



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

July/August 2025

President's Message

Dear Members and Partners,

Summer is upon us! We started the season with our Annual Meeting and Dinner for Friends and Volunteers. Always a very special evening when we can thank and honor those who support the Library in so many ways. A lot of hard work went into making this a special event. **Vicky Ryan** led a group that consisted of **Susan Gallagher, Julie Puterbaugh, Jeff Brown, Pete Siberell, Doug & Wendy Senour, Jill Franks, Darlene Traxler,** and **Jane Zamanzadeh**. They are just a few of the people that helped. In true Sierra Madre fashion, others jumped in so the evening flowed seamlessly from presentations to dinner, catered by Raffi's, and dessert all enjoyed by over 70 guests. We also had an election to select the Board of Directors for the 2025-26 year.

We had the bittersweet task of saying good bye to **Darlene Traxler**; she has been the **Treasurer** extraordinaire for many years. She is currently leaving that position and leaving the board. We hope to lure her back at some point. In the meantime, she deserves our thanks and appreciation for keeping the books and financials in perfect order. You will be missed, Darlene!

With summer come vacations, summer school, and free time! Be sure to look over the many, many offerings planned by our energetic **City Librarian Leila Regan** and her hard working and delightful staff. There is something for just about every age group from the tiniest to senior citizens.

The Friends of the Library is also partnering with the Sierra Madre Civic Club to support a **Concert in the Park** on **Sunday, July 27** from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We will be entertained by Main Street Groovers, with 80's rock pop and new wave hits.

This is your Library – be proud, treasure it and the staff, take advantage of all that is offered. Hope to see you at the **4th of July Parade** – some of the Library Staff, Trustees and Friends Board will be participating.

Enjoy, be safe, stay healthy – the Friends of the Library is dark in August. "See you" in September with information about our **Wine & Cuisine Tasting Event** at The BAG on **Saturday, October 11**.

Jeanne Martin

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

At the Friends Annual Meeting and Dinner, held on Wednesday, June 18 at Hartzell Hall at the Sierra Madre Methodist Church, the Nominees for the Friends Board of Directors for 2025-2026 were unanimously approved by the Members who attended the "Bear With Us" themed dinner. It was also a special time to thank all of our wonderful volunteers.

Officers:

President:	Jeanne Martin
1st VP Governance:	Vicky Ryan
2nd VP Development:	Pete Siberell
Treasurer:	Julie Bencosme
Recording Secretary:	Mary Higgins
Corresponding Secretary:	Julie Puterbaugh

Directors:

Archives:	Margaret Quigley
Art Fair:	TBA
Membership:	Margaret Quigley
Newsletter/Web Site:	Sharon Murphy
Publicity:	TBA
Trustee Liaison:	Leslie Ziff
Volunteer Hours:	Julie Puterbaugh
Wine & Cuisine Tasting:	Leslie Ziff

Directors at Large:

Jill Franks
Wendy Senour

Non-Directors

Best Used Book Sale:	Martha Troedson
Partners/Mary Tumilty Fund:	Jane Zamanzadeh

Director Emeritus:	Beth Smith-Kellock
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We are still in need of a chair for Art Fair and Publicity and Directors at Large positions are available as well. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact **Jeanne Martin** at 626-893-4540 or jmartin234@aol.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS

WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy, with a new picture book *featured each month*. In July, you can read *Summer is Here* by Renee Watson. This title is sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club.

I-SPY

From **Tuesday, July 1 to Thursday, July 31** kids can sharpen their observation skills when they visit the Library and play our interactive I-Spy game. Locate all the objects on the list and select a prize from the prize basket. Each week will feature a new list of items to spot.

4TH OF JULY CRAFT

On **Thursday, July 3** stop in the Library and decorate a 4th of July themed fan perfect for helping to keep cool during the 4th of July parade! All materials provided, while supplies last.

READING BUDDIES

Starting on **Monday, July 3** school age kids can read with a friendly teen volunteer every Monday and Thursday from 3:30-5:30 p.m. and work on their literacy skills all summer long at the Library. No registration required.

GROWN-UP: KNIT TOGETHER

On **Wednesday, July 9** and **Wednesday, July 23** at 5:30 p.m. learn how to cast on, and other basic knitting stitches while snacking on some delicious treats! Expert knitter Genevieve Miller will share her knowledge with you. Sessions take place at the Hart Park House. All materials provided. Registration required.

