



Friends of the Del Mar Library

A newsletter for friends and patrons of the Del Mar Library
Fall 2009

Del Mar Library Spins a New Web

Crawling out from under its piles of paper, Friends of the Del Mar Library has joined the 21st Century with an online edition of its activities. The new site can be accessed at www.friendsofdelmarlibrary.org.

The website will supplement rather than replace this newsletter, which will continue to be published and distributed to Friends members twice yearly.

"The new site," said Pat Freeman, Friends president, "will enable us to quickly and thoroughly inform the public about library services and activities. It is available to anyone at any time without charge."

From its home page, topped by a new photograph of the recently remodeled library building, viewers are directed to five inside pages:

About Us contains articles and photographs about the library's history, improvements to the building and other pertinent information.

News and Reviews has book reviews and details of past, present and future library activities and events.

Calendar is an up-to-date summary of upcoming activities.

Contribute tells how viewers can become member of the Friends of the Del Mar Library and how they can contribute to library programs.

Contact lists phone numbers and email addresses for library staff and names of board members.

Freeman urged residents of Del Mar and surrounding communities to use the website, tell their friends about it and offer criticisms and suggestions:

"This is a wonderful way for the Friends to encourage community participation to help provide the best possible library services for Del Mar."

The Friends website was designed and will be maintained by Virginia Lawrence, a resident of Del Mar Terrace since

2006. A former French teacher in New York and an English teacher in Switzerland, Lawrence designed her first website in 2003. Other clients include the Sandpiper and Del Mar Foundation.

Editorial

When the economy turns sour and public funds dry up, libraries are the first to feel the pinch.

San Diego County's library budget is \$41,313,536 - a decrease of 9.4% from the previous year. The cuts have been felt at every one of the county's 33 branches.

At the Del Mar library, a hiring freeze within the county system has resulted in short staffing that has been especially hard on its handful of employees. Activities and acquisitions have been reduced.

That's where Friends of the Del Mar Library comes in. A \$1,000 contribution will enable children's and adult programs to be maintained at their present levels. Other funds insure no reduction in magazine subscriptions.

However, our own resources are strained. Friends contributed \$50,000 last year to supplement a \$200,000 appropriation by the county for our new community room. This new resource already is attracting a variety of users.

Del Mar Library has a history of strong supporters. The county Board of Supervisors, led by Pam Slater Price, a Del Mar resident, has been exceedingly generous. So has the City Council, which recently paid most of the cost of a new roof, and currently is helping finance landscaping improvements. Del Mar Farmers Market has been a generous friend.

Now we're asking individuals in the community to help us face this financial crisis. Your contributions, large and small, can help us maintain and improve our library. Turn to the back page of this newsletter to find out how.

Chess Club Meets Weekly at the Library

If enthusiasm were ability, Dawn Erickson would be a grand master. Instead she's the founder of Del Mar's new chess club that meets at 4 p.m. every Thursday in the community room. Erickson welcomes players from seven on up. Pretty soon, she says, she'll start teaching 4-year-olds. All she asks is commitment on the part of players and their parents.

So far the chess club has about 20 members divided into two groups -seniors over 50 and children. But anyone can join. Erickson sees chess as a wonderful opportunity for children to interact with their parents and grandparents.



"Age is no obstacle," she says, "nor is language. Every emotion can be expressed on a chess board."

To encourage participation, Erickson has designed what she calls sub-games for children and their parents. She's also devising a curriculum for teaching chess to second and third graders. She charges nothing for the class but is encouraging donations of chessboards and pieces.

Born in La Jolla, Erickson is the daughter of an Air Force fighter pilot and learned to play chess at the age of 3. "Chess taught me the lessons of life," she said.

Married to a realtor in Rancho Santa Fe, Erickson has switched her focus to education, but chess will continue to play a big part in her life.

How good is she?

"I've held my own against some pretty good players," she said.

Library Landscaping Looms



Del Mar Library has a new roof and community room. Thanks to the Garden Club and city it's about to get new landscaping.

Arlene Paa outlined the landscape plan to Friends of the Del Mar Library last

week and the board responded by appropriating \$500 to buy new plants. Another \$3,000 will be contributed by the city of Del Mar for masonry, irrigation and electrical improvements.

Paa said landscaping would combine drought resistant native plants such as ceanothus and lemonade berry with succulents and grasses. Some new plants will be purchased and others will be donated. Existing bougainvillea, bay laurel and a sun camellia will be retained. At the southwest corner of the library site, in front of the new community room, a rock garden will be installed.

The design and much of the planting will be donated by the Garden Club, augmented by city landscapers who'll be responsible for maintenance.

Pat Freeman, Friends president, said she hopes the project will be completed by the end of November.

Three authors will talk at the Library

Baseball, wildlife and unholy mischief will be the topics of talks in Del Mar Library's "Meet the Authors" series this fall. Local author **Elle Newmark** will talk about "The Book of Unholy Mischief" at 1 p.m. Oct. 24.

A mystery set in Renaissance Venice, the novel uses food as a metaphor to describe the intrigue in and around the Doge's palace.

Newmark also will speak about her upcoming book set in India.



Harry Katz

Harry Katz, a Del Mar author, will discuss his two latest books, "Baseball

Americana" and "Herblock" at 2 p.m. Nov. 1. A former curator at

the Library of Congress, Katz has been honored for his contributions to the field of graphic art. His books explore two U.S. institutions – the national pastime of baseball and the late, great political cartoonist, Herbert Block.

