

## Volunteers Honored at June Luncheon



The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library recently honored their volunteers with a luncheon—having resumed this tradition after a two-year pause. The SRFOL Board (who of course are volunteers themselves) went all-out with a delicious menu from a local restaurant and beautiful table decorations created by JoAnn Sloan.

Many of those honored were Book Nook volunteers. These dedicated people expressed their delight in interactions with library patrons and consider it a most rewarding volunteer activity. In addition,

there are many other volunteers who contribute their time and talent in the following ways:

- Serving on the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library Board
- Creating and maintaining the website
- Keeping the Facebook Page and other Social Media up to date
- Editing the *Folio* and preparing it for distribution
- Creating publicity articles for neighborhood, city and county publications
- Creating posters for display and for the electronic bulletin board
- Organizing *The Pleasure of Your Company* Sunday concerts
- Collaborating with library staff to plan events
- Leading the library book discussion group
- Designing and decorating the display at the entrance of the library
- Keeping the financial books and overseeing how our funds are spent including utilizing matching funds to augment our donations.
- Advocating for libraries and representing SRFOL at community events
- Raising revenue through book sales, bookplates, membership and donations
- Maintaining the data base of members and participants through Excel and Constant Contact.



Without these volunteers, our beautiful library would not be as fine as it is today. Your help is always needed. Right now there are vacancies coming up in the Book Nook, and available Board positions are Secretary, Membership Correspondent, and Publicity. To volunteer for the Book Nook, email [booknook@srfol.org](mailto:booknook@srfol.org) or call Joan Reese at 858-663-8828. If you are interested and you would like to know more about Board positions, email [president@srfol.org](mailto:president@srfol.org) or call Jan McGinn at 858-337-6344.

## Events for Children and Youths

**Storytime:** Wednesdays, 10 am. We will meet in the community room with Miss Melissa or Miss Jennifer.

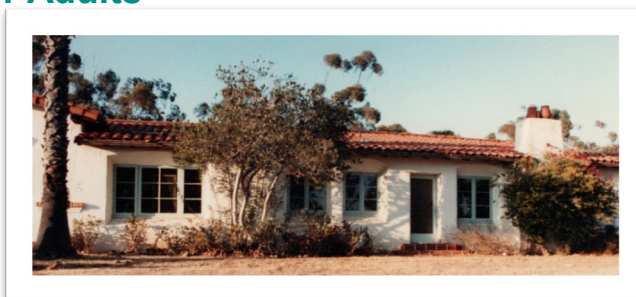
**StoryBox Theatre:** Tues., Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, 3:00 pm. Presented by WriteOutLoud San Diego, StoryBox (also known as kamishibai) combines dramatic storytelling with a wooden theatre to showcase illustrations in an engaging family-friendly Storytime experience.

**Craft Program with ToshWerks:** Wednesdays., Sept. 14, 28; Oct. 5, 19; Nov. 2, 3:30 pm. Join us and local artists for a fun, hands-on DIY crafty project recommended for ages 8 and up. Supplies for the workshop will be provided. Must pre-register line. <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/> (funded by Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library).

**Do Your Homework at the Library:** Mon.–Thurs., 3–6 pm, Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

## Programs for Adults

**Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Tour:** Sept. 17, 10 am. Join Branch Manager Matt Beatty on a tour of our library and learn the history of the Meanley house (photo) that stood nearby and of Scripps Ranch's beginnings.



**Smart Ways to Fight Food Waste:** Sat., Nov. 5, 10 am. Solana Center presents tips on saving money and helping to save the environment.

**Birdwalk:** Sat., Nov. 12. Join local birder Mary Cairns as she describes area native bird habits and identifies birds on and above Evans Pond.

**Library Book Discussion Group:** Wednesdays at 6:45 on Zoom. Sept. 28, *Tunnel* by Helena Merriman; Oct. 26, *Don't Sleep, There Are Snakes* by Daniel Everett; Nov. 9, *Being Heumann* by Judith Heumann.

**Mindful Meditation:** Mondays, 2 pm. Led by Dr. Wendy. This class, sponsored by the SRFOL, includes guided imagery and contract/relaxation exercises.

**Fun and Games for Seniors:** Tuesdays 12:30–3 pm; Thursdays, 10 am–12 pm. Play a variety of board games in our library. Presented by *SRCA 50 Plus*.

**Sustainable Scripps Ranch** presents the following programs in the Community Room of the library:

**So Building Electrification Coalition:** Fri., Sept. 16, 10 am. Benefits of Home Electrification for Health, Climate and More.

