



OFF THE SHELF

October 2009 Edition

LIBRARY GRANTS

The FOPL board is pleased to announce grants to the Oakland Public Library totaling \$67,500. This year's list includes continuing support for programs that would not be possible without support from the Friends. It also includes an investment in an innovative new branch library opening next year in East Oakland. To our members: Thank you for being true friends of the Oakland Public Library!

East Oakland Community Library at 81st Avenue - \$45,000

The new library, located at 81st Avenue and Rudsdale Street, will also serve as the school library for 450 students of two small public schools sharing the site. Watch future newsletters for information about partnerships creating this exciting new library.

Children's Services- \$10,000

This grant, made possible by the Herman Auerbach Memorial Trust, will be used where most needed to support children's programming throughout the system.

National Library Week - \$6,000

FOPL will be a "co-sponsor" of this well-attended annual author event offered free to the public. The 2009 event featured Culture Clash; prior author appearances include Nikki Giovanni, Michael Pollan, and Isabel Allende.

Library Staff Scholarships - \$2,500

For OPL employees who are enrolled in an accredited Master of Library Science degree program.

Youth Leadership Council Meeting Stipends - \$2,000

The YLC offers valuable skill and relationship building opportunities for young people.

Library Director's Discretionary Fund - \$2,000

BOOK SALE – OCTOBER 7-11

Wednesday, October 7 will be "Members Advance Sale" day — FOPL members will receive a 30% discount. All shoppers will receive **30%** off their purchases during the rest of the event. Stop by and let us say thank you for your support. The Bookmark Bookstore is located at **721 Washington Street**.

Store hours during the sale are:
10:30 am to 5:30 pm.

Call **(510) 444-0473** or visit www.fopl.org for more information.

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The East Oakland Community Library at 81st Avenue is under construction and will open next year. Watch for news and information about this innovative public/school library in future newsletters.

A MODERN QUILTER DESIGNS HER OAKLAND LIFESTYLE

This is an interview with Julie Waldman, current FOPL Board President.

There were always books in Julie's home as she was growing up, and she, her sister and two younger brothers all loved to read. The most exciting and anticipated gifts from their maternal grandparents were books, some of which Julie still has from those childhood days. In fact, her first eBay purchase was Jean Horton Berg's "Three Mice and a Cat," the first book that she remembered reading as a child.

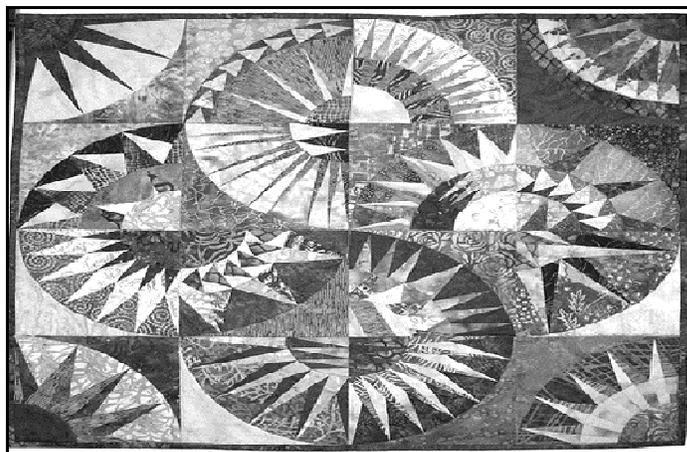
Although an avid reader, Julie has never worked in the world of books. A public library patron? Absolutely - in Orinda, where she attended grammar school; in Oakland, where she attended Claremont Junior High; and subsequently in Berkeley where she attended and graduated from Berkeley High School. Julie and her husband, Al, now live in Oakland. They like this beautiful town, a patchwork of interesting people, restaurants offering different kind of foods, diverse shops, and farmers' markets.

Julie's background covers a landscape of various patterns. Two years of Social Sciences classes at UC Berkeley were followed by two years studying photography and design at the Academy of Art College in San Francisco. Her first jobs were at Ozzie's Fountain on College Avenue in Berkeley, The Egg Shop and Apple Press, and Capwell's - all familiar names to long-time area residents but sadly, now all gone. At 22, Julie found a position as commercial insurance broker in Oakland, and since then has remained in the industry. Today, she is an independent risk management consultant.

Julie's creativity started early. Her mother taught her to embroider and knit but Julie preferred sewing, and ended up making clothes for her mother! Julie's mother also did some quilting, and 10 years ago, Julie's sister started quilting as well. She invited Julie to a quilt show in Santa Clara and, as Julie commented, "I was hooked from then on."

Julie gives her quilts as gifts to family and friends as well as various charities. She has donated quilts to the East Bay Humane Society, to various shelters for women and children, to the Children's Hospital in Oakland, and other groups. She likes to create traditional quilts using modern fabrics and colors.

Julie and Al enjoy traveling - they went to the far north of Norway for the Summer Solstice, to Australia and New Zealand, and all over Europe. Their favorite cities are Venice, London, Paris - all "walking cities."



Julie also likes to garden and completed the Master Gardener certification as well as a number of horticulture classes at Merritt College. Julie and Al are 15-year patrons of the Berkeley Repertory Theater, and supporters of The Oakland Museum of California. They also appreciate hearing good jazz at Yoshi's.

