

HLF News



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Annual Holiday Gala, December 8, 2014

2014 Helen Everett Award

Nice 'n Easy: Bill Moehnke, Bear Winkle, and Albert Clark

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The legendary local jazz trio *Nice 'n Easy* has performed at the HLF Holiday Gala since the beginning, held in 1999 – music that teases out pleasure from the sound of the first note; music that sets the perfect tone for an evening of enjoyment. And they've been doing it *gratis* – it has been their way of helping HLF raise funds needed to make the public's library experience more joyful. As *Nice 'n Easy* band members, Bill Moehnke, Bear Winkle and Albert Clark are being honored this year with the *Helen Everett Award*. It is our way of saying thank you for their inspired, melodious and reliable support of the public library.

But each band member has made it clear: honoring *Nice 'n Easy* has to include a tip of the hat to one of its legendary members, Bill's dad, Don Moehnke, who passed away in 2012. Don, the crooner, the smooth trumpeter, who played the vibes so sweetly you thought Lionel Hampton might have just dropped in, who always wooed the audience. The sound was wonderful, his infectious enthusiasm absorbed. He was a music legend, leaving an indelible mark on the community. For over 46 years he taught music to young people. During his long tenure at Eureka City Schools and later at HSU, he inspired deep loyalty, taught rigorously, set a very high standard and brought pleasure to everyone lucky enough to be touched by his remarkable talent and motivating personality.

Bill Moehnke, library staff member of 33 years, remembers his father with enormous affection and deep respect – and appreciation, too, for his fun loving and mercurial style. Bear Winkle, of the former popular duo, *Holbrook and Bear*, from which *Nice 'n Easy* evolved, said it was magic when they asked the father/son duo to join. Bill is credited with naming the band – after Don finished crooning Frank Sinatra's signature tune. That was nearly 20 years ago. Bear is well known to music patrons across the county; he also performs with the Eureka Symphony and can be seen during the holidays playing with the tuba band. Albert Clark plays the keyboard and is also a member of the rock 'n roll group *Night Hawk*. The three were part of the local Dixieland *Hall Street Honkers*, which, to the delight of everyone, reconfigures every year at the local jazz festival. Together, the three carry on the easy listening tradition. Best of friends, it is a labor of love and remains perfect team work.

We're inspired and deeply appreciative of *Nice 'n Easy* and ask you to join us in honoring them at the Carson Mansion on Monday, December 8th.

Pictured at left: Albert Clark, Bill Moehnke and Bear Winkle.



From the President's Desk by Elizabeth Murguia



“Anyone who’s worth anything reads just what he likes, as the mood takes him and with extravagant enthusiasm.”

Virginia Woolf, “Jacob’s Room “

That was my summer, reading all over the map, extravagantly and with enthusiasm. But accompanied by the usual self-queries: should I be more directed; why re-read when there’s so much new or untrammelled; but then why not; am I broadening my understanding, have I learned anything new, am I just plowing through because of some self-inflicted I-have-to-read-this book? Unnecessary questions, I remind myself: after all, nobody is keeping track, I won’t be graded.

Since it was the end of summer when I wrote this column, I was still happily relishing family camping and swimming – and reading mysteries, because isn’t this the time of self-indulgence, summer? I revisited Dorothy Sayers, *Busman’s Honeymoon* from the Lord Peter and Harriet series; the very thoughtful English Professor Kate Fansler by author Amanda Cross, pseudonym for the feminist critic, Carolyn Heilbrun; Kate Atkinson’s *Case Histories* (an excellent read) and *The Cuckoo’s Calling*, Robert Galbraith’s first in a series of two (with hopefully, more to come). This pseudonym hardly hidden, since the cover promotes the real and very famous author: J.K. Rowling. If you indulged in reading the whole of Harry Potter as an excuse to keep up with your grandchildren, you’ll recognize the delicious writing and page-turning quality of Ms. Rowling’s prose.

