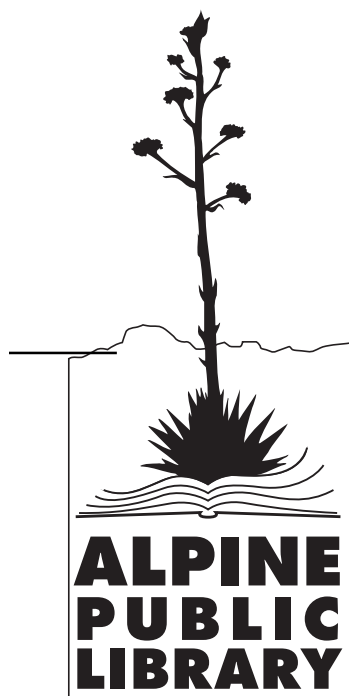


# BETWEEN THE LINES

## Friends of the Alpine Public Library



Spring 2005

#### FRIENDS OFFICERS

Marilyn Terry, PRESIDENT  
Sarah Crofton, VICE-PRESIDENT  
Margaret Hallford, SECRETARY  
Jan Williams, TREASURER

Kathy Bork,  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR/  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

#### LIFETIME MEMBERS

*Lifetime membership in FAPL is awarded for exceptional support of the Alpine Public Library.*

Verna Bonner  
Susan Curry  
Antoinette Edmonds  
Mary Beth Garrett  
Van Robinson  
Chris Ruggia  
Ellen Ruggia  
Dick Zimmer  
Jean Zimmer  
Elders & Sisters of the Church  
of Jesus Christ of Latter-day  
Saints

#### PATRONS

Audrey Painter  
Betty & Ben Tanksley  
Georgia Waller & Jack Lyon

### *Re-Reads TLA Project of the Year*

The word is out: libraries west of IH-35 know how to use their resources to great advantage.

Re-Reads Bookstore, a project of the Alpine Public Library and staffed and maintained by the Friends of the Library, was chosen as the Texas Library Association Project of the Year for 2004. Margaret Matthews and Kathy Bork accepted the award from Elizabeth Polk at TLA's General Session on April 6 in Austin in front of about 3,000 attendees. As the award was being announced, pictures of Art Chairs and of the bookstore were projected behind the stage for all to see why our library and bookstore were selected. The plaque is displayed in Re-Reads. Come by and see what a small but dedicated group of volunteers can accomplish.

### *Newsletter Name Contest Winner*

As you can see, the Friends of the Library Newsletter has been rechristened *Between the Lines*. We had many great suggestions and the vote was close, but Cheryl Frances, the genius behind Spoonfolk and the Art Chair project, has received a \$25 gift certificate from Re-Reads as winner of the popular vote. Cheryl is a longtime Friends member and volunteer and has spent many hours working in and for the library and bookstore. With this win, she proves not only that she has a way with vintage silver but that she has a way with words, too.

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### *Inside*

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# Celebrate Volunteers!

## National Volunteer Statistics

Reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor

√ From September 2003 to September 2004, 64.5 million people volunteered in some capacity.

√ The volunteer rate held steady at 28.8 percent.

√ Women volunteered at a higher rate than men across age groups, education levels, and other major characteristics.

√ Volunteers spent a median of 52 hours on volunteer activities during the period.

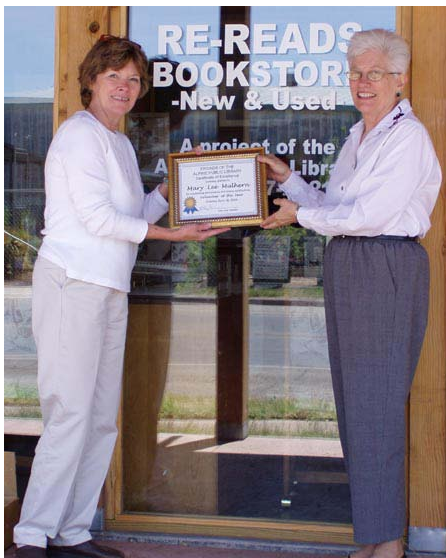
**APL volunteers gave the library 2,623 hours in 2003, 2,703 hours in 2004.**

√ Two in five volunteers became involved with the main organization for which they did volunteer work on their own

initiative; almost 42 percent were asked to become a volunteer, most often by someone in the organization.

