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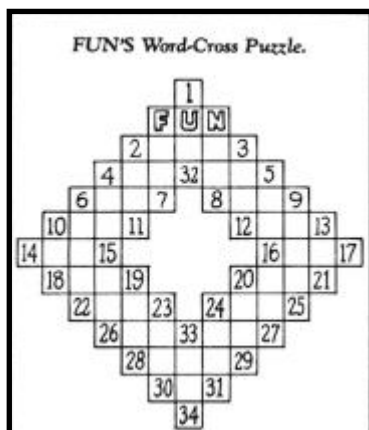
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Newsletter of the
Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

Volume 30, Issue 1 Spring 2020

Are You a Cruciverbalist?

By Diane Rider



If you are one of the 50 million Americans who work a crossword puzzle every day—then you are a cruciverbalist! It all began in 1913 when Arthur Wynne of the *New York World* hoped to make the December edition special. He designed a puzzle and the first word of that puzzle was “fun.” He called it a “Word-Cross” but a typesetter’s error switched it to “Cross-Word,” and so it remained. Crossword puzzles became an instant success.

Although the *New York Times* is now known for its crossword puzzles, this has not always been the case. In 1924 a NYT editorial proclaimed that crosswords were a “sinful waste in the utterly futile finding

of words.” Their first puzzle appeared in 1942, and a daily puzzle was not included until 1950. Since then the NYT Crossword has become the measurement of one’s skills. The Monday puzzle is considered the easiest and the following puzzles up to Saturday are increasingly challenging. The Sunday crossword is the largest but similar to Thursday in difficulty.

Will Shortz has been the crossword editor of The *NYT* since 1993. He confessed that he deliberately misdirects with clues such as “chocolate covered” for “labrador.” He organizes the American Crossword Tournament that will be held this March for the 43rd consecutive year. It was featured in a 2006 documentary, *Wordplay* that also included Bill Clinton—an accomplished cruciverbalist—both as a solver and writer of puzzles.

Anyone can submit a puzzle to the NYT and Shortz says he receives 75-100 submissions every week and reads them all. The remuneration ranges from \$250 to \$1000. Puzzles must have a symmetrical grid and cannot contain 2 letter words. Also, only one-sixth of the squares can be black. In many crosswords, the “across” clues have a theme and are trickier.

Why do people like working a crossword puzzle? Many believe it helps to keep the brain young, but the evidence for this is sparse. Shortz suggests that puzzles give a feeling of control. When completed, one has achieved perfection!

Remember that the first word of the first crossword was FUN. How you do it is up to you—pencil, pen or computer. It’s no shame to look up an answer. For example, if the clue is a (near) anagram for a Welsh town, the answer can only be *Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlantysiliogogogoch*. It was submitted to the Guinness World Records as the longest recorded word in a published crossword—that’s 56 letters. Have fun!

(clue to longest word and sources are listed on page 2)

Library Hours

Mon: 9:30 AM – 6 PM
Tues: 11:30 AM – 8 PM
Wed: 11:30 AM – 8 PM
Thu: 9:30 AM – 6 PM
Fri: 9:30 AM – 6 PM
Sat: 9:30 AM – 6 PM
Sun: Closed

Closed:

March 31 Cesar Chavez Day
May 25 Memorial Day

Shop at
Grace's Book Nook,
the library's on-site
used bookstore!

Mon: 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Tues: 12 PM – 7:30 PM
Wed: 12 PM – 7:30 PM
Thu: 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Fri: 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Sat: 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Sun: Closed

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Trevor Jones selected as a “nominating librarian” for the International Dublin Literary Award



We are pleased to announce that Scripps Ranch Librarian, Trevor Jones, has been named San Diego's representative for nominating books for the International DUBLIN Literary Award for 2021. This award is presented annually for a novel written or translated in English to promote excellence in world literature thus recognizing novels of distinct quality and high literary merit.

