

HLF News

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Annual Holiday Gala, December 6, 2010

Helen Everett Award Recipients

Michele McKeegan and Ed Olsgard



The directors of the Humboldt Library Foundation are pleased to announce they have selected long-time HLF supporters Michele McKeegan and Ed Olsgard to receive this year's Helen Everett Award. They are dedicated community volunteers and long-time advocates for the public library system in Humboldt County.

Michele got involved in the library when the capital campaign for the new building was started. She met with capital campaign volunteer Sally Upatisringa to get a better idea of what was planned. She and Sally talked about how they would bring stacks of books home from the library when they were kids. Michele says she adored the Freddie the pig stories such as *Freddie the Detective* and *Freddie Goes Camping*. She has introduced her great-nephew to the Freddie books and he loves them too. Today, she's reading books in French so she can learn a new language.

Michele retired from Planned Parenthood in 1992 but still stays active as a volunteer and fundraiser. "I'm active in the community because I see things that need to happen and know that I can help make them happen," she said.

Ed is a physician at Eureka Family Practice and works with Planned Parenthood. He also traces his love and respect for public libraries back to his childhood. A new library was built about 1960 in Minneapolis that had a planetarium. He saw his first planetarium show there. It also had listening rooms where he listened to Vaughn Williams' symphonies and read the scores along with the music.

"Anyone with a card could do all these activities and it opened up a world of cultural exposure that formed me as a kid and continues today," he said. "To me, one measure of a civilized community is the presence of a public library," he added. Ed says he finds movies and books at the Humboldt County Library that he can't find anywhere else. He likes to read history and political biography and occasionally a novel. Ed keeps the sonnets of Shakespeare and the Decameron at his bedside.

The Helen Everett Award was established to recognize individuals or organizations whose contributions improve the quality of public library services in Humboldt County. Michele and Ed are the 12th and 13th recipients. **They will be honored at the HLF Annual Holiday Gala which will be held Monday, December 6, 2010, at Baywood Golf & Country Club. For more information about the event please contact HLF at 269-1991 or hlf@lhumboldt1.com.**

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK by Elizabeth Murguia



"Fiction is like a spider's web, attached ever so lightly perhaps, but still attached to life at all four corners." ~ Virginia Woolf

Summer slipped by, books exchanged, consumed, passed on. In a mountain cabin up at the river, a stack of classic French country cook books, poured over with life-long friends. We ponder whether to plant summer or winter savory as Lulu recommends and long for fresh anchovies to salt down for a winter stew. From 'Lulu's Kitchen' to the 'Best of Elizabeth David' the sheer pleasure of good writing and sumptuous menus transports the imagination – no need to prepare the meal. We've tasted. We've enjoyed.

My friends and I have been recommending books to each other for over forty years now. In our early teens we furtively exchanged Frank O'Hara, read *Gone With the Wind* more than once, devoured Leon Uris and hid from our mother's view the entire series of *Angelique* and the King. Our tastes evolved (thank heavens), grew broader, some even became English Majors, and our love of the narrative never wavered. Now we claim

to only share 'the best writing' and delve into the lives of finely tuned characters, nuanced and worthy of late night conversation. As the decades pile on we consume more history and social commentary, following threads, trying to unravel the mystery of this human experience.

In fall the tempo shifts, and I am deep into Jonathan Franzen's new novel *Freedom* – an American epic that has drawn me in. Complex characters, over three decades, and a deep look at the cultural influences on contemporary life -- how it shapes choices made and the public discourse. Ah, the spider web of fiction

And at the library, reading is up. In spite of tough economic times, or maybe because of it, more people are using the library – circulation, the number of borrowers and use of the public computers are on the rise. Now more than ever it seems, people recognize the value of the public library – for families, for job hunting, for checking out a movie, or even, for unraveling the mystery of life. Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support. Our community appreciates it.

LOCAL AUTHOR'S CORNER—RAY RAPHAEL



Ray Raphael has changed the way we think about the American Revolution emerging over the last decade as one of our leading writers on the birth of the United States of America. In 2001 his [People's History of the American Revolution](#) told the story of the ordinary people not generally present in tales of our nation's founding. In 2002 [The First American Revolution: Before Lexington and Concord](#) caught the attention of academic historians and has influenced the way the Revolution is taught in our colleges and universities. In 2004 his [Founding Myths: Stories that Hide Our Patriotic Past](#) established new standards for all future renderings of our nation's birth. His current, groundbreaking book, [Founders: The People Who Brought You a Nation](#), incorporates all his work in an original synthesis.

In the 1970s he homesteaded in the hills of southern Humboldt County, where he and his wife Marie raised their two sons, Nick and Neil. He taught a comprehensive one-room high school in his remote home as well as evening courses at the local community college, and he began writing about local history and contemporary issues.

