President’s Message

For many, including the Friends, this is the real beginning of the year. So, Happy New Year! We had a great 2021-22 and this year holds the promise of much more.

As always, I need to start by thanking our tireless volunteers who work so hard to keep our lovely Book-Go-Round running and raise our visibility in our community. Our retail sales are back to pre-COVID levels, and we are focused on growing them even higher. We grew our membership donations through the pandemic times to over twice what we raised in the 2015-16 year. We can’t thank you enough for your support of our library!

Your generosity is part of why we have created a new position on our board, Development Chair. Wayne Innamorato, our former Assistant Treasurer, will take on this new role. Peggy Patrick, our former Membership Chair, will also be moving into a new role as Parliamentarian. Woanyu Yu retired from our Programs Chair position, which we chose not to fill. We really appreciate all of the support we received from Woanyu and are working to keep the great programs she started going.

Continuing in their current roles on the board are Jennifer Van Dalsen as Vice President, Liz Guy as Communications Chair, Julie Stallman as Newsletter Chair, Susan Carter as Treasurer, Joyce Gross as Secretary, Kristin Gragnola as Manager of Retail Operations, Alice Patrick as Past President, and Beth Kingsley as Community Events co-Chair.

We welcome Annie Ying, who will join Beth as Community Events co-Chair, Sheeba Garg as Membership Chair, and Deepi Devanagondi as Assistant Treasurer. All have been very involved in supporting our community and schools and we are lucky to have them on our board!

We are also excited to share that we’ve increased our grant to $150,000 this year, up from $141,000. The bulk of our increase is going towards expanding the programs that our library can offer in the coming year and providing support to our great librarians and staff.

Due to a prior bequest, we were able to fund some important furniture upgrades. We’ve included pictures on pages 3 and 4. Stop by and see for yourself!

Let me end with a few final remarks on our plans going forward. At our board retreat in August, we expressed a strong desire to have a greater impact in our community. This means doing more to provide value, and generate sales, from our wonderful Book-Go-Round. It also means continuing to reach out to the community to further promote our library and the great things that it, and the Friends, are doing.

I look forward to working with all of you during the coming year to ensure that our community remains one of the best places to live with one of the best libraries in the country. We are always looking for more people to join us in this effort, so feel free to contact me at president@fslonline.org anytime if you are interested in helping out.

Thank you,
David Guidry

Director of Development

The Board of the Friends of the Saratoga Libraries is growing, and we are very excited to tell you about a newly created position: Director of Development. This position will be filled by Wayne Innamorato, who has served on our Board as Assistant Treasurer, and continues to manage the robust Cookbook category at the Book-Go-Round. In his new Development role, Wayne will work with Nichole King, our Community Librarian, to pinpoint needs at the library which might not be met by our annual grant. He will also begin connecting with and recognizing Saratoga businesses who would like to partner with us, as we work to increase the financial support we give.

Our annual grant has always and will continue to help fund the library’s collections, programs and activities, and longer Librarian hours. As we look more deeply at our role in the community and what more we can do, we see all the ways in which our library serves us. Beyond the collections and programs, it is a cooling center in the summer, a resting place between school and home, and a safe space for patrons of all ages year-round. It is the heart of our community in ways we might not immediately recognize, and we plan to get the word out.
FSL Out in the Community This Summer

Did you go to the Saratoga Car Show this summer, or maybe the Encanto or Luca movie night at Quito Park? The Friends were busy this summer visiting with the community and telling them about our non-profit organization and the Book-Go-Round. We had a lot of fun providing themed crafts for the children attending these events and meeting many new faces in our fantastic community. The Saratoga Car Show on July 24th was a super fun event for all. Not only did families enjoy seeing many great cars, but they also got to stop by the Saratoga Library GoGo Biblio and the Friends table to browse the collection of car books available to check-out from the library or purchase from the BGR. We had a game of corn hole for kids to play, crafts for the kids along with some tiny toy car giveaways. We enjoy our community outreach efforts and hope to see you out and about in the community at some of the events we attend.
Saratoga Library Events

Summer Reading Wraps-up at the Saratoga Library
After 2 years of virtual and hybrid summer reading we returned to more in-person programming for summer 2022. During this time we had an amazing 60 programs, including outreach events, virtual, and in person programs. Over 3500 people attended these programs for children, teens and adults. Over 1100 children, teens and adults signed up this year, reading over 17,500 minutes and coming to the library to collect finishing prizes. A big thank you to Saratoga Library staff for all their hard work and to the Friends of the Saratoga Libraries for their support of our programs and prizes.

New furniture in the Library
The Friends of the Saratoga Libraries continues to support us by adding new furniture. In addition to the new furniture in the teen area, we are also beginning to receive items for the children and adult areas. New alphabet tables and chairs for our littlest patrons can now be seen in the children’s space, as well as new benches. The adult area now has new comfortable armchairs in the reading room and in the bestseller area as well as some new tables. We are so grateful to have this new and updated furniture to make our library spaces more comfortable, relevant and accessible.

Upcoming Programs at the Saratoga Library:
Masks and social distancing are required for all in-person programs.

Family Bingo: Sports
Tuesday, September 6, 2022  4:00PM - 5:00PM
Join us for a fun sports-themed afternoon of BINGO! Feel free to wear your favorite sports gear. Bring the whole family, all ages are welcome. Admission to the program is first come, first served. We will meet inside the Community Room.

Beginner Bridge Classes (9 sessions)
Fridays starting September 9, 2022  10:00AM - 12:00PM,
This in-person class at the Saratoga Library is a series of 9 classes focused on Introductory Bidding and the Playing of Bridge. Classes taught by an ACBL Accredited instructor. Class materials are provided. Please only sign up if you can attend all 9 classes.

Class dates are:
September 9, 16, 23
October 14, 21, 28
November 4, 11, 18
Registration required. Registering for the first class registers you for the series.

Mandarin for Beginners @ Saratoga Library
Tuesdays September 13, 2022 - November 15, 2022  7:00PM - 8:30PM,
Take up Mandarin with this 10 class series for Beginners! Meet new friends while you learn about Chinese culture and basic vocabulary and phrases. Registration is required for each session.
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Visit Us Online At
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Book-Go-Round NEWS

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one block south of Big Basin Way,
Saratoga Village
(408) 867-5552
www.BookGoRound.com

Square footage: 300

If you like books, you’ll LOVE the Book-Go-Round

Check our Book-Go-Round website for this month’s
FEATURED CATEGORIES