The nomination process for the Award is unique as nominations are made by libraries in capital and major cities throughout the world. Over 400 library systems in 177 countries worldwide are invited to nominate up to 3 books each year. Those nominated books then go on to a panel of judges who select the ultimate winner which includes a cash prize. Trevor informs us, "I can tell all readers and library patrons I won't take the role lightly and am eager to sink my teeth into some new, exciting and worthwhile books! "

Grace's Book Nook

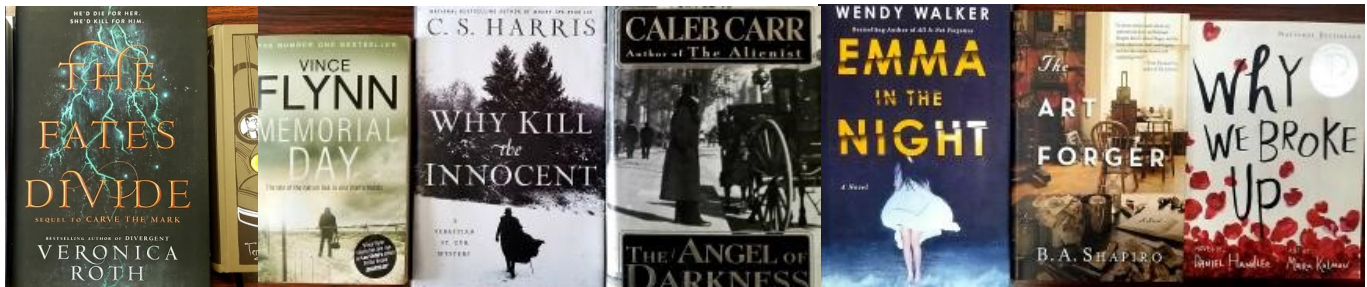


Make Grace's Book Nook your first stop for fantastic prices on nearly new and gently used books of all genres for adults, teens and children of all ages, plus audiobooks, CDs, and DVDs. The Book Nook also stocks sheet music and instruction books, greeting and note cards, and even puzzles, as well as resources for teacher and home schoolers.

Grace's Book Nook is operated and staffed completely by volunteers. If you love books and reading and would like to give back to the library you love, consider joining our team of enthusiastic volunteers. Contact booknook@srfol.org to explore volunteer opportunities with the Book Nook.

Your tax-deductible donations of gently used books are always welcome. Every purchase and every donation helps our library procure new books and media, provide exciting programs, and more.

The January book sale was a big success by any measure, raising over \$1400 to support our library, with many happy customers enjoying super bargains on a range of books and media. Many thanks to our team of dedicated volunteers, ably led by Marcia Gwin, who made it possible! Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 27, and our next big semi-annual special book sale!



Works Cited for “Are You a Cruciverbalist?”

- Amlen, Deb. Dec. 2019. “How the Crossword Became an American Pastime.” *Smithsonian Magazine*, Dec. 2019. www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/crossword-became-american-pastime-180973558/. Accessed 6 Feb. 2020.
- Tirosh, Gur. “10 Interesting Facts About Crossword Puzzles.” *History by day*. www.historybyday.com/brain-tease/10-interesting-facts-about-crossword-puzzles/?br_t=ch. Accessed 5 Feb. 2020.
- “Will Shortz & the Puzzling Sport of Crosswords.” | *Real Sports w/ Bryant Gumbel* | HBO. www.youtube.com/watch?v=GcKFU8BPJnc. Accessed 6 Feb. 2020.
- Clue to longest word: *Giggling troll follows Clancy, Larry, Billy and Peggy who howl, wrongly disturbing a place in Wales*

Programs for Children, Teens and Adults



The events listed below are highlights of those provided with the support of Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library and are free to the public. For a complete monthly account of all programs, activities and classes, visit our website at **www.srfol.org**. In addition, Librarian Trevor Jones creates a monthly email containing the entire monthly library schedule of events and activities. If you wish to be on the mailing list, email him at **tojones@sandiego.gov** or sign up on the sheet on the table near the entrance to the library.

Programs for Families and Children

A Wee Bit of Ireland: Thurs., March 12, 3:30 pm. Join storyteller and troubadour Ken Frawley for a fun and engaging children's and family program featuring wonderful Irish and Irish American songs and stories along with cultural context.



Family Game Night: Tues., March 24, April 7, May 19, 6-7:30 pm. We'll provide the games, you just need to come with your family ready to play! Game instruction will be offered as needed. Games will be provided for ages 5 and up.

Family Movie Night: Tues., March 17, April 21, May 5, 6-7:30 pm. Join us for a Family Movie Night at the Library! We'll provide the movie and some popcorn. You bring your family, friends and some snacks and we'll all have a good time.

Baby/Toddler Egg Hunt: Wed., April 8, 10 am. This is a gentle egg hunt event suitable for our very youngest patrons and their caregivers. This event is before opening hours and registration is required.*

Bunny Party: Thurs., April 9, 3:30 pm. Join us to celebrate Spring with treats, prizes, games, crafts and cupcake decorating! All supplies will be provided, but online registration is required.*

Free Comic Book Day Event: Sat., May 2, 2 pm. Join us for a fun event to celebrate Free Comic Book Day and pick up your free comic!



