

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

Volume 33, Issue 1 Spring 2023

Library Perks—Did You Know?

California State Park Pass

Ask at the desk to check out a California State Park pass. It entitles the user to a free day-use entry for one vehicle or one highway licensed motorcycle. San Diego County has 13 participating parks https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30813. These parks range from Cardiff to Border Field and include Palomar Mountain, Torrey Pines and the Anza-Borrego Desert. Outside of San Diego County, there are 200 participating parks that range up the coast, into the mountains and across to the desert. The usual fee is from \$5.00 to \$10.00. You can use the pass for 14 days, and it cannot be renewed.



Mobile Hotspot

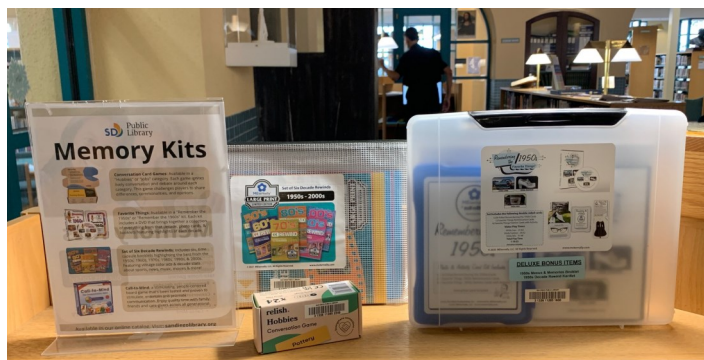
While checking out your California State Park Pass, why not also check out a mobile hotspot. With this device one can get free Wi-Fi at home or wherever your travels take you as long as the location has wireless internet access. Anyone ages 12 and older who has a San Diego library card can check out a hotspot for up to 30 days. Anyone under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the library's Wi-Fi Hotspot Use Agreement.

Memory Kits

With millions of people in the United States suffering the effects of dementia, San Diego Public Library now offers these kits to the branch libraries. The games, conversation starters and DVDs are designed to stimulate, entertain, and promote communication.

The kit contains 4 activities. There is a conversational card game and a board game that create communication for all ages.

The kit also includes a DVD that highlights events from a chosen decade between the 1950s to the 2000s. A booklet features vintage color ads and information about sports, news, music, movies and more. These activities inspire fun conversations—making it easier to enjoy quality time with family, friends and caregivers of all generations. The kits can be checked out for 30 days and renewed 5 times.



Seed Library



Our Seed Library is a repository that shares free seeds for vegetables, flowers, and other garden plants. It was established by Sustainable Scripps Ranch, sponsored by SRFOL and managed by library staff. Participants can obtain seeds from this library, but also patrons are invited to donate seeds to help maintain the inventory. More information is available at our website <https://www.srfol.org/seed-library.htm>.

Did you hear the one about the man who entered a library and said, "I would like a hotdog please." The Librarian answered, "Sir, this is a Library." The man whispered, "Oh, I would like a hotdog please."

HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY TO OUR LIBRARY

by Jan McGinn

Do you remember the book brigade moving materials from the temporary location to the new library? That was just the beginning of our community's continual support and passion for our library.



For 30 years, our library has been the center of our neighborhood. A place for little ones to explore. For kids and teens to visit after school for homework help. For adults to continue their love of reading. For scouts, social groups, and community groups to gather and host meetings and events. And for music aficionados, the Sunday concerts.



As our small community has grown to over 12,500 households, our library has grown as well. Today, it offers an enhanced book collection, more activities for kids and adults, frequent book sales, a computer lab, stronger Wi-Fi, an adorably-fun children's section, a refreshed-relaxing courtyard, and more!

LET'S CELEBRATE

Instead of just one event in our anniversary month of March, we are spreading the celebration throughout the year. After 30 years, we have a lot to celebrate!

Special Anniversary events on March 15

Friends of the Library are sponsoring the children's author, illustrator, and Disney animator Benson Shum, author of *Anzu the Great Kaiju* and *Anzu the Great Listener*, for two special programs.

- First, a special story hour and book signing at 10:00 AM with treats (!), and it is open to all.
- Second, the local 2nd and 3rd grade classes were invited to come to the library and learn to draw Anzu. There will be take home books for their classrooms, courtesy of the Friends of the Library.
- Other gatherings include reminisces from the community, installing new carpeting in the community room, launching the new Idea Lab, hosting a social event in the Fall, and more! Stay tuned for details as we move ahead.