Julie's wide-ranging interest in books includes fiction, mysteries, non-fiction, historical biographies and, of course, children's books. About 12 years ago, Julie heard about a Board Fair for non-profit organizations in Oakland. She was ready to do something new, and had Friends of the Oakland Public Library (FOPL) in mind.

At the FOPL booth, Julie applied to join the FOPL board that day. She soon became FOPL's Secretary, eventually took on the Vice-Presidency, and in 2005, became its President, a position that she holds till this day. Julie expects to turn over the Presidency this year to Ellen Moyer, current Vice-President, but definitely plans to stay involved with FOPL in other areas.

Six years ago, Julie started an annual Potluck Book Swap at her home. The idea was simple - invite a few friends, ask them to bring more friends plus books that have already been read and food to share. Everyone takes as many books as they wish, and the leftover books are donated to The Bookmark. This year, about 30 people participated.

What does Julie foresee as FOPL's role in Oakland? To continue to support the public library in whatever way possible, and to have improvements come about once the economy shows changes for the better.

A sincere optimism for Oakland's future!

Written by Sophie Fynland Souroujon , May 26, 2009



E-NEWS

The **Oakland Public Library's** e-newsletter aims to keep the community informed of the latest library news and events.

It is free and you can sign up by visiting www.oaklandlibrary.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.

This is a Library service available to anyone. FOPL Members will still receive "Off the Shelf" delivered to their mailboxes every other month.

You can also receive occasional E-news from the Bookmark Bookstore with information about isales and special collections. Sign up by emailing us at:

Bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com and put "email signup" in the subject line.



PRESCHOOL STORY READER TRAINING BEGINS OCTOBER 17, 2009 BOOKS FOR WIDER HORIZONS

Books for Wider Horizons offers a unique volunteer opportunity: to read aloud to children at partnering preschool centers throughout Oakland. Each week a volunteer performs a 30-minute storytime, which introduces children to the pleasure of stories and creates excitement about books and reading.

Books for Wider Horizons is continuing its commitment to support Oakland's Head Start Centers by providing our volunteer readers to give weekly stories. As we recruited more volunteers, we were able to schedule weekly readers at additional childcare centers, including OUSD Child Development Centers.

A free training course for new volunteers takes place in October. In these sessions participants learn how to select and share wonderful books and transitional activities, and present engaging story times to preschool aged children. Classes are taught by Gay Ducey, a Rockridge children's librarian and nationally renowned storyteller.

All trainings take place at the Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Avenue.

Please call 238-7453 to register. For more information, please visit the OPL website: http://www.oaklandlibrary.org/links/kids/wider_horizons.html

ANNUAL MEETING: NOVEMBER 9

The meeting will be held at 5:15 p.m at the West Auditorium, Main Library, 125 14th Street.

The slate of board members for re-election is:

Ronile Lahti

Ellen Moyer

Sophie Souroujon

Judith Toll

Julie Waldman

Winifred Walters

New board member candidates are:

Brook Vanderford

Evan Zubritsky

GIVING

FOPL is grateful for the following tribute gifts:

In honor of **Debbie Hughes** from Mayumi Matson

In honor of **Clio Salzer's third birthday** from Judy Pan

In honor of **City of Oakland employees in the Redevelopment and Economic Development Divisions of CEDA** from Wendy Simon

Other special gifts:

A bequest from the **estate of Janet Ruth Snipper** of Oakland.

Whole Foods' customers donated 14,000 nickels to FOPL from by being green and donating their shopping bag credits from June 6 – July 5, 2009.

**FRIENDS OF THE
OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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Oakland CA 94607

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OFFICERS:

- Julie Waldman, President
- Ellen Moyer, Vice-President
- Judy Toll, Secretary
- Carl Alexander, Treasurer
- Winifred Walters, Asst. Treasurer

Newsletter Staff:

- Ellen Moyer
- Winifred Walters
- Sophie Souroujon
- Julie Waldman

If your membership has expired,
PLEASE RENEW!

More ways to support the Friends...

Share this newsletter. Ask a friend to join a growing organization-- **800** strong-- dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library!

Donate your gently-used books and DVDs to the Bookmark Bookstore. Call **(510) 444-0473** for more information.

Do you have a few hours per week or month? Visit www.fopl.org or call **(510) 444-0473** to learn more about volunteering.

Donate your vehicle. Charity Connection, a service of Volunteers of America, will sell your vehicle with a portion of the proceeds going to FOPL. Call **1-(800) 559-5458** and be sure to say you want your tax-deductible gift to go to the Friends.

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)

Supporting membership levels:

\$1,000 Book Angel

\$500 Bibliophile

\$250 Book Conservator

\$100 Book Worm

\$50 Book Friend

Basic membership levels:

\$35 Family/Household

\$25 Individual

\$15 Senior (65+)/

Student

Name(s)_____

Address_____

City/Zip_____

My gift is in honor/memory of_____

Contributions are tax-deductible (tax ID 94-2553734).

Make your Credit Card donation at www.fopl.org.

Call **(510) 238-6932** for more information.