**Tree San Diego-Planting for the Future:** Fri., Sept. 30, 10 am.

**How to Recycle Right:** Fri., Oct. 7, 10 am. San Diego Environmental Services.

**Successful Fall Vegetable Planting:** Sat., Oct. 15, 1:30 pm. Farmer Roy Wilburn will discuss soil preparation, varietal selections and fertilization of fall and winter crops.

**Amateur Telescopes 101:** Sat., Oct., 22, 10 am. San Diego Astronomy Association presents a discussion about the pros and cons of available amateur telescopes and what you can see with them.

**Amazing World of Bats, Nature's Tiny Fighter Jets:** Fri., Nov. 4, 10 am. Bats! They feature incredible skills of flight and acoustic navigation. These incredible flyers contribute to our environment in many ways.

**The following sources will keep you up to date with any additions or changes to our library schedule of events.**

Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library website, [www.srfol.org](http://www.srfol.org)

Facebook: @ScrippsMiramarRanchLibrary, @SDPLVirtualHub, @GracesBookNook

Instagram: @srfolibrary, @sdpubliclibrary, @sdplteens

San Diego Public Library listing my branches, <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/>



## The Pleasure of Your Company

Sundays at 2:30 pm in the Library Community Room

### September 11: San Diego Jewish Men's Choir.

This award-winning and Billboard Charting group will present an afternoon of uplifting Jewish music in a variety of languages including English, Yiddish, Ladino and Hebrew. Sing and clap along as the group lends their unique blend of class and schmaltz to this wonderful music!"



**October 9: 8 Plus 88 Piano Trio.** Enjoy an afternoon of *Fantasies and Dances*, featuring music by Turina, Bridge, Brahms, Dvorak, and more! This trio consists of well-known San Diego musicians: Alyze Dreiling (violin), Lorie Kirkell (cello), and Steve Gray (piano).



**November 13. Peter Sprague Trio:** Get ready for some cool jazz with Peter Sprague on the guitar, vocalist Rebecca Jade, and Tripp Sprague playing sax. Each of these musicians is well-known on the San Diego music scene and recognized for their excellence!

Patrons' donations are tax deductible and help make it possible to bring such outstanding musicians to our stage.



## BOOKPLATES



### *Say Goodbye to Summer and Hello to Fall!*

Why not donate a Cool Bookplate for a Cool Friend or Family Member?

You and your family love to spend time here at the library and make use of the wonderful resources.

Why not make a more permanent mark to benefit future readers?

By requesting a Special Bookplate in their name, our neighborhood branch of the library will receive a new book for our collection.

A tax-deductible minimum donation of \$25.00 will honor a loved one in a unique way.

**For more information and Order forms please visit our website:**

<https://www.srfol.org/bookplates.htm>

## Say It Loud Crew

Jimmy Lovett Jr. led the *Say It Loud Crew* in an hour long production that celebrated Juneteenth and Black Music Month. The program offered oral history, dance and song to educate and entertain.

Jimmy Lovett Jr. (front left) has worked for the San Diego Library system for over 25 years. He states, “Every day I give my mind, body and soul to my passion which is serving people.”



## Passport to Books

Six year old Arya proudly poses to show her Kids Passport. She needs only one more stamp to win a prize. That won't be difficult because her father tells us that she reads through a bag of books every week. Great going, Arya!

## Grace's Book Nook: the Used Bookstore in our Library



For fantastic bargains on nearly new and gently used books, shop at Grace's Book Nook for all your reading needs. The Book Nook stocks a range of fiction and non-fiction for all ages and tastes, plus CDs, DVDs, magazines and greeting cards—all at amazing prices—and even special duck food for our feathered friends in Evans Pond. Your tax-deductible donations of gently used books and media are always welcome. Please bring these to the library circulation desk. All Book Nook proceeds support our library.

### Book Nook Hours

Monday-Saturday  
Allow 30 min after library opens and  
30 minutes before closing

Expanded Shopping in “annex”  
Wed. until 2 pm, all day Friday

Pop-Up Book Sale  
2nd Sat. of every month  
10 am—2 pm



## Haunted Libraries—It's Not Only the Books That Attract Visitors

by Diane Rider

Like the Whaley House in Old Town, various libraries around the world are reputed to harbor ghosts! The most common happenings are eerie feelings, books falling, or hearing footsteps.

Close to home is the California State Library in Sacramento. "When I'm alone, walking through the stacks, especially looking through some of our older collections, there is an eeriness that I feel from time to time," reported a library technician. Others have reported unexplained noises, unexplained drafts, a book that couldn't be found on the shelf, and then..... there it was! A ghost with glasses (who knew?) was once reported in the California History Section. These experiences seem to hover around the sections that contain the oldest volumes. Recently two librarians compiled the rumors and created "The Ghost File." It is an online exhibit about these historical legends and sightings over the years.



