

# folio

Newsletter of the  
Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131  
www.srfol.org 858-538-8158 Instagram @srfolibrary

Volume 31, Issue 4 Winter 2021

## Grace's Book Nook Is Open For Business

By Joan Reese

Grace's Book Nook, the used bookstore in our library, reopened in early October with enthusiastic reception from customers and volunteers alike. The Book Nook stocks a wide variety of books sure to appeal to all ages and tastes—from board books for tots, to picture books, easy readers and chapter books, to an excellent selection for teens and young adults, plus great fiction and non-fiction for adults, as well as CDs and DVDs.

The Book Nook is the perfect place to find Christmas and Hanukkah books at amazing prices, as well as holiday cards, and stocking stuffers! For that special book lover on your list, consider one of our vintage books or beautiful collectors' editions for a unique gift. Many of our books are in like-new condition.

Stock is updated almost daily, so make a point of stopping by whenever you visit the library. Please check [www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org) for the latest information on the days and hours that the Book Nook is open. We hope to expand our hours soon. As of November we are closed Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Expanded shopping in our "annex" is available Wednesdays until 2 pm and all day Fridays. Mark your calendar for the second Saturday of every month for a special book sale from 10 am - 2 pm. This will be a regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday event! COVID safety protocol includes mandatory masking and capacity limits.



Photos: John Weigel, pictured: Bryn Kivin



## Welcome to Our New Display Case Designer

Bryn Kivin is a busy professional and mother, but she also finds time to volunteer with Grace's Book Nook. In addition, she recently took on the job of creating displays to promote the Book Nook in the glass-doored case in the library's entry corridor. Her first striking and colorful celebration of fall is a real traffic stopper!

We would like to thank Alice Yen for her time as our display case designer and wish her well in medical school in Arizona!

## Scripps Ranch Library Goes to the Farmers Market

Librarian Matt Beatty was looking for ways the Library could reach out to the larger community. When the Scripps Ranch Farmers Market reopened in May, he saw an excellent opportunity. He invited the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library to help with their presence and by providing a varying selection of used books for sale. Additional enticements for visitors included a table with free gifts, information and SRFOL applications. Volunteers Marcia Gwin, Diane Rider (pictured) and Janet Weigel all enjoyed representing SRFOL.

Our participation has resulted in donations, book sales and new members to SRFOL. Matt sets up the booth monthly. He says, "The Scripps Ranch Farmers Market is a great family-friendly event. It gives me a chance to spread the word that the Scripps Ranch Library is open again and introduce myself to people in the neighborhood." The Scripps Ranch Farmers Market is located at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road and convenes every Thursday from 3 pm-7 pm.



Photo by Prasanna Madabushi

## Library Events for Children and Teens



**Storytime** at the Library AND on Facebook: Wednesdays, 10 am. On alternating weeks, join us in the Community Room where we can safely space out. We'll be sitting on the floor, so bring your blankets and pillows if you like! We'll read a story, sing a song, and YES we'll play with egg shakers and/or scarves! Alternating weeks, join Miss Melissa for a Virtual Storytime on the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library's [Facebook @ScrippsMiramarRanchLibrary](#). We'll read a story and sing a song.

**StoryBox Theatre:** Second Tuesdays of the month, 3:00 pm. Presented by *Write Out Loud San Diego*, StoryBox (also known as *kamishibai*) combines dramatic storytelling with a wooden theatre to showcase illustrations in an engaging family-friendly experience! Pictured is Tim West telling International folktales on Oct. 20.

**Toshwerks** Virtual Craft for kids and teens: Wednesdays, 3:30 pm. Join us and local artists for a fun, hands-on crafty project recommended for ages 8 and up. Supplies for the workshop will be provided and available for pickup at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library. To see more details about individual projects, check out our online calendar! <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/> This event is sponsored by SRFOL.

**The Rebellious Miss Breed Letter Writing Project:** Now-Dec. 31. During World War II, children incarcerated in internment camps wrote letters to their librarian, Clara Breed. Now the San Diego Public Library wants to read and archive your letters on your experiences during the COVID pandemic or the current times of deep national reflection. We want to hear your thoughts during this unprecedented time. Letters can be addressed to anyone. Type or handwrite a letter, up to 1500 words, and send it to San Diego Public Library for inclusion in an archive.