**Consider this your invitation to volunteer. One hour a week would equal the national median for volunteer activities.**

## Friends Name Volunteer of the Year



Jodye Stone (l), and Mary Lee Mulhern

**M**ary Lee Mulhern has been chosen the Friends of the Alpine Public Library Volunteer of the Year and presented with a gift certificate from business member Quetzal Imports.

Although we have a slew of faithful volunteers, Mary Lee has, for almost five years, volunteered at least eight hours a week

for most of the year. That's about 300 hours a year—and her only “pay” has been the knowledge that she's doing something the understaffed library desperately needs but can't afford to pay for. Every week finds Mary Lee filing, accessioning new materials for the collection, and handling the Baker & Taylor leased books. She's been at it long enough that she's maintenance free—a point-and-shoot volunteer!

Thanks, Mary Lee!

## *Thanks to These Volunteers and Donors!* *(in no particular order)*

**John Boorse**, Alternative Pest Solutions, for coming to our rescue by ridding the front entrance of a major bee menace, at no charge.

**Katricia Cochran**, for writing those fabulous articles about the library for the *Alpine Avalanche*

**Karen Collins**, Big Bend Thrift Store, for donating ties for Summer Reading Program crafts and for donating many books

**Ellen and Chris Ruggia**, for setting up and maintaining the library's Web page

**Jane Sager and Marilyn Terry**, for being "crafty" during the Summer Reading Program

**Rocío Holderman**, for holding bilingual story times and puppet shows in June

**Marilyn and Martin Terry**, for storytelling in the elementary school

**Sarah Crofton**, for never missing a work day in the garage and agreeing to serve as vice-president against her better judgment

**Cheryl Frances**, for having the Art Chair idea and for volunteering in Re-Reads

**Deborah Allison, Cheryl Frances, and Pauline Hernández**, for nearly killing themselves getting their Art Chairs ready in time for Gallery Night when they had much higher priorities

**Dan Beam**, for volunteering his considerable auctioneer skills

**John Ehrke, Mary Bell**

**Lockhart, Margaret Matthews, Jane Sager, Pam Spooner, and the Friends of the Austin Public Library**, for hauling boxes and boxes of records to the Austin Public Library and helping us clear sorting space in the library's garage

**Donna and John Ehrke**, for donating ceiling fans

**Gayle Lewis**, for taking over the Homebound Patrons program and doing it with love

**Anne Lucas**, for serving so ably as Friends secretary, Re-Reads volunteer coordinator, and newsletter editor

**Thomas Greenwood**, for donating the design for Re-Reads and for work on the interior

**Preston Bonner**, for being the library's jack-of-all trades

**Alec Quiett**, for assuring us that the building in Marathon would not burn down

The students of Alpine Independent School District's **Alternative Education Program** and **Clare, Catherine, and Chris Ritzi**, for tearing covers off of unsalable books so the "innards" could be used to make papercrete

**Susan and Tom Curry** and **Jeanne Sinclair and Chris Cessac**, for agreeing to use our discards in their papercrete projects

**Cynta de Narváez**, for serving as liaison with the library folks in Terlingua

**Nancy White**, for duplicating, stapling, and labeling the newsletter all by her lonesome each issue

**Don Wetterauer**, for helping with landscaping of the front lawn by donating design help and labor

**Alice Stevens**, of One-Way Plant Nursery, for donating plants

**Cayetano Flores**, for faithfully helping to sweep the front walks

**The Elders of the Church of Latter-Day Saints**, for helping in many ways

**West Texas National Bank**, for donating furniture for the Norman and Ruth Beard Multipurpose Room, the library director's office, and the library

**Fort Davis State Bank**, for including a membership envelope in its September statements

And to the Re-Reads regulars : **Jean and Doug Bailey, Katricia and Jim**



**Cochran, Donna Ehrke, Jean Gorby, Margaret Hallford, Cindy Lockwood, Janet Marineo, Priscilla Maulsby, Audrey Painter, Marilyn Terry, Don Wetterauer, and Jan Williams**

We couldn't do it without you!  
And wouldn't want to . . .

