that goal by partnering with four different community organizations. The first is OnePS for the City Council Candidates Forum in October; and currently we are co-sponsoring the "Palm Springs Speaks" speaker series with the Palm Springs Cultural Center.

In February, we will have two events for Modernism Week, a home tour and a lecture. We are working with the Historical Preservation Society on the home tour. You can read more about these exciting events later in the newsletter.

On a different front, The Friends want to welcome our newest Board Member, Christine MacCalla. Christine is a longtime supporter and dedicated volunteer of the Library. We are very excited to have such a committed Friend be a part of our Board.

Sincere thanks to those of you who participated in our recent Friends Survey, the results of which are summarized later in this newsletter. The information gained will assist us in planning for the Library's future.

Gifts to the Library were greatly increased in 2018 by a generous, estate-planned donation from the Robert and Elaine Pollock Family Trust and we are ever so grateful to the Pollock family.

Recently we provided funding to purchase additional Adult Fiction and non-Fiction books, eBooks, audio books, children's books and DVDs. In addition, we plan to provide funds for the Career Online Program, which will provide scholarships for individuals working toward their GED. Nothing makes us happier than supporting our Library's community!

Additionally, mark your calendars for our members-only Annual Meeting this year, which will take place on Sunday, March 25 at the former home of Gloria Swanson, which is now called The Amin Casa. There will be a lecture presented on Swanson's life and film career following a reception with wine and appetizers. Please join us! You can RSVP at www.friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org or phone 760-668-8838.

We want to thank you all for your support of The Friends. Finally, a special Thank You to the Friends who volunteer, as we would not be able to do what we do without you.

CITY LIBRARIAN

Jeannie Kays

Happy New Year! What's New at the Library?

Happy New Year! New Year, New You! Resolve to improve yourself! These are catchphrases that are often heard this



time of year. You don't hear "Just keep doing the same old thing." Or "Nothing ever changes." We at the Library believe that each year is an opportunity to improve and provide you with items and services that are beneficial to you and help YOU improve your life. We are not sitting here waiting

for things to change; we are making changes every day.

For example, our City Council approved the purchase of 26 new all-in-one computers to replace our five-year-old public computers, which were used over 57,000 times in the last year alone, so it is time for new ones! Computer technology changes so quickly that these new computers will run faster and, most importantly, have larger screens for users to see their work more easily.

Our next project is to purchase new, comfortable seating throughout the library to replace our worn furniture—to be paid by City General Funds and Library Trust Funds. As far as online resources, we plan to use The Friends of the Library funds to supplement our eBook collection (we have over 6,600 eBooks, by the way) as well as start a Career Online High School diploma program. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Did you know? There were 223, 218 visits to the library last year, 2016-17. We checked out 431,283 physical items and 13, 527 eBooks. We hosted 310 programs which 8,799 people attended. Thank you for your support!

Don't forget! Author Deepak Chopra will be speaking and signing books on Saturday, February 3, followed by the Lisa Scottoline event and book signing on Monday, March 26. Visit www.palmspringsspeaks.org for details and tickets. Proceeds benefit The Friends of the Palm Springs Library and the Palm Springs Cultural Center.



For tickets and more information, please visit:

palmspringsspeaks.com

MODERNISM WEEK EVENTS

If you haven't yet purchased your tickets for The Friends' Modernism Week events, there are still some available! Please join us for one or both events on February 22. The morning features a self-guided tour of the Dr. Hugh Stephens House, an early example of the collaboration between Albert Frey and John Porter Clark. The residence features many elements of mid-century design including walls of glass, a low-pitched, combination flat-and-shed roof, concrete masonry walls and a striking copper fireplace hood. The house plan also includes one of the first family rooms (as chronicled in a 1955 *House Beautiful* article). The event will also include a brief poolside talk about the history of the house and a self-guided tour of the home's interior. Each tour-goer will receive a copy of the popular 74-page PSPF publication *Architecture 100*, which includes an entry on the Stephens Residence.

There are four tours beginning at 10 AM.

The afternoon event is a lecture in the Learning Center at our Library by the very entertaining architectural historian and critic, Alan Hess. He will present a richly illustrated discussion as he explores themes relevant to how the architectural environment of our community evolved and how these forces continue to influence what gets constructed today. Mr. Hess will take us through several examples of projects, both well- and lesser-known, to illuminate the ways in which the sometimes harsh, sometimes benign, desert climate spurred design solutions and how those solutions influenced our social fabric. This lecture will provide insightful commentary, sure to inform and entertain.



Mr. Hess is a nationally recognized architect, author, historian and critic whose 19 books have included *Palm Springs Weekend: The Architecture and Design of a Mid-Century Oasis* and *Frank Lloyd Wright: Natural Design, Organic Architecture*. He has been responsible for qualifying several landmark buildings for the National Register of Historic Places, including the oldest operating McDonalds and the Hotel Valley Ho in Scottsdale. He writes a very informative architectural blog in addition to being the Architecture Critic for the San Jose Mercury News.