**The Winter Reading Challenge:** Jan. 1-Jan. 31. The theme, "Read for a Better World," encourages readers of all ages to explore diversity, empathy, and action through literature. To complete the program people will have the option of completing a combination of reading 5 hours/books and altruistic activities such as donating to a food shelter or telling someone why you appreciate them. And, of course, there will be prizes.

**Seasonal craft kits to-go:** available for children at the library while supplies last.

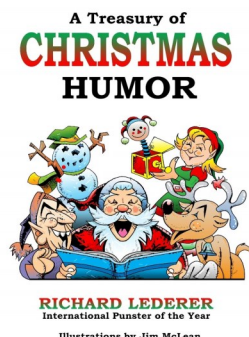
### Richard Lederer: A Christmas Performance and Book Signing Saturday, December 4 – starting at 11 am

Scripps Ranch author, **Richard Lederer**, will be performing a Christmas show in the Community Room of our Scripps Miramar Ranch Library. Dr. Lederer will be available to sign and inscribe an array of his books, including *A Treasury of Christmas Humor*. **From each \$13 purchase of that book, Rich will donate \$7 to the Friends.** Here's a great chance to do your holiday shopping and benefit our beloved library!

*A Treasury of Christmas Humor* is chock-full of puns, jokes, riddles, games, poems, stories, history, lore, and more! Inside you'll find the story of Christmas, the biographies of Santa Claus and Frosty the Snowman and the history of Christmas words. More than 50 sprightly drawings add to the rollicking fun of *A Treasury of Christmas Humor*.

The website address for the Scripps Ranch Friends holiday book sale which features Rich's book is <https://www.srfol.org/special-book-sale.htm> or you can go to the Friends home page <https://www.srfol.org> where there is a link to the book sale web page.

If you have a question, you can e-mail Richard directly [richardhlederer@gmail.com](mailto:richardhlederer@gmail.com).



How do cats greet each other on Christmas?  
A furry meowy Christmas and a happy Mew Year.



## The Pleasure of Your Company Returns by Joan Reese and Gary Letchinger

After a hiatus of almost two years, we are very pleased to announce that the "Pleasure of Your Company" will present a series of six monthly concerts from January through June 2022.



We will kick off the new year with a performance by internationally acclaimed multilingual vocalist and recording artist **Allison Adams Tucker**. She returns to our stage on **January 16**, performing a program entitled *World Jazz with Urban Cool*. She and her trio featuring pianist Melonie Grinnell and bassist Justin Grinnell will present the history of Jazz and how it has touched the world—from the advent of swing and the big band era to Latin jazz and the birth of the Bossa Nova, and the ever-evolving Great American Songbook.

On **February 20**, we're delighted to welcome back the **Orvieto**

**Piano Trio**. Ensemble members, violinist Lauren Basney, cellist Daniel Frankhuizen, and pianist Dr. Byron Chow, first met and began playing together in 2009 during the Orvieto Musica chamber music festival in Italy. This exciting trio, which earned rave reviews when they previously played at our library, will perform a variety of classical works.



Concerts are presented monthly on special Sunday afternoons at 2:30 pm in our library's Community Room. They are one hour in length and have historically been 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 appreciated (at the door or anytime!) 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 tax deductible donation of only \$400. See <http://www.srfol.org/music.htm> for details.

## More Events for Adults



**Super Mega Semi-Annual Special Book Sale:** Sat., Feb. 5, 9:30 am to 3 pm You'll be able to shop for bargains by the book, or fill a big yellow bag for one low price! Mark your calendars for this exciting opportunity.

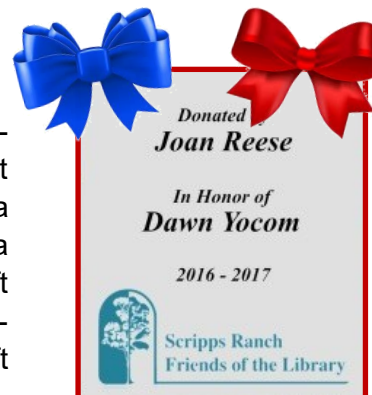
**Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library Book Discussion Group:** Wed., Dec. 8, 6:30 pm. Zoom in to help us select the books for 2022. On Wed., Jan. 26, 6:30 pm we will discuss *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. On Wed., Feb. 23, 6:30 pm, it's *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. See the website for more information. [www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org).