## President's Corner

I recently read a book by William E. Barrett called *The Empty Shrine*. Published in 1958, it is a mystical story about the French-speaking residents on an island in the Saint Lawrence River. Barrett was well known at the time as the author of *The Left Hand of God*, which was made into a movie starring Humphrey Bogart.

Barrett's biography on the jacket flap states that he was a newspaperman, had written several books, and was past president of the Friends of the Denver Public Library. Wow! He saw this library association as important enough to include on the jacket of a novel that he had written!

I'm not planning to write a novel, but I am pleased to be part of the Friends of the Alpine Public Library. I volunteer because the library was such a special place for me as a child, and I want that privilege to be there for other children. Each of you has your own personal reason for giving your support.

Of course, I don't have to tell you the value of libraries. They are a destination that attempts to provide equally for all in the community. Through books and computers, they are an effective source of information. Libraries lend us books, CDs, and tapes for our recreation. And they reach out with special programs that enrich the lives of in the community.

The Friends of the Alpine Public Library is a service group that supports our local library. Your money, time, or both continue to help make that support possible. Your ideas can help shape the efforts we will make in the future.

Your participation with us is important! Thanks for being there.

On another note, thanks to the outgoing officers of FAPL for their hard work during the last year: Kathy Bork, president; Martha Floro, vice-president; Anne Lucas, secretary; and Jodye Stone, treasurer.

—Marilyn Terry

***A library is not simply a repository of books, it is the symbol and center of our culture—a door and a window for those who might not otherwise have such doors and windows.***

—Amy Tan

***My mother and father were illiterate immigrants from Russia. When I was a child they were constantly amazed that I could go to a building and take a book on any subject. They couldn't believe this access to knowledge we have here in America. They couldn't believe it was free.***

—Kirk Douglas

## *From the Director's Desk*

### *National Library Week*

April 10–16 is National Library Week. APL is displaying a banner and various items on our bulletin board to mark this special time. Katricia Cochran prepared a great news article for the *Avalanche*, and Mayor Mickey Clouse signed a proclamation honoring National Library Week.

### *New Books*

Thanks to the generosity of grant donors, APL placed 300 new books on the shelves in March; some 297 books were weeded. Jodye Stone is now the cataloger and is doing a great job in this position. In coming weeks, new items will be received and processed for the large print collection, the juvenile collection, and the children's collection. Our patrons are enjoying the new books.

### *Re-Reads Bookstore*

The bookstore continues to average around \$700 per month in sales. We are now experimenting with keeping the store open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. We have several new volunteers who have made it possible to open on Fridays. Kathy Bork traveled to Austin to receive the TLA Project of the Year award for the bookstore. This is quite an honor for us. On the downside, I was notified by

the Meadows Foundation this week that they will not fund the completion the bookstore.

### *Landscaping*

The \$1,000 for the front lawn project has been received, and one of our volunteers has helped with planning the improvements. The work will move forward with the improvements soon.

### *Grants*

Two grant applications, both for purchase of books, are still being considered. The Libri Foundation Grant would provide \$1,070 in children's books, and the M.°S. Doss Foundation Grant application is for carpet in the main circulation area and for books. We should have answers to these requests soon. We should receive the funds to purchase the three Gates computers in coming weeks. One computer will go to Marathon and two will be used in Alpine.

### *Summer Reading Programs*

Planning and preparations for the Summer Reading contest and programs have accelerated in both Alpine and Marathon. I am particularly excited about the quality of the programs this year and anticipate good attendance in both libraries. Both libraries are scheduled to enjoy a special magic program by Harlan Rhodes of Midland



at the concluding party. Carol Townsend has really outdone herself with preparations and seeking donations to help finance the Marathon program. She and her volunteers will conduct the story times and crafts in June and July at the community center.