The lecture begins at 2 PM.

Proceeds from your ticket help to support our Library. Tickets for both events are available through the Modernism Week website, modernismweek.com/events/.

ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us for The Friends' Annual Meeting on March 25, from 2 to 4 at Amin Casa, the historic Gloria Swanson house in the Tennis Club neighborhood of Palm Springs. The event will feature drinks and snacks followed by a short business meeting, which includes an update on Library activities by City Librarian Jeannie Kays.



Our featured speaker will be film historian Gary Smith, who will give a short talk on the work and legacy of Gloria Swanson. He is the author of seven books dealing with various aspects of motion picture history. These cover such eclectic subjects as epic films, British horror movies, vampire films, American International Pictures, and a detailed study of the movie *Forever Amber*. Mr. Smith has also appeared in several documentaries including *The Gigantic World of Epics* for Turner Movie Classics, *It Was a Colossal Teenage Movie Machine: The American International Story*, *Claudette Colbert: Queen of the Silver Screen*, and *Cecil B. DeMille: Hollywood's Epic Director*. He is presently working on a book about best-selling novels made into films.

The event is free to all members of the Friends. If you would like to bring guests, the fee is \$20, which includes a one-year membership to the Friends. As a Friends member, you will receive an email blast once our Annual Meeting event has been posted on the website (www.friendsofthepalmspring-library.org), under "Events." At that time you will have the opportunity to register yourself as "attending," thus securing yourself a spot, as seating is limited.

2017 SURVEY TO THE COMMUNITY

Barbara Stanford

Thank you for responding to our survey. We are pleased that you took the time! The information you provided can us now be used to shape our decision-making, based upon what you want, and are willing to pay, as we move forward. The good news is that most of you are familiar with the Friends (96%), and clearly love our Library, with 140 folks visiting on a daily to monthly basis.

Our Demographics:

1. We are a group of older citizens, with 169 out of 202 responders aged 55 and better (84%).
2. An impressive 145 respondents' educational levels had a Bachelor's degree or higher (66 Bachelor, 54 Masters, and 25 Doctorate degrees)

What Would You Like the Friends to Offer?

1. Author lectures/book signings
2. Community outreach speakers
3. Musical or cultural events
4. Book Clubs
5. Children's Events

Relevance of the Library in the Community

Finally, you clearly love our Library, with 140 folks visiting on a daily to monthly basis. You value our Library for its varied collections and its relevance as a community center.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kat Weyer, *Membership chairman*

Corporate/Non Profit

David Falk
Thomas Hart

Platinum:

Robert Dinah
Christine MacCalla

New Members:

Individual

Pat Donovan
Ninki Mallett
Anne Pichette
Mary Ann Culbertson
Edward Pollard
Veronica Fleitas-Stanley
Robert Rosenberg
Joseph Regina

Family:

Sidney James and Kathleen Wishart
Michael Thompson and William Odhe
Eugene and Evelyn Kain

Patron:

Peter Ginsberg
Jerry and Stephanie Stern

Individual:

David Agatstein
Dana Aspinwall
Lynn Bonsall
Mary Ann Culbertson
Peter DiCarlo
Pat Donovan
Mary Lou Feenstra
Wayne Fellabaum
Veronica Fleitas-Stanley
Richard Hajek
Jan Harper
Eula Harris
M. Rosalind Hoover
Moirah Johannessen
Cleone Knopfle
Patti Lively
Shirley MacDowell
Ninki Mallett
Rolf Olson
Anne Pichette
Joy Wentz
Ron Willison
Robert Witt

Family:

Stephanie Austin
Ginny Barber
Deanna and Bob Burpee
Linda and Michael Dixon
Fred Hartman and Tom Downen

Dr. Judi Hollis and Henry Kaplan
Sidney James and Kathleen Wishart
Estelle Kuhlman
Judith and Thane Pittman
Joseph Schroeder
Judy and Alan Searle
Michael B. Susman
Dorothy and Brian Trethewy
Robert Trogman
William and Pamela Wylie

Patron:

Marjorie Aikens
Mary Cone
Richard and Myrna Owen Derby
Catherine Dillon
Robert and Cheryl Fey
Beth Friedman
Peter Ginsberg
Steve Shuman and David Gray
Bud and Barbara Hoover
Fred Jandt
Ann Kepcke
Marilyn McElroy
Michael, Kandi and Lauren Mewshaw
Richard Steele and Robert Parrish
Laurie Ridgeway
Carol and Harley Rudofsky
Ralph and Barbara Villani
Barbara and Michael Wexler

BOOK SALES *Richard Ellis*

ANNUAL BOOK SALE: Due to damage from a broken water pipe in the Frey Bldg., we may have to move or postpone the Annual Sale while repair work is being done. We will post an update on our website as soon as we know the details.



