

President's Message

Welcome to a new fiscal year for the Saratoga Friends! I wanted to start off my letter by thanking Alice for her 3 years as President of our organization. She has done a great job in keeping the Friends active and successful during this time and I am glad that she will continue to be around to provide her wonderful advice and guidance. Most of the board members are continuing in their previous roles, such as Michelle Fan as Treasurer, Susan Carter as Secretary, Diane Douglass as Membership Chair, Woan-Yu Yu as Community Events Chair, and Christina Kuo as Assistant Treasurer. In addition to my move to President, and Alice becoming our Past President, Liz Guy has agreed to take over our renamed Communications Chair. We also have a couple of new Board Members, Jennifer Van Dalsen, who has been helping enormously on the eBay site, is now Vice President, and Julie Stallman is now our Newsletter chair. Most importantly, Kristin Gragnola is continuing her fantastic work as our Manager of Retail Operations getting the store up and running as soon as it was possible.

Despite the Book-Go-Round being closed for the last 3½ months of our fiscal year, we were still able to offer the full \$141,000 grant that we normally do to the library. This money is vital to our library being able to offer the programs and children's activities that are so popular with our patrons, as well as maintaining the catalog and ensuring we have plenty of copies of the latest popular books and other media. Since the library was unable to provide many programs during the shutdown, they asked for only \$104,000 this year so we plan to plow the remainder back into this year's budget to ensure that we can meet the full needs of the library for the coming year.

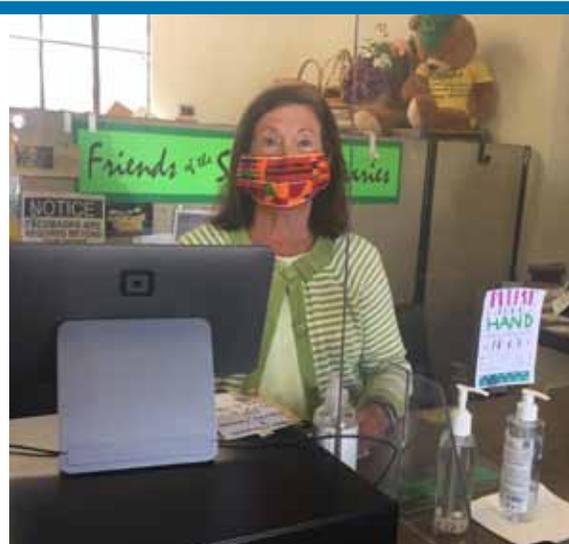
We have continued to hold our Friends Sharing Books events, via Zoom for now, with excellent attendance and where we have made new friends and learned about some great books to read. We have also put a lot of effort into our eBay store, Oak Street Books located at <https://www.ebay.com/usr/oakstbooks>, which remained open throughout the pandemic. Now that the Book-Go-Round is fully open, with social distance measures in place, our current focus is on getting back to the sorting room so that we can start accepting donations again and then restarting our Paperback Sales.

President's Message (Continued on Page 3)

Book-Go-Round Open for Business

Did you know that the Book-Go-Round is open for business? Our used bookstore was able to reopen in late June, after a three-and-a-half month closure. Store manager Kristin Gragnola has implemented safety measures necessary to protect volunteers and customers, such as requiring face masks, providing distancing cues and one-way aisles, installing a plexiglass screen at the register and limiting the number of customers in the store at any one time. The store is open normal hours, noon to 5PM every day, 10AM to 5PM Saturday and noon to 7PM Thursday.

Come by and check us out. And tell your friends! The shelves are full of wonderful books on every subject and the inventory is being refreshed daily. In addition to books, we've got CDs, DVDs, and puzzles to entertain you while we continue to shelter in place. You will find sales, such as a **buy-one, get-one-free** special in pets/animals and sports & games categories, and category specials with exceptional finds.



Peggy ready for the first customer of the day.

Teen Book Battle, August 2020

Just like the thirty-two basketball teams during March Madness, thirty-two well liked teen books were placed into a bracket for the annual Teen Book Battle. The Teen Librarians across Santa Clara County Libraries, including Saratoga's Birgit Spring, pulled together this year's list of battling books based on their knowledge of long time favorites and the Teens' Top Ten List of newer books.

Even with in-person voting not available, our local teens still got out to vote by going online and picking their favorite book in each head to head battle. Round 1 started on June 1st and went for 2 weeks. Seventeen winners were announced...sixteen books that advanced to Round 2 and one lucky teen who won that Round's thank-you-for-voting gift card.

By Round 3, only one of the newer 2019 books was still in the running. One of the female authors made it all the way to the Final Four while her husband's book got knocked out in Round 1.

Many of these teen books are also very popular with adults, so be sure to check out the list. Just go to the search boxes on the main page of the Santa Clara County Library website. Change the search request to say "website" (instead of the default "catalog"), then type "Teen Book Battle" in the rightmost search box.

Both books in the final round have been made into movies. In one book, the protagonist/narrator is a shy young boy just starting high school in the early 1990's. The competing book tells the story of a young girl in Germany during WWII through the voice of an unusual narrator. Which book claimed the title of Winner of the 2020 Teen Book Battle? Log in to find out!



Volunteer Spotlight: Bob Goldberg

Bob Goldberg has been volunteering with the Friends for a little over a year and already he's indispensable in the sorting room and making a vital contribution as a category lead.