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't already, now's a great time to renew or donate and be a part of the 30th celebration! It's easy! Mail-in the completed form on Page 8, or, pay online at www.srfol.org/join.

We ask...

- What has our library meant to you?
- What memories do you fondly recall?
- What would you like to see in the next 5-10 years?

Email your responses to president@srfol.org

Events for Children and Youths—sponsored by SRFOL marked *

Storytime: Every Wed. and 1st and 3rd Thurs. of every month, 10 am. It is for toddlers and preschoolers.

***Pajama Storytime:** Tues., March 7, 6 pm. This special program includes American Sign Language. PJs are optional but welcome.

Kamishibai StoryBox Theatre: 2nd Tues. of the month, 3 pm. Storytelling with a wooden theatre is an engaging family-friendly Storytime experience.

***Craft programs with ToshWerks:** Wed., March 8 and 22, 4 pm. Ages 8 and up. More dates TBA. Registration required. <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/>

Girls Who Code Club: Mondays, 3/13, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 6 pm. Grades 3-12.

***Mini-Movers and Music:** Mondays, March 13 and 27, 11:30 am.

***Library's 30 Birthday Special with Benson Shum:** Wed., March 15, (See page 2)

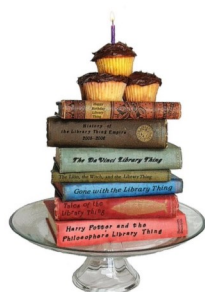
***Art Class with Art Smarts - Axolotl:** Thurs., March 16, 4 pm. More dates TBA. Fun, exciting one-hour art class for ages 5 – 17. Supplies provided, but limited; first come, first served.

***Physics Crash Test Workshop with the Fleet Science Center:** Sat., March 25, 10 am; grades 4-9. Registration required: <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/>

Do Your Homework @ the Library: Monday-Thursday, 3-6 pm. Grades K-8.

Spring into STEAM: Geology Rocks! Sat., April 22, 10 am. Ages 9-12. Hands-on activities with the Fleet Science Center. Registration required: <https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/>

Free Comic Book Day: Sat., May 6.



Programs for Adults

***Mindful Meditation:** Mondays, 1 pm. Led by “Dr. Wendy.” It includes guided imagery and contraction/relaxation exercises.

Spring Bird Talk (and possible Walk): Sat. March 4, 10 am. With avid birdwatcher Mary Cairns.

***Library Book Discussion Group:** Wednesdays, 6:45 pm. March 22, *Ninth House* by Leigh Bardugo; April 26, *The Premonition* by Michael Lewis; May 24, *West with Giraffes* by Linda Rutledge.

Aging Successfully: Lectures are offered some Fridays, 10 am. Check the monthly library calendar for exact topics and dates. Sponsored by SRCA 50 Plus.

Fun and Games for Seniors: Tuesdays, 12:30-3:00 pm, Thurs. 10-12 pm. Sponsored by SRCA 50 Plus.

The following events are sponsored by Sustainable Scripps Ranch (SSR).

- **Composting Methods that Work for You:** Sat., March 18, 10 am.
- **Garden Share-Courtyard:** Sat., March 18, 11am-1pm.
- **Companion Planting and Crop Rotation:** Tues., March 28, 6 pm.
- **Climate Presentation:** Fri., March 17, 10 am. Inflation Reduction Act, tax breaks, rebates and more.
- **Honey Bees:** Sat., April 15, 1:30 pm.
- **Understanding Your Soil and How it Nourishes your Plants:** Sat., May 19, 10 am.



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

Facebook: @ScrippsMiramarRanchLibrary,

Instagram: @srfolibrary, @SDPLVirtualHub

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

Fun with Artificial Intelligence (AI)

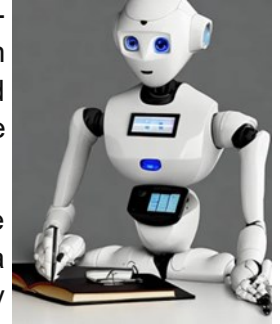
by Diane Rider

“The greatest danger of Artificial Intelligence is that people conclude too early that they understand it.”

—Eliezer Yudkowsky

Very few of us would contend that we understand AI, but the latest developments are astonishing—I’m talking about computer programs that can compose an essay and other programs that can create pictures.

