

# HLF News



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the President's Desk	2
Board of Directors Photo	2
Donor Spotlight	3
Legacy Circle	3
Fortuna Branch Library	4
Thanks to our Donors	5
Your Library's Latest	5
Board of Sponsors	6
Buy a Book Campaign	6
McNaughton Update	7
Book Blurb	7
Board of Directors	8

## Humboldt Library Foundation Presents Check for \$56,230

For its 2015 grant to the Humboldt County Library, the Humboldt Library Foundation presented a \$56,300 check to Victor Zazueta, Director of Library Services.

The grant targets \$50,000 for new books and materials to be circulated system-wide, sets aside \$4,230 for matching grants to branch libraries to purchase popular titles for local patrons and provides \$2,000 for staff development.

“These funds represent nearly one third of the library’s book budget,” said Elizabeth Murguia, HLF President. “Every dollar our donors provide is a boost to the budget and to the enjoyment of patrons across the county.”

“The library relies on the annual grant from HLF to expand our collection and meet the growing demands of patrons,” said Zazueta. “We deeply appreciate the foundation’s ongoing efforts and extend our thanks to everyone who contributes throughout the year,” he added.

The grant was based on funds raised by HLF in 2014. Contributions come from the ever popular Buy a Book campaign, board and gala sponsorships, individual donations and gifts given in memory and honor.

The Humboldt County Library strives to meet the needs of library patrons. With nearly 95,000 library cardholders, over 667,000 items were loaned last year. Circulation is up in all of the branches, the public computers are always in use and the children’s library and young adult section are bustling with activity. In addition to the thousands of books the library offers, there is access to free eBooks and audio books, a large print collection, movies, music and books on DVDs.



Elizabeth Murguia, Victor Zazueta, Marge Custis

Contributions to the Humboldt Library Foundation enrich the lives of our community’s families, students and seniors. Donations can be made easily through the internet at [www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org). Check it out. You can participate in the popular Buy a Book campaign, become a member of the Board of Sponsors or attend HLF events (check the calendar online).

For more information, contact the HLF at 269-1991, friend us on Facebook or visit our website at [www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org).

## From the President's Desk by *Elizabeth Murguia*



*"I declare after all, there is no enjoyment like reading."*

*Jane Austen*

It's been a winter of visits from family and friends, early morning discussions over books read or what absolutely must be read or added to the pile on my night stand. It never seems to diminish in height: one down, two added, in perpetuity. But then, as one ponders the pile, that is the pleasure of being a book omnivore.

I've just devoured David McCullough's *The Greater Journey, Americans in Paris*. Who knew one even cared about Americans who traveled to Paris from the 1830s thru 1900? I wasn't sure it would be me, but I trust McCullough and am interested in history and, well, Paris (who isn't?). But there I was, crossing the Atlantic, risking life and limb on a sailing ship with James Fennimore Cooper and his family to experience a more *enriched* life in Paris. Paris, after all, has held fascination for Americans from our founding – who can forget the accounts of Franklin and Jefferson in Paris, absorbing French culture. From food to art to architecture to politics, this is a fascinating look at American artists, writers, inventors and political figures who were drawn to the City of Lights. It's worth the read alone to learn more about Augustus St. Gaudens, apprenticed to a cameo maker at age 13, to become one of America's most revered sculptors. You'll meet familiar writers, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry James, Mark Twain, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and enjoy McCullough's reverence for American painters George Healy, Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent, Winslow Homer and others. I also came away with a richer sense of the period on both sides of the Atlantic and cleared up my own confusion about that tumultuous period in French history following the Revolution – the Napoleons, the Empires, the Siege of Paris, etc.

If you can bear another book about the horrors of combat during WWI, pick up Pat Barker's two more recent efforts: *Life Class* (2008) and *Toby's Room* (2012). Both deal with human frailty, moral conflict and the effort to reconstruct broken lives in the aftermath of war. Thoughtful and beautifully written, they also delve into the early history of reconstructive facial surgery. Haunting.

Yes, there is no enjoyment like reading. It takes you to places you haven't been and deepens your understanding of the richness and complexities of life. And then, too, the pile on your nightstand gets weeded and grows some more.

