

# The Focus

Calaveras County  
**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

**Merry Christmas to All**  
& to All a Good Book



Calaveras County  
Friends of the Library  
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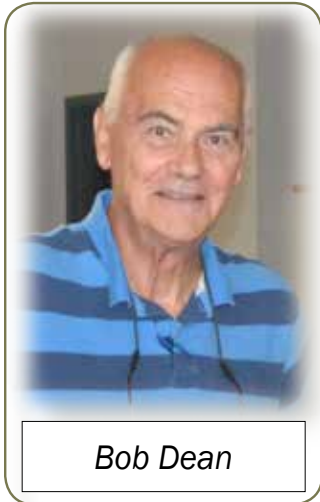
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#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Holiday Home Tour
- Children's Holiday Party

Friends who read, are Friends indeed!

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Bob Dean

### REFLECTIONS - of libraries and the people who make them happen

As we enter the final days of 2017 we enter a period of reflection. We ponder the successes and trials of the preceding months and wonder if our efforts were sufficient to carry us forward.

I look at my own role in this process and wonder if I helped make a difference. Sometimes I just think of these things and hope I don't find an answer.

Great things have and are happening with our library system. New programs are being developed and old ones are being expanded. New hires are supporting the branches and the various library services for the people of Calaveras County. Speaking of the County, the new administration and the current Board of Supervisors have expressed wholehearted support for the library and its programs. This support is more than just moral support. They have stepped up and given the needed financial support to grow our system. We've a lot further to go but we've made great strides. I'm confident we'll get there too because we have the "energizer bunny" at the helm.

For me, best of all, is the contribution the County and Branch Friends of the Library have made in helping our library succeed. The Friends have been a steady force that saw us through the dark days of the recession. They were there and provided support for the transition from the previous County Librarian — who worked tirelessly to keep our system whole — to the current County Librarian who is charting new territory for the future of our library. We certainly were fortunate to have Maurie and now Nancy to lead us to this point.

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Dean, President  
Pru Starr, Vice President  
Shirley Huberty, Treasurer  
Jackie Wietrick, Secretary

#### BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES

Diane Jarvi - Angels Camp  
Richard Raso - Arnold  
Kathi Copeland - Copperopolis  
Bob Dean - Mokelumne Hill  
Mary Hultgren - Murphys  
Charnette Boyland & Karen  
Eggleston - San Andreas  
Jackie Wietrick - Valley Springs  
Pru Starr - West Point

#### STAFF

Mary Cole - Membership and  
Promotion, *the Focus* - Editor  
Amber Rack - Webmaster

All of you, the volunteers of the various Friends groups, deserve recognition. A sage friend once told me that if you want to get something done, don't worry about who gets the credit. This phrase must have been coined to describe you, the people who make up the Friends. I can't say that I've ever seen a more dedicated, hardworking and selfless group of people anywhere. As a group and individually you've stepped up. You've given of your time, energy, wealth and imagination to see a library system more than just succeed but shine.

It's been an honor for me to be able to serve alongside everyone of you who have been part of the Friends.

In closing I want to acknowledge two people who were a seminal part of the Friend's success. They are **Shirley Huberty** and **Sally Tuttle**. The details of their service are well known. I just wanted to mention that having had the opportunity to have known and worked with these two ladies has been one of the great pleasures of my service on the Friends.

*Thank you for allowing me to be part of a great group,  
Bob Dean*

**THANK** *You*  
IN APPRECIATION OF YOU, AND ALL THAT YOU DO.

# Valley Springs Friends of the Library

## HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

1:00 to 5:00 PM

**Tour 5 lovely homes decorated for the holidays!**

**Tickets - \$20**

Available at the Valley Springs Library,  
or by calling Jackie at 772-0591 or Pat at 772-7887



# Children's Holiday Party



Saturday December 9th

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

San Andreas Library

754-6510

Special visit from guess Ho! Ho! Ho!



Bring the Kids to enjoy free  
Holiday Crafts, Games and  
Music!



## Branch Locations & Storytime Schedule

### ANGELS CAMP

426 N. Main Street  
736-2198

Fridays @ 10:30 am

### ARNOLD

1065 Blagen Road  
795-1009

Fridays @ 10:30 am

### COPPEROPOLIS

Lake Tulloch Plaza #106  
785-0920

Thursdays @ 1:00 pm

### MOKELUMNE HILL

8328 Main Street  
286-0507

Fridays @ 10:00 am

### MURPHYS

480 Park Lane  
728-3036

Tuesdays @ 10:30 am

### SAN ANDREAS

1299 Gold Hunter Road  
754-6510

Wednesdays @ 10:30 am

### VALLEY SPRINGS

240 Pine Street  
772-1318

Thursdays @ 3:00 pm

### WEST POINT

54 Bald Mountain Rd.  
293-7020

Call Library for times

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### OUTREACH - Libraries for Humanity

During our November meeting we discussed our New Charter. In part, it reads: MISSION – To heighten the awareness of the Calaveras County Library System and the Friends of the Library of Calaveras County.