SENSORY PLAY

On **Thursday, July 10** and **Thursday, July 24** at 9:00 a.m. join us for sensory-friendly play designated for neurodivergent children from Birth to Age 11. Children with sensory processing challenges, autism spectrum disorder, and/or ADHD among others can enjoy the Library in a less stimulating environment. Sensory toys will be set up for exploratory play and are acquired thanks to generous donations from our community. Registration is required to help maintain attendance levels. Walk-ins will be welcomed day-of until maximum attendance number is reached. Call 626-355-7186 to register or register on Eventbrite.

SHELF STORIES BOOK CLUB

We are taking a book off a different shelf each month for a new book club this summer. Shelf Stories will feature a book from a different genre each month. On **Thursday, July 10** it's the memoir book *You Never Know* by Tom Selleck. The book club takes place at the Sierra Madre Public Library after hours at 6:30 p.m. This book club is for adults 18 and over. Snacks and refreshments provided. Registration requested.

SUMMER SCIENCE WORKSHOP: SOLAR BUG BOT

Local teacher, Ms. Richey wants to teach you all about science and robots! She will run three science workshops centered on different types of robots. In the final workshop on **Saturday, July 12** at 10:00 a.m. kids will learn to build a **solar bug bot**. For school age children. Limited space available. Workshop will be held in the Memorial Park Pavilion. Registration required.

SIP AND SHUSH: SILENT BOOK CLUB

Read together in this quiet book club on **Saturday, July 12** at 6:30 p.m. at RT Rogers – 38 E. Montecito Ave. Bring something to read, grab a drink (water counts) and settle in for an hour of dedicated reading. For those who like a little beverage with their book. Registration requested but not required.

NOTEWORTHY PUPPETS

Join us at the Memorial Park Bandshell for a family-friendly puppet program presented by the Noteworthy Puppets on **Monday, July 14** at 10:00 a.m. If you're ready to see *Three Little Pigs: The Musical* stop by Memorial Park Bandshell and enjoy this delightful performance. This will be in place of our regular Monday morning programs. No registration required.

DINNER WITH THE HUMAN LIBRARY

On **Tuesday, July 15** from 6:00-7:30 p.m. break bread with human books and have a courageous conversation with someone of a unique life experience. Will be held at the Hart Park House 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Registration required. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 or register on Eventbrite.

MICHAEL RAYNER

Michael's show has been described as "preposterous brilliance" and "wacky jugglement," a combination of hilarious tricks and stunts with uproarious stand-up. Join us for this family-friendly event on **Saturday, July 19** at 10:00 a.m. at the Memorial Park Bandshell. No registration required.

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER AT THE LIBRARY

Drop off your stuffed animal on **Thursday, July 24** so they can have a sleepover! Then on **Saturday, July 26** at 10:00 a.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers enjoy breakfast with your cuddly best friend while seeing a slideshow of all their slumber party adventures (and shenanigans).

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

BABY RHYME TIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us at the Sierra Madre Public Library for Baby Rhyme Time on **Mondays at 9:00 a.m.** Baby Rhyme Time is for families with little ones from Birth to Age 2. Children will engage with songs, stories, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required.

tration required. **PLEASE NOTE:** Baby Rhyme Time will not be held on **Monday, July 14**. Noteworthy Puppets will join us at Memorial Park Bandshell at 10:00 a.m. for a family-friendly puppet program. No registration required.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Preschool Storytime happens in the Children's Room at the Sierra Madre Public Library on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m.** Kids, Ages 3-5, can engage with stories, songs, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required. **PLEASE NOTE:** Preschool Storytime will not be held on **Monday, July 14**. Noteworthy Puppets will join us at Memorial Park Bandshell at 10:00 a.m. for a family-friendly puppet program. No registration required.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

3D PRINTING BASICS

Learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop on **Saturday, July 12** at 12:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. No registration required.

TAILS AND TALES

On **Wednesday, July 16** from 3:30-4:30 p.m. school age children will get the chance to improve their reading skills by reading a book to a therapy dog in the Library.

