



Library Chats...

for the love of books



Friends of the Chatsworth Library Newsletter

Chatsworth Branch Library: 21052 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 341-4276

April - May 2005 Newsletter



LIBRARY HOURS	(818) 341-4276
Mondays & Wednesdays	12:30 pm – 8:00 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays	12:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Fridays & Saturdays	10:00 am – 5:30 pm
Sundays	Closed
Major Holidays	Closed

SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES:

Story Time & Crafts	Tuesdays 3:30 PM
Friends Meeting April 20 (Wed)	Community Room 7:00 pm- 8:00 pm
Friends Meeting May 18 (Wed)	Community Room 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

EVENTS:

GIANT Book Sale May 21(Sat)	Community Room 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Origami Class April 16 & May 21 (Sat)	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

LIBRARY STAFF

Head Librarian: Bruce Seidman
 Adult Librarian: Linda Capicotto
 Young Adult Librarian: Tammy Niblett
 Young Adult Librarian: Margaret Trivison
 Children's Librarian: Elizabeth Abramson

FRIENDS OF THE CHATSWORTH LIBRARY OFFICERS

President:	John Thorpe
Book Sales Co-Chairpersons:	Jo Ann Stipkovich Gretchen Martin
Treasurer:	Ray Vincent
Secretary:	Zena Thorpe
Membership:	Barbara Pampalone
Program:	Linda Capicotto
Newsletter:	Ann Vincent
Book Club:	Aita Soovere
Member-at-large:	Irene Nalbandian
Member-at-large:	Jaak Soovere
Member-at-large:	Keith Watts

TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES

Head Librarian - Bruce Seidman

We still have library users come up to us at the Information Desk and ask for the card catalog. The answer to this question brings to the forefront just how much the information boom has affected us in the last eleven years since the infamous date of 1/17/94 at 4:31 AM. It was Martin Luther King's birthday and I was sound asleep dreaming of the nice day off ahead of me when it hit. After securing my own home I went to check on my parents who lived in an apartment in an area in Sherman Oaks that looked like World War Three broke out. After driving from my house in West Hills to Sherman Oaks, my next stop was to find out how the Chatsworth Library had fared. I was the first person to enter the library after the earthquake. The old Chatsworth Library built in 1963 was not subject to the more stringent building codes that our new library had to follow. For example the book shelves are now bolted into the ground where they were pretty much free standing in the old building. Consequently all the book shelves came down like dominoes. Mountains of books were scattered every which way. The ceiling lights which were also not secured either had fallen or were hanging loose and parts of the ceiling had fallen leaving a plume of who knows what floating in the air. In addition the card catalog furniture had tipped over and all the drawers had fallen onto the floor leaving thousands and thousands of cards in the worst ever game of 52 pickup. I took a deep sigh as I dreaded having to pick them up and refile them.

Enough damage was sustained that the Chatsworth Branch did not reopen until July of 1994. During that seven month period the Los Angeles Public Library entered the computer age. We were told to throw out all the catalog cards (WHAT A RELIEF), books were barcoded, and patrons traded in their paper library cards for plastic ones. Unlike the card catalog which only reflected what was in this branch and even then not very accurately since maintenance was very tedious, now Central Library and the seventy one branches are all linked and patrons now have access to millions of books most of which can easily be inter library loaned. The library department now moves 40,000 books a day around the system equivalent to moving an average branch library everyday. It was also during that period that Los Angeles Public Library became a leader in introducing the public to the internet.

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Head Librarian - Bruce Seidman- continued

Before the vast majority of people had any clue what the internet was we became part of a state library project that put us in the forefront. Before the World Wide Web was even in existence and everything was text based, I was given two computers and a training class. I was also asked to choose a community partner to help bring the community into this new age. I chose retired engineer and Friends member Keith Watts who worked closely with me on this project for the next several years. Keith became the internet community guru and many Chatsworth people turned to him for help getting launched into cyberspace. Keith along with his late wife Sheila have always been very special and dedicated friends of our library.

Throughout the entire planning and building phases of our library Keith Watts has served as our Friends President and has been a great leader in helping to get this library built. Keith also kept our Friends Group together during the long process of bringing the new library to fruition. I was very happy that the Friends have nominated Keith Watts for a Chatsworth Community Service Award to be given out at the Chatsworth Coordinating Council Banquet in May.

CHATSWORTH BOOK CLUB

Enthusiastic readers among the Friends of the Chatsworth Branch Library will be meeting monthly to read the same book title and then to discuss it.

You are invited to join this Club. The first title to be read and discussed is "**Little Scarlet.**" It is written by the Los Angelean author, Walter Moseley. Mr. Moseley is known throughout the country as an outstanding teller of mystery stories. This story has been selected by Mayor Hahn as the "One Book, One City" title of the year. Throughout the greater Los Angeles area, people will be reading and discussing this important book. In the future, we will continue to select titles with general appeal to our Club Members.

Please contact the library and give your name, phone number and address to Librarian, Peg Trivison who will moderate the discussion. She can be reached at 341-4276.