Trash Truck Storytime: Thurs., April 23, 10 am. We have several special guest storytellers coming to our Preschool Storytime from the City's Environmental Services "Trash" Department. And, just like always, there will be music and the chance to wiggle. Stay afterwards to see a trash truck up close!

Family Craft: Mermaid Peg Dolls: Sat., May 23, 11:00 am. At this family arts program, we'll create mermaid peg dolls to keep! All supplies will be provided, but online registration is required.*

Go Wild with Zovargo: Thurs., May 21, 3:30 pm. How many different animal species call the rainforest home? Millions! Grab your magnifying glass and get ready to GO WILD as you discover some of the beautiful animals that make up the rainforest. You'll also learn what we can do to help these animals that are in danger of becoming extinct! For more Spring into STEAM locations and dates, please visit sandiego.gov/steam.

On-going Programs for Children and Teens

Afternoon Anime: Wednesdays, 3 - 4 pm. Relax and enjoy a couple episodes of a popular anime (Japanese animation) with us at this weekly afternoon program.

Afterschool Craft Club: Thurs., March 5, April 30, May 28, 3:30 pm. Monthly after-school DIY (Do It Yourself) craft program for ages 7-12, often with a seasonal theme. All supplies will be provided, but online registration is required at <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/>

Lego Builders: 2nd and 4th Mondays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Get creative with Legos! All ages welcome.

Paws to Read: 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:30 -11:30 am. Children read to certified therapy dogs to build reading confidence. All ages.

Preschool Storytime: Thursdays, 10 -10:30 am. Storytime with music, finger plays, rhymes and more! Ages 2-5; geared towards preschoolers, but babies and toddlers may enjoy as well.

*<https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/>

(cont. on page 4)

On-going Programs for Children and Teens Continued

Signing Storytime: Wednesdays, 11:45 am -12:30 pm. A 45-minute storytime with books and music and with American Sign Language signs, with time at the end for Q&A.

StoryBox Theatre: 1st Tues. of the month, 3 pm. StoryBox is a Japanese storytelling tradition that combines dramatic storytelling with a wooden theatre to showcase illustrations in an engaging family-friendly experience.

Teen Council Meeting: 1st Fri. of the month, 3:30 pm. Teens between the ages of 13 and 18 meet to plan Scripps Ranch Library events and projects on a volunteer basis.

Programs for Adults

Book Discussion Group: 4th Wed. of every month, 6:30 pm.

Online Security: Fri., March 27, 10 am. Whether you just go online on the Internet or are active users of social media, you need protection. You will learn about passwords, malware and more so that you can be safer online. Bring your charged-up smartphone to class with any passwords you might need.

Seed Library! Have you checked out the seed library? Available now during operating hours and sign-up is completely free. Borrow seeds to start a garden at home in your yard or available green space; upon germination just return seeds to keep paying it forward! To learn more ask a front desk staff person at any time.

Continuing Education: provided through a partnership with the Community College

Beginning/Intermediate Piano: Wednesdays, 9:30 am.

Japanese Brush Art: Wednesdays, 4:30 pm.

Writing Children's Books: Fridays, 1:30 pm.

Library Open House

Saturday April 18, 11:30 am - 3:30 pm



Kick off National Library Week and celebrate with the Scripps Friends of the Library at our Open House! Learn more about Friends' membership, the benefits of having a library card, changes at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library and meet the librarian! Crafts and balloons for children, live music, snacks and beverages and more! Hope to see you there!

Attention all Library Volunteers! Spring Luncheon, Saturday, April 25 at 11:30 am

If you are volunteering a lot or a little, whether in Pleasure of Your Company, Grace's Book Nook, on the Board or in any other capacity, you are invited to an extra special catered Volunteer Luncheon on April 25 at 11:30 am in the community room.

It is extra special because we are going to take a group picture—and we want YOU in it. In addition, there will be a free raffle of a surprise basket. You may be the winner! It's a great opportunity to get acquainted with other volunteers—you have a lot in common. Liz Erickson always organizes a delicious buffet. So mark your calendars and plan to attend.



