First, I want to thank our Library Director, Paige Delaney for editing our newsletter for the last three years. We are seeking a new newsletter editor. Are you the one? Have you always wanted to edit a quarterly Newsletter but haven't had a chance. Are you an experienced editor who would like to use your gifts and experience to help us get the news out to Friends and supporters of the Alpine Public Library? If so, please contact me.

Since the spring issue was published, much has happened. In this issue you will find articles about the “Back to the Future” fund raiser chaired by Janith Stephenson which raised over $1,500 and the Texas State Library webinar on fund raising in which Karen Boyd and Mary Jane Morgan shared information on Re-Reads and on the Art Walk Silent/Live Auction with participants from other Texas Libraries. At the Big Bend Volunteer of the Year luncheon, Martha Latta was awarded the Friends of the Alpine Public Library Volunteer of the Year award and was also honored with the Janette Bowers Volunteer of the Year Award as the outstanding Volunteer in this area, quite an honor.

Although this issue is being published in the midst of the “lazy days” of summer, the staff and volunteers of the Alpine Public Library remain busy. Among some of the activities for our youth are the Summer Science Club and the Summer Reading Club. Re-Reads is holding 2/1 Sales on books on a different theme each month. Donations to Re-Reads have been so generous we had to hold a Bag of Books sale July 2nd & 3rd to clear out our overflowing store room. If you visit Re-Reads you can also purchase “Bookworm Blend” coffee prepared for us by Big Bend Coffee Roasters. Outreach programs providing home delivery of books and materials to shut ins and maintaining the library at the Brewster County Jail continue apace.

You will see several new faces at the circulation desk, including Yvonne Martinez and Melissa Amparan. Please welcome them.

We always welcome new faces and new ideas at the monthly meetings of the Friends. Friends do not meet in summer but will meet again at noon Tuesday, September 10th in the AEP Meeting Room. Our meetings last only an hour. Please join us. If you can’t come in September, we meet each month on the Tuesday before the second Thursday.

Thank you all for your support of the Alpine Public Library.

Diane Brown
A Word From Your Board

Have you been looking to help the library in some way but nothing so far has caught your interest? Looking for a unique volunteer challenge? Consider volunteering as a “Team Lead” for the Art Walk Auction.

Organized six years ago by the board as a community event to raise money for the Capital Campaign, the auction is now organized and run by the Friends of the Alpine Public Library with proceeds going to library operations.

What is a team lead? The auction is divided into 10 major activity areas, each with its own lead. Leads are responsible for the planning, care, and feeding of the volunteers who are the energy and muscle behind the auction.

Last year over 30 different Friends formed the auction’s backbone, volunteering to gather donations, set up and tear down the space at the Granada, lay out the bid items, greet bidders and explain how the auction works, cash out the winners and get them their items, etc.

Past team leads are still around to help and advise new leads. After five years all of the processes are refined and written down. Materials are in storage. Checklists and forms ready.

Art Walk is not that far off.

In late August planning for the library’s biggest event of the year begins. Consider becoming a key player in what has become an Art Walk tradition and a premier event for the Friends of the Alpine Public Library!

We’d love to hear from you soon.

Thank you,

Ken Durham
2013 President, APL Board

Anne Calaway, Chair, Art Walk Auction Committee
2013 Vice President, APL Board

Re-Reads Update

July finds Re-Reads just finishing a Fill-A-Bag sale and some reorganization and refreshing of the materials on the store shelves. Specials displays that may be of interest to buyers include: classic mysteries and award winning books. We also have books about the World of Science (Fact or Fiction) priced as Buy One/Get One Free during July. Shopper/browser input regarding special displays is welcomed.

Spring donations to Re-Reads have been many and varied. We are making a concerted effort to keep the inventory varied and reflective of the donations. Several very large donations came to Re-Reads in conjunction with Sul Ross University retirements and major moves around the community. Additionally, we regularly receive donations of a book or ten. All donations contribute to the Re-Reads effort to support the Alpine Public Library and are extremely welcome.

Volunteers are the people who do all the work of Re-Reads. Volunteers are the greeters, the location assistants, the sorters, price checkers, and shelf fillers. The core of volunteers is strong and active but new volunteers are needed. If you have time to give, please complete a volunteer application.

Linda Bryant

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Newsletter Editor
English Tutors
Circulation Help
Recycling
Kid’s Programs
Book Sellers
Book Sorters

NOW OPEN
inside the new Alpine Public Library building
at 805 W. Avenue E.

RE-READS
USED BOOKSTORE

A project of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library to support daily library operations.
At the invitation of Texas Library Association Mary Jane Morgan and Karen Boyd participated in a Webinar on "Exemplary Practices for Friends Organizations of Small Libraries." Participants were from small Texas libraries and college library programs.

Mary Jane explained the Art Walk auction, an annual event which yields more than $20,000 for the Alpine Public Library. Now in its 7th year, the auction is run by volunteers with a core group doing the planning and making adjustments from year to year. All auctioned items are donated. From the first year of just silent auction the event has expanded to include wine and beer wheelbarrow chances (yielding $2,000+ and you get the wheelbarrow), a Buy it Now table with items under $25, to last year's live auction on Fri. Night. The Granada donates the space for the auction which is a major focus of Art Walk. The income from the auction has climbed from $13,000 to $24,000. Each year the number of volunteers has grown and last year 34 volunteers worked at least 2 hour shifts apiece.