### ***Correction:***

Our last newsletter contained an error in the "Discover the Humboldt Room" article. Current Humboldt Room chairs were purchased for the 2005 Decennial Celebration of the Library. Funds were provided by a generous grant from Green Diamond Resources, and local furniture store owner Jack Nash of *Living Styles* provided a significant discount.

## Board of Directors



*Back, Lt to Rt:* Robert Taborski, Susan O'Connor, Chris House, Sara Traphagen, Jeff Todoroff, Jack Irvine, Nancy Frost.  
*Front, Lt to Rt:* Barbara MacTurk, Elizabeth Murguia, Leslie Lollich, Marge Custis, Judy Anderson, Pam Cavanaugh, Chris Jones, Theresa Malloy. *Not pictured:* Peter LaVallee, Sid Noyes, Kelly Sanders, Kathy Murphy

## Donor Spotlight—Susan Hansen

The public library was in the basement of city hall, open three half days per week and you could only check out four books. A voracious young reader, she read 12 books a week to pass summer days in Montpelier, Idaho, a small town in southeast Idaho, probably most distinguished by a visit from those famous bank robbers, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. The young Susan was inspired by a favorite uncle, a chemistry professor, who visited in the summer. He always led with the question, “Where do you want to go to college?” She believes his expectation and confidence in her ability helped set the course – a full scholarship to Reed College in Oregon, a graduate degree and full and satisfying career.

Upon graduation, Susan was hired by Humboldt State University to work in Student Services and at the Career Center (former HLF board member ‘Buzz’ Webb was her boss – a happy partnership that lasted over three decades.) Susan worked at HSU for 38 years; she became director of the Career Center, senior director of Student Affairs and put in a stint at the Student Health Clinic. She still speaks with enthusiasm about those years, helping students realize their career dreams, and the opportunities it provided. Extremely active in her professional organization, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, she traveled extensively and became the regional as well as national board president.

Her legacy is working with organizations that advance women in the workforce and provide for healthy families. She’s an active and long-time board member of Changing Tides and is a member of long-standing of AAUW and PEO. She sits on the Senior Citizens



Advisory Committee to the Humboldt Area Foundation and the HSU Women’s Athletic Program advisory board. She is a past member and board president of the Eureka Symphony, serving at the helm during a broad expansion of the symphony in our community.

She met her future husband, Jerry Hansen, a fourth generation Humboldt-er, on a blind date soon after she moved here. It was love and all that followed – a happy marriage and two children. She was a working mom, earned her Master’s Degree in Psychology and enjoyed a brief foray in the UCLA doctoral program. It has been a life of learning, of expanding horizons and helping others achieve success.

Sadly, Jerry passed away prematurely 13 years ago. But Humboldt is home and she now has two grandkids, sixth generation Humboldt-ers, proud of their Hansen and Nilsen heritage.

Susan travels extensively and simply enjoys life – including a Mystery Book Club and singing in the McKinleyville Community Choir and continuing her volunteer work.

Asked why she included HLF in her estate planning, Susan says a love of reading and the importance of reading to achieve a successful and fulsome life cannot be overestimated. That and the indisputable fact that the relevance of the public library remains very strong – from eBooks to computer access to story-hour or checking out your favorite mystery, it all matters. The basement of that city hall decades ago helped expand a young girl’s dream and inspired the mature Susan Hansen to include the Humboldt Library Foundation in her estate planning and to become a member of the *HLF Legacy Circle*. For that, we are deeply appreciative.

## HLF Legacy Circle — Make a Planned Gift to HLF

*Join members of the Legacy Circle. Remember HLF in your will or estate planning.*

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## Fortuna Branch Library: Full Service, Genealogy Research & More....

The single word LIBRARY evokes varied reactions. Attach FORTUNA to LIBRARY for a positive response. The FORTUNA LIBRARY is a welcoming place with numerous opportunities the second you step inside. The entire facility is a Mecca for readers and researchers of all ages.

Chris Cooper, Supervising Librarian, takes pride in the Fortuna Library being a community focal point. With some regularity the library hosts programs involving local history or other topics that utilize the overhead projector, which was funded by the McLean Foundation. The program seating area expands with the convenience of movable bookshelves given by the Fortuna Friends of the Library. Glancing around the room, the artwork provided by local elementary and high schools accentuates community involvement.



