

Between the Lines

Friends of the Alpine Public Library Alpine, Texas

APL Named One of Three Best Small Libraries in America

Winter, 2012

**If you read any issue
this year, read this
one!**

The Alpine (Texas) Public Library has been named one of the top three small libraries in America for 2013.

Each year *Library Journal* and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation recognize three US public libraries that provide extraordinary service to populations less than 25,000 through the Best Small Library in America Award. The Alpine Public Library was selected as one of two 2nd place finalists who will each receive \$10,000, travel funds to the 2014 Public Library Association conference, and a writeup in the February, 2013, issue of the magazine.

Nominated libraries were judged on key factors including creative and replicable programs, outreach to special populations, innovation in public access to the internet, success in computer education, use of technology, demonstrated community support, sustained cooperation with other libraries, partnerships with agencies and business, increase in library use, and role as a community center. The library would like to thank all the supporters who helped to make this award possible!

Director's Note: Can you believe it?! I can. APL has one of the most capable and motivated staffs in town. I am very proud of them, and credit their hard work for this award. Thank you to all who have supported our progress, through thick and thin.

From the APL Board President

The Alpine Public Library board is all about the "long-term." Where does the library need to be in 5 years? Is our mission still relevant? Are our operating means and methods sustainable over the long run? How strong is our current financial situation?

It's this last question that the board and Executive Director Paige Delaney paid considerable attention to in 2012. The board likes to maintain a cash reserve of 10% of our operating budget, or about \$20,000, as a hedge against unexpected events. Last year our "cushion" was razor thin mainly because of unexpected costs of shutting down the old library and moving into the new.

To remedy the situation Paige and the board post-

poned large expenses when we could, watched other expenditures, and stepped up board member fund raising efforts. These actions, along with significant donations from generous supporters of the library, helped turn the situation around. We ended the year with our reserve fully funded, and Paige was able to increase spending in a few strategic areas of the 2013 budget.

Speaking of strategy, the board will be dedicating a full-day of in-service in early March to re-visit the strategic plan, among other things. We need to decide if it is still appropriate and that we are making progress. Another area we will discuss is board development. By the end of this year 8 members (out of a board that averages 12 directors) will have resigned over the last two years. Some resigned for personal reasons, some were term-limited.

Overall, board turnover is good. (That's why we have term-limits!) New people bring fresh perspectives, ideas and energy for our mission. On the other hand, protecting institutional memory and providing strategic continuity are a

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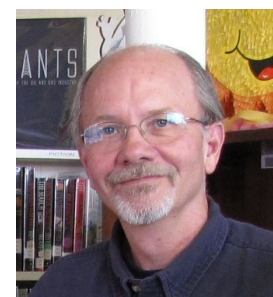
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challenge. We'll be looking at ways that the board and library staff can best navigate this transition.

Let me close by thanking you for your continued support of the library with your time, your money, and / or your enthusiasm for our mission, as well as thanking the APL staff for the truly great job they do.

Ken Durham

2013 President, APL
Board



Special Donations

In Memory Of

Norman & Ruth Beard
By
Alan & Kay Byrd

David Forchheimer
By
Juliette & Greg Schwab
Kathy & Albert Bork
Mary Jane Morgan
Paige & Allan Delaney
Kathy & Billito Donnell
Scott & Karen Williams
Clara Boreing
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Carol Lewis
Sara & Phil McGaughy
Ben & Betty Tanksley
Kathryn C. Stucke
Laferne Scudday
Donald Mulhern
Mike & Shirley Powell
The Foley Family
Ira Blanton

Otis Coggins
By
Caliope Lines
The Jack Bow Family
The Blane Wilson Family
Juliette & Greg Schwab

Joanna & Lee Cowell
By
Rob & Margaret Matthews

Tai Gearhart
By
Kathy & Billito Donnell

**To make a memorial donation
or to honor someone with a
donation to APL, write to us or
call 432-837-2621.**

Addie Gray
By
Juliette & Greg Schwab

Wacky Pallanez
By
Jessie Pallanez

Frieda Rogers
By
Kathy & Albert Bork
Chachi Hawkins
Kay & Don Green
Thomas A. Henning
By
Linda & Christopher Little

David Miller
By
Mike & Shirley Powell

Rick O'Donnell
By
Sara & Phil McGaughy

Mary V. Stringfellow
By
Ira Blanton
Ruth Allbright
By
Kathy & Albert Bork
Katie & Ed Tetreault
Don & Tish Wetterauer
Ben & Betty Tanksley
Lee Smith & Jim Robertson
Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison

