

January 2017

Get to Know Your Grants

By Sara DuBois, OPL Coordinator, Grants and Volunteers

If there is a street fair, community festival, foot race, parade, or off-beat event in Oakland, there is a good chance you will find Oakland Public Library staff or volunteers there. We also host interesting and fun community events, including the Oakland Book Festival, National Night Out parties, and our annual Summer Reading Party at the Oakland Museum of California.

Last year, library staff had the idea to create a unique shirt for staff to wear at such special events. These bright and colorful T-shirts – designed by Oaklandish and purchased by FOPL – identify library staff who can answer questions while helping to promote the library.

The next time you are out enjoying a community event, look around for our staff in bright blue shirts featuring yellow gears. And thank you for this grant that makes such a big difference to our work!



Each year the library submits a “wish list” of grant requests to FOPL, for projects that library staff would like to pursue, but which aren’t possible without extra funding. Here we highlight some of the approved projects after they have been implemented, so that FOPL members can see the results of their work. If there is a FOPL-funded library project you’d like to see profiled, please contact sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org.



Our **Annual Appreciation Brunch** for Bookmark Volunteers and FOPL Board Members was held at the Dimond Branch on December 10, 2016. **Notice the two empty chairs in the front row** – a not-so-subtle message that we are always looking for more volunteers at the store – if you are interested, please contact us at bookmark_bookstore@yahoo.com.

FOPL Board Departures

The Board warmly thanks three Board Members for their service: Tam Hege served from 2012-2016, Suzanne Fischer from 2014-2016, and Cristal Fiel from 2015-2016. **Hence the Board has vacancies!** Please contact pres@fopl.org if you are interested.

Mark your Calendars!

The Bookmark Bookstore’s **Semi-Annual Sale**, April 20-23 (Thursday– Sunday).

Go, Dimond, Go!

After years of planning, the long-awaited Dimond Library renovation is happening. It closed December 23 and is expected to re-open in May 2017. After 36 years at its current location, this much-loved and well-used facility is ready for improvements.



Among other things, the renovation will include the relocation and enhancement of the Children's Area, the creation of a new Teen Zone, improvements to the upstairs community meeting room, upgrades to the Adult Patron section, and new paint!

The Friends of Dimond Library is raising \$50,000 to support the purchase of new, library-grade furniture. Since launching the campaign on November 21, they have raised more than \$23,000, and the total will almost certainly have grown by the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox! Please check out – and cheer on – their progress by visiting www.fopl.org/dimond. If you have questions, please contact Sara DuBois at 238-6572 or sdubois@oaklandlibrary.org.



FOPL and Litquake shared the proceeds from a literary event held at the Main Library on October 14. Author Nayomi Munaweera is at the podium. Photo credit: Bill Bagnell.

In Appreciation of Betty Perez

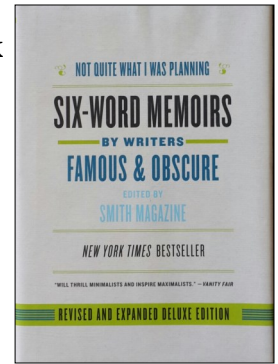
FOPL and the Bookmark lost a true friend on November 10, 2016. Betty volunteered at the Bookmark for over 20 years, and was a welcoming presence to her colleagues and customers on Friday mornings. Betty, pictured here at the Bookmark's 20th Anniversary Gala, "retired" from the store just last year. Photo credit: Ken Lem.



Found at the Bookmark

By Sheila McCormick, FOPL Board Member

I bought this book in 2010, for \$4 (\$3.20 with member discount). The collection was inspired by Ernest Hemingway's "For sale: baby shoes, never worn", and some are equivalently sad, but many are funny. It is certainly an interesting book to flip through. Who doesn't have time for such short stories?



Brookfield Boat Races

Brookfield Library decided that for Game Day (11/18/2016) their event would be a Pop Pop boat race. Pop Pop boats are run by candle power but are so tiny that the candle holder is a bottle cap. The race was originally scheduled for the pool in the Sports Center but the turbulence was too great for the tiny boats and a long container was substituted. Other modifications were made by the team of Al and Adriana - oil lasted longer than candles and magnets held the caps for stability. Run time was between 4 and 6 minutes. In addition to learning that **heat+water+steam = movement**, a bunch of kids and some adults had an exciting time. Aerodynamics is planned for the next Game Day: modifying styrofoam planes to do tricks.