Another facet of the community involvement is the Young Adult Literature Room. The Youth Advisory Council helped create the room and four teenagers regularly help maintain it. When I asked Chris Cooper if time of day influenced who came to the library, his observations were: older folks tend to come in the morning, after school hours kids and moms with kids come through the door and during extended school vacations kids come from opening to closing.



The Kid's Corner offers a wide variety of books, CDs, DVDs and reference material. The furniture easily accommodates a wide age range of children. (I had no problem sitting at one of the tables.) Story Times are offered Tuesday 3:00-4:30 p.m. and Thursday and Friday 10:30-11:00 a.m.



Books, magazines, newspapers and computers invite approach by anyone in the room. Within the Humboldt County Library system, Fortuna Library is unique with the Ancestry Library Edition Database. The McLean Foundation funded the Ancestry Database. By visiting the site, one can gain access to genealogy records, family trees and history records and follow avenues wherever the search leads. On the outside chance I could find my grandfather, I followed directions to access the site and listed his name and birth year. I found information heretofore unknown. He was 38 years old when he registered for the World War I draft in 1917-18. There were three periods during those two years where men were required to register for the draft. My grandfather was in the last period. I also learned my grandmother's middle name was Beatrice. The five computers located near the southeast wall were in full use. Fortuna Library offers five public-access computers. One station is a 20-minute Express computer. Four stations have a one-hour limit per day per user. Ask at the desk to use a large-type keyboard. Black-and-white prints are ten cents a page. If you choose to reserve a computer, please call in advance, 707-725-6731.

The Fortuna Library is a valuable asset to the entire community. The second you step into the building, opportunity for discovery awaits. More information is available at <http://www.humboldt.gov.org/296/Fortuna-Library>.

*By Pam Cavanaugh, Board Member*

## Your Library's Latest

### Databases at Your Library, by Kitty Yacheff, Public Services Librarian

When it comes to looking for information many people turn to the Internet using Google, Yahoo or Bing, then go no further. Library users, on the other hand, know that there is much more to be found in books and journals, but sometimes the value of library databases is overlooked. Databases at the Humboldt County Library contain information from a variety of sources including thousands of journals intended for both children and adults. The topics may be of interest to anyone: students looking for subject resources; the backyard mechanic working on a car; the patient seeking in-depth medical information and advice; the genealogist exploring family history; the consumer looking for a product review or academic researchers.

So, what's the difference between "looking on the Internet" and using a database? Essentially, information from databases is more reliable because it goes through a review process and provides information from known sources. Databases are also organized in a way that makes the information accessible in a variety of ways and is consistent over time. Internet information is free to anyone but it is not reviewed, may be inconsistent and cannot always be authenticated. Commercial databases are purchased by the Library, reviewed by Librarians, provide consistency, are organized and contain information that can be authenticated.

Here is a look at a few of the databases available at the Humboldt County Library:

**Master FILE:** This database contains thousands of periodicals covering general reference, business, health, education, science, multicultural issues and much more. Articles may be translated into several languages and are available with a text-to-speech option.

**Student Research Center, Kids Search & Searchasaurus:** Designed for children, these databases include age-appropriate magazines, newspapers, books, encyclopedias, biographies and more for senior high, middle and elementary school students with Searchasaurus using colorful dinosaur graphics to help younger children search the database.

**Chilton Library Database:** Chilton's provides repair information on domestic and imported vehicles from 1940 onward with detailed, step-by-step instructions, diagnostic trouble codes, specifications and troubleshooting guides. There are photographs, illustrations, videos and vacuum and wiring diagrams. Bulletins and Recalls, a Labor Estimating Tool and ASE Technician Test Preparation quizzes are also available.

**Ancestry.com:** This widely-known and popular database is available to onsite Library users only at the Fortuna Branch. Remote access is not available to Ancestry.

**Times-Standard Index:** A local index of the Eureka Times-Standard newspaper, covering articles 1989 to 2005. It allows you to search for keywords and phrases and find the dates and titles of articles. You may use these dates to find the articles on microfilm at the Main Library.