Mrs. Jo Whayne
By
Robert & Kristine Kinucan

James Conway
By
Don & Tish Wetterauer

Bertie Rundquist
By
Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison

Felicitas Escontrias
By
Wayne Cline & Deborah Allison

In Honor Of

Aaron & Linda Braden
By
Ken Durham & Patsy Culver

Wayne Sheehan
By
Directors, officers, & employees of
West Texas National Bank

Mary Jane Morgan & Chris Ruggia
By
Kathy & Albert Bork

Donald & Diane Brown
By
Pollyanne Melton

Sept. 29th Tree Planting Team c/o
Martha Latta
By
Kathy & Albert Bork

Albert Bork
By
Isabel Fornelli-Jones



From the Friends President

Is it already 2013, where did the past year go? The Friends of the Alpine Public Library had a busy fall and I want to thank all who worked so hard to enable the Friends to help make the Alpine Public Library one of the best small libraries in the country both by raising funds to keep the doors open and by volunteering in many ways. Thanks to the ReRead Volunteers led by Karen Boyd and Marilyn Terry who volunteered almost 1,800 hours and raised over \$15,000 dollars in 2012. We welcome Linda Bryant who has taken over the enormous task of scheduling volunteers for ReReads from Karen and thank Karen for her year of service.

This fall was especially busy and I want to offer special thanks to the following: Thanks to Marilyn Terry for organizing the FAPL Booksale at the annual meeting of the Center for Big Bend Studies which raised over \$900. Thanks to all those who helped with the booth at Mountain Country Christmas which raised almost \$1,200 including the sale of pecans. We ran out of pecans (thanks, Paige for coming up with the idea to sell pecans and for ordering them for us) and ordered an extra box



which were sold at ReReads.

And last but not least, a BIG THANK YOU to Mary Jane Morgan and ALL the donors and volunteers who made the Silent Auction during the Art Walk such a HUGE success. The total raised was over \$23,000 including \$9,000 raised at our first ever live auction. We are in the process of planning events for 2013. New events will include a Pot Luck luncheon for all members of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library and our first "Depression Cake" contest based on the "Depression Cake" in *To Kill a Mockingbird* in celebration of Banned Books Week. If you have ideas for events you would like to see the Friends hold, join us at our February meeting on February 12th at noon in the AEP Community Meeting Room. Everyone is welcome.

I know everyone who is reading this is a friend of the Alpine Public Library. Make it official, fill out the membership form in this Newsletter and join now. You can be as active or inactive as you like but your membership will show that you know how important it is to have a Public Library in our community.

May you all have a wonderful New Year! -Diane Brown

APL Welcomes Robbie McDaniel to Staff

APL is proud to have Robbie McDaniel, left, as a new circulation assistant! Robbie has many years of valuable experience and already has ideas for new adult programs at the library. We will keep you posted about her upcoming plans!

ArtWalk Auction a Booming Success

Thanks to all the artists, volunteers, bidders, the Granada, and the ArtWalk board of directors for their generous support of the library at the November ArtWalk auction! Record

proceeds from the silent and new live auction allowed us to meet our budget AND qualify for a Potts and Sibley Foundation matching grant. Hope to see you all next year!

In Memory of Cliff Kocher

My personal contact with Cliff was limited ~ I knew him as did many: as the man who walked through town, occasionally picking up trash, not because it was his job, but because it was there. He stopped to talk with people, not because he felt he should, but because he cared. He was a private person who shared things about his life that left you wanting to know more. It is hard to imagine that we no longer have the chance to get to know him better.

At the library, he was a genuinely kind person and a model patron, considerate and generous. His pleasant demeanor made him a joy to interact with, even briefly, and all of our staff lit up to see him come through the door, which he did on an almost daily basis. It is hard to imagine that we will no longer see him working on computer number three, humming hymns with his headphones on.

He made good use of our library's services, but gave back way more than he took. He was generous with smiles and small kindnesses, including chocolates, that were as meaningful as his large donations to the children's program which included movies and a flat screen TV to view them on.

It is a testimony to Cliff's humanity that even those who did not know him well knew of his goodness. It is hard to imagine that he will no longer be part of our daily lives; but his model of a life well lived, his contributions, and his memory will keep him a part of our community for many years to come.

-Cheryl Frances



Landscaping at APL a “Work in Progress”

Because of the overwhelming generosity of plant lovers, many volunteers, and a Native Plant Demonstration Landscape grant awarded to Keep Alpine Beautiful, landscaping around the Alpine Public Library kicked into action last September when the bare soil was seeded with native grasses and wildflowers.

The week after Thanksgiving saw the arrival of the BIG TREES....a multi-trunk Red Oak and Desert Willow. These came from a tree farm in New Mexico, and were delivered on a flat-bed truck that was also delivering live Pinions to One Way Plant Nursery. With the skilled help of City of Alpine Public Works Department employees Hector Ramirez and Steve Lasley, holes large enough to accommodate the trees were carefully dug with a backhoe, then the trees were gently lifted from the flat-bed and just as gently, placed in their respective holes. The entire process went without a hitch, and as Hector later remarked, ... “that’s the first time I’ve planted trees with a backhoe.”

