



Carmel Public Library Foundation WINDOW

SPRING 2009

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Pardon Me ...

“... **are you aware** your support is essential to assure that our treasured Carmel Library continues to thrive and remain open?”

This is the theme of the Carmel Public Library Foundation’s major Annual Fund Drive for 2008-2009.

The Carmel Library thrives because of a special and unique arrangement. The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea generously funds the salaries of the librarians and provides the buildings and maintenance for the Library. The Carmel Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Library do the rest.



People like you came together in 1989 to form The Carmel Public Library Foundation when cutbacks in state and county financing threatened the existence of libraries everywhere. The Foundation developed an endowment and, thanks to major donations, bequests, and many individual contributions, this endowment continues to grow.

Thanks to you, the generous donors, the Foundation has provided over \$3.4 million to the Carmel Library to purchase books and materials as well as to support ongoing programs for adults and children.

Janet Cabbage, Carmel Public Library Director, said: “The Library is committed to being the cultural, intellectual, and informational heart of the community. Our goal is to provide our Library users with a wide range of books, materials, programs, and services that will enhance and enrich their lives.”

The services include providing a comprehensive collection of books, newspapers, magazines, DVD’s, audio books ... and more. “We provide one of the area’s best collections of modern fiction, with more than 120 new titles added every month,” Cabbage said. *(continued on page 2)*

The Annual Fund Drive continues. For all who have not yet contributed, an envelope is provided in this edition of Window which can be returned with a contribution (or the envelope can be passed along to a friend who has not yet joined). The Foundation urges everyone to make a generous contribution and to become a supporting member of the Carmel Public Library Foundation.

In addition, the Carmel Library offers computer access and WiFi, an outstanding reference service, delivery service for the housebound, and a growing online capability. There are reading programs for the kids, a new online Homework Helper for students, and early learning stations for kids.

Did you know that the Carmel Library serves a wide community with more than 65% of its cardholders living outside the city limits of Carmel-by-the-Sea?

A major goal of the fund drive this year is to reach out to this larger constituency. We would like all of you to help the CPLF by becoming ambassadors, as well as donors, and to spread the word about the need to support our Library by becoming a member of the Carmel Public Library Foundation.

The reward for your membership in the Carmel Public Library Foundation is the pride and pleasure that comes from knowing that your membership is contributing to the preservation of this beloved treasure.

For further membership details, please contact the Foundation at (831) 624-2811.



New CPLF Office Manager

In November, CPLF was fortunate to hire Joy Newman as our Office Manager. She brings solid and diverse corporate and small business experience to the position, along with sales, organizing, marketing, writing, editing, and people skills. Augment that with a Summa Cum Laude degree from Wisconsin's Carthage College and you can see why we are delighted that she has joined our Foundation team.

You Should Know!

The Carmel Public Library Foundation was founded in 1989 when cutbacks in state and county financing threatened the existence of libraries everywhere.

A Word from our President



I learned to read in Harrison Memorial Library in the 1930s. My family escaped Fresno's summer heat and traveled to my grandparents' home in Carmel. When the fog rolled in and stayed, my sister, Mary Ricksen, and I spent hours in the Library's welcoming warmth. The Maybeck building's warm, cozy fire and a remarkably helpful librarian influenced our young lives and the Library continues to engage my attention.

My husband, Beau, and I moved permanently to Carmel from Piedmont six years ago. We honeymooned here 54 years ago and pledged to each other that we would return in our "maturity."

My days serving on the Carmel Public Library Foundation Board (CPLF) and now as President are especially fulfilling. To be able to be a part of preserving the community's treasure, the Library, is both an honor and a challenging responsibility.

The Board of Directors is a talented and faithful group of community leaders who are dedicated to continuing the tradition of ensuring the Library's future.

In the near future, we will be inviting donors who have expressed interest in planned giving, charitable remainder trusts, and endowments to special events that will highlight what your Foundation contributions mean to the future of the Library. If you would like to be on our invitation list, please call the Carmel Public Library Foundation office at (831) 624-2811.

Thank you for your continuing support. You have insured the future of our open and free Library.