ZOOM PAJAMA STORYTIME

Tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime on **Wednesday, July 16** at 7:00 p.m. We'll have a scavenger hunt, show and tell, and of course listen to some stories. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

ZOOM THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, July 17** at 11:00 a.m. participants will discuss, *Summer of the Big Bachi* by Naomi Hirahara. Live on Zoom. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, July 26** from 1:00-2:00 p.m. learn how to sign up for important local alerts through NIXLE, Smart911, Genasys, and Watch Duty. No registration required.

SEWING MACHINE BASICS

Learn sewing basics with the Library's sewing machine. In-person, at the Library. Limited spaces available. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP

Learn the skills needed to independently use the Library's 3D printer. Call 626-355-7186 to schedule a day and time to learn.

CRICUT WORKSHOP

Learn how to use Cricut with a Library staff member. Call 626-355-7186 to schedule a day and time to learn.

Save The Date!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025

Friends of the Sierra Madre Library

Wine & Cuisine Tasting Event

Wine Tasting Location:
Baldwin Avenue Gallery – The BAG
12 N. Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre

Tickets Go on Sale August 2025

BEST USED BOOK SALE

The June Best Book Sale earned \$1,481.82. Added to our presales from the internet and the library cart, the total since April was \$3,327.51. Many thanks to all the Friends who donate such wonderful “gently-used” books and for coming to support our sales. This year, we’ve earned over \$15,000 which goes directly to our Library for services, programs, and acquisitions!

And, of course, thanks to all the staffers who help to organize and sustain these sales. It couldn’t be done without all of you! We’re excited to see what next year brings as the Friends will have space provided in the remodeled Library for our own Bookstore! You may leave donations on the bench to the left side of the front door at the Temporary Library.

See you at the **August Best Used Book Sale** on the Temporary Library parking lot on **Friday, August 1** (3:00-7:00 p.m.) and **Saturday, August 2** (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)

PARTNERS PROGRAM

It was nice to see so many Partners at the Friends Annual Meeting and Dinner in June. We are grateful for the contributions you make to our Library. As the renovation of our Library progresses, the Partners have made a significant donation to the furniture, fixtures, and equipment fund for our updated building.

We would like to thank those Partners who renewed their membership this past month: Leigh Gluck, Patricia Hall, and the Sierra Madre Woman’s Club and we welcome the following new members: William Patzert and Judy O’Hara.

If you would like to become a Partner, please mail your donation to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Partners Program, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Kindly write “Partners” in the memo line and indicate your level of commitment. Thank you!

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank everyone who has made a donation to the Sierra Madre Library this year. With our Library in a temporary location, the Librarians, Board of Trustees and Friends all appreciate any donations while we wait for our new Library to be completed by June 2026.

Monies in the General Fund are used to purchase and replenish books, software, and other resource items and to fund the Library’s many outreach programs. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation to this fund, go online or write “General Fund” on the memo line and mail your check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025.

We are grateful for your support!

LIBRARY CLOSED SATURDAY, JULY 5

The Library will be closed on **Saturday, July 5** as part of the Independence Day Holiday. Have a fun and safe Holiday! We will reopen on Monday, July 7.

AUGUST PROGRAMMING NAP AT THE LIBRARY

The Library will be having a programming nap for the month of August. This means there will be very few programs happening. We will return with your regularly scheduled programs on **Monday, September 1.**

READER’S REVIEW

This month’s review is by Catherine Addé

Books for Cooks: Several Reviews for your Reading and Cooking Pleasure

It’s summer and my mind turns to two things: recipes for summer and the delights of vacation travel and/or recipes from abroad. First up is this one:



Blue Eggs and Yellow Tomatoes

By Jeanne Kelley

Recipes from a modern kitchen garden

When a former librarian turned me on to this cookbook, I just HAD to test some of the

recipes in it. Then others chimed in and admitted using it as well so I thought – why not review it? After all, we’ve reviewed novels, non-fiction, do it yourself books and memoirs, books for guys, girls and everyone else. Just look at the photo cover of this book, celebrating summer and all things bright. This cookbook is impressive, and it is as beautiful as it is practical.

Jeanne Kelley lives on the outskirts of Los Angeles and raises her own chickens, grows her own herbs, cooks ‘from scratch,’ and believes in using the freshest and organic (if possible) ingredients. Her introduction includes advice on stocking your pantry as well as the best types of equipment. She offers practical, modern suggestions on items as basic as salt and complex as pomegranate molasses, not to mention appliance pros and cons (do I use a blender or a food processor for the finest puree)?