**Mindful Meditation:** Mondays, starting January 3, 2 pm. Healthy Adventures Foundation presenters will lead participants in meditative breathing, a contract/relax exercise, and guided imagery. Join us to de-stress from worry and care, while socializing with others who are taking a healthful break in their day. This new weekly program is sponsored by SRFOL.

**SRCA 50 Plus** is sponsoring **Fun and Games for Seniors** every Thursday and **Aging Successfully Lectures** on Fridays, beginning in January. Check with the library and the SRCA Newsletter for time and details.

## Looking for a unique gift idea for the holidays?

Honor your favorite bibliophile with a donation to their favorite institution! Request a bookplate order form at the Library's circulation desk or visit our website [www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org). Your \$25 tax-deductible donation will purchase a book for the Scripps Ranch Library in an area selected by you, and a distinctive bookplate will be placed in the book to recognize your gift recipient, who will receive a letter letting him or her know about your thoughtfulness. What a wonderful Hanukkah, Christmas, birthday, or teacher's gift for readers of all ages!





## Time to renew your Annual Membership Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

By Janet Weigel, Membership Chairperson

**Annual Membership is for one year from January 1 through December 31, 2022.** In addition to knowing that you have helped support our beautiful library, you receive the following benefits:

- Continue to receive the quarterly *Folio* with advance notice of events at the library, suggestions for reading, and articles of interest including ones by professional wordsmith, Richard Lederer.
- A free book with any \$5 purchase from Grace's Book Nook.
- Private or head-of-line entrance at book sales.

## Consider an Individual Lifetime Membership for \$250

With an **Individual Lifetime Membership for \$250**, you will receive these additional benefits:

- No yearly renewal—Member for Life!
- A Lifetime book bag to fill to the brim for \$5 at any visit to Grace's Book Nook.
- Your name engraved on a plaque in the library.
- A 10 percent discount in The Library Shop at the Central Library.



## Consider a Patron Lifetime Membership for \$1000

A **Patron Lifetime Individual Membership** of \$1000 includes all of the above benefits and the following:

- A special bookplate in your (or your designee's) honor in a new book purchased for our library.
- Two front row reserved seats at a "Pleasure of Your Company" concert.
- Naming rights for a duck at Evans Pond.

## Announcing SRFOL membership cards

To thank our members for their continued support of Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, membership cards will be mailed to all annual and lifetime members for the 2022 year. Please show this card to receive the benefits that are explained above.

**Lifetime members are invited to visit the library on Saturday, December 4, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. to pick up their new SRFOL Book Bags.**



Scripps Ranch  
Friends of the Library

Jan McGinn  
Lifetime Member

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131 858-538-8158  
[www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org)





## The Pond with Three Names

by Diane Rider

Evans Pond is a gem in our community of Scripps Ranch. Adjacent to the Library, it offers a quiet place to relax and read a book—although the tree stumps hewed into chair shape might offer only a temporary respite. Better yet, take a leisurely walk around the quarter mile loop. The walk is easy for little legs and friendly for dogs. At the far end is an enticing bridge in a shady glen.

Feeding the ducks is a popular pastime for children. Many people do not realize that bread or popcorn are not healthy snacks for ducks. These offerings provide little nutritional value and can harm ducklings' growth, as well as pollute the water and attract vermin. Fortunately, Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library offers duck food for sale in the Book Nook of the Library for 50¢ a packet. The modest proceeds are used for the benefit of the Library.

A question often asked is “Why is it called Evans Pond?” It happens that Evans is the name of the person from whom E.W. Scripps purchased this parcel of land. I've heard that the property was previously a chicken farm that went broke—but maybe that was just a rumor.

Mr. Scripps realized the necessity of having a reliable source of water as his brother hoped to establish a lemon grove. In 1891 a dam was built. Three years later, the dam needed to be replaced. In an arrangement with a neighboring landowner, Gordon Surr, a second dam was built very close to the spot of the original dam. However in 1915, during a period of extreme rain, this dam failed and water cascaded down the valley and caused serious flooding. The lemon grove didn't work out.