### *Activity at the APL and MPL*

March and April are spring break months for APL and MPL; therefore, statistics showed a substantial increase for March and into April. Total patrons through the door in Alpine in March were 3,531, with 728 of those folks using the computer. A total of 193 out-of-town visitors dropped by the library to use our computers and other services. APL provided a very good selection of IRS tax forms this year, which met a brisk demand for both forms and information.

Marathon enjoyed 326 patrons using their facilities, with 154 using computers. A total of 46 visitors were counted. Both APL and MPL are serving the community and visitors in a very effective, efficient manner. We can truly be proud of our staff and services.

—Verna Bonner

## KID STUFF

### Summer Reading Program

This summer's reading program will be held in June and July for children ages five to twelve. This year's theme is

"Go Wild .

... Read!" The five winners who

read the most books will be rewarded with prizes at a party on Saturday, August 6. A professional magician from Midland will entertain the children and their parents in both Alpine and Marathon.



### Music & Story Time

Every six weeks, Marilyn and Martin Terry, FAPL members, hold story time in the Alpine Elementary School as a reward for achievement. The Terrys are experienced story tellers and, from all reports, a much-looked-forward-to event.



### Summer Fun

Wiggly spiders, rattling gourds, books, stories, and music—all these will be part of the



children's program that will be held each Wednesday in June from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. The program is open to grade school children from ages five to twelve. Jane Sager, APL board member, and Marilyn Terry, FAPL president, will lead the program, which is held in conjunction with the Texas Reading Club.

Pass this information along to children you know. It's going to be fun!

### APL, Humane Society Effort

APL has purchased a number of new children's books on animals. Donna Ehrke and Nancy White, of the Alpine Humane Society (and also FAPL members), are developing a program to be taken to Alpine elementary School that uses these new books. Watch for details.



### Toddler Time

It's been around for a while, but Toddler Time continues to entertain and amaze! It's still held on the library's patio from



10:00 to 11:00 A.M. on Tuesdays for children five years old and younger and their parents.

Mary Beth Garrett, a self-professed toddler "addict," helps toddlers play their way through learning centers using felt, sand, water, rice, and a lighted magnifying glass to blocks to sorting activities to puzzles, crafts, paint, clay, and Play-Doh. The second hour is usually devoted to songs, stories, games, and finger plays.

### Bilingual Story Time

Rocío Holderman has volunteered again this summer to conduct a bilingual story time and puppet programs. Come to the library at 10:00 on Fridays in June if your child would like to listen to stories in Spanish.

## Book Reports

So many books, so little time. Have you ever said this to yourself as you're standing at the circulation desk? You look over at the Baker & Taylor shelf, loaded with best-sellers, and wish you could take all of them home to read? The sad truth is that most of us just don't have time to read everything that looks interesting. Thus, we're going to publish very short book reviews from time to time in the hope that they'll help you spend your precious reading time on things that really interest you.

### *Ever So Humble,* by Fran Shaff

This book is wholesome adult fiction with a fresh plot. It is about a community working together to find solutions. The atmosphere is romantic, and tenderness and emotion bring all of the townspeople together for a cause that helps them all in their quest for a place to call their own.

—Reviewed by Janet Marineo

### *Willow,* by Carolyn Brown

A historical romance that is lively and sometimes funny with a journey in pioneer days to the Promised Land. The characters need each other and work together to achieve their goal.

—Reviewed by Janet Marineo

### *Unhinged,* by Sarah Graves

Good mystery—family muddies the waters but in the end, family prevails and solves the murder. Slow start, but ends well.

—Reviewed by Katie Tetreault

### *The Shop on Blossom Street,* by Debbie Macomber

A good yarn—not only the story but also a store's name—where a knitting class brings together the unlikeliest group of women.