David Pogue of *CBS News* (Jan. 22, 2023) had this to say, “*ChatGPT* is artificial intelligence that writes for you, any kind of writing you like – letters, song lyrics, research papers, recipes, therapy sessions, poems, essays, outlines, even software code. And despite its clunky name (GPT stands for Generative Pre-trained Transformer), within five days of its launch, more than a million people were using it.”



Joining those million plus people, I tried it. First I discovered that there were multiple free websites that offered the service. Secondly I found some surprisingly easy to use. On a website named *rytr.me*, I selected “paragraph” as my format. Then I was asked to supply 4 words—so I typed in *library, books, learning, quiet*. Almost instantly the following paragraph appeared.

Visiting a library is an incredible way to learn about the world around you. Libraries are filled with books, magazines, and other resources that can help you gain knowledge on a variety of topics. Plus, it’s a great place to find some peace and quiet. Whether you’re looking for something to read or just want to take some time away from the hustle and bustle of daily life, visiting a library is always a great idea.

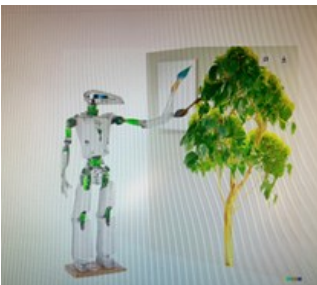
WOW! That was fun! I decided to try it again. This time I put in *Evans Pond, eucalyptus, egret, ducks, Scripps Ranch*. The computer/robot wrote:

Evans Pond is a tranquil spot in the heart of Scripps Ranch. This picturesque pond is surrounded by lush eucalyptus trees, providing a peaceful atmosphere for visitors to enjoy. It’s also home to ducks and egrets, making it a great place for birdwatching. Whether you’re looking for a quiet place to relax or an opportunity to spot some wildlife, Evans Pond is the perfect destination.



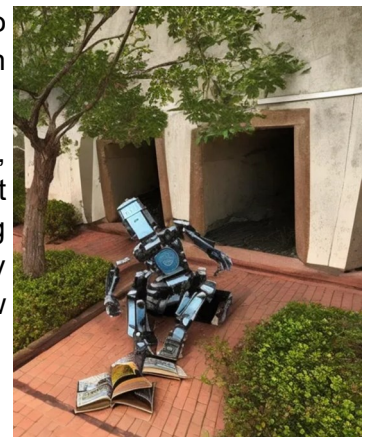
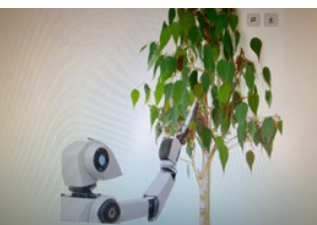
Then I moved on to the image generating programs. These websites can create realistic images and art from a description in natural language. My first effort was with **Starryai**. This program prompted me to supply a few words pertaining to the picture to be created. I submitted *robot* and *writing*. The result was cute, but too generic. (See above)

On my second try, using **DALL-E**, I was asked for a sentence to describe the purpose. I submitted *robot painting a eucalyptus tree*. In response, the AI gives 4 or more creations among which to choose. (See left).



Next, using **Starryai** again, I inserted a photo of our library’s courtyard and requested *robot reading*. That too appeared, and although it is somewhat distorted, one can see that it is our library’s courtyard.

Much is being written now about the pros and the cons, the delight and the horror of these developments. I don’t know enough, nor do I have a crystal ball to see the long term changes that AI will create. I will end by merely saying—it was a lot of fun doing “hands on” with this new technology.



The Pleasure of Your Company

Sundays at 2:30 pm in the Library Community Room

March 12, “The Pleasure of Your Company” concert series, sponsored by Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library welcomes back the **Grigorian-Gubenko Piano Duo**. Join us for an “Afternoon in Paris” featuring a delightful program of piano four-hands music.

Anna Grigorian, was born in the Republic of Georgia. She studied music from a young age. She moved to the U.S. in 1995 and now lives and teaches in Carlsbad, CA. **Natasha Gubenko** was born into a family of musicians in the Ukraine. She moved to California in 2000 and now teaches piano in her private studio in Irvine.



April 16, The **Lori Bell Trio** consists of award winning musicians **Lori Bell**, flute; **Ron Satterfield**, guitar/vocals; and pianist/percussionist, **Tommy Aros**.