“Pleasure of Your Company” Music Series

by Joan Reese



The Pleasure of your Company welcomes back the **Westwind Brass** on **March 15**. This brass quintet, comprised of trumpets, horn, trombone, and tuba, returns to our stage with a genre-spanning program from their repertoire of the entire spectrum of brass music from classical works to music of other cultures and jazz.

We are excited to present "**Songs of Suffrage**" on **April 19**. This special program, presented in collaboration with

Bodhi Tree Concerts, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment through songs, stories and images. Featuring Angelina Réaux, Mary Munger Taylor, Danielle Perrault, Molly Smith, Ines Irawati, Michael Sokol, and Jonathan Nussman, this program will inspire and entertain.



We are pleased to welcome the **Hutchins Consort** on **May 10**. This string ensemble plays on the eight scaled violins of the violin octet designed and built by



famed luthier Dr. Carleen Hutchins—from the 18.5 inch treble to the 7.5 foot contrabass—in the first successful attempt to create an acoustically balanced set of instruments that sound truly like violins across the entire range of written music. The Consort brings rich sonority to their music, ranging from classical works to rock and jazz.

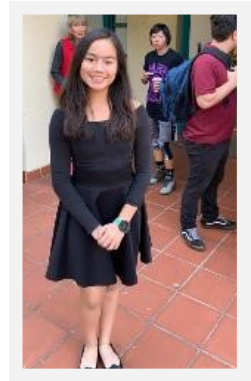
Concerts are presented monthly on special Sunday afternoons at 2:30 pm in our library's Community Room, are one hour in length, and

are followed by a complimentary reception, affording concertgoers an opportunity to meet the artists and mingle with fellow music lovers.

There is no charge for the concerts, which are sponsored by Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, although donations are (at the door or anytime!) appreciated to help us continue to bring fine music to our community. Please consider becoming a sponsor of our concert series. Donations of any amount are most welcome; donors of \$25 or more will be acknowledged in the printed program. Consider sponsoring a concert for a donation of only \$400! All donations are tax-deductible.

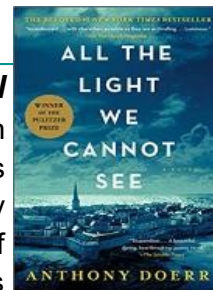
High School Student Dedicated Volunteer to Pleasure of Your Company

Gabrielle Sanchez is currently a sophomore at Scripps Ranch High School. She is also a pianist and percussionist, playing music both in and out of school. Gabrielle began volunteering at the SRFOL *Pleasure of Your Company* concerts in October 2018, after hearing a captivating performance in September of that year. She finds attending the concerts each month a fun and engaging way to experience different genres of music while recording volunteer hours. Gabrielle has been a resident of Scripps Ranch since 2017 and hopes to continue volunteering at the SR Library for years to come.



I'm Glad I Read This Book

Barbara Thunder-Barnes, Treasurer of Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, shares ***All the Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr. The novel mixes both fact and fiction during WWII. It follows a blind French girl and an orphaned German boy as their paths collide in occupied France—and both do their best to survive. The author crafts every sentence as he takes you through their deeply moving intertwining lives. Barbara says if you enjoy a good writer and books with factitious settings within history, you will love this book. It was 2 1/2 years on the NY Times Bestseller list with good reason!



If you would like to suggest a book that you are “glad you read,” submit your entry to editor@srfol.org. We welcome your suggestions and will use as many as space allows.

Alice Yen is the new Display Designer



The board is happy to introduce Alice Yen as the new Display Designer for the library vestibule. She heard that the library needed a creative volunteer for Grace's Book Nook and thought it would be a fun opportunity.

Alice tells us, “I actually have no prior experience in designing displays, but I have a huge passion for “creating.” From choosing the theme, to figuring out the aesthetics and logistics and then to finally see it all come together is a very fulfilling process. I'm glad to be able to express my creative side with the display case. I have always been fond of the relaxing atmosphere that libraries have. I have also visited the Scripps Miramar Library often since I was young!”

Besides arts and crafts, Alice enjoys ice skating, snowboarding, and of course, spending time with family and friends. Great job, Alice!

More Events

Right: *Volunteers enjoy a pot luck to honor their services.*



Below: *Children show their creations at Dragon Mask Craft for Lunar New Year. This program is one of many that is made possible through matching funds provided by Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library.*



Mother and Daughter, Vivian Sun and Selena Luo browse the books at the Semi-Annual Book Sale.