FROM THE FRIENDS PRESIDENT:

John Thorpe, President

Our first book sale held at the new library was a huge success, regardless of the gloomy wet Saturday. The book sale volunteers came out in strength and did an excellent job organizing it, they did such a good job that the sale lasted until 2:00 p.m. instead of the advertised time of 1:00 p.m. Our planned BOOK CLUB is slow in getting started due to a lack of members. If anyone is interested in being part of the book discussion group then they can call me or drop by the library and leave their name at the desk.

John Thorpe (818)-882-3572

THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

Elizabeth Abramson – Children's Librarian

I want to thank all the parents who have brought their children to my programs. Many children have been participating in my weekly story time and crafts. So if you know any children between the ages four to seven, make sure they know about this free event on Tuesdays at 3:30. On Dr. Seuss's birthday, the library had an actor come and read stories for children. Look forward to the summer reading club! Keep your eyes open for great performers and fun games that will soon be at the library.

Also, I am still actively seeking "Grandparents And Books" volunteers. These are kind-hearted individuals who read to children for a couple of hours a week. If you are interested in volunteering for the library in this capacity, don't hesitate to contact me.

CHATSWORTH BRANCH LIBRARY

DISPLAY CASE

Adult Librarian - Linda Capicotto

Our beautiful library has a display case in the lobby. On the top of the display case there are glass doors that enclose 6 shelves. On the bottom are shelves that hold free display material (flyers, papers, brochures, etc.) for the public. Since our opening in November we have already showcased a glamorous Barbie Doll collection, color photographs of the construction and building of our new library and during the month of March local artist Helen Merken's beautiful collages were displayed. During the month of April we will have on display Ollie Dearing's handmade dolls. Each month we hope to showcase something of interest to our community. Across from our Friends Book Store in the lobby is a community bulletin board. The flyers advertise library events, local school and park events and local community meetings. All flyers must be approved by the librarian.

If you are interested in having your special collection displayed in our lobby, or having a community flyer placed on our community bulletin board please contact the adult librarian, Linda Capicotto, at (818) 341-4276.

FUTURE ACTIVITES:

Zena Thorpe will give a program for the "Friends" in June on the "History of Quilting" plus a display of her quilts. The time and date is still to be decided on.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS:

Grandparents and Books

Volunteers in the Grandparents and Books program are available in many branches to read a story to children. The idea here would be to have a volunteer for example, "Grandma Ann" who is there the same day and time each week for the children to bond with.

To participate in the Chatsworth Branch GAB group, contact Elizabeth Abramson – Children's Librarian at (818) 341-4276

FRIENDS BOOK STORE HOURS:

Monday	5:30 to 7:30 pm
Tuesday	1:00 to 3:00 pm (1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays only)
Wednesday	1:00 to 7:00 pm
Thursday	1:00 to 4:00 pm (3 rd Thursday only)
Friday	2:00 to 5:00 pm
Saturday	10:30 to 2:00 pm (1 st Saturday only)

Children's books 5 for \$1 or 25 cents each

Paperbacks \$.50 each

Hardbacks \$1.00 each

We have a large selection of self-help books, cook-books and educational books in the Friends Book Room. In addition, there are like-new hardback and paperback fiction, romance and mystery novels.

Additional volunteers are needed to help fill time slots, please contact Jo Ann Stipkovich at (818) 344-2000 and sign-up to help.

Origami Club For Youth

Under the direction of origami instructors Leon Brown and Diana Dixon-Davis you can learn this ancient art form. After two successful classes, enthusiasm was high and they have decided to meet monthly on the third Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. Coming classes are April 16, May 21 and June 18

GIANT BOOK SALE

May 21st from 10-2

We pull out all of the books donated that are kept in storage for this special opportunity.

***DID YOU KNOW?** An informal survey of our pre-teen library users indicated that origami was a favorite topic, about which they would like to learn even more.*



Is there an * on your mailing label?

Then it's time to RENEW your membership.

FRIENDS OF THE CHATSWORTH LIBRARY

We invite you to join or renew your membership to support our outstanding library and the community it serves. Return this cutoff with your membership dues and/or contribution made payable to:

Friends of Chatsworth Library, 21052 Devonshire Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311

New Member

Renewal

Yearly:

Individual \$5.00

Family or Organization \$10.00

Supporting Membership \$25.00

Contributing Membership \$50.00

Life Membership: \$ 100.00

NAME _____ Phone: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____ Email: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

Special Interest / Expertise: _____

FRIENDS OF THE CHATSWORTH LIBRARY

Goals:

To assist the Library and Staff by raising funds to acquire additional books, resources and program opportunities that will enhance the educational outreach to our community.

How you can help:

Donate used books that may be added to the shelves of the library or sold by the Friends to raise funds to purchase books, library aids or sponsor community programs. Donated Books, CD's, Tapes and Videos can be dropped off at the Library and are tax deductible.

How can you join FRIENDS?

Membership application envelopes are available at the library desk or mail the form included in this newsletter to the address shown. Members receive the Friends Newsletter "Library Chats" and invitations to special book sales.

Participate in our Monthly Meetings:

Scheduled the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7 to 8 pm at the library.

Volunteer to help staff our Book Sale Room:

Contact Jo Ann at (818) 344-2000 to schedule time to help sell books to the library patrons.

The Friends of the Chatsworth Library offer our sincere condolences to Gretchen Martin, whose son Peter Martin age 41, died in an accident on April 2, 2005.

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