VISION – Libraries for Humanity – We envision many people using the library system for numerous reasons. We strive to have our Library System become recognized in California in the Top 10 Rural Counties with the help of the Friends of the Library.

We also discussed the need for a board-wide strategic plan to help focus our direction to best achieve our mission and vision.

Nancy Giddens will share with us her Long Range plan for the library, which will also enable us to plan our programs that will help her the most.

In the meantime, Richard Raso will create a work plan, focusing on our Frog Jump fair participation, Open House event, branch events, and getting to know other Friends' groups in the area.

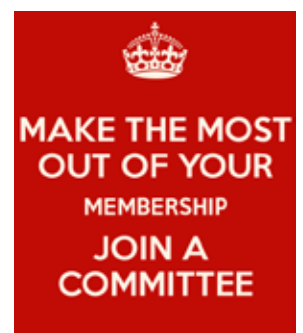
For more information or comments, please feel free to contact any of our Committee members: Richard Raso - Chair, Mary Cole, Kathi Copeland, Bob Dean, Vickey Mills, Marlene Settle.

### MEMBERSHIP

Although the Membership Committee has not yet met, I have been busy sending out renewal notices to members so they can maintain their "Friend"ship status. **Thank you to those who have responded.** It feels good to know so many of you value your membership in the Friends of the Library of Calaveras County. When the committee does meet, I want to start a new membership drive. All of your dues go to supporting your local library branches, so the more members we can sign-up, the more programs we can help Nancy implement.

We currently have 153 active members, and 78 active Life Members. Plus 182 on our mailing list to receive The Focus. *Thank you for signing up!*

Mary Cole, Membership Chair



### FUNDRAISING

**Diane Jarvi** is Chair of the Fundraising Committee. They have begun the plans for the Annual Trivia Bee. Next year's theme will be "Highway 49 - The Gold Rush Trail!". The date will be March 24<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with the planning, please contact Diane at [grnhendi@att.net](mailto:grnhendi@att.net)

## ON EXHIBIT NOW at the California State Library



On display now at the State Library Branch at 900 N Street is an exhibit devoted to the history of fine printing and book arts in California. The exhibit, *For the Joy of Doing*, is free and open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

California, perhaps because of its remoteness from large publishing and printing firms, has enjoyed a remarkable history in the fine and private press movement surpassing virtually every other state and region in the country. Beginning with Edward Bosqui in the 1860s, the State Library has amassed a large collection of fine printing. Represented in the exhibit are examples from fine pressman John Henry Nash as well as Edward and Robert Grabhorn from the early 20th century.

According to Stanley Morison, prominent British typographer and printing historian, "Fine printing may be described as the product of a lively and seasoned intelligence working with carefully chosen ink, type and paper."

This exhibit includes excellent examples from such fine printers as Ward Ritchie, Lewis and Dorothy Allen, William Everson, Adrian Wilson, Richard J. Hoffman, Vance Gerry, Andrew Hoyem, Peter Koch, and Robin Heyeck. In addition to the individual printers, fine presses featured in the exhibit include Grabhorn Press, Fine Arts Press, Plantin Press, and Weather Bird Press.

*For the Joy of Doing* will be on display through the end of the year.

The exhibit was curated by Gary Kurutz, Special Collections Librarian Emeritus and Daniel Flanagan with the invaluable assistance from Vince Beiderbecke.

For more information, visit <http://www.library.ca.gov/cal-hist/exhibits.html>

## CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

### Mission

The California State Library is the state's information hub, preserving California's cultural heritage and connecting people, libraries and government to the resources and tools they need to succeed and to build a strong California.

### Vision

The California State Library: Valued by thirty-eight million and growing.