OUR WRITERLY PRESIDENTS

By Richard Lederer, well-known verbivore and Scripps Ranch resident

Ulysses S. Grant claimed to smoke seven to ten cigars a day. When word got out of the president's love of stogies, people sent him more than 10,000 boxes of cigars. Grant finished his 200,000 word *Personal Memoirs* only a few days before his death from throat cancer, so he never saw the work published. Grant's cancer and the forfeiture of his military pension when he became president bankrupted his family, but his popular autobiography ultimately brought in \$450,000 for his family.

Personal Memoirs: Ulysses S. Grant remains one of the finest accounts of the Civil War ever written. The book was published with the help of his friend Mark Twain in 1885, the same year that Twain came out with *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

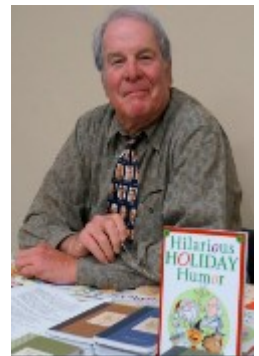
Herbert Hoover wrote 16 books, including one called *Fishing for Fun and to Wash Your Soul*.

John F. Kennedy is the only president to have received the Pulitzer Prize, for his book *Profiles in Courage*.

But it is Jimmy Carter who is our most writerly president, having authored about 20 books, many of which have been best sellers. Carter is our longest-lived president and the chief executive who has spent more years than any other after being president. He wrote most of his works after his presidency, some with his wife Rosalynn as co-author. In 2003, Carter authored a novel *The Hornet's Nest*, a fictional story of the Revolutionary War in the South. He was the only president to have published a novel until Bill Clinton teamed with mega-selling James Patterson to author *The President is Missing*.

Using my hints, name the presidents who wrote each of the following books:

1. *Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company & Conversation* (1748)
Rule 1 might be "Don't lie about chopping down cherry trees."
2. *Letters on Freemasonry* (1833)
This author's dad was also a president and author.
3. *The Rough Riders* (1899)
Best-selling memoir before the author became a popular president.
4. *Fireside Chats*
Radio broadcasts that aired 1933-1944.
5. *Crusade in Europe* (1948)
World War II experiences.
6. *The Vantage Point: Perspectives of the Presidency, 1963-1969* (1971)
The author was the fourth president to assume that office after the assassination of his president.
7. *In the Arena: A Memoir of Victory, Defeat, and Renewal* (1990)
A president who resigned looks back on his long career in the political arena.
8. *A Time to Heal* (1979)
Healing after the resignation of the author's predecessor.
9. *An American Life* (1991)
Opening line: "If I'd gotten the job I wanted at Montgomery Ward, I suppose I would never have left Illinois."
10. *My Life* (2005)
More than a thousand pages, this is the heftiest of presidential memoirs.
11. *The Audacity of Hope* (2006)
This book helped a freshman senator to ascend to the presidency for two terms.
12. *The Art of the Deal* (1987)
The author is the consummate wheeler dealer.



Answers: (1) George Washington (2) John Quincy Adams (3) Theodore Roosevelt (4) Franklin Roosevelt (5) Dwight D. Eisenhower (6) Lyndon Johnson (7) Richard Nixon (8) Gerald Ford (9) Ronald Reagan (10) Bill Clinton (11) Barack Obama (12) Donald Trump



Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library
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The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library (SRFOL) exists to support the operation of the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center. The SRFOL provides volunteer services, assists library patrons, hosts special events, operates a used book store (Grace's Book Nook), and provides financial support for acquisitions and community activities.

Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library Board of Directors

To contact a board member, consult the webpage for a list of e-mail addresses or call 858-538-8158

President:	Delane Pickel	Membership/Volunteer Chair:	Liz Erickson
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Treasurer:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Folio Editor:	Diane Rider
FSDPL Liaison:	Sandra Hoyt	Pleasure of Your Company:	Gary Letchinger
Book Plates:	Lisa Nguyen		

PARKING REMINDER

For library events, please allow extra time to park on Meanley Drive and walk up the paved, lighted walkway to the library.

Drop the form off at the Circulation Desk or Mail to the following:
SRFOL Membership

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131

Our Library needs Friends like you!

Membership Form for Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

Email _____ Address _____

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Sponsor \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Lifetime \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Patron \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other amount you may wish to contribute | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer, please contact me at the above Email or Phone. | | |

Please make checks out to: **Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library.**

Membership is tax deductible. The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library is a California Tax Exempt Non-Profit Corporation under IRS 501(c)(3).