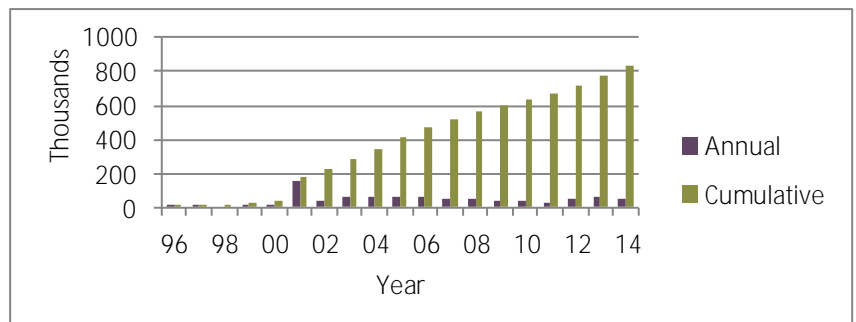
Alexandra Fuller’s 2nd memoir, *Cocktails Under the Tree of Forgetfulness*, follows the unforgettable *Let’s Don’t Go to the Dogs Tonight*, the fiercely honest, brutal and loving story of growing up in Rhodesia during the 1970’s civil war.

And for the ultimate pleasure in pure escapist literature, set in the English countryside to boot, do read Dodie Smith’s *I Capture the Castle*. New to me, but apparently never out of print in England. Written in 1948, it was her first novel; she is known as a playwright, but more famously for the children’s classic: *One Hundred and One Dalmatians*.

On a slightly different note, I attended a local recent lecture by Aaron Lansky, author and director of the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA. From his book, *Outwitting History*, he recounted the journey of retrieving cast-off Yiddish literature, literally from the trash bins of America. Not only was it a riveting story, but the miracle of the effort underscores how important books are to our central identity. They’ve not run out of fashion, the stories told are our history; they capture our culture, reflect our values. The public library is the repository, and in this case, the Yiddish Book Center is the repository, spawning a whole new generation of Yiddish speakers and translators. It was an inspiring story and I only wish each of you could have been there to relish the evening -- with the ‘extravagant enthusiasm’ I know we all share.

HLF Grants to the Library 1996—2014

Your contributions allow HLF to make annual grants to the library -- **\$831,000** over the last 18 years. Thank you for your continued support.



Donor Spotlight—Mona Beaver

Simply put, she loves the library. She takes out-of-town guests on tour, walking them to the window overlook, upstairs to the Hagopian Art Gallery (“where there is always a lovely art exhibit”) and then into the Humboldt Room, with the inviting work table, warm Redwood bookshelves, magisterial overhead fixtures and the long view out to the harbor. And not to be missed on this guest tour, a drop in at the Serendipity Book Store, to peruse the biography section or fabulous collection of coffee table books.

We sat down last month in Mona’s beautiful living room, with lovely art all around and a view toward the peaceful garden – loaded with rhododendrons and other natives which bloom spectacularly in the spring. Books abound, and we were soon launched into the conversation book lovers share: what she’s reading right now. It turns out a treasure found at the FRL ‘buck a bag’ book sale: Lowell Thomas’s biography of T. E. Lawrence. Timely now, especially as Lawrence’s unique vision for the Middle East unravels on the nightly news. She reads across the board, but especially likes historical biography and the Classics, “but not technical tomes,” she reassured me. Apparently that was the purview of her husband, Richard, who had an extensive technical library.

Mona was raised in southern California; her mother was a school teacher and her father a businessman. She recalls especially her love of the *My Book House* series, the exquisitely illustrated 12 volume set purchased by her parents and from which she was



read to nightly. Her pleasure is still evident these many years later, as she begins to recite one of the opening poems of the first volume.

Education, curiosity and appreciation of art and beauty were established early (and after finding a volume at our own Eureka Books, I can see why). As she matured, Mona went to work in the family business, managing the growing and successful company as a young married woman.

With family living in the area, Mona and her husband Richard moved to Humboldt County 14 years ago from Carralitos, a community in Santa Cruz County. Unfortunately, Richard, a retired aeronautics engineer, passed away soon thereafter. In the ensuing years, Mona has been active in the community, giving her time generously as a volunteer. She’s been at the Cancer Society’s ‘Discovery Shop’ for nine years, and put in time at Tailwaggers, Food for People and Planned Parenthood. She has a special love for the Serendipity Shop, and has worked there, too.

She’s also been a stalwart supporter of the library and the Humboldt Library Foundation. She is a generous annual donor and has designated HLF in her estate planning, making her a member of the HLF *Legacy Circle*. Mona values the mission of the public library, what it represents and the opportunity it presents to anyone who wishes to open the door. We thank her for her generosity, for her gift of giving back to the community.

HLF Legacy Circle — Make a Planned Gift to HLF

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

Tom & Roberta Allen ◦ Jim & Judy Anderson ◦ Barbara Barratt ◦ Mona Beaver ◦ Patty Berg
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Discover the Humboldt Room

If you have a smidgen of curiosity concerning any facet of Humboldt County history, the Humboldt Room is the place for you. A true gold mine exists in the Humboldt Room located in the Humboldt County Main Library. Walk the stairs or take the elevator to the second floor, turn left and walk through the doorway into Humboldt County's glorious past.