Bob discovered Book-Go-Round twenty years ago buying old computer books (when Dick Weaver managed the category). He's been buying books of all sorts ever since, and one of his favorite categories is cars. I met him, first at a paperback sale when I helped him locate the car books, and again a few months later, at Book-Go-Round. He was clearly a book lover and a fan of BGR so I asked if he had any interest in volunteering - there was an opening in the Transportation category, the perfect thing for a car enthusiast.

Bob took on the Transportation category, which includes trains, planes, boats, cars, even farm machinery. He handles repair manuals, coffee table books, histories, memoirs and more. Bob enjoys the challenge of merchandising his books. Because of the people he knows through work and his car club, he often matches a book to a customer proactively!

Bob fell into sorting when he went into the sorting room to be trained on his Transportation category. What was going on in there looked interesting so he offered to join that team too. Sorting has turned out to be a source of unexpected joy for Bob. He is constantly discovering things he didn't know existed and he takes pleasure in getting to know the other volunteers who transit through the room.

Bob has lived with his family in Saratoga since 1996. He's a software guy and the editor of the Alpha Romeo Association's monthly magazine Overhead Cam. Volunteering for the Friends is a great fit for him: his expertise in computers, engineering and cars is useful, he finds the work interesting and he's helping find new homes for good books. We are grateful for all of our volunteers who help raise the money we donate each year to the library.

September 2020 SCCL Online Events

For details on a specific program or to register for a program (if applicable), please go to www.sccl.org.

Adults

Laughter Yoga for Stress Relief, Resilience and Well Being Wednesdays, September 2 & 9, 2020. 2:00 pm

In a live ZOOM session, Coach Alexa Drubay will begin with a short introduction to Laughter Yoga (history, benefits and applications), followed by a highly interactive session.

Registration required: <https://sccl.bibliocommons.com/events/5f10b335218c0e810c318a69>

Author Yangsze Choo presents *The Night Tiger* Saturday, September 12, 2020. 1:00 pm

Author Yangsze Choo presents her best-selling book, *The Night Tiger*. Set in 1930s Colonial Malaysia, this is a mesmerizing book steeped in Chinese culture. Yangsze Choo is the New York Times best-selling author of *The Ghost Bride* which is currently under film production with Netflix. *The Night Tiger* was featured on NPR and was selected as a Reese Witherspoon pick for her Hello Sunshine bookclub. Register to attend this Zoom event: <https://sccl.bibliocommons.com/events/5f20a84ffa9632450058d401>

Registration will close on September 11.

Teens

Teens Making History: Writing Workshop Thursday, September 17, 2020. 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Teens: What 6 words would you select to capture your memories of this time period? Share your personal story in 6 words through this memoir writing workshop. This workshop will dive deep into the art of memoir writing and how we can use digital art to express our memories and points of view. In this online workshop, you will have an opportunity to write several memoirs and submit to the Covid-Diaries Project. For teens 13+.

Registration required: <https://sccl.bibliocommons.com/events/5f236249b497ab74004a63d8>

Children

Note: All of the following children's programs are virtual and will be accessible via Facebook and/or Zoom.

Art Programs for school-age children will be conducted on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 4:00-4:45 pm. Zoom registration is required.

Art Programs for toddlers (2 years old and younger) will be conducted on September 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 10:00 - 10:30 am. Zoom registration is required.

Science Programs for school-age children will be conducted on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 4:00 - 4:45 pm. Zoom registration is required.

Yoga, for 1st - 3rd Graders, will be conducted from 4:00 - 4:30 pm on September 9 and September 23. Zoom registration is required.

Weekly Story-time program schedule (streamed via Facebook, no registration required):

Mondays: Family story-time 11:00 - 11:30am

Tuesdays: Family story-time 11:00 - 11:30am

Bedtime story-time 7:00 - 7:30pm

Wednesdays: Baby story-time 11:00 - 11:20am

Thursdays: Spanish/English story-time 11:00 - 11:30am

Fridays: Mandarin/English story-time 11:00 - 11:30am

Saturdays: Family story-time 11:00 - 11:30am

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

Another area of focus for us this year will be you, our membership. We are exploring a number of ideas for recognizing our members and expanding our numbers. Donations from our members have always been a significant part of our income and we feel that it's important to celebrate this as well as increase it.

Lastly, there is nothing that I can say that would fully capture my appreciation for our amazing volunteers and the incredible work that they do to support our library! They continue to show that support through these "interesting times" and I look forward to working with all of you during the coming year to ensure that our community has one of the best libraries in the country. Feel free to contact me at president@fslonline.org anytime with your ideas or thoughts on ways we can make this happen.

Thank you,
David Guidry

Friends of the Saratoga Libraries

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<p>14410 Oak Street @ Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd. (HWY 9) one block south of Big Basin Way, Saratoga Village (408) 867-5552 www.BookGoRound.com</p>	<p>Book-Go-Round NEWS OAK STREET USED BOOK STORE HOURS: Sunday - Friday (except Thursday): 12pm-5pm Thursday: 12pm-7:00pm Saturday: 10am-5pm</p>	<p>When in the Saratoga Library visit our Library Café Bookstore with Bargain Books section Open during library hours www.facebook.com/friendsaratogalibrary</p>
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PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE SARATOGA LIBRARY
If you like books, you'll LOVE the Book-Go-Round

New Inventory Daily



Pets & Animals



Sports & Games

Visit our eBay store at www.ebay.com/usr/oakstbooks

Check out our website www.fslonline.org for volunteer opportunities