*by Helen Breck
President, Board of Director*

New CPLF Board Members



Graeme Robertson and Leslie Snorf

The History Room
From the Henry Meade Williams Local History Room:
CARMEL FROM THE HEART

If you had ventured into author Mary Austin's Carmel in 1902, you would have seen a mission farm house and caretaker's adobe hut, Spanish-speaking fishermen, the Franciscan Praying Post, perhaps six or seven Japanese abalone fishermen, and nature – and lots of it.

"When I first came to this land," wrote Carmel author Mary Austin, "[I saw] a virgin thicket of buckthorn sage and sea-blue lilac spread between ... long-leaved pines. The dunes glistened white with violet shadows and, in warm hollows, between live oaks, a wine of light had mellowed undisturbed a thousand years."

At age 12 (1880), geology governed Austin's life. At her post-college age of 20 (1888), she and her family homesteaded in California and our western state reignited her passion for nature.

Austin's first book, "The Land of Little Rain" (1903), speaks in passionate details – not romantic sentiment – about the Southwest. Her essay, "California: The Land of the Sun" (1904), expresses her joy and wonder of California.

Shortly after her first visit to Carmel in 1902 and, in response to an interview



Jimmy Hopper and Mary Austin

question by a San Francisco reporter, she talked about "the superior attraction of ... Carmel ... my desire to make a home there" because, she said, Carmel was conducive to creative endeavors.

Almost immediately, Frank Powers, who owned most of Carmel, invited her to invest in land here. Without any further question, Austin purchased land near to what was to be the center of town.

Austin moved into a Carmel hotel in 1905, experienced the San Francisco earthquake in 1906, and built her Carmel home in "1911 or '12." Traveling and living in New York and Europe made her homesick for Carmel.

Austin translated her interests in Native American and Hispanic cultures, travel, women's independence, and love for nature and California into published works.

It was in Carlinville, Illinois, her birthplace, where she received her B.S. at Blackburn College. She continued her studies at the University of New Mexico and, then, died in 1934 in Santa Fe – one of Austin's favorite places, in addition to Carmel. All triggered her love of nature.

Although we are not Mary Austin, we Carmelites have a shared, passion: Carmel. Are you also interested in Carmel's Local History?

***2009 Local History
Lecture Series***

January 26 ~ 2:00 p.m.
Carlson Room
Church of the Wayfarer

***"When I Get Wound Up
Writing, I'm a Bad Article to
Squelch:" The Written
Words of Jo Mora***

Speaker: Peter Hiller

February 23 ~ 2:00 p.m.
Carlson Room
Church of the Wayfarer

***The Shepherds of Pan:
Nature Wisdom
of Local Greats***

Speaker:
Elayne Wareing Fitzpatrick

March 30 ~ 2:00 p.m.
Carlson Room
Church of the Wayfarer

***The Monterey Peninsula
in Film***

Speaker: Geoffrey Dunn

April 27 ~ 7:00 p.m.
Carpenter Hall
Sunset Center

***Deep-Sea Matrimony:
George Sterling and the
Abalone Song***

Speaker: Geoffrey Dunn

*All lectures are **free** and open
to the public. Space is limited.
For more information, contact
Henry Meade Williams
Local History Department
(831) 624-1615 or go to
www.hm-lib.org.*

**Then join the Foundation as a
Donor to receive an invitation
to the History Lectures. Call
the Foundation at (831) 624-
2811.**

by Joy Newman



Janet Cabbage

From the Desk of the Library Director

When you walk into Harrison Memorial Library in search of a good book, where do you go first? If you're like many of our patrons, you head straight to

the new books section located in the lobby.

As you've browsed the lobby shelves, have you ever wondered about the green strip imprinted with "MN" on the bottom of the books? Or why we have so many copies of some titles? Maybe some of you remember when the Library had 25 copies of *The Da Vinci Code*. Surely we didn't have to buy that many copies of one book!

The Library subscribes to a book leasing service called McNaughton©. Under the terms of the plan, the Library chooses 125 books a month from a list of the latest releases and bestsellers. When the books are no longer circulating, we send them back, which answers the question about how the Library can stock so many copies of certain titles. Another nice feature of the plan is that we can purchase any titles we want to keep for only \$2.00 per book. It's a terrific service, and it's why we are able offer such a great selection of new books.