Traveling halfway around the world, a famously haunted library is the National Library of Kolkata, India; built in 1883. There are numerous testimonials from people sharing their experiences of eerie happenings such as the feeling of someone breathing down their neck—and especially if books were not replaced in the proper place! Others have heard footsteps, or chairs being drawn away, or the sound of ruffling papers when they were unaware of another person in the vicinity.

The rumors of hauntings in Kolkata were accelerated in 2010, when during a restoration of the library, a hidden chamber of about 1000 square feet with no door or trapdoor was discovered. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) dismissed the rumors that it had been a torture chamber or a place to store hidden treasure. ASI reported it was an architectural benefit and nothing else. Nevertheless, people came up with their own theories—the result being that the library has a reputation of being haunted and is visited by some for that reason alone. However, no malevolent incidents have occurred within the library walls, and any ghostly happenings apparently have been of a friendly nature.



As the mysterious events of the Kolkata library inspire the curious as well as book lovers, so is it with the Willard Public Library in Evansville, Indiana. The Victorian Gothic architecture contributes to the spookiness and according to the library, it is haunted by the Lady in Grey. The first sighting was reported in 1937 by a custodian working on the coal furnace in the library's basement.

Over the years, various staff members and visitors of Willard Library have reported seeing or sensing this ghost in different areas of the library. The Lady in Grey is alleged to be the daughter of the founder, Willard Carpenter. Because of their rocky relationship, he excluded her from his will. Now she haunts the library seeking what she believes should be hers. Among the unexplained occurrences are water turned on or off, smell of musky perfume, noises, and odd items found in the library. Capitalizing on this reputation, in October the library announces Ghost Tours that are gleefully attended by hundreds of curious individuals.

Some library staff in Scottsdale, Arizona have also experienced "creepy feelings" and unexplained voices. For this reason or perhaps to enhance their fall schedule of programs, the public was invited to participate free of charge in a paranormal investigation of two of their branches. The volunteer investigation team toured these libraries and took audio samples that the library posted on its website. The supranatural findings were inconclusive, but patron participation increased by two-fold.

Although our Scripps Ranch Library is rich in history, there are no rumors of any apparitions, and all the falling books and echoing footsteps can be attributed to clumsy hands and heavy feet. Nevertheless, in past years, the Teen Council created "The Haunted Library." The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library contributed funds to cover the expenses for the materials to make even our library say "Boo!" to delighted children.

*Consulted sources are listed on the following page.*

### Selected Works Cited for *Haunted Libraries*

Awesome, Melissa. "Meet Evansville's most notorious ghost." *103GBF*. 25 Feb. 2021.  
<https://103gbfrocks.com/meet-evansvilles-most-notorious-ghost-the-grey-lady/>

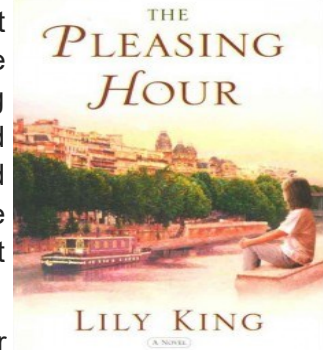
"The Ghost File." *California State Library*. 2020. <https://www.library.ca.gov/collections/online-exhibits/ghost-file/>

National Library, Kolkata: "the ghostly secrets behind the largest library of India!" *The Socians*.  
<https://www.thesocians.com/post/national-library-kolkata-the-ghostly-secrets-behind-the-largest-library-of-india>

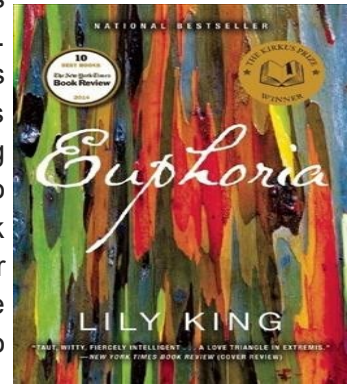
### I'm Glad I Read These Books

#### Two very different books by the same author, reviewed by Earlene Dunbar

Lily King instantly became an award-winning author with the debut of her first novel, *The Pleasing Hour* (2000). Her exquisite use of the written word captures the attention of the reader on the first page and the journey through the following pages. The young protagonist takes a job as an au pair with a Parisian family, and what unfolds is an emotionally suspenseful story of exclusion, loneliness and survival. For her first novel, King received "A New York Times Notable Book of the Year" award. It is a book that compels the reader to keep turning the pages, but that urge slows toward the ending so as not to leave the lives of the characters.