By 1929 the property was in the hands of Scripps' daughter and her husband, Nackey and Thomas Meanley. The Meanleys built a house near the pond and established a working ranch for cattle and prize-winning horses. The rock wall that borders the pond to the south is a remnant of that period. Their grandson, Bill Meanley, remembers from his childhood that the pond was called Surr Pond by the family.

The property was sold in 1985, and the developers included the pond in the land donated to the city. When the Library was built, locals renamed the pond, Library Pond. Thus the three names! However, maps and common conversation refer to the pond by the original owner: Evans.

Today one can see abundant wildlife from croaking frogs to high-stepping egrets. It is a stopping point for many birds during seasonal migrations. Year-round residents include several species of ducks, snowy egrets, green herons, the double crested cormorant and the American coot. Fishing is allowed, and some rather large carp have been pulled from the pond over the years.

In 2009, the Spring *Folio* printed an article by Richard Busch, and I quote: “Several library patrons have reported seeing a rather strange creature in Evans Pond. The animal is described as being 12 feet long, with a humped back and a long neck...The animal tends to submerge into the murky waters when spotted, leaving a trail of bubbles on the surface. Experts say the animal, tentatively named *Pseudosaurus Evansii*, was trapped in the pond during the geologic past..” Alas, it turned out that the Spring *Folio* covered the date April 1. Therefore, I wouldn't look too hard for the *Pseudosaurus Evansii*.

—Continued on following page



Photos by John Weigel

Presently the pond is part of the Scripps Ranch Maintenance Assessment District and is overseen by Park and Recreation. There are aerators to maintain the oxygen levels and from time-to-time water is added. In a report in 2017, it was stated that the future of the pond will not be affected by the creation of Pure Water North City Pump Station and Pipeline at Miramar Lake. The 48" pipe project will avoid surface impacts to Evans Pond by tunneling under the pond.

Next time you are at the library, you are invited to stop into Grace's Book Nook to purchase duck food and perhaps a book or two. After that, take a stroll around the Pond that has had three names: Evans, Surr and Library.

#### Sources

"Draft Minutes of the Scripps Ranch Planning Group." 04 May 2017, Scripps Ranch.

<https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/170504minutessr.pdf>

"Looking for Ponds." *San Diego Evans/Library*. <http://www.sandiegoponds.info/evans-library-pond>

Schaelchlin, Patricia A. *The Newspaper Barons: A Biography of the Scripps Family*. Published by the San Diego Historical Society in association with Kales Press. 1983.

Todd, Jake. *Scripps Ranch Through the Years: 1890-2010*. (Eagle Scout Project sponsored by the SRCA). 2014.

<https://www.scrippsranch.org/about-srca/scripps-ranch-through-the-years/scripps-ranch-through-the-years-1890-2010/>

## One Book, One San Diego



- Judith Heumann recounts her experiences as a leading activist in the passage of Americans With Disabilities Act.
- Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed collaborated in this graphic novel about growing up in a refugee camp.
- Annette Bay Pimentel tells the true story of Jennifer Keelan who participated in the Capitol Crawl at just eight years old to encourage Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## I'm Glad I Read This Book

**Two books: The French resistance effort during World War II—one fiction, one biography**

**Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See* (2014), reviewed by Mike Yang**

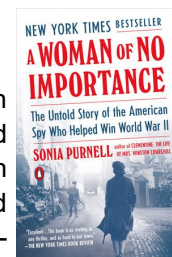
I'm a very picky reader who gets totally entwined in my reads by "becoming" the characters and feeling all the after effects as well. I usually avoid Pulitzer Prize winners for they're often erudite and boring! This book changed my mind. In this exceptional 2015 Pulitzer winner, author Doerr weaves a fine fuzzy fabric using threads from the lives of a blind Parisian girl-child and a genius German orphan boy.

the resulting tapestry made me feel blind but empowered, smart but frustrated. If you can stand the slow emotional twisting in the wind, wondering what precious nugget of feeling will spread over you in the next chapter, this book is for you too. For now, think about this: blind teenage "Résistance" girl crosses paths with a young intelligent German radio operator hunting for illegal transmitters in occupied France. That's just one thread!



**Sonia Purnell's *A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II* (2019), reviewed by Diane Rider**

This is the true story of the American Virginia Hall who changed the course of the Second World War in 1942. She became the first woman deployed to occupied France to join the United Kingdom's clandestine Special Operations. Her talent for espionage caused the Gestapo to send out an urgent transmission: "She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her." Virginia Hall's amazing story is a page-turner as the author reveals the obstacles she overcame of constant danger, deprivation and a prosthetic leg. Virginia Hall was one of the greatest spies in American history, yet her story has remained largely untold.