FOPL Board Book Recommendations

Judy Toll: *The Wordy Shipmates*, by Sarah Vowell. You will never think of the Puritans the same way, after you read this witty, entertaining, and insightful look at the all-too-real people who struggled to build a model "City on the Hill" out of the wilderness of early New England. She brings them to life not only by taking their sermons and squabbles seriously but also by adding quirks like the "legacies" of Indian Casinos and "Mayflower Waterslides." Challenging and fun.

Gen Katz: *All the Single Ladies-Unmarried Women and the Rise of an Independent Nation*, by Rebecca Traister. The first two chapters lay out the book's premise - 45% of women today have never been married and are a political force - dangerous as "Lucifer's matches". Discusses the history of effective single women. Describes the culture against them - government, religion, philosophers, businesses and the backlash after World War II - trying to put women back as homemakers. Then the book becomes expository - personal stories of women in every possible circumstance: experiencing the backlash, the immense difference the pill makes, solitude, late marriage, single mothers both poor and rich, in vitro fertilization, sperm banks, freezing eggs, and hookup culture.

Q&A with a Bookstore Volunteer

Mal Trimble started volunteering December 2015, on Fridays from 2:30-5:30. "I decided to volunteer because my first and most loved job was working in a bookstore as a teenager. Also, that my work and time supports the Oakland Public Library makes me feel like I'm doing some good. The most interesting thing about working here is going through the donations. You may not be able to judge a book by its cover, but you can get a very good sense of a person from the books they have chosen to donate! The coolest book I bought is a hardback 2 book set of collected stories by W. Somerset Maugham, one of my favorite writers. The volumes have a preface written by him in such a conversational tone I feel like I am sitting down for coffee with someone I really like. I collect different editions of his books but had never seen the Doubleday ones before, so when I saw them on the shelf I snagged them. Not a bad addition to my collection for \$7."

Antiquarian Bookfair in Oakland

February 10-12, 2017

Oakland Marriott City Center

For the second year, FOPL and the Bookmark Bookstore will have an informational booth at the fair.
<https://www.cabookfair.com/>

GIVING:

In memory of **Betty Perez, long-time Friday morning Bookmark volunteer**, from Judy Toll and Winifred Walters

In honor of **Trish Elliott** from Laurie Earp

In honor of **Sue Pon** from Anonymous

In honor of **Susan Carter's birthday** from Mary Jacobs

In memory of **Luella Mak** from Donna Yee and Calixtro Romias, Michael and Robetta Yee, Jackie Chun, Cynthia, Ed and Brandon Chew, Kathy Paul, Candy Tom, Maibelle Lee, Jan Yee and Steve Fiorelli, Marsha Mak and Linda Mak and Tom Smith

Dedicated to **Kathy Hull** December 2, 1976 - October 23, 2003

In memory of **Dr. Irvin S. Taylor** from Susan Lloyd

In memory of **Eilene Hall** from Cindy Ng

In memory of **Dorothy Mace Pusey** from James Thomas Pusey

In honor of **Lev Charlie's baby naming** from Anonymous

In honor of **Kevin Varela O'Hara** from Andrew Ulmer

From Anonymous, to **Kurt S Bodden** - for Christmas!

From Anonymous, in remembrance of **Kathy Hull** who loved books and libraries!

From Margaret Bray, dedicated to **Marilyn Bray**

From Anonymous, dedicated to **Marilyn Bray**

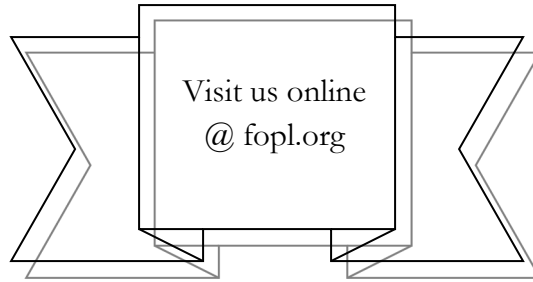
From Gael Duffy Hill, dedicated to **Marilyn Snow Bray and Mary Fennelly Duffy**

From Leslie Crandell, dedicated to **Annette Buckley, Mr. Corey Seeman, Jaimie Miller, and Beth R. Bernhardt**

From Tania Castro Bradt, dedicated to **Camila Fay S. Bradt**



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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 – **925** strong – dedicated to supporting the Oakland Public Library!
- Leave a legacy by naming FOPL in your estate plan.
- Donate your gently-used books, CDs, DVDs, 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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Gift in honor/memory of _____

Email _____

Go to fopl.org to sign up for book sale announcements

Contributions are tax-deductible (tax ID 94-2553734).
Make your Credit Card donation at fopl.org.
Mail to: FOPL, 721 Washington St., Oakland, CA 94607.