Impressive redwood décor speaks to our county's rich timber heritage as old growth redwood arches grace the ceiling. A portion of the arches were skillfully milled by Blue Ox Millworks. The redwood interior trim, paneling and bookcases add to the overall welcoming atmosphere so prevalent in the Room. Rotary Club of Eureka's substantial donation to the building fund is reflected by the large granite plaque on the south wall. In the center of the room sits a massive wooden table (16' x 4') demanding attention. The table was donated by U.S. Bank, formerly Bank of Loleta, whose president co-chaired the building fund drive. Elegant boardroom chairs, lining each side of the table, were donated by Friends of the Library in 1997. The pendulum clock behind the docents' desk was manufactured in 1904. It resided in the Carnegie Library until it was given to the Eureka Public Library and eventually came to the Humboldt Room.



Mary Louise Lorensen, Humboldt Room Volunteer

The Humboldt Room is lovingly cared for by 15 docents who each serve 2 to 2 1/2 hours through the week. The three docents who contributed to this article enthusiastically provided a grand tour of the Room. Ray Hillman initially introduced me to the Room by providing an overall description of its con-

tents. He has served as a docent since the library opened in 1995. Jean Harvey has served for two years. She initially became a docent to learn about Freshwater and Humboldt County. Jean equates being a docent to being "like a detective." Stephanie Hillman (not related to Ray) found her way to becoming a docent through her friend, Evelyn Bennett. Stephanie moved from Fresno and joined Friends of the Library in 1997. Collectively and individually these three docents possess a rich history with an avid interest in libraries, learning the collection and enthusiastically conveying search information to visitors.

The Humboldt Room has 20 or more large collections and each collection has sub-sets. The Susie Baker Fountain Papers is the flagship collection. Walking into the room, you immediately notice a large card catalog index to the right and to the left are 120 volumes that correspond to the card index. Ruth E. Brink devoted three years, seven months, and fourteen days from 1985 to 1988 copying the originals and creating the index. Microfilm of the papers also exists in the Room.



The original papers are located in the Humboldt State University Library, Humboldt Room. Collections of every historical aspect ranging in a variety of topics and years are housed in the Room. Marilyn Milota compiled an extensive record of births (before 1900-1955), marriages (1860s-1964), obituaries (1900-1986), deaths (1852-1947) and census (1860-1940). Stephanie Hillman informed me that the U.S. Census Bureau retains confidential census records for 72 years before releasing the information...known as the "72-Year Rule." Voter Registration Rolls exist from 1884-1974.

Discover the Humboldt Room—*continued*

I found the names of my great-grandfather and grandfather who were registered voters in 1902. My grandfather was 22 years old and his father was 63. Yearbooks from Arcata, Eureka, South Fork, Ferndale, Fortuna and McKinleyville high schools, junior high schools, College of the Redwoods and Humboldt State University are located near the docents' desk. The yearbooks are frequently visited around class reunion and prom time.

The Humboldt Room is a treasure-mine open to the public during regular library hours. The Room, rich in décor and history, awaits discovery. I took to heart Ray Hillman's parting words of wisdom, "Let the Room talk to you." Indeed it did. I hope the same will happen for you.

Pam Cavanagh, September, 2014



Your Library's Latest Audiobooks and Ebooks Available for Download

Humboldt County Library patrons have many options when choosing a book to read, including a preferred format – print, audiobook or downloadable eBook. Overdrive, also referred to as Library-to-Go, is a database of audiobooks and eBooks available to library cardholders from the Library's website. It's simple to use and provides free access to a wide variety of titles. Patrons can reach the database by visiting the Library's website at www.humlib.org and clicking on "Search" for eBooks then selecting Overdrive. Audiobooks and eBooks can be downloaded to a Kindle, PC, Mac®, Nook, Android, Apple devices or any of a number of other mobile devices. Some eReaders may require the installation of free software. A complete list is available on the Overdrive website by clicking on "Help." Here users will also find detailed explanations and videos on many additional topics.