# Reinventing Christmas

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



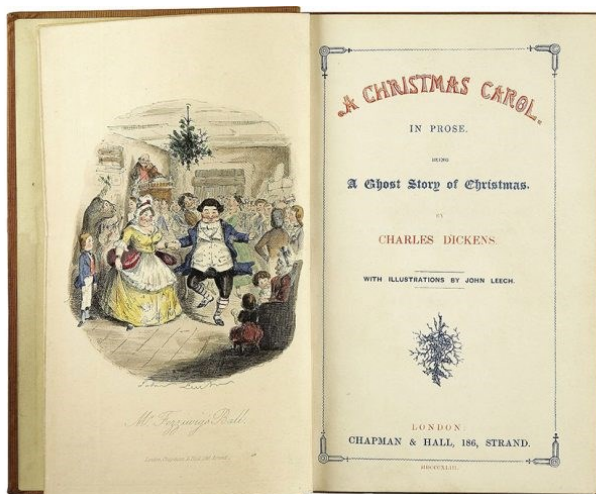
In 1822, the Reverend Clement Clarke Moore, a literature professor at a theological seminary in New York City, wrote for his children what many believe is the best-known poem in the English language, “A Visit from Saint Nicholas.”

Usually titled “The Night Before Christmas,” Moore’s verses powerfully influenced the iconography of Santa Claus — his plump and jolly white-bearded look, his means of transportation, the names of his reindeer, and the tradition of his delivering toys to boys and girls on Christmas Eve. On the night before Christmas, many parents read this poem to their children.



Later in the 19th century, another New Yorker, Thomas Nast, enlarged the image of Santa Claus with his artist’s pen and brush. Santa Claus had been represented in various ways, but Nast, known as The Father of the American Cartoon, influenced by the “right jolly old elf” depicted in Moore’s poem, created the figure we know today.

Over the course of 30 years of drawing for *Harper’s Weekly* magazine, Nast baked into our culture his image of Santa Claus — his jolly girth, his white beard and moustache, his bright red-and-white-trimmed coat, trousers, and hat, his black belt and boots, and his sack of toys. He also drew Mrs. Claus and set the Clauses’ workshop at the North Pole.



In 1843, across the sea in England, Charles Dickens gave the world *A Christmas Carol*. The influence of that Christmas present is towering. The story’s glowing message — the importance of charity and good will toward all humankind — struck a resonant chord in England and the U.S. and deepened the celebration of the holiday. Although Christmases in eastern England were rarely snowy, Dickens’s backdrop of a blizzardy London in his *Carol* stuck with readers and helped create our expectations of a “White Christmas.”

Without Charles Dickens, Christmas today might still be a relatively minor holiday with no carolers and no large family gatherings for turkey dinners.



Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library  
10301 Scripps Lake Drive  
San Diego, CA 92131

[www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org)

*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:	Jan McGinn	Pleasure of Your Company:	Gary Letchinger
Vice-President:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Grace's Book Nook/Publicity:	Joan Reese
Secretary:	Ollie Smoot	Courtyard Project:	Jan McGinn
Treasurer:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Folio Editor:	Diane Rider
Social Media:	Prasanna Madabushi	Fundraising:	Mike Yang
Membership:	Janet Weigel		

Join or renew on line at [www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org)  
or mail: SRFOL Membership

10301 Scripps Lake Drive, San Diego, CA 92131

**Our Library needs Friends like you!**

#### Membership and Renewal Form for Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library

Membership year is January 1 to December 31

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Individual Student/Senior \$5    ☐ Individual Adult \$10    ☐ Family (Dual Adult) \$20  
☐ Dual Student/Senior \$10    ☐ Individual Sponsor \$50    ☐ Contributor/Business \$100  
☐ Individual Lifetime \$250    ☐ Individual Patron Lifetime \$1000  
☐ Any additional amount you may wish to contribute (amount of donation: \_\_\_\_\_ )  
☐ **I would like to volunteer. (email [membership@srfol.org](mailto:membership@srfol.org) or call 858-538-8158.)**

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).