In December, three large piles of rock appeared, courtesy of John Schwerdtfeger and hauled by Richard Savery. Volunteers are now working to place the rock in the three “dry creek” areas. The rocks will help prevent soil erosion and slow the flow of water in these areas so that it will have time to seep into the ground. The rock-filled wire baskets at the east end of the parking lot are called ‘gabions.’ Their purpose is to divert storm water coming off the parking lot from flowing off-property and into the two lower-lying basin areas north and south of the parking lot.

The trees were purposely planted in these basins to benefit from the extra moisture. So far the theory has worked...even though rainfall since October has been light, the two volunteers who have taken on the responsibility of watering the trees – Mimi Smith and Bennye Meredith – have only had to fill the TreeGator watering bags a few times, due to sufficient

ground moisture!

One of the requirements of the Landscape Grant was that the landscape be educational. To that end, volunteers are currently placing signs by each plant that identify both its common and botanical names. For more information about the plants and the demonstration landscape, an informative brochure is available on the free literature rack just inside the Library’s entry.

The Library landscaping is a work in progress, and can always use volunteer help and/or monetary donations. If either of these calls to you, contact Martha Latta at 294-3183.



Friends of the Alpine Public Library

But why, some say, the moon? Why choose this as our goal? We choose it not because it is easy, but because it is hard; because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills.

—John F. Kennedy

Substitute “service” for “the moon,” and you have our library’s mindset in a nutshell. How can a public library in a town of 6,000, with very limited staff and more limited budget, even begin to think it can provide crazy-good service? It’s not easy and requires a director and staff with more imagination and creativity than should be legal—and a group of donors and volunteers that believes a good public library is the right of every community no matter its size.

The word is out, though. *Library Journal* and the Gates Foundation have recognized our library as one of the top three libraries serving a population under 25,000 in the entire United States for 2013. I’m so proud of all of us, I could fly to the moon. I’m going to stay put, however, and continue to donate time and money to our award-winning library as a member of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library (remember that Re-Reads was named the Texas Library Association’s Project of the Year in 2005).

You can help keep our library in the forefront of library service by joining the Friends of the Alpine Public Library for the 2013–2014 year (February 1–January 31). A membership application is included with this newsletter.

As a Friend you are entitled to \$10 worth of free faxes, copies, or Interlibrary Loans. You also receive early notification of and entrance to special book sales held by the Friends throughout the year. New this year, any volunteer who reports at least 100 hours of volunteer work to the library director by January 1, 2014, will be given a complimentary membership in the Friends for 2014.

And because we’re so crazy about our library and our Friends and in anticipation of National Friends of Libraries Week (October 20–26), we’re going to hold a first-ever potluck on October 8 to bring all of us together. Maybe we’ll hold it on the moon.

—Kathy Bork, membership coordinator



FRIENDS OF THE ALPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP 2013-2014

📖 Diane Brown, president and ALPL board representative &
Jodye Stone, vice president & 📖 Karen Boyd, secretary &
📖 Linda Bryant, Re-Reads volunteer coordinator & 📖
Gayle Lewis & Ken Durham, outreach coordinators & 📖
Kathy Bork, membership

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

THE "WARM FUZZIES"

FREE FAXES,
COPIES,
INTERLIBRARY
LOANS UP TO
\$10/VISIT

EARLY
NOTIFICATION OF
SPECIAL SALES

KNOWING THAT
FINANCIAL & TIME
CONTRIBUTIONS
DIRECTLY BENEFIT
THE COMMUNITY

FRIENDS OF THE ALPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1008 E. Nations


Alpine TX 79830


borkedit@sbcglobal.net

Meetings: Tuesday before second
Thursday, Noon, APL

FRIENDS OF THE ALPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill out this form and send to **Membership, FAPL, 1008 E. Nations, Alpine TX 79830.**

 Your tax-deductible dues may be paid with check or money order (payable to Friends of the Alpine Public Library), credit card, or debit card. Dues directly support the ongoing operations and programs of the library.

 You may choose to make an ongoing monthly donation to the Friends on the library's Web page.

Your personal information will not be shared with any other organization.

Last Name: _____ First Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail (saves us postage): _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (FEBRUARY 1–JANUARY 31)

☐ Individual/Family: \$20.00 ☐ Business: \$50.00 ☐ Patron: \$100+ \$ _____

☐ Ongoing monthly donation: \$ _____/month beginning _____, ending _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Please select payment type:

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☐ I agree to pay above total amount according to card issuer agreement and I acknowledge all charges to be final unless duplicate payment is made.