Lori Bell has been collaborating with singer/guitarist Ron Satterfield and Tommy Aros for many years as the Trio de Janeiro. They present a high energy, Brazilian tinged, jazz with original compositions and influences from Brazilian folk music to James Taylor.

Bell is a three time Global Music Award winner and has performed at venues such as Los Angeles Philharmonic Music Library. **Satterfield** has won numerous awards for his composing and arranging. For 20 years **Aros** toured worldwide with Latin superstar Luis Miguel. He recorded on seven of Luis Miguel's CD's which won six Grammy's.



May 21, The **Aviara Trio** features **Erin Breene** on cello, **Ines Irawati** on piano, and **Robert Schumitzky** on his 1694 Stradivarius violin. Winners of numerous chamber music awards, they are well-known for their classical music, but they can also delight with such numbers as the theme from *Game of Thrones*.

Schumitzky has played first violin for Orange County's Pacific Symphony and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra. **Irawati**, born in Indonesia, has won numerous awards. She performed in many venues including Carnegie Hall before becoming a vocal coach at Point Loma Nazarene University. **Breene** received her Master's of Music degree at the Juilliard School. She performs with chamber groups and orchestras including the San Diego Symphony.



MASKS ARE REQUIRED. There is no charge for the concerts which are sponsored by Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, although donations (at the door or anytime!) are appreciated to help us continue to bring fine music to our community. Donations are tax-deductible and any amount are most welcome. Donors of \$35 or more will be acknowledged in the printed program. Consider sponsoring a concert for a donation of only \$500. All donations are tax-deductible.

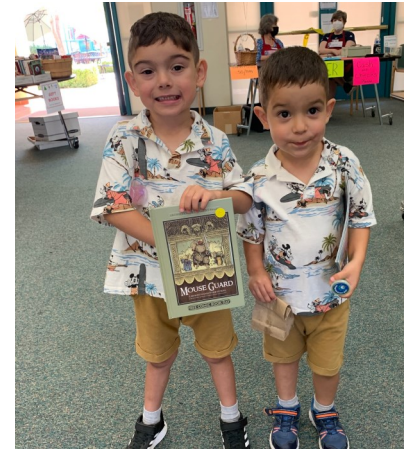
The February Big Yellow Bag Booksale Was a Big Success



Many patrons such as Desmond and Louis (pictured at right) were pleased with their books. Books, DVD's, record albums and more were purchased at bargain prices.

Maestras of organization and enthusiasm, Marcia Gwin, Nancy Kohutek, Beth Surrell and their team of twenty volunteers devoted more than 90 volunteer hours over two days to host this event. It is estimated that over 2000 items flew off the shelves and tables.

A special thank you goes to Stanley Steemer who provides the yellow bags!



Mark your calendars for the next Yellow Bag Book Sale on August 26.

Book Nook Hours

Monday-Saturday: Library Hours

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

Pop-Up Book Sale

2nd Sat. of every month
10 am—2 pm

Book Nook

Did you know that our Book Nook was the first permanent used bookstore in a public library in the county? Be sure to stop by each time you are at the library. The stock is constantly updated and you will find amazing bargains.

Your tax-deductible donations of gently used books, media, and puzzles are always appreciated. Please deliver your donations to the front desk.

Bookplates: A fun way to celebrate!

Spring is in the air and special celebrations are to be had!

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library is celebrating its 30th birthday in the month of March. Why not join the fun and donate a special gift to someone who is celebrating too? Your donation of \$25 for a unique Bookplate will not only Honor the recipient, but will also benefit our neighborhood library with a new book for our collection for future Bookworms to enjoy!

For more information and Order Forms, please visit our website:

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

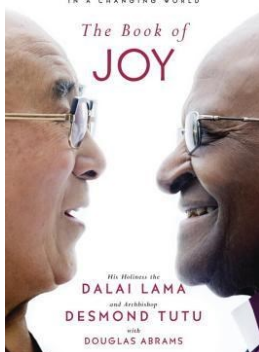


Mother's Day

I'm Glad I Read This Book

The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World (2016)

by Dalai Lama XIV and Desmond Tutu, suggested by Marty Salkin



This is one of my all time favorite books. It's written by two amazing men, the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Although they are both religious men, this is not a book about any specific religion, but about how to find our joy, even during the darkest of times. I keep the book within reach.