**Overdrive and Enki:** Each database contains downloadable eBooks in addition to audiobooks in Overdrive.

Databases are available to all onsite Library users and are also available remotely to all Humboldt County Library cardholders by entering a library card number at the prompt. Go to [www.humlib.org](http://www.humlib.org), select Library Resources, then Articles and Databases where the entire list of databases will be displayed. For more information contact the Reference Desk at any Branch or the Main Library at 269-1905.

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*As of March 26 - more to come ...*

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## Buy a Book Campaign

This year, the Humboldt Library Foundation's 'Buy a Book' campaign is focused on getting the Library the resources it needs to build-up the very popular **Large Print** collection.

**Large Print** titles appeal primarily to visually impaired patrons, but many others check out the titles too -- they're easier on the eye and easier to read.

### What is the Large Print Collection?

- The *Large Print* section contains all fiction genres, i.e., general and literary fiction, mysteries, sci-fi/fantasy, westerns, romance, etc.
- It also contains a wide variety of non-fiction, i.e., biography/memoir, history, animal stories, travel narratives and best sellers.

### Did You Know?

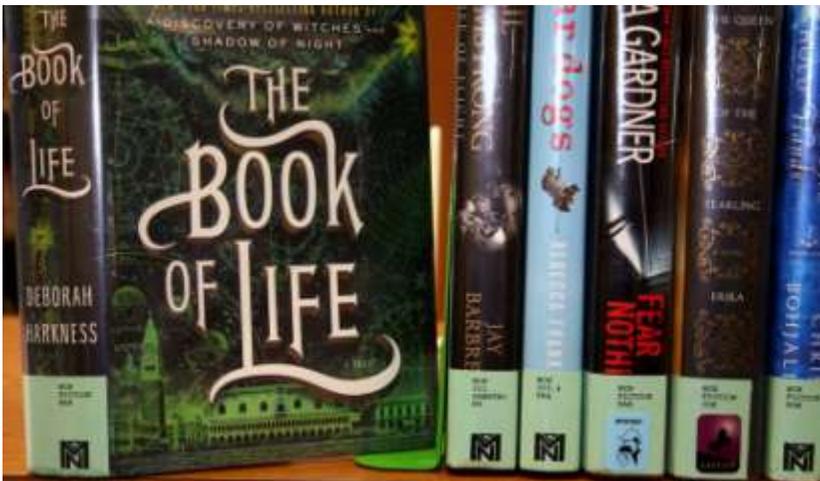
- As the population ages, the library experiences more and more requests for large print books throughout the library system.
- The budget for these materials is very small—just \$1,800 out of a total library materials budget of \$156,000 this fiscal year. This amount is not enough to fill patron demand.
- Out of 175,000 adult fiction and non-fiction books in the collection, there are only 5,000 in the Large Print section.
- Because the Library can't afford enough titles in any one section, readers run out of material in their main areas of interest quickly.
- Providing additional, specific funds to upgrade the collection would help solve this problem.

## Update: HLF Matching Grant Continues McNaughton Collection

Last year HLF initiated a two-year matching grant program to fund the McNaughton Collection with the Friends of the Library at Garberville, Rio Dell, Arcata, McKinleyville, Trinidad and Hoopa; for Blue Lake, Willow Creek and the Bookmobile, who don't have active Friends groups, HLF provided funds.

The McNaughton Collection is a popular book leasing program for adult and young adult readers, where each of the Branch Managers can select "Best Sellers" or very popular titles tailored to their branch. "It is truly a browsing collection," said Janet Smith, Library Division Manager for Acquisitions and Technical Assistance at the Eureka Main Branch. The books remain at that branch and are not circulated throughout the system.

Adrienne Quiros, Branch Manager for the Bookmobile, and Katrina Ehrnman, Branch Manager at McKinleyville, met with Sara Traphagen of the HLF Board to talk about the program. Both agree the McNaughton collection has been a superb addition. "McKinleyville readers love mysteries, and now I'm able to make their day with a new title on the book cart," said Katrina. For Adrienne, who is both the driver and manager for the bookmobile, having the McNaughton Collection has provided rural readers with the newest titles. "Patrons are very excited to learn that the collection will continue in 2015 and Petrolia readers were especially pleased to have the latest Patrick Quinlan title on board," added Adrienne.