In his first book, [An Everyday History of Somewhere](#), Raphael relied extensively on oral histories. In subsequent works dealing with topics of local and regional importance ([Edges](#), [Tree Talk](#), [Cash Crop](#)), he adapted this oral history approach, weaving his own narrative around the stories of real people as told in their own words. His treatment of more general topics ([Teachers' Voice](#), [Men from the Boys](#)) likewise relied on in-depth interviews, faithfully rendered. [Little White Father](#), a historical piece, made extensive use of primary documents. He wrote a play on John and Jessie Fremont, which toured various towns in Northern California, and a one-act called "Your Life is Your Art," performed at his fiftieth birthday. With his son Neil, then 12 years old, he wrote a juvenile mystery called [Comic Cops](#). Locally, he is sometimes referred to as the "Studs Terkel" of Northwest California.

In the early 1990s, while preparing curriculum for his United States history courses, he became keenly interested in the history of common people during the American Revolution. Stimulated by a year-long grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities, he traveled to East Coast archives to pursue his passion. Since that time he has been hooked on the Revolution and the nation's founding, with all its historic, philosophical, and political implications. Please visit our website www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org or <http://www.rayraphael.com/> for more information about Ray Raphael and his work.

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"Books are the carriers of civilization. Without books, history is silent, literature dumb, science crippled, thought and speculation at a standstill." Barbara W.

Tuchman



Bookmarks! A New Edition

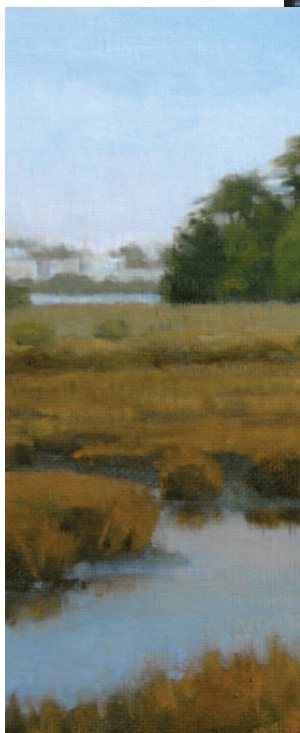
Once again we have joined with the Lost Coast Daily Painters to produce a new series of bookmarks. This time Teresa Oats, Kathy O’Leary, Steve Porter, Amy Stewart and Alicia Tredway generously provided beautiful images. At the Lost Coast Daily Painters, their goal is to produce new art weekly and market it through lostcoast-dailypainters.blogspot.com. Check it out. We thank them for sharing their art to help HLF pursue its goal which is to raise funds to buy books for the library. We are also grateful to Times Printing for the donated services they provided.

There is even more reason to participate this round than before. During these tough economic times, library usage is up – circulation has increased, more people are accessing the public computers, and there are 5,000 more borrowers over last year. We hope these new book marks make it easier to prompt your generosity.

As the Holiday’s approach and you begin to think of giving to family and friends, why not consider a gift of \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100 or \$500 to purchase books for the library. It’s a great way to honor those you love. All books purchased through the “Buy A Book” Campaign can have a nameplate, honoring the person of your choice. You can donate by returning the enclosed form or by visiting our website www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org. In either case be sure to indicate how you would like your gift recognized

We’ve enclosed one of these remarkable bookmarks for you to enjoy. The series of bookmarks will be available in the branch libraries in October. If you would like additional bookmarks you can email us at hlf@humboldt1.com or call the HLF Office at 269-1991. Consider enclosing them with your Holiday Greetings and encourage others to support HLF and the library.

Thank you for your support.



“Indian Island”
Kathy O’Leary



“Gladiolas”
Teresa Oats



“5th Ave. Afternoon”
Amy Stewart



Native American Potter”
Steve Porter



“Pink Roses”
Alicia Tredway

HUMBOLDT COUNTY LIBRARY BRANCHES

Eureka Main Branch

1313 Third 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 14th St. □ 707 725-3460

Garberville Branch

715 Cedar St. □ 707 923-2230

Hoopa 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

Willow Creek Branch

Hwy 299 @ Hwy 96 □ 530 629-2146

***Check open hours for Branches and Bookmobile locations at ~ www.co.humboldt.ca.us/library**



You can make a contribution to HLF whenever you shop at the Co-Op. Just use the **HLF Number "88-80019."**

Thank you!

HLF AND PLANNED GIVING

The mission of HLF is to enhance the programs, services and continuing development of the Humboldt County Public Library.

