



FRIENDS
of the
OAKLAND
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

OFF THE SHELF

January 2015

Thank You Brunch for Bookmark Bookstore Volunteers

By Sheila McCormick, FOPL Board Member



Spring Sale

Mark your calendar for The
Bookmark Bookstore's
semi-annual sale from

April 9-12

(Thursday-Sunday).

And remember,
FOPL members
receive 20% off
of their purchases.
every day.

The Rockridge Branch was the site for this celebration, held on December 13, a beautiful sunny day. FOPL Board president Ellen Moyer, Bookstore Committee Chair Judy Toll and Library Director Gerry Garzon all gave short speeches, acknowledging the important work of the volunteers and expressing appreciation for jobs well done. There were some new volunteers, as well as some who have generously contributed their time and expertise for more than 15 years. The red holiday attire of many of the attendees contributed to the festive atmosphere, as did the buffet, generously donated by Whole Foods Market.

Community Meeting at Dimond Branch

The Oakland Public Library will host a presentation on plans for remodeling the Dimond Branch Library. Join OPL staff and Andy Carpentier, Senior Associate, YHLA Architects, and City of Oakland Project Manager Ha Nguyen to learn about this upcoming project.

Wednesday, January 28, 2015, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

DIMOND BRANCH LIBRARY

3565 Fruitvale Avenue

510-482-7844

Oakland Youth
Poet Laureate
Sophie Elkin &
FOPL Board
President Ellen
Moyer at the
8/16/2014 Award
Ceremony.



Interview with FOPL Board Member Suzanne Fischer

By *Sophie Fynland Souroujon, FOPL Board Member*

On November 22, 2014, I had the pleasure of welcoming Suzanne at my home. Suzanne is on the FOPL board because one day she noticed an item in the FOPL Newsletter about seeking new members. She decided to apply and was very pleased to be invited to attend a FOPL meeting. Suzanne joined the FOPL Board this year, and is now an active member.

Suzanne loves libraries and wanted to find ways to support this vital local institution. She is interested in recruiting a new generation of members to FOPL and in spreading the word more broadly about various ways to financially support the Oakland Public Library. For example, she would like to attract more Friends and Potential Donors, emphasizing that it is not necessarily important to donate lots of money, but rather that participation in general is crucial. She also pointed out that social media is an especially important way, these days, to communicate the importance of the library. She has ideas about events that The Bookmark Bookstore might start, such as author talks or themed parties.

Suzanne was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She attended the University of Minnesota, graduating with a degree in the History of Science. She moved to Oakland two years ago, for her new position as a History Curator at the Oakland Museum of California. Before that she was a Curator at the Henry Ford Museum in Detroit.

Suzanne always loved to read,



especially science fiction. Her favorite subjects in school were English and Biology. She would often go to the library in the suburb where she lived. Her parents enjoyed reading – mostly fiction – and so there were many books to read in their home. There was also a piano, and recordings of symphonies – Suzanne enjoys Bach and Bartok in particular. But Bob Dylan was a favorite of her father's! Suzanne smiled when she mentioned that she moved her piano from Detroit. Makes sense! Suzanne thoroughly enjoys singing in the Bella Musica Choir.

In the future she hopes to write books about People and History, particularly those with connections to Science and Technology. Suzanne is an Independent Scholar - not affiliated with a University - and therefore finds the Link+ system available through OPL indispensable for her research-

Suzanne, keep on reading, and writing, and enjoying music!

Elmhurst Branch Library Garden Project

By *Allene Warren, FOEL Board Member*

In 2013 the Friends of the Elmhurst Library was awarded an \$800 grant from Keep Oakland

Beautiful to improve the landscaping around the branch and develop a small vegetable garden to be planted and maintained by neighborhood young people.

The first part of the project was to plant shrubs and flowering plants in front of the library and to purchase tools and gloves for the litter walks the Friends sponsor on 88th between International Way and Holly.

The second part was completed last Fall when members of the Friends, library staff, and local young people planted vegetables in planter boxes built by branch security guard Darin Lloyd during his off hours.

Kourosh Hessam of Marduk Productions donated and installed (at no charge to the Friends) a prototype of a self-watering system that he has developed. In return, the Friends have agreed to provide him with feedback regarding its efficiency. A win-win for both.

Special thanks to volunteers Mayra Pascual and Tony Simon who now help maintain the garden.

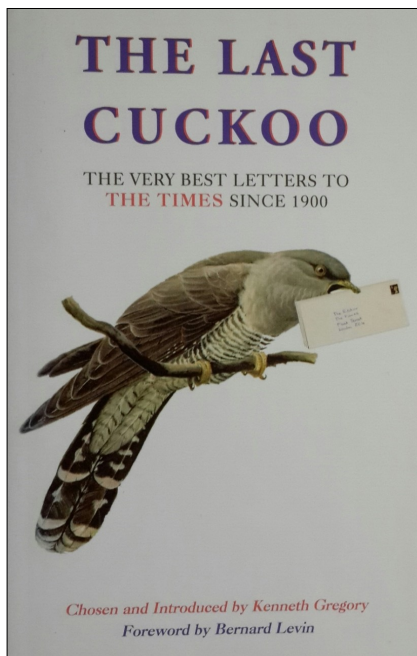


The first harvest has taken place and the gardeners are enjoying the fruits (veggies) from all their hard work.