Once on the Overdrive website users should click on Account and enter "Humboldt County Library," after which a box will open to enter a valid Library Card number. Once logged in users may then search for a specific author or title or click on the Library-to-Go logo to browse all available titles. By using the "Advanced Search" users may refine a search to find specific subjects, device formats, languages, reading levels or restrict a search to locate only items that are currently available. Once selected, downloaded titles will automatically expire at the end of 7 or 14 days, whichever is selected by the user in "Settings" as the preferred option. There are no late fees but titles will no longer be accessible after the due date. Users also have the option to place a "Hold" on a title which is currently unavailable.



Other eBook options on the Library's website include the "Kids' Reading Room" and "Public Domain eResources." For further information or assistance with eBooks contact the Reference Desk at 707-269-1905.

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Buy a Book Campaign

Many of us don't need more "stuff". This Christmas, as your gift to a loved one, think about donating to the Humboldt Library Foundation in your loved one's name. For as low as \$25 you can make an impact in their name through the "Buy a Book" campaign.

This season, 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 Audio Visual collection.

Did You Know?

- Audio Visual (AV) includes DVDs, Blu-ray, MP3 and Audio Books.
- That includes movies, music, how-to videos, popular fiction and non-fiction works.
- AV makes up less than 10% of the library's collection, yet it accounts for 33% of circulation.
- AV materials need to be updated by adding new formats, specifically by building a Blu-ray collection and the MP3 format in audiobooks.
- Your donation is tax-deductible and the perfect way to increase those charitable deductions as 2014 winds down.
- Your donation is acknowledged with a special book plate on the item purchased with your donation and you will receive a special holiday bookmark as part of our thanks to you.

How You Can Help

- This Christmas make a donation to the 'Buy A Book' campaign as part of your gift giving.
- Send your \$25, \$50 or \$100 contribution—OR better yet, buy a shelf for \$500.
- It's easy to give the gift of giving: go our website at www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org and hit the Donate Now button—OR
- Send your check to Humboldt Library Foundation, PO Box 440, Eureka, CA 95502.

For more information contact the Humboldt Library Foundation at (707) 269-1991.

Updated: Humboldt County Library's Sports & Recreation Collection

The Humboldt County Library has added some 60 titles to the Sports & Recreation sections thanks to the \$1000 grant from Humboldt Sponsors which the Humboldt Library Foundation matched.

“The Humboldt County Library system was very fortunate to have received the funds to update our Sports and Recreation sections. Both our adult and children’s areas were desperately in need of new materials. With this grant we have purchased about 60 titles: 30 titles for children and 30 titles which will appeal to both youth and adults. Materials include both print and DVD formats,” said Humboldt County Librarian Janet Smith.

The new materials cover a wide variety of subjects. Sports topics include subjects such as coaching various competitive sports as well as how-to books on playing basketball, softball, baseball, football, tennis, golf; how to bowl, canoe, do gymnastics, fish, hunt, do archery and even how to build a boat. Recreation topics include subjects like camping with kids, physical activities for young people with disabilities, games for kids, game and activities for children with autism and various other outdoor activities.

The materials hit the library shelves in September and are ready to be checked out. The new collection will be circulated through the main library, the ten branch libraries, the Bookmobile and through the on-line catalogue.

HLF would very much like to thank Humboldt Sponsors for their support of our local library system and the needs of the children and families in our community.

For more information on how you can help contact HLF at 269-1991, “friend” us on facebook and visit our website at www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org.



Book Blurb By Pam Cavanagh, HLF Board Member

Follow the River

“She shivered, despite the heat of the hearth, and glanced again toward the sunny rectangle of the cabin door. No one was there, not a shadow. But she felt the same uneasiness that had returned to her several times this morning...”

Follow the River is a magnificent historically based novel, which focuses on Mary Draper Ingles. The setting is West Virginia and Kentucky, mid 1755, when that part of the country was the western frontier. Today that region is known as the Appalachian Highlands. When the novel begins Mary is 23, married, pregnant and living in an extended family settlement. In retaliation for whites raiding their settlements, the Shawnee invade the settlement, kill settlers, and take Mary captive. Once the raid begins, the novel becomes brutally graphic. James Thom’s writing brings the reader side-by-side with the agony Mary endures as she is held captive and again when she escapes from the Shawnee and finds her way home. Mary Ingles displays the ability of the human spirit to endure extreme tragedy and hardship.

Follow the River. James Alexander Thom, author. Published 1981. 407 pages.



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McKinleyville Branch

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*Monday, December 8, 2014
Historic Carson Mansion*

*Honoring the 2014
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Nice 'n Easy

*Bill Moehnke,
Bear Winkle and Albert Clark*

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www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org*