

OPEN BOOK

Newsletter of the Friends of Carmel Valley Library

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Friends of the CV Library

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Directors

President: Lisa Allison
Vice President: Mike Cobb
Secretary: Maria Roden
Program Chair: Judy Hamblin
Member at Large: Greg Brazzi
Librarian: Eddy Hamelin

The Mission of the Friends of Carmel Valley Library is to support and enhance our library's vital role in the community.

Supporting Our "Tiny but Mighty" Library through MC Gives!

It's that time of year again! The Friends of Carmel Valley Library continue to enrich our community's library experience! Whether subscribing to new periodicals, expanding our book collection, delivering engaging monthly speaker series, or driving vital facility upgrades—like our newly improved signage (see page 2)—we're committed to helping our library better serve our community.

You can play a crucial role in supporting our library by donating to the Friends of Carmel Valley Library through Monterey County Gives. What makes donating through MC Gives so great? Your donations are matched on a pro-rata basis, making your contribution go further! Last year, thanks to the MC Gives matching program, donations increased by an impressive 18%. It's a smart way to give back and make a tangible difference in our community.

Here's how you can contribute! From **November 14 to December 31**, go to Monterey County Gives (www.montereycountygives.com) and donate directly to The Friends of Carmel Valley Library. You can also visit our website at www.focvl.org/be-a-friend or put your contribution into the enclosed envelope.

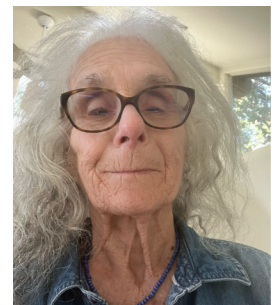
We can't thank you enough!

Thank You Susan and Cynthia!

From the beginning, Susan Brodey has been a pivotal figure in the Friends of Carmel Valley Library, serving as President, Vice President, and co-developer—alongside Tom Gano—of the beloved First Saturday Series, which has since become a cornerstone of our programming. Working under the leadership of Doug Pease, Susan played a key role in expanding the library's digital devices and services, particularly benefiting children. She also worked to design the distinctive, welcoming landscaping that now graces the library's entryway. Susan's contributions have left a lasting legacy that will be deeply appreciated by everyone who enjoys our beautiful library.



After 14 dedicated years, Cynthia Hertlein is stepping away from the Board at the end of 2024. She joined on October 5th, 2011, and succeeded Doug Pease as President in January 2014. For eight years, she led with grace and vision, before transitioning to the role of Treasurer in May 2022, where she meticulously managed our books and investments. Under her stewardship, we saw a significant increase in contributions through the introduction of the MC Gives process. Cynthia has been an outstanding leader, not only guiding the creation of the beloved library gardens but also mentoring new board members. Her impact will forever be etched in the heart and soul of our Library. She is most excited about seeing the completion of the mural on our patio wall.



New Signs at the Library - Provided by your support!

Every year, we ask Eddy and the library staff for any major projects that the Friends of Carmel Valley can help with. Your donations through MC Gives support these projects! Most recently, we've purchased a shipping container for additional outdoor storage, and brand new outdoor furniture on the patio. This year, we were very excited when Eddy and the staff asked for our help with new signs at the library. The existing signs were falling apart and needed to be replaced, or needed to be carefully restored to preserve their historic nature. With help from Signs by Van (our local sign shop in Monterey), we replaced two signs and restored three existing, historic signs.

When creating the new signs, we took great care to match the current theme and charm of our library. We also added new metal hanging signs by the side-walk.

Three existing signs were restored, including the original 'Buckeye' sign at the front, which reminds us that the library building was originally a restaurant and bar.

We can't thank this community enough for your contributions that help make projects like this possible!

Right, top down: Restoration of the Buckeye Restaurant and smaller CVL signs, comparing the old sidewalk sign with the newly installed signs



Bottom: Original sign and new sign at the front door



Book Reviews

Our email newsletters (e-blasts) regularly include book reviews by Maria Roden. Catch the rest of this review and many more at www.focvl.org/book-reviews.

This was such a unique and wonderful short read. After 60 years living in Australia, Helen Cartwright moves back to England to spend her last remaining years. She has lost her son and her husband and the lonely routine of her day causes her to wonder whether life is worth living... until the arrival of an uninvited guest completely transforms her life...