Here is another question Library staff hears frequently: "Why aren't the new books shelved in alphabetical order like the rest of the books in the Library?" The answer is that as soon as we re-shelve the McNaughton© books, they're checked out again.

*by Janet Cabbage
Library Director*

For more Library information, such as searching for and holding Library materials, using databases, online Homework Help, and downloading e-books, visit <http://www.hm-lib.org/>.

Library Outreach: "Thanks for helping my husband, Bob, with books he wanted for his sculpture projects. We both appreciate the Library and the help that we get. It has been a very positive experience."

Mr. and Mrs. R. Beller

Youth Services Special Programs

Read to a Dog

Saturdays 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

February 28, May 16



Storytime!

Through May:

For children under 3: Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.

For children 3-5: Thursdays 11:00 a.m. (with craft).

Musical Storytime with Miss Stephanie Brown

Wednesday 11:15 a.m. April 8

Wii Gaming Event

For "tweens" (9-12): First Thursdays through June

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Look for exciting "tween" (9-12) Summer Reading Programs. For information, call (831) 624-4664 or visit <http://www.hm-lib.org/>.

Author! Author!

Sunday, March 1

Giving Birth:

The Making of the Novel

Harrison Memorial Library Main Branch

Ocean and Lincoln, Carmel

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Nonfiction Book Club Discussion:

Wednesday, March 25

Complications: a Surgeon's Notes

on an Imperfect Science

Atul Gawande

Bingham Room – Sunset Center

9th and San Carlos, Carmel

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Art & Literary:

Sunday, March 29

Shakespeare and the Author Controversy

Speaker: Allegra Krasnekewicz

Mary Johnson Recital Hall – Santa Catalina School

1500 Mark Thomas Drive, Monterey

3:00-4:30 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public!

*For more information,
call (831) 624-2811.*

What Fresh Hell Is This? ***(The Wit and Wisdom of Dorothy Parker)***

After yet another attempt to knock herself off, Dorothy Parker had a bedside visit from her best friend, writer Robert Benchley, who was appalled to find her ensconced once again in intensive care.

"Dotty, for heaven's sake; you've got to stop doing this. You could hurt yourself."

Dorothy Parker -- wit, raconteur, short story writer, poet, political activist, playwright, serial suicidal, and celebrated occupant of a chair around the legendary "Round Table" at New York's Algonquin Hotel -- is remembered today over and above many of her more prestigious literary pals with whom she shared more than one aperitif. Where many of the famous icons of the early and mid-twentieth century have been shunted aside, out of print, ignored, or completely forgotten, Dorothy Parker is quoted today more than ever. Mention to even the non-reader her name and he will come up with some marvelously witty remark or simple rhyme attributed (very often apocryphal or down right wrong) to Mrs. Parker.

In fact, once eminent writers of their day -- Benchley, Woolcott, Ferber, Lardner, Sherwood, to name just a few -- are, today, less known and less read. At the same time, *The Portable Dorothy Parker* is still in print after 65 years. In fact, there are four biographies, six collections of short stories, volumes of Parker verse, theatre reviews, recordings, and even a current title, *The Lost Poems of Dorothy Parker*.

Why this staying power? Why this enduring interest in a woman who never wrote the great American novel; who never sought celebrity; who made us smile and, at the same time, looked upon life as one dark, menacing cloud of doom? Why do we still chuckle over this throw-away trifle?

DOTTY HAD
GREAT BIG VISIONS OF QUIETUDE.
DOTTY SAW AN AD
AND IT LEFT HER FLAT.
DOTTY HAD A GREAT BIG SNIFTER
OF CYANIDE
AND THAT, (SAID DOTTY),
IS THAT.

Death was often a theme in Parker's life. She had one hell of a good time being 'dark.' She said, "Some people doodle; I compose epitaphs for my tombstone."

IF YOU CAN READ THIS,
YOU ARE STANDING TOO CLOSE
OR ... THIS ONE'S ON ME.