## BOOK REVIEW by Suzanne Murphy

***The Color of Lightning***, by Paulette Jiles

Publish date: 2009 by Harper Collins

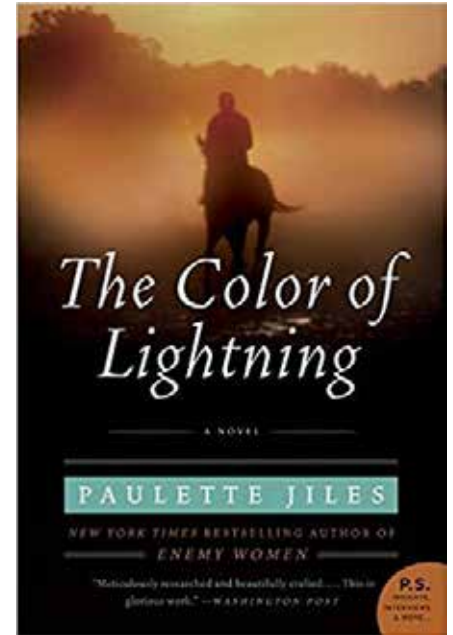
### **Lightning Strikes**

Paulette Jiles's *The Color of Lightning*, is considerably more than a breathtaking novel about the struggle between white settlers seeking to homestead in the Oklahoma Territory and the native peoples who had inhabited the same harsh land for generations. Jiles herself relates in her "Author's Notes" that she wrote the story as she believes the historic Britt Johnson would have set out the account. An enslaved man freed toward the end of the Civil War, Britt Johnson takes his family and follows his former owner out West to build a new life. That life though is savagely ripped apart by a Kiowa raiding party, and Britt's kidnapped wife and children disappear without a trace.

The bones of Britt Johnson's story is a familiar frame for much written about this period of westward settlement in the nineteenth century, a majority of which gave credence

to the Doctrine of Manifest Destiny. Jile's work, however, takes a very different course. She writes a layered novel of the freed people, settlers rather than the Buffalo soldiers, who still labor under the nasty treatment of racism—while Britt and his partners make it possible for people in far-flung areas to survive, he is forbidden to enter by the front door the very businesses he supplies. The U.S. Army and evangelical religious groups both tragically misunderstand the soul and customs of the native peoples—Quaker Samuel Hammond, in charge of "improving" the lives of the Indians, totally misunderstands their aversion to putting a roof between their heads and the heavenly expanse of the night skies.

Long after the story's close, the reader will remember Britt's friendship with Tissoyo, the Comanche who helps him search for the remnants of his family. With a wealth of research and primary sources, including oral histories, to support her writing, Jiles has focused her lens on a period of history complicated by culture collision.



The story is unforgettable and horrifying, with scenes of raiding parties and travels across a magnificent landscape unlike any other. The environment itself is a powerful character, and Jiles's gorgeous language succeeds in creating a beautifully rich story about the American West. Be prepared to succumb to its imagery and courage, even its harshness.

## STORYTIME LEADER NEEDED FOR SAN ANDREAS LIBRARY



Each Wednesday at 10:30 am, we welcome parents, grandparents and children for a special time at the Library. We are looking for a leader for this

wonderful outreach to our community. Responsibilities include planning the hour's activities by choosing a theme, picking a book to read, preparing an appropriate craft or other activity to support the theme. You will be assisted by

a wonderful musician who helps with music for the kids each week.

**Requirements:** interest and love for children; patience; ability to read well aloud; ability to plan and lead craft activities; some knowledge of children's books and music; availability each Wednesday.

**Remuneration:** This is a project of the Calaveras County Friends of the Library, a 501c3. You will be paid \$15.00 per hour and be paid for four hours each week to prepare, lead and clean up after the event. Materials needed will be provided by the Library or Calaveras County Friends of the Library.

If you are interested in this position, please contact Nancy Giddens at [ngiddens@co.calaveras.ca.us](mailto:ngiddens@co.calaveras.ca.us).

# BOOK CLUB CALENDAR

Children's Storytime	See schedule on page 4		All Branches
Moke Hill READS Book Club	First Tuesday each month 7:00 pm	Contact the library branch for current information.	Mokelumne Hill Branch
Book Club	Third Tuesday each month 3:30 pm	Contact the library branch for current information.	Valley Springs Branch
Under the Covers Book Club	Fourth Thursday each month 2:00–4:00 pm	Contact the library branch for current information.	Murphys Branch
San Andreas Book Club	Fourth Thursday each month 10:30 am - noon 5:00–6:30 pm	Contact the library branch for current information.	San Andreas Branch

## What's going on in your library?

### Read a great book lately?

### Share your stories here.

To contribute to The Focus, send your events, reviews, stories and photos with the subject line of FOCUS to [calaverasfotl@gmail.com](mailto:calaverasfotl@gmail.com).

*Editor reserves the right to decline or modify all stories to fit.*

## Thank You for being a Member of Friends of the Library of Calaveras County

For up-to-the-minute news about all of our library branches, be sure to:

- check out our website [calaverasreads.com](http://calaverasreads.com)
- and like us on facebook at **Calaveras County Friends of the Library**

**Not a member yet? You can find an application under the Membership tab so you can join today!**

Mary Cole,  
Membership & Promotions Staff