Well done, Elmhurst!

Found at The Bookmark

By Sheila McCormick, FOPL Board Member



I bought this set (The First Cuckoo, The Second Cuckoo, The Next to Last Cuckoo, and the one pictured) for \$12 (with member discount). The titles refer to letters in which the author reports when they heard the first cuckoo in the spring; apparently a yearly tradition in England. The funniest versions of such letters are included, but there are letters on many other topics (the tables of contents include Finding Wasps Nests, Marmalade at Breakfast, Americana, This England, and of interest to all, How to Get a Letter in *The Times*). These books are a snapshot of the serious and esoteric concerns of the English, from 1900 to 1985.

Outdoor Bookstore

Did you know that The Bookmark Bookstore has an outpost at the

farmers market at Jack London Square? Come visit our booth on the **first Sunday** of every month, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - we feature great deals on cookbooks, children's books, travel books and fiction.

Amazon Smile

IF you shop at Amazon, please consider going through the Amazon Smile portal and selecting Friends of the Oakland Public Library. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charity you have designated. FOPL just received the first payment through the program, so people are already using it. FOPL will never know who is shopping on our behalf: Amazon does not share contact or purchase details with FOPL. Learn more and sign up at smile.amazon.com.

Exhibit on the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition, January 12 to March 31, 2015

The Oakland History Room in the Main Library will commemorate the centennial of the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition. The PPIE honored the opening of the Panama Canal, showcased San Francisco's recovery after the 1906 earthquake and fire, and highlighted the thriving fine arts scene on the West Coast. The exhibit will feature souvenir programs, photographs, maps, and other ephemera. <http://www.oaklandlibrary.org/exhibits/panama-pacific-international-exposition-1915>.

GIVING

In memory of **Liven A. Peterson** from Irene Jose

In memory of **Jacob Schwartz** from Lillian Schwartz and Family

In memory of **Lea Shannon Williams** from Susan D. Martin

In memory of **Ellen Moyer's mother Sue Moyer** from Sophie Souroujon

In honor of **Trish Elliott** from Rabbi Broude

In memory of **Douglas M. Turbak** from:

Jamie Turbak's colleagues at the Oakland Public Library
Mary Lynn & Spike Salisbury
Linh Huynh
Charles Allen
Carolyn Howard
Janie Bren

In honor of **Nettie Maizels** from Bernadette and Jim Lynch

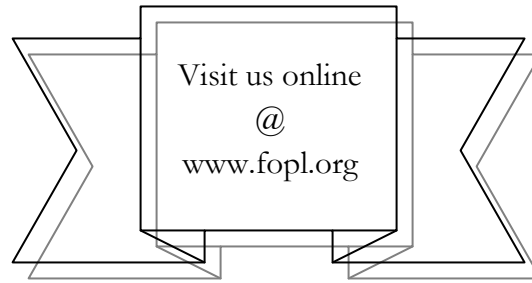
In honor of **Nancy Kranich** from Johanna Vondeling

Thank you to **Whole Foods Market Oakland** for donating goodies for FOPL's annual thank you brunch for The Bookmark Bookstore volunteers.

Congratulations to **Lolade Gbadebo** and **Ally Hack**, recipients of the Friends of the Oakland Public Library 2014-15 scholarships! OPL awards up to three \$1,000 scholarships to Oakland Public Library staff pursuing an advanced degree in Library Science. The program has supported dozens of OPL staff in the past fifteen years.



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If your membership has expired,
PLEASE RENEW NOW!

More ways to support the Friends...

- Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization – **850** strong – dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library!
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs, DVDs, LPs, sheet music, and song books to The Bookmark Bookstore. Call **(510) 444-0473** for more information.
- Volunteer! To learn about volunteering at The Bookmark Bookstore and many other opportunities, please visit oaklandlibrary.org/volunteer.
- Shop online at Amazon Smile. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases when you select Friends of the Oakland Public Library. To sign up go to smile.amazon.com.

Join Us!

Yes, I want to support the Friends of the Oakland Public Library!

Enclosed is my check payable to FOPL for \$ _____

New (1 year membership)

Renewal (1 year membership)

Donation (\$ _____ in addition to my membership dues)

Membership Levels:

Book Angel \$1,000 or more

Bibliophile \$500 – \$999

Book Conservator \$250 – \$499

Book Worm \$100 – \$249

Book Friend \$50 – \$99

Family/Household \$35 – \$49

Individual \$25 – \$34

Senior (65+)/Student \$15 – \$24

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(sign me up for email notices and updates)

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