Mrs. Parker liked her cocktails. She not infrequently found herself with massive hangovers and trips to detox shelters. She attributed these episodes not so much to the scotches, but to the bad hors d'oeuvres -- principally the celery. "Celery: it'll do it every time. My doctor warned me on one occasion that if I didn't stop drinking, I'd be dead within a month. Promises, promises." Benchley finally suggested she consult Alcoholics Anonymous. "I did go to a meeting and found the whole organization just adorable." He then asked her if she decided to join. "I told him in no uncertain terms that I would not. They wanted me to stop drinking *now*."

**Dorothy Parker holds a
unique place in our literature,
our culture, and our hearts.**

She's not easily defined. She was a legend in her own time and still long after she left us in 1967 at the age of 74. Why does she endure? One could say, in life and in death, she made us laugh. Out loud.



We can without much difficulty imagine Dotty at a swank cocktail gathering, a skyscraper in Manhattan, 98th floor, circa 1933, after a highball or six. The hostess, pigeon breasted and bejeweled, sidles up to Mrs. Parker and inquires, "Ah, dear Mrs. Parker, are you enjoying the party?"

"Enjoying it? One more drink and I'll be under the host."

by Tom Parks

The Premier of
"WHAT FRESH HELL IS THIS?"
THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DOROTHY PARKER,"
A new play by Tom Parks, starring Rosemary Luke.
CPLF benefit opening nights are May 1 and 2.
Includes champagne fetes at 6:00 p.m.!
\$100.00 a ticket. For tickets, call (831) 624-2811.

Carmel Public Library Foundation

We are deeply grateful to the community for its generous support.

*Listed below are the individuals, businesses, and foundations whose gifts have been received
between **January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.***

Gifts given in memory of or in honor of individuals begin on page ten.

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CPLF President, Helen Breck, interested as author and photographer, Michael Katakis, talks about and reads from his new book *Traveller: Observations from an American in Exile*.

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(continued on page 11)

Congratulations!

Library Journal (oldest respected publication covering the literary field) rated public service libraries for its America's Star Libraries for 2009.

Congratulations go to Harrison Memorial Library for receiving an impressive 5-star designation!

For detailed information, go to
www.libraryjournal.com/ljindex2009.



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In Memoriam



**Wardner B. Crockett
1927 - 2008**

On October 26, 2008, the Carmel Public Library Foundation lost fellow Board Director Wardner Bingham Crockett. Ward served as Board Member from February 2003 to January 2004 and as Treasurer from February 2004 to June 2008. Ward's quick strategic action helped to reduce the Foundation's losses in the face of the downturn in the market. We miss Ward's warm, quiet spirit and thank him for including CPLF on his list of charitable donations.

To make a contribution in memory of Ward Crockett, please contact the CPLF office at (831) 624-2811.

Update Corner

If your address or salutation is not correct, call us at (831) 624-2811. If you would like CPLF to email you about future Foundation activities, email us at jnewman@carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org.

Wishes . . .

We all have our wish lists. Harrison Memorial Library is no exception. Our donors and readers know, by this time, that CPLF provides books, special programs, audio books, DVD's, computer access, periodicals, and special events for card holders and the extended community.

Perhaps you have a special interest. It could be fiction, non-fiction, travel, or art history. In other words, you are a book reader. Why not a special gift to the Library for book-lovers? Or possibly a gift for more DVDs for video enthusiasts?



Or Youth Services? These wonderful programs need extra support: reading programs and special events for our youth. Or are you interested in Homework Helper and computers for the Children's Library? There is "Read to a Dog" and early learning computer stations for kids. Continued support for these programs is of lasting value.

Wouldn't it be gratifying to know you helped make these special pleasures possible for our young people?

Perhaps you enjoy the internet: online e-books, a host of databases, including the Monterey County Herald and The Salinas Californian, or online movie subscriptions.

Our need for reference materials and information grows and grows. The Library is the center for this information. We have too few computers and they are keys to accessing all of this material.

No, it's not glamorous, but the Library can always use assistance in keeping up its appearance – the necessary housekeeping and equipment repair.

We invite you to support our Library family's needs with your thoughtful contributions. Call us at (831) 624-2811 or mail us your ideas at Carmel Public Library Foundation, P.O. Box 2042, Carmel, CA 93921.

Yes, most of us have wish lists. Perhaps you can help us with ours. Ours is a wish list that will benefit the entire community.



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