In the second book I read by Lily King, *Euphoria* (2014), she once again uses her ability to economically depict the landscape and personalities of the characters and settings. It is based on the challenges of three anthropologists in the 1930's. She brilliantly raises the moral contradictions encountered by anthropologists as they studied remote tribes in New Guinea. Although a work of fiction, it was inspired by Jane Howard's 1984 biography *Margaret Mead: A Life*. After reading that, King went on to research the three anthropologists, Margaret Mead, Reo Fortune, and Gregory Bateson and their few months together in 1933 on the Sepik River of what was then called the Territory of New Guinea. As she states in her Acknowledgements, she borrowed from the lives and experiences of these three people, but she has told a different story. It's a book that once begun is difficult to put down.



#### *Our Woman in Moscow* by Beatriz Williams Reviewed by Anne McClure

I'm glad I read *Our Woman in Moscow* (2021). It is a cold war thriller and family drama based loosely on a British spy ring active during and right after WWII.

The story is told in alternating chapters by two non-identical twin sisters: Ruth Macalister and Iris Macalister Digby. The sisters are estranged from 1940 to 1952, when Ruth receives a postcard from Iris. Iris, her diplomat husband, and young child had disappeared from their London flat in 1948, and now she needs her sister's help getting out of Moscow.

This espionage story takes off with multiple curveballs along the way and time switches between 1940, 1948, and 1952. I appreciate that the author showcases strong women, and develops Ruth and Iris as believable characters. She keeps the story lines clear and deftly portrays both the diplomatic world in London and the personal lives of Ruth and Iris. The double agents and spies who populate the book can be confusing at times. Overall, though, I thoroughly enjoyed this suspenseful tale that illuminated postwar aspects of life in both England and the United States.

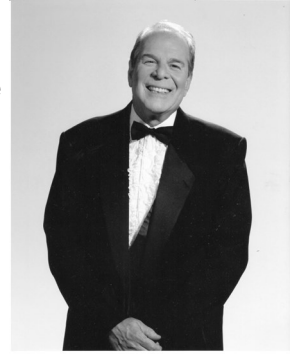


## THE ART OF INVECTIVE

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

Sigmund Freud declared, "The first human being who hurled a curse instead of a spear was the founder of civilization." Through the centuries, we humans have exercised our highest powers of linguistic license and verbal vituperation by hurling incandescently inventive invective at each other:

- I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it. -Groucho Marx
- His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork. -Mae West
- He has van Gogh's ear for music. -Billy Wilder
- Women who want to be equal with men lack ambition. -Timothy Leary
- Prince Charles's ears are so big, he could hang-glide over the Falklands. -Joan Rivers



Groucho Marx once wrote to a novelist: "From the moment I picked up your book, I was convulsed with laughter. One day I intend to read it." Authors are especially adept at skewering other authors:

- Truman Capote on Jack Kerouac's work: "That's not writing! That's typing!"
- Gore Vidal on Truman Capote: "Capote I truly loathed. The way you might loathe an animal. A filthy animal that has found its way into the house."
- Mary McCarthy on Lillian Hellman: "Every word she writes is a lie, including *and* and *the*."
- Ruth Rendell on Agatha Christie: "To say that Agatha Christie's characters are cardboard cut-outs is an insult to cardboard cut-outs."
- Norman Mailer on J.D. Salinger: "I seem to be alone in finding him no more than the greatest mind ever to stay in prep school."
- William Faulkner on Ernest Hemingway: "He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."
- and Ernest Hemingway on William Faulkner: "Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?"
- Virginia Woolf on Henry James: "I am reading Henry James, and feel myself as one entombed in a block of smooth amber."
- Mark Twain on James Fenimore Cooper: "There are a lot of daring people in the world who claimed that Cooper could write English, but they're all dead now."
- George Bernard Shaw on William Shakespeare: "With the single exception of Homer, there is no eminent writer, not even Sir Walter Scott, whom I can despise so entirely as I despise Shakespeare when I measure my mind against his."



Ernest Hemingway

William Faulkner

Lillian Hellman

Norman Mailer



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San Diego, CA 92131

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

<https://www.facebook.com/srfolibrary/>

Instagram @srfolibrary

858-538-8158

*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	Grace's Book Nook/Publicity:	Joan Reese
Vice-President:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Pleasure of Your Company:	Gary Letchinger
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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).