- ◇ HLF has established an endowment to realize this vision.
- ◇ HLF endowment funds are managed by the Humboldt Area Foundation.
- ◇ You can help support us in our mission by making gifts to HLF during your lifetime or under the terms of your will through planned giving.

To learn more about how you can support HLF, contact

Susan O'Connor, Treasurer at 442-1453

We urge you to consult with your legal and financial advisor to assist you in arranging the best method of contributing.

The Humboldt Library Foundation is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code.

Giving is only a Click Away and easier than ever.

Go to: www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org



The HLF website accepts secure donations online. Just click the **Donate Button** and indicate the amount of your gift. Your credit card or PayPal account will be charged and a receipt will be sent by email. Be sure to let us know how you want your gift designated and exactly how you wish to be recognized. Thank you.

In addition you may wish to receive upcoming newsletters and information about upcoming events by email. If so please send your email address to hlf@humboldt1.com. Just let us know. We are eager to please.

You can "Open the World" to knowledge, adventure and enjoyment when you contribute to the Humboldt Library Foundation.

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Gifts are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. The Humboldt Library Foundation provides no goods or services in consideration of gifts received. HLF is a component of the Humboldt Area Foundation.

2010 HUMBOLDT LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD OF SPONSORS

HLF wishes to thank our 2010 Board of Sponsors for their generous support of the library. Their understanding of the mission of the public library comes at a critical juncture. A recent survey conducted by the Humboldt County Library reveals that the libraries are busier than ever – even after significant budget cuts. Total circulation has increased from nearly 675,000 volumes in 2008-09 to nearly 696,000 in 2009-10. Reference questions rose by 2,000 and borrowers have increased by over 5,000. All of this accomplished even though system-wide public service was reduced by 723 hours.

The generous annual support from the Board of Sponsors helps to preserve free public access to books, movies, lectures, children’s programs, Wi-Fi and more. We sincerely appreciate their generous and long-standing support of the public library - the wealth of ideas and dreams it represents.

2010 HLF BOARD OF SPONSORS

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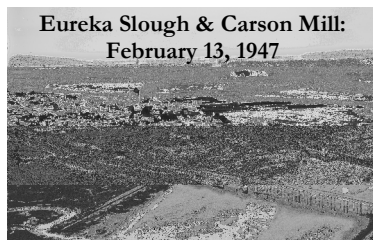
**IF YOU MISSED IT THE FIRST TIME
HLF WILL AGAIN HOST TWO
PRESENTATIONS OF
←————→
MERLE SHUSTER
A LOOK BEHIND THE REDWOOD CURTAIN**

Saturday October 16th 1:00 P.M and 3:00 P.M.
Eureka Main Library 1313 Third Street Eureka
Presented by Historian Jerry Rohde

Here is your chance to enjoy the photographs of locally renowned photographer, Merle Shuster. From 1947 to 1955 his fine photographs documented the transition and changes of the Humboldt Bay Area. These crisp, carefully composed photographs tell the story more completely than words ever could. Jerry Rohde, a local historian, will be presenting these amazing photos with both history and background. Our last event was standing room only, and we wanted to be sure that Humboldt Library Foundation donors have the opportunity to listen and see this presentation again. We are reserving seats at both presentations. Please call the HLF office at 269-1919 or email hlf1@humboldtlibraryfoundation.org to RSVP no later than October 14th. Be sure to include your name, your preferred attendance time and the number of people in your party. We will make sure that seats are available. Please plan to arrive 20 minutes early to allow for check in.



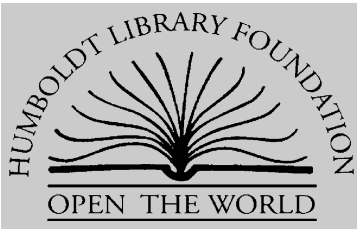
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“There are perhaps no days of our childhood that we lived as fully as those spent with a beloved book.” Marcel Proust

❧



Phone: 707-269-1991

Fax: 707-269-1998

Email: hlf@humboldt1.com

Visit our website!
www.humboldtlibraryfoundation.org

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Back row L to R: Allan Katz, Kelly Sanders, Gerry Kay Davis, Susan O'Connor, Peter LaVallee, Sara Traphagen, Robert Taborski. Seated L to R: Leslie Lollich, Judy Anderson, Marge Custis, Teddie Lyons. Not pictured: Elizabeth Murguia, Buzz Webb, Nancy Frost, Sid Noyes

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SAVE THE DATE

Celebrate

Humboldt Library Foundation Holiday Gala

Monday, December 6, 2010, 5:30 to 8:30 PM

Baywood Golf and Country Club

2010 Helen Everett Award Honorees

Michele McKeegan and Ed Olsgard

Live and Silent Auctions, Fabulous Food and Fun