You may make payment by credit or debit card at the library if you prefer.

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New Library Catalog Features

The New Year has brought many new additions to our catalog. Now patrons have the ability to reserve books that are on order to the library. Also, new Book Lists are available in our catalog. These lists are updated every month and can be viewed by clicking the "See What's Hot" option in the catalog.

Another new feature is Apollo To-Go. This is a mobile version of our catalog that can be accessed using any mobile device, allowing patrons to renew or reserve any title in our growing catalog. Information on how to use Apollo To-Go is available at the Circulation Desk.

The newest, and perhaps the most anticipated, feature is the **ability to download e-books and audiobooks through our catalog.** Project Gutenberg and LibriVox media have provided literally thousands of titles available to download. These titles can be downloaded on any media device including Nooks and Kindles. For information on how to access and download the titles, ask at the Circulation Desk.

- Kris Celaya

Marathon Public Library Update

The Marathon Public Library is due to reopen with new librarians Zach Zniewski and Heidi Trudell during January. Sandy Wilson has joined the APL Board of Directors as a representative of the emerging MPL until the non-profit organizations are fully separated. MPL now operates its own website and catalog. If you were previously a member of MPL or APL, you are now a member of both. Your patron number has not changed. You can reserve books, search the MPL catalog, and check the status of your account at Marathon.bibliionix.com. Thank you for your patience during this adjustment!

Venga a descubrir nuestro amplio surtido de obras en español. Junto a la pared oeste de la biblioteca hay ficción contemporánea, literatura clásica, obras de no ficción y biografías. Hay libros de los mismos tipos para niños y jóvenes. También hay DVDs en español y DVDs con subtítulos en español. Disfrute de todas las ofertas en español en su Biblioteca Pública de Alpine y cuénteselo a sus amistades.



Above: Carol Townsend, center, who served as MPL branch manager for 8 years, retired in December. Shown are Chris Ruggia, former board president, and Paige Delaney, director.

Christine's Cataloging Report



New Adult Fiction Titles:

Arcadia

Canada

Hostage

Zoo Time

The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared

The Age of Miracles: A Novel

Beautiful Ruins: A Novel

Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk

The Coldest Night: A Novel

The Cove

Dear Life: Stories

The Garden of Evening Mists

A Hologram For the King

Hope: A Tragedy

The Investigation

The Sandcastle Girls

Telegraph Avenue

Tell the Wolves I'm Home

Wish You Were Here

ATTENTION BUILDERS, APL IS STILL SEEKING BIDDERS FOR OUR OUTDOOR CHILDREN'S AREA PROJECT. PLEASE CALL PAIGE AT THE LIBRARY.

Alpine Public Library

805 West Avenue E
Alpine, Texas 79830

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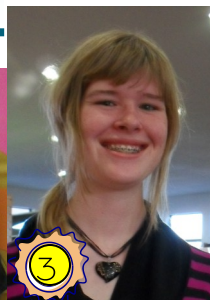
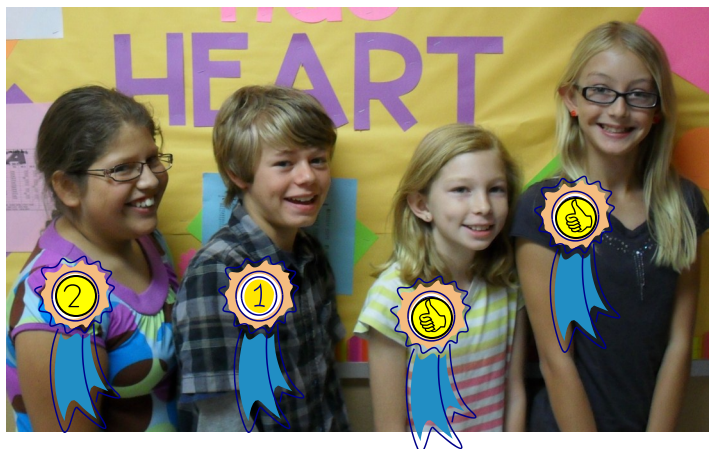
OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Kids Belong at APL!

Join us for these exciting programs
in 2013!

Fantastic Fridays	Valentine Party
Therapy Dog Visit	Dr. Seuss Party
Pajama Story Time	Dia de los Niños

Right: Mrs. Morrissey's first
grade class of happy library
lions.



APL Scary Story contest
winners and honorable
mentions (l to r): Angel
Fierro, Mickey Sexton, Gabby
Garcia, Athens Milani, Leigh
Wilson. Congratulations!

Above: Kids cele-
brate winter by mak-
ing snowman
puppets