It is the recipes and photographs themselves that are the stars of this cookbook -YUM! - a cornucopia of color and taste, delighting the eyes, tempting the taste buds. For summer I suggest her Eggplant and Herb Salad with Sumac dressing or the Mexican Fruit ‘Gazpacho’ Salad. She has an array of pizzas like the Wild Mushroom Pizza with Fontina and Chives. And for dessert, nothing beats her Lime Pie with Blueberry Compote or Bittersweet ‘One Pot’ Brownies that are guaranteed to excite the most jaded of chocoholics. Every recipe seems to be a winner in this book – I highly recommend checking it out.



A Thousand Days in Venice

By Marlena de Blasi

Then there is *A Thousand Days in Venice* by Marlena de Blasi. This romantic memoir is an account of Marlena’s adventure, i.e., packing up her life in the states to marry a Venetian. She and her man move from Venice to Tuscany, finally settling in Umbria. She was an editor of Bon Appetit, is a serious chef, and sprinkles her passionate memoirs with favorite Italian recipes. Her husband loves the fried Zucchini Flowers best. YUM! Check out the companion volume *A Thousand Days in Tuscany* and hopefully the Library will buy her latest *The Lady in the Palazzo*.

It’s hard to decide which ones I like best, so I recommend checking them ALL out. Wishing you a happy summer whether you are traveling, cooking or both and ENJOY!

CALL # STATUS: 641.563 KELLEY ONSITE STORAGE DEBLASI NONFICTION NEW BOOKS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JULY AND AUGUST CALENDAR

JULY	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	SEWING MACHINE BASICS	JULY 15	6:00 P.M.	DINNER WITH THE HUMAN LIBRARY
JULY	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	1-2-3D PRINTING WORKSHOP	JULY 16	3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES
JULY	CALL TO SCHEDULE DAY/TIME	CRICUT WORKSHOP	JULY 16	6:30 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	BABY RHYME TIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	JULY 16	7:00 P.M.	ZOOM PAJAMA STORYTIME
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	STORYTIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	JULY 17	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 RD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
JULY 1-31		WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE	JULY 17	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES
JULY 1-31		I-SPY	JULY 19	10:00 A.M.	MICHAEL RAYNER
JULY 3	ALL DAY	4 TH OF JULY CRAFT	JULY 21	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES
JULY 3	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	JULY 23	5:30 P.M.	KNIT TOGETHER (ADULTS)
JULY 5	LIBRARY CLOSED JULY 4 TH HOLIDAY WEEKEND		JULY 24	ALL DAY	STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER DROP OFF
JULY 7	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	JULY 24	9:00 A.M.	SENSORY PLAY
JULY 9	5:30 P.M.	KNIT TOGETHER (ADULTS)	JULY 24	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES
JULY 10	9:00 A.M.	SENSORY PLAY	JULY 26	10:00 A.M.	SUMMER READING ENDS
JULY 10	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	JULY 26	1:00 P.M.	STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER BREAKFAST
JULY 10	6:30 P.M.	SHELF STORIES BOOK CLUB	JULY 26	1:00 P.M.	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET
JULY 12	10:00 A.M.	SCIENCE WORKSHOP: SOLAR BUG BOTS	JULY 27	6:00 P.M.	FRIENDS CONCERT IN THE PARK
JULY 12	12:00 P.M.	3D PRINTING BASICS	JULY 28	5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
JULY 12	6:30 P.M.	SIP N' SHUSH SILENT BOOK CLUB	AUGUST 1-31		LIBRARY PROGRAMMING 'NAP'
JULY 14	10:00 A.M.	NOTEWORTHY PUPPETS	AUGUST 1	3:00-7:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
JULY 14	3:30 P.M.	READING BUDDIES	AUGUST 2	10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE
			AUGUST 20	NO FRIENDS BOARD MEETING	
			AUGUST 25	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING	

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
 Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Closed Fridays, Sundays and Holidays

LIBRARY HOURS

www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

Sierra Madre Public Library
 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
 TEXT (626) 662-1254

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