SALE DATES

February 23: Member Preview, Annual Sale. J.C. Frey Building
February 23: Member Preview, Annual Sale. J.C. Frey Building
February 25: Bag Sale open to public. J.C. Frey Building
March 28: Bag Sale. J.C. Frey Building
April 14: Fiction Bag Sale in Lobby

OP-ED: YOUR VOICE



**MICHAEL
HIRSCHBEIN**

We all know our Library is a vital community resource. But do you know how vital? Check these statistics, based on fiscal year 2016-2017:

- **Library visits: 223,000**
- **Materials checked out: 431,000**
- **Number of programs: 310**
- **Attendance at Library programs: 8,800**

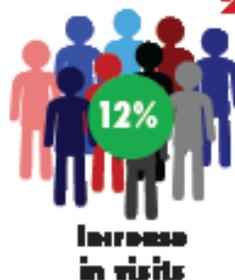
These numbers belie the commonly-held belief that our Library is no longer a relevant service to our community and thus should face decreasing funding from the City. In fact, our Library and its staff are doing a lot more with a lot less. Keep these numbers in mind: while circulation over the last 10 years has increased 22%, funding has actually DECREASED 8%. Correspondingly, staffing levels have fallen from 23 to 13.

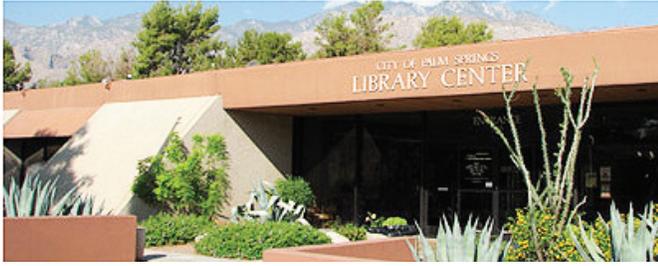
It is time for our voices to be heard in the City dialogue. If you believe in our Library and its contribution to our community, let your elected representatives know of its importance! And ask them to fund it appropriately!

COMPARISON 2007



2017





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300 S. SUNRISE WAY • PALM SPRINGS, CA 92262

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS: FEBRUARY, MARCH

The Library presents a varied selection of programs each season to educate and entertain. Here is a selection of upcoming programs, so mark your calendars now!

Wednesday, February 7th Film Screening: *Between Allah & Me (and Everyone Else)*. This film unveils the intricate and complex effects of hijab on Muslim women, their families and the communities in which they live. The movie will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center (Closed Captions Available).

Wednesday, February 21st Modernism Week Special Film Screening: *Journeyman Architect: the Life and Work of Donald Wexler*. This film explores the groundbreaking work of this renowned local architect who is garnering new appreciation worldwide and is providing inspiration for a new generation of architects. The movie will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center (closed captioning is not available). Presented in partnership with the Palm Springs Modern Committee.

Wednesday, February 28th Author Lecture: Victor Yates. Discussing his book *A Love Like Blood* and his other work and career, this program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center. Victor Yates is the winner of the 2017 Judith A. Markowitz Award for Emerging LGBTQ Writers. He won the 2016 Lambda Literary Award for LGBT Debut Fiction for his book, *A Love Like Blood*. His novel also won Honorable Mention at The New England Book Festival.

Wednesday, March 14th Author Lecture: Carol Mann & Lynn Centeno: *"All the Ways A Woman."* The book is a celebration of women as seen through the eyes of watercolorist Lynn Centeno and the pen of author/poet Carol Mann. This collection of original poetry and art – celebrating and honoring women – depicts a woman's journey through life: her thoughts, her loves, her many roles, her dreams and desires. Each poem is paired with a watercolor to capture a special moment within that journey.

This unique presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center.

Wednesday, March 21st Author Lecture: Wade Rouse will be discussing his third book, *The Recipe Box*, under the pen name Viola Shipman (in homage to his grandmother). This story tells the tale about a lost young woman and the family recipe box that changes her life.

The lecture will begin at 6:30 p.m. in The Learning Center.

Wednesday, March 28th Fifth Annual Family Fun Festival Celebrating Spring! Come to this event in the Palm Springs Stadium (across from the Library) to learn more about all the wonderful resources and activities available to families in our community. Participating organizations will have a booth, each with a craft or game, plus there will be special demonstrations, a bounce house, giveaways and more! The FREE event goes from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Friends of the Palm Springs Library

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Laura Miller, *Volunteers*

Cynthia Prieto

Chris Seidel

Wanda Turman

Kathy Weyer, *Membership*

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