Friends of the Alpine Public Library

Between the Lines
Fall 2013

Friends of the Library Week Celebrated
October 13-20

The Brewster County Commissioners and the Alpine City Council declared October 13th to 20th National Friends of the Library Week in Brewster County and in Alpine. Celebrate by Becoming a Friend Today.

We'll Get By with a Little Help from Our Friends

Libraries need Friends—it’s just that simple. In fact, across America many public libraries were established through the efforts of community members who understood the value of libraries to their communities and also understood that libraries needed community support to survive. Did you know that a criterion for securing a Carnegie grant was a demonstrated commitment by members of the community to raise additional funds and support for a new library?

How do libraries benefit from Friends groups? By the expansion of their resources to serve the public. Friends extend a library’s capacity through dollar gifts, volunteer and program support, and advocacy. Few libraries are in a position to turn away help from their supporters; in fact, even if a library is so well heeled that additional funding isn't needed, libraries without a well-developed group of Friends will find the going tough when they need to bring in additional precious funds in an increasingly competitive environment, when they need a new building, or when they need to grow their collections and services. Additionally, any library that seeks grant funding will find itself in a much more competitive position for those grants if it can show that it receives tangible support from the very people who use and benefit from the library.

Friends are very important and effective for libraries of all types. Friends don't donate time, energy, and financial support to an entity they’re not willing to fight for—the library. When the case needs to be made for a library, the group most able to step up to the plate is the Friends of the Library. Every day across America, Friends are making a difference for the libraries they serve.

The Alpine Public Library has always had many Friends. Without those Friends we would not have the beautiful building we have, nor would we have thrived in the buildings we served our community in for so many years. Without the Friends we might not have been named one of the best small libraries in America. But Friendship, just as any meaningful relationship, requires some work. We need active members who participate—with both time and money—in meetings, planning, execution of plans, programs. When you get a request for help or an invitation to a meeting or a program, be a good Friend and step up to the plate!

—Kathy Bork, Membership chair
(Adapted from the American Library Association)
From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your 2013 membership to the Friends of the Alpine Public Library! Your support helps to keep the library at its current level of excellence for collections and programs. While donations and volunteers hours are lower than 2012 when the new library opened with much fanfare, we are still enjoying great participation from the community. We continue to recruit volunteers – so please come in and offer your expertise! As you know, APL is a nonprofit agency and relies on community support for all aspects of operations.

Re-Reads bookstore, all-volunteer run and managed by the Friends, continues to grow and represents a very important part of APL’s funding stream. Congratulations to the volunteers whose dedication and hard work has resulted in a great success story!

With much appreciation,

Paige Delaney

From the Friends President

Summer is over and what a busy one it was for our Library. Children’s programs galore and the busiest summer ever for Re-Reads, For many good reasons several of the trusted volunteers both for the Library and for Re-Reads have resigned. We need your help. If you love books and people contact Paige or Kathy Bork, our Volunteer Co-Ordinator.

Donations to the Library are down. Before the next Newsletter goes to press, we will have celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas. Consider a donation to the Library in Thanksgiving for a special friend or relative or in thanks for our wonderful Library. Give a donation to the Library as a Christmas gift to that friend who has everything. They will be sent a card to tell them of your gift.

We are exceedingly blessed to have a beautiful new Library and an outstanding Executive Director and staff. Let’s see that we have funds to continue our wonderful programs.

Diane Brown

Volunteer Help Wanted

Circulation Desk & Re-Reads Bookstore

call today
837-2621

The Alpine Public Library is seeking donations of artwork and collectibles for the Live and Silent Auctions at ARTWALK 2013.

The Silent Auction will be held at the Granada Theatre during Alpine's ARTWALK 2013 on Friday and Saturday, November 22 and 23. The auction will feature artists exhibiting at locations all over town and donations from artists and collectors in the community.

A limited number of special items will be offered at a Live Auction on Saturday, November 23, at 5:00 PM in the Granada.

All proceeds directly benefit the operations of the Alpine Public Library, an independent nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For information on making a donation, please contact Margaret Matthews at (432)294-0803 or bookwoman8285@gmail.com.

---

Time on your Hands?

Kids back in school? Spouse busy with work? Gardening season winding down? Sounds like you need something to fill those empty hours.

The library is in the filling business.

Like people? Comfortable with the computer? We always need help at the circulation desk. Tasks are varied, as are the people who use our library. And I can tell you from experience that our circulation desk staff is about the nicest group of people you'll ever meet. Contact Paige Delaney for an application.

Like little people? The kids' program needs help, too. If you look at the library's Facebook page, you know that we have one of the best, most creative programs anywhere. Mary Beth Garrett and Cheryl Frances are geniuses when it comes to keeping kids interested while teaching them something. They could use a few more geniuses, though, so if this appeals, contact Mary Beth for more information.

Like language? The English as a Second Language (ESL) program needs your help. No, you don't have to know Spanish or Vietnamese to help someone learn English. The library has a wealth of materials and experienced instructors to teach you to teach our friends who want to learn our language. Contact Paige for more information.

And people say there's nothing to do out here . . . . .

Kathy Bork
Volunteer Coordinator
Friends come in all fonts - and we need all kinds!

Times New Roman Friends – These are the lifelong literature lovers who favored classics in school over popular mass-market fiction. They become quiet, thoughtful volunteers who tenderly prepare donated books for sale at Re-Reads, or buy them themselves to protect them a little longer. They pay special attention to watch for rare books or anything bound in leather.