The basis of the book was a gathering for a birthday party in Dharamsala. As stated in Good-Reads, *From the beginning the book was envisioned as a three-layer birthday cake: their own stories and teachings about joy, the most recent findings in the science of deep happiness, and the daily practices that anchor their own emotional and spiritual lives. Both the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu have been tested by great personal and national adversity, and here they share their personal stories of struggle and renewal.*

A Stampede of Irish Bulls

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

To err is human, to share humor, bovine. So here I am throwing some bull — not just any kind of bull, but, in honor of Saint Patrick's Day (coming up on March 17), an Irish bull. And while I'm at it, I'll round up a herd of Irish bulls.

What's an Irish bull? I'm glad I asked me that. Some dismiss it as a silly blunder born on the Emerald Isle. Others more describe an Irish bull as a statement fueled by a delightful absurdity that sparks forth a memorable truth, such as Oscar Wilde's spot-on "I can resist anything but temptation."

When asked the difference between an Irish bull and any other kind of bull, Professor John Pentland Mahaffey of Dublin University replied, "An Irish bull is always pregnant," providing a definition that is itself an example. Irish politics, literature, and folklore are replete with pronouncements that jump to a confusion:



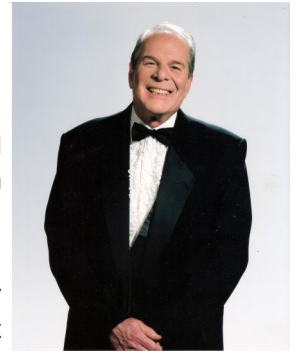
- An Irishman is never at peace except when he's fighting.
- An Irishman will die before letting himself be buried outside of Ireland.
- I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous.
- Your Honor, I was sober enough to know I was drunk.
- Gentleman, it appears to be unanimous that we cannot agree.
- Thank God I'm an atheist.
- God bless the Holy Trinity.
- May you never live to see your wife a widow.
- He is the kind of opponent who would stab you in front of your face and then stab you in the chest when your back is turned.

Any assumptions that the Irish have cornered the bull market are completely unwarranted. Some of the best specimens of taurine eloquence thrive far from the green fields of Ireland. Jazz pianist and composer Eubie Blake, who lived to the age of ninety-six, began smoking at six and refused to drink water. He observed, "If I had known I was going to live this long, I'd have taken better care of myself."

Here are a few more examples of corn-fed American bulls:

- Always be sincere, even if you don't mean it. -*Harry S. Truman*
- My vision is to make California the most diverse state on earth, and we have people from every planet on the earth in this state. -*Governor Gray Davis*
- I think that gay marriages are something that should be between a man and a woman. -*Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger*
- There are known knowns. These are things that we know we know. There are known unknowns. That is to say, there are things that we know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns. There are things we don't know we don't know. -*Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld*
- We have here two incredibly credible witnesses. -*Joe Biden*, who once exclaimed, "That's the most unheard-of thing I ever heard of!"
- Always go to other people's funerals. Otherwise, they won't come to yours. -*baseball legend Yogi Berra*
- Good pitching always stops good hitting, and vice versa. -*Casey Stengel*
- Please accept my resignation. I don't want to belong to any club that will have me as a member -*Groucho Marx*
- It's not that I'm afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens. -*Woody Allen*
- Anybody who goes to a psychiatrist ought to have his head examined. -*Samuel Goldwyn*

This is why the sagacious Hobbes, the insightful tiger who prowled Bill Watterson's late lamented comic strip *Calvin and Hobbes*, once predicted, "We can eventually make a language a complete impediment to everything."





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www.srfol.org

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

Instagram @srfolibrary

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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:	Jan McGinn	Grace's Book Nook/Publicity:	Joan Reese
Vice-President:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Pleasure of Your Company:	Gary Letchinger
Secretary:	(acting) Ollie Smoot	Social Media:	Prasanna Madabushi
Treasurer:	Barbara Thunder-Barnes	Folio Editor:	Diane Rider
Membership Manager:	Ollie Smoot	Book Plates	JoAnn Sloan
Member at Large	Susan Haas		

Join or renew on line at 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 _____

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Student/Senior \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Dual Adult) \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual Student/Senior \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Sponsor \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor/Business \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Lifetime \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Patron Lifetime \$1000 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional amount you may wish to contribute (amount of donation: _____) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer. (email 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).