Sponsored by the “Friends”, The First Saturday Series Returns from Summer Break!

We’re excited to announce that the **First Saturday Series (FSS)** is back after a summer break! On the first Saturday of each month, the Carmel Valley Library comes alive with engaging talks and presentations by speakers who bring valuable insights to our community. Whether you’re a regular attendee or new to the series, we invite you to join us for these informative and inspiring sessions. Stay tuned for the upcoming schedule, and mark your calendars for the first Saturday of each month! (Please note: some sessions may shift to the second weekend due to holidays or special events.)

We kicked off the fall season on **September 14th** with a packed audience and an intriguing talk by Mike Clancy about **Project Azorian**, the CIA’s daring attempt to raise a Soviet submarine, followed by **Analuisa Bejar’s** exploration of the powerful role of **multicultural food** in bringing people together.

What’s Next

On **November 2nd**, join us for “**Your Library: Beyond Books**” with **Eddy Hamelin**, the branch manager of the Carmel Valley Library. Eddy will highlight the wide array of programming, services, and online resources the library offers, as well as its role in supporting the community during natural disasters. You’ll be amazed at all that your library has to offer beyond the shelves!

December 7th, “**Holiday Festivities**”, featuring the **The Cannery Rogues Barbershop Quartet!**

We welcome your ideas! Feel free to email us at info@focvl.org with suggestions for future programming at FSS.

Makerspace Fairs at the Library

Upcoming Makerspace Fairs

October 28: It’s Spooky
November 18: Holiday Fest

*Note: Makerspace Fairs are
Saturday 11am - 3pm.*

Eddy and the library staff regularly host the popular **Makerspace Fairs**. A collaborative workspace with materials for hands-on exploration, engineering, tinkering and purposeful play. The focus is on the learning process, not just the outcome.

These events promote problem-based learning, helping participants develop critical thinking skills needed in the 21st century. Family-friendly and open to all ages, the fairs feature Make-and-Take arts and crafts stations and a few fun surprises!

Regular Events at the Library

Adult Knitting Group | Mondays @ 12:30p
Knit while enjoying a friendly chat in a comfortable and inviting setting.

Student Support Center | Tues-Thurs @ 3:00p
In-person help with schoolwork including school projects and school supplies, as well as a variety of afterschool activities such as games and puzzles.

Preschool Storytime | Wednesdays @ 12:30p
A fun and interactive weekly Preschool Storytime program (designed for infants and kids up to the age of 4).

Senior Tech Help | Thursdays @ 11:30a
Get FREE tech help with mobile devices and/or using the Internet.

It’s Your Move Chess Club | Fridays @ 3:00p
All levels and ages welcome – beginners to expert!

Join Our Board!

We’re looking for enthusiastic new members to join our fun and dynamic Board. As the phrase goes, “Many hands make light work”!

We meet monthly to enhance library facilities and support special programs and events.

Interested? Email us at info@focvl.org to learn more about joining the Board!

The library has new hours!

Tues - Thurs: 10 am - 6 pm
Fri - Sat: 10 am - 5 pm



Post Office Box 248
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

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We could not do what we do without the help from all of the local businesses and organizations who sponsor us. If you'd like to be a business sponsor and highlighted on our website and future newsletters, please go to www.focvl.org/sponsor or reach out to info@focvl.org.

We Need Your Votes!

Our Annual Meeting will be at the library on Saturday, November 2nd at 11:30am. At this meeting, the Directors of the Friends of the Carmel Valley Library are elected for the next year. Any supporter who has made a donation since last November is eligible to vote beforehand. Your vote is just as valued and appreciated as your donation. (Note: If there is an "m" by itself on your mailing label, you are currently a voting member.) The slate of candidates appears to the right.

Please mail in your ballot or drop it in the book drop by October 31st, and you can join us for the Annual Meeting in person at the library November 2nd at 11:30am.

2023-24 Board of Directors Ballot

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Allison | <input type="checkbox"/> Judy Hamblin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greg Brazzi | <input type="checkbox"/> Maria Roden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Cobb | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write in: _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vote for all | OR <input type="checkbox"/> Vote for checked names |

**Please mail ballot to:
Friends of the Library
P.O. Box 248
Carmel Valley, CA 93924**

**Or drop this ballot in
the library book drop
by October 31st.**