The program costs approximately \$1250 per year, per branch. HLF pledged \$650, each Friends group \$500. This year, HLF wrote the check for \$5000 for second year funding and hopes to continue the program into the future.

Friends of the Redwood Libraries fund McNaughton at the Main Branch; the Friends of the Fortuna Library fund the program at the Fortuna Branch.

## Book Blurb By Pam Cavanagh, HLF Board Member

### *The Virtues of Oxygen*

Living most of life in an iron lung and running a small town newspaper may seem unlikely storylines for this first person narrative that takes place in a contemporary setting. Author Susan Schoenberger crafts a captivating story as the reader enters the lives of two women, Vivian and Holly.

In this novel, we travel alongside Vivian. Vivian, a polio survivor since childhood, is an esteemed member of her community. People watch out for her. Holly is the publisher of a small town newspaper, which is struggling to stay in business.

Without revealing too much of the plot, I can say the very title of the novel gives greater appreciation on many levels: the ability to breathe (which many of us take for granted), cherished friendships forged in unlikely situations, coping with loss and the sense of worth people derive when they genuinely care for one another.

I read this novel last year and the impact of the story has remained with me. Reading well-written fiction that transports us into someone else's life is an adventure.

*The Virtues of Oxygen.* Susan Schoenberger, author. Copyright 2014. 243 pages.



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### Library Branches

#### **Eureka Main Branch**

1313 3<sup>rd</sup> St., 707-269-1900

#### **Arcata Branch**

500 Seventh St. 707-822-5954

#### **Blue Lake Branch**

1100 Greenwood Ave. 707-668-4207

#### **Ferndale Branch**

807 Main St. 707-786-9559

#### **Fortuna Branch**

775 14<sup>th</sup> St. 707-725-3460

#### **Garberville Branch**

715 Cedar St. 707-923-2230

#### **Hoopla Branch**

Loop Rd. @ Orchard St. 530-629-5082

#### **McKinleyville Branch**

1606 Pickett Rd. 707-839-4459

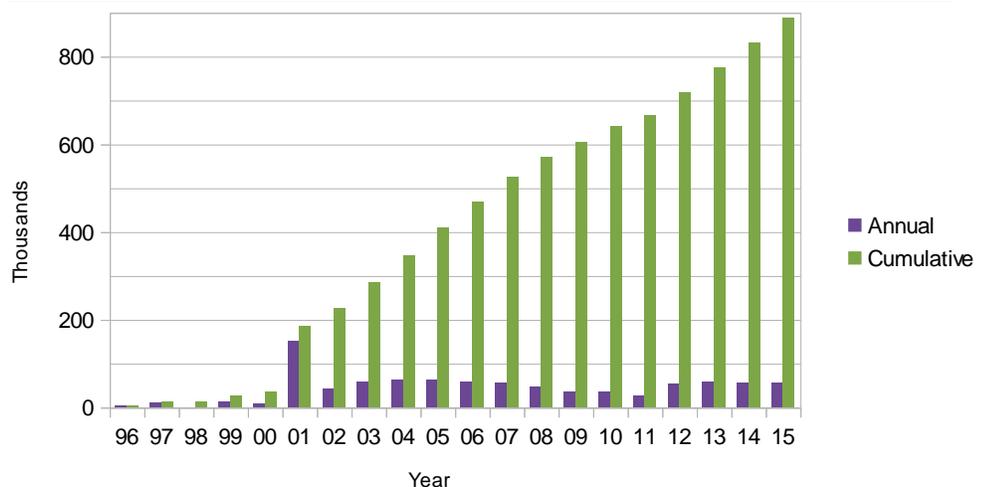
#### **Rio Dell Branch**

715 Wildwood Ave. 707-764-3333

#### **Trinidad Branch**

300 Trinity St. 707-677-0277

## HLF Grants to the Library 1996—2014



Your contributions allow HLF to make annual grants to the library -- **\$887,221** over the last 18 years. Thank you for your continued support.

HLF News is published quarterly by Humboldt Library Foundation  
 PO Box 440, Eureka, CA, 95502