Playbill Friends – These are volunteers who enjoy planning events and getting book-lovers together to celebrate the library. Tedium work is not a bother - the final smash event is worth the time spent licking envelopes and moving chairs and tables!

GreenThumb Friends are the volunteers who camouflage their thieves and smokers to help the library improve grounds and facilities. They don’t mind digging holes, crawling under tables, or the occasional electric shock to keep the library in good working order.

Freestyle Friends are most comfortable writing checks - they prefer to contribute behind the scenes, to make sure the library has the resources it needs to continue high quality service. They are also happy to encourage others to donate by writing letters or asking their friends.

Minya Nouvelle Friends are the artistic types - they love to create posters and advertisements for library events, paint chairs, or craft any other imaginative object needed for a fundraiser. Minya Friends do what many of the rest of us can’t!

OCR Friends - these are our tech-savvy volunteers who offer donated computers and equipment, or who can be called on to help with a network problem or sudden Xerox jam. They are in high demand, so they often volunteer for many different causes.

Our Maximo Friends love to work at the library to meet people and chat – they are often fountains of information, and provide an extra social network for the friends membership to draw from. They have a dedicated following of patrons who visit regularly during their shift.

Whatever type of Friend you are, we thank you!
News from Re-Reads

Summer and the early fall have been busy in Re-Reads. We expect the coming months to be even busier. The hardworking volunteers have provided many selfless hours of labor stocking and arranging the shelves in Re-Reads. The reading public has donated uncounted titles for the shelves that are in turn purchased by other members of the reading community.

Displays highlight materials of specific interest, while special sales feature other materials. Requests for specific titles or topics are encouraged. We have no control of the donations we receive but are always happy to look and set aside materials of potential specific interest.

Make Re-Reads a part of your routine. Join us to donate material you have finished reading, to shop for reading material for yourself, or to look for potential gifts. In addition to reading matter, you will find Bookworm Blend coffee from Big Bend Roasters, library T-shirts, baby articles, jewelry, and more available. In mid-October our holiday materials will be featured in a Buy One – Get One sale. We are including holiday-themed books as well as craft and do-it-yourself books in this sale.

Come shop with us, or if you have time and interest, come volunteer with us. You are needed and will be most welcome.

Some Re-Reads Statistics
Average patron count per day January through August 2013: 45
Average patron count per day September: 29 (Patrons, where were you?)
September Income: $1186.05

Bag of Books Sale
The Bag of Books Sale held on September 14th and 15th netted $200. That is a lot of books when you can fill two or three bags of books for $5 depending on when the books are purchased. The last hour of the sale, books were FREE! A Terlingua patron left with 5 carton of books for the Terlingua community. Watch for the next sale which is tentatively scheduled for mid-January.

Books for the Jail
Kathy Donnell and Mary Jane Morgan are continuing to take books from Re-Reads to the Alpine Jail every month. Books accumulate in the hall, so their first job is to bring these books back into the conference room. The books are separated into two groups – those that need to be re-shelved and those that need to be discarded due to their condition. Books receive a colored sticker when they are first taken to the Jail according to the kind of book such as biography, mystery, etc. The books are re-shelved into those same categories. There are some books that are not marked with a colored sticker, and Kathy and Mary Jane are combining some of the categories, and all of the books will be assigned a category and given a sticker. More Spanish-language books are needed for the Jail, because these are the first to be taken from the shelves. If you have Spanish language books that you would be willing to donate to Re-Reads, they will definitely be used at the Jail.
Kids’ stuff

“Wild Thing” project  And the Winner Is....Maggie Hillary  “Pajama Story Time”

Banned Book Week Art

Teen Cosmetology Workshop  Garden Club

Pick up a Calendar at the Circulation Desk or go to the Alpine Public Library’s Facebook page to learn more about all the Library’s great activities and to check out the dates and times.

Special Donations

**In Honor of**
Anne Calaway
for serving as acting APL board president and
serving as Artwalk auction committee chairperson:
By Ken Durham & Patsy Culver

**In Memory of**
Bob & Pauline Sims: By Rodney & Carol Cottle
Wynette Wimberly: By Greg & Juliette Schwab
Dorothy Ragland & Glen Watkins
By Jean & Robert Ragland
Helen Stone
By Marilyn & Martin Terry

In Memory of
Helen Stone
By Bonnie Jehl

Helen Stone
By Virginia & Alvin Ezzell

Helen Stone
By Joyce Miller
Alpine Public Library and Marfa Public Library Present

Ricardo Ainslie

Sat., November 9, 2013 7pm
discussing his new book and Mexico’s Drug War: origins & future

Alpine Public Library
805 West Avenue E, Alpine, TX

“This program is made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.”

“absolutely courageous in its fairness and search for answers.”
Dates to Remember

November 9- 7pm    Ricardo Ainslie discusses his new book
November 12-noon  Friends of the Library meet
November 14-6pm   Library Board
November 22 &23   Art Walk Silent & Live Auction at the Granada Theater
December 6& 7     Re-Reads booth at Mountain Country Christmas
December 10-noon  Friends of the Library meet
December 12-6pm   Library Board

Holiday Closures

Thanksgiving: November 27 through 29
Christmas:       December 24 thru 26
New Years       December 31 & January 1