Karen explained some history of Re-Reads book store and its development from a haphazard establishment to a full time used book store operated by volunteers. As the number of open hours grew from about 10/week to 45/week the number of volunteers increased also. Currently volunteers work 3 ½ hour shifts from one per month to five or six shifts a month depending on the volunteer. The income has grown from very little to $1000/month. Over nine years the number of volunteers has increased from a handful to 40+

All books are donated and generally prices range from 25 cents to $4. Several special sales are held each year. One volunteer, Marilyn Terry, oversees the special sales and gathers books to match the sale. Through years of organizing these sales Marilyn knows the customers and their preferences for book topics. At least once or twice a year Re-Reads has a Buy it Now table with bargains on duplicates, items that don't move in this area and books that look "shop-worn." There have been two Rare and Unusual Book sales which were well received but require time to build up stock. Sale items have increased to include T-shirts, mugs, jewelry and bookmarks.

Clean-up after any event is also done by volunteers and may take almost as much work as having the event.

Following the Webinar was a question and answer session which produced interesting questions about recruiting volunteers and acquiring donations. The questions accentuated how fortunate the Alpine Public Library is to have a community that values the library and will work to continue and improve library projects. A big THANK YOU to all volunteers.

-Karen Boyd

THANK YOU, LEE!

ESL for the Big Bend’s Lee Smith will be leaving to join the Peace Corps this month, along with her husband, ESL tutor Jim Robertson. We will miss you!
On May 11, 2013, Bake Turner and the Friends of the Alpine Public Library celebrated a simpler time with music and food from the 1950’s. Everyone had a good time while raising $1350 for the library.

Bake played professional football from 1962 to 1969, primarily with the New York Jets, and was a member of the Jets team that won Super Bowl III in 1969. He was inducted into the Texas Tech Hall of Fame. In retirement, Bake is a popular entertainer in West Texas who frequently donates his talent to fund raisers.

Special thanks go to Cathleen Gruetzner and the House of Gruetzner and good friend Commander Cynthia Banks for donating the wine. Steve Anderson and Alpine’s Big Bend Brewing donated the beer.

Important to the success of the event was the tireless work of committee members Janith Stephenson, Kathy Bork, and Kathy Donnell, who baked, organized, and rounded up everything it takes to make a nice presentation of the food prepared by members of the friends. President Diane Brown helped deliver posters, sell tickets, and baked her special cookies. Other friends who provided food and helped were Pat McCall, Linda Bryant, Jodye Stone, Karen Boyd, Mary Jane Morgan, and Audrey Painter.

Many thanks to each of you; it was a real joy to work with such enthusiastic volunteers. This event could not have happened without your help.

Janith Stephenson, Chairperson

Above: Lucila Valenzuela, Alan Turner, Janith Stephenson, Doris Weatherman, Carol Lewis, and Bake Turner. Above Right: Joe Goldman, Inez Tongret, June Adler, and Bake Turner pose with “Roy.” Right: 1950s music enthusiasts enjoy the show.
Fun with Food was sponsored by the American Dietetic Association. Amy Halfmann (below left), registered dietician, lead the group of 24 children in nutrition games, exercises and reading. Kids learned about the five food groups and made a nutritious snack to take home.

Snakes of the Trans-Pecos
Left: Karl Peterson introduces visitors to a live Mojave rattlesnake.
Between the Lines

The summer heat has suddenly kicked in, and all the new trees at the library are being watered once a week by our steadfast volunteers. The freak cold on May 3rd (it was 20 degrees at my house!) did some freeze damage on the walnuts, vitex, and chitalpa, but all have recovered and are leafed out once again. Oh, the resiliency of native plants!!

A couple of other volunteers are keeping the weeds at bay to allow the native grasses and wildflowers we planted to get a good hold.

The garden sign with educational brochures is in place at the entrance to the parking lot, so if you want to know more about the landscaping and the plants we used, please take one of the handouts.

Boy Scouts did an excellent job of making the rainwater tanks complement the building by painting them the same color as the library’s trim….great job guys!

As soon as work on the children’s patio is complete, we will start planning the next phase of the landscaping on the west side of the building, and again will be soliciting donations for trees, so stay tuned.

Martha Latta

TREAT YOURSELF TO A CUP OF APL’S BOOKWORM BLEND COFFEE! BY BIG BEND COFFEE ROASTERS. AVAILABLE ONLY AT RE-READS BOOKSTORE! $12/LB., GROUND OR WHOLE BEAN.

Troop 140: Hunter Hunt, Cole Hunt, Brent Freeland, Steve Hunt, Brandon Gilmore, Bryan Gilmore, Brooks Freeland, Sammy Villareal, and Dart Dodds (not pictured) all helped to paint APL’s water storage tanks as a part of Cole’s Eagle Scout Project.
IN MEMORY OF

Damon Wetterauer
By
Don & Tish Wetterauer

Betty Gertza
By
Martin & Marilyn Terry

Joe Clark
By
Robert & Margaret Matthews

Richard “Dick” Bowers
By
Ben & Betty Tanksley

David N. Ramirez
By
Tim & Kay Wilde

Joyce J. Neville
By
Jeff & Stephanie Haynes

IN HONOR OF

Kathy Bork & Juliette Schwab
By
Mary Jane Morgan

Kathy Bork
By
Allan & Paige Delaney
Louis DeSipio

Mary Jane Morgan
By
Kathy & Albert Bork

Kathy & Albert Bork
By
Juliette & Greg Schwab

Anne & Malcolm Calaway
By
Juliette & Greg Schwab

Martha Latta
By
Lee Smith & Jim Robertson
Outdoor Children's Area Almost Complete

The APL Board of Directors hired Charles Maxwell Company to complete the outdoor kids patio on the west end of the library. Soon we will have floor covering and a sink! We look forward to holding children’s programs in the space as weather permits.

Funding was generously provided by Anne & Johnny Weisman, as well as US Housing & Urban Development grant funds.