Bette Blaydes Pegas is an El Cajon writer who fulfilled her life's dream by visiting the Galapagos Islands, made famous by Charles Darwin. Her book "Chasing A Dream in the Galapagos" is an account of her own personal evolution.



Bette Pegas

Her talk is set for 1 p.m. Nov. 8.

A Message from the Friends of Del Mar Library President



After a year's absence, I'm returning as president

of Friends of the Del Mar Library with the same savvy group of board members.

We can look back on

completion of the new community room that already has become a seamless addition to the library and a welcome new facility for Del Mar. It looks like it has always been here.

Our focus for this year is the landscaping around the library.

A message from Friends of the Del Mar Library President The Del Mar Garden Club will plant succulent, drought resistant plants. Arlene Paa is Garden Club liaison and the city's facilities department of the City of Del Mar is working with us. We hope to complete this project by the end of November.

I'm also pleased to report that Friends of the Del Mar Library has gone online with a stream of current news, photographs and calendar of upcoming library events. Virginia Lawrence will be webmaster and the site can be accessed at www.friendsofdelmarlibrary.org.

[friendsofdelmarlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofdelmarlibrary.org).

Like just about everyone else, we have a money crunch. Our funds have been depleted by a \$50,000 contribution toward building the community room. We usually spend \$20,000 a year on books, magazines, children and adult programs, and library improvements.

I hope you will be able to assist us when you plan your charitable giving. Your help is especially needed in a year when libraries all over the county are facing budget cuts. Thank you.

Pat Freeman

November 2009 Events at the Del Mar Branch Library

Children's

Toddler Storytime (Ages 1-3).

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

Craft of the Week. Stop by the front desk & get a new craft to take home. Tuesdays

Preschool Storytime (Ages 3-5).

Wednesdays, 11 AM

Chess Club with Master Instructor Dawn Erikson. (Ages 5+) Thursdays, 4-5:30 PM

Grandparents and Books. Grandpa Wayne reads to children. Saturdays, 11AM

Spanish and English Storytime. Tuesday, November 10, 10:30 (2nd Tuesdays)

Books and Art with Sandra Dodd (Ages 5-10). Registration required. Wednesday, November 18, 4 PM

Chapter Book Club (Ages 7-10). Book discussion and snacks. Wednesday, November 18, 4 PM (3rd Wednesdays)

Pajama Story Time. Come to the Library in your pj's and listen to stories and songs and have a special treat. Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 PM

Family

Chess Club with Master Instructor Dawn Erikson. (Ages 5+) Thursdays, 4-5:30 PM

"Edible Book Contest". Entries must be edible and relate to a book-LOOK like a book, refer to a CHARACTER, or be a PUN on a book title or character. Deliver entries by 2:00 PM. Voting 2:30 - 3:30 PM. Winners announced at 4:00 PM. Saturday, November 21

Teen

Teen Advisory Group (Grades 6-12). Meet with other teens to plan fun library activities. Refreshments served. Wednesday, November 4, 5 PM

Teen Book Club (Grades 6-12). Book discussion and snacks. Wednesday, November 4, 5:30 PM

Memory Book, with instructor Karen Lusby. Registration required. Bring family photos. Saturday, November 7, 2-3:30 PM

Intermediate Knitting, With instructor Linda Hart. Registration required. Saturday, November 14, 1-3 PM

Adult

Meet the Author. Local author Harry Katz will speak about his two new titles, including Baseball Americana. Copies will be available for purchase. Sunday, November 1, 2 PM

Fusion Academy and Learning Center "Reading for Success" Parent Workshop. Learn how to help your child excel in reading, school and life. Craft and

activities for children provided. Registration required. Tuesday, November 3, 4 PM

Knit and Stitch. Bring your needles, yarn, a project, and a friend. Coordinated by Regina Horner, (858) 755-1931. Sponsored by Del Mar Community Connections. Thursday, November 5, 3-4:30 PM (1st Thursdays)

Memory Book, with instructor Karen Lusby. Bring family photos. Registration required. Saturday, November 7, 2-3:30 PM

Meet the Author. Bette Pegas will speak about her book Chasing a Dream in the Galapagos: a personal evolution. Copies will be available for purchase. Sunday, November 8, 1-2 PM

Intermediate Knitting, with instructor Linda Hart. Registration required. Saturday, November 14, 1-3 PM

Book Talks and Treats. Readers share reviews and recommendations of recently read books. Copies are available for check out. Coffee and snacks. Friday, November 20, 2-3 PM

"Edible Book Contest". Entries must be edible and relate to a book-LOOK like a book, refer to a CHARACTER, or be a PUN on a book title or character. Deliver entries by 2:00 PM. Voting 2:30 - 3:30 PM. Winners announced at 4:00 PM. Saturday, November 21

Friends of the Del Mar Library
Post Office Box 933
Del Mar, CA 92014

**San Diego County
Library**

Del Mar Branch
1309 Camino Del Mar
Del Mar, CA 92014
858-755-1666

Gretchen Schmidt, Librarian
Patricia Selkowitz,
Assistant Branch Manager

Library Hours

Monday Closed
Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Website:

www.friendsofdelmarlibrary.org

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**FRIENDS OF THE DEL MAR LIBRARY
2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name(s) _____
Address: _____

2009 Membership Levels New Renewal

- \$30 Individual membership/renewal
- \$50 Family membership/renewal
- \$100 Sponsor membership/renewal
- \$300 Patron membership/renewal
- \$1000 Corporate/Benefactor membership
- Other

Mail your tax deductible contribution to:

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Del Mar, CA 92014