—Reviewed by Katie Tetreault

### *Dandelions in a Jelly Jar,* by Traci DePree

Well written—flows. Brings home the importance of land and family. Midwest wisdom.

—Reviewed by Katie Tetreault

Looking for a good book that will provide an escape from the world and put you into another world of intrigue, mystery, twists and turns? Try reading Harlan Coben's *Tell No One*. After eight years, David Beck has made peace living without his wife, who was killed one evening as they swam at the lake. A mysterious e-mail appears on the eve of their anniversary, and thus begins an intriguing mystery.

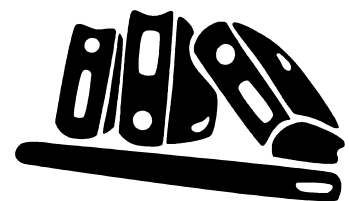
If you like mysteries with twists and turns that sneak up just as you think you have a plot worked out, you will enjoy Harlan Coben. All in all, his novels are very good reads, not spine-tingling “set you on the edge” thrillers, but books you must finish. The other three I've read—*Gone for Good*, *One False Move*, and *No Second Chance*—have made me a fan.

—Reviewed by Kay Stovell

### *Cape Light,* by Thomas Kinkadee & Katherine Spencer

If you think a book written by the famous Painter of Light should be a fairy-tale fantasy, you might be mistaken or even disappointed. If, however, you read *Cape Light* anticipating a simple story about a small American town with all the characters and personality quirks found in every small town or neighborhood, you'll be pleased you took the time. A modern-day *Little House on the Prairie* comes to mind when I think of this book.

—Reviewed by Gayle Lewis



## Art Chair Auction May 7

Way back in October, Cheryl Frances was working at Re-Reads when other volunteers unloaded surplus library chairs from storage. As the chairs were being unloaded, ideas floated about what could be done with them. None of the ideas were very exciting until Cheryl, in her quiet way, suggested that we give them to area artists to decorate using literary themes then sell them to benefit the library. It was an Aha! moment. Everyone stopped dead in their tracks, looked at each other, looked at the cobweb-covered chairs, and said, "Well, why not?" From these humble beginnings, as they say, the Art Chair Project was born.

The Friends around the same time decided to try opening Re-Reads during Gallery Night to see whether we could get some new faces into the store. We



Carol Fairlie, *The Secret Garden*

wanted to display some of the yet-to-be decorated Art Chairs. Deborah Allison (Ashby & Allison Fine Art Galleries), Pauline



Elizabeth McBride

Hernández (Off the Wheel), and Cheryl Frances (Spoonfolk) responded to arm twisting and finished their Art Chairs in time for the event, even though all were trying to get their "real" art ready for larger venues.

In yet another incidence of serendipity, area artists decided it was time they formed an organization through which to promote the arts in the Big Bend region, and the Big Bend Arts Council (BBAC) was born (a lot of births in the area around this time). The Art Chair Project seemed like a natural avenue for cooperation with another nonprofit, the Friends of the Library. Jan Moeller and Kathleen Putman of BBAC started working with FAPL.

The months of work will climax in the Art Chair auction on Saturday, May 7, 6:00–10:00 PM, on 6th Street between Holland and Avenue E. The street will be blocked off. The Resonators will play from 6:00 to 8:00, and Dan Beam will serve as auctioneer of

the Art Chairs, from 8:00 until everything's sold. The proceeds will be split between the FAPL and the BBAC. There will also be numerous raffles throughout the evening of everything from baseball caps to B&B packages. A combination ticket will be sold in advance for \$15.00 and will include a ticket for barbecue, one raffle ticket, and an auction ticket (which will allow the purchaser to bid on the auction items). Advance tickets may be purchased from Re-Reads, Ashby & Allison Fine Art Galleries, Front Street Books in Alpine and Marathon, and The Brown Recluse in Marfa, or call Kathy Bork at 837-2882. The



Petei Guth, *The Wizard of Oz*

combination ticket will be sold at the "door" for \$20.00, as will individual raffle tickets for \$1.00 each and auction tickets for \$10.00 each (neither includes food).