



**FRIENDS OF THE MODESTO LIBRARY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
2 MARCH 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. by President Denise Nordell.

Officers and Directors present were Anne Britton, Christine Brereton, Cande Brody, Ellen Dambrosio, Marilyn Drew, Pat Glattke, Maree Hawkins, Maria Hernandez, Judy Herrero, Denise Nordell, Pam Pallios, Cathie Peck, Carmen Pedrioli, Judy Pierce, Julie Reuben, and Beverly Schlegel. Members and guests present were County Librarian Sarah Dentan, Modesto Library Manager Chris Moreno as well as Janelle Gray, Ed Haven, Jean Haven, Diane Pallios, Julie Saugstad, Kathy Sniffen, John Stott, Isa Weichmann and speaker for the evening, Don Ahrens.

Guest Speaker: C. Donald Ahrens

Christine Brereton introduced our speaker. Professor Emeritus at Modesto Junior College, Dr. Ahrens has influenced countless professionals in the field of atmospheric science as well as hundreds of thousands of students who use his books to better understand weather and climate.

Dr. Ahrens provided a lively recounting of the years-long process to publish his first textbook. *Meteorology Today* has been a classic in the field since the first edition in 1982. He outlined the distinction between meteorology, which concerns weather, and astronomy which does not. His descriptions of the steps taken to organize chapters, illustrations, indexing and the other portions of a text and to find and contract publishers were informative and laced with humor.

President's Report: Denise Nordell

Highlights

With accompanying slides [see <https://modestolibraryfriends.org/media-gallery/>] Denise reflected on the past; celebrated the present; and outlined ways FOML is mobilized for the future.

Over the past several years, FOML funded library programs and services that include mobile book cases and book carts for the Children's Department; books for programs such as Día De Los Niños/Libros and the Juvenile Justice Center; youth programs like Read to a Dog and kids and teens craft fairs; and training for library staff. Even a new fish tank.

Treasurer's Report, prepared by Jonaca Driscoll, shows that membership renewals, donations and business memberships remained strong this year putting FOML in very good shape financially.

Ellen Dambrosio, Membership Director, is credited for her ceaseless efforts to mine our membership rolls for renewals and come up with ideas for recruiting new members. Generous donations from Beard and Gallo strengthened FOML's bottom line.

Primary fundraisers are the annual Used Book Sale, and Scholastic and Barnes & Noble book fairs.

After missing 2020 due to covid, Pat Glattke with lieutenants Jean and Ed Haven along with the many volunteers who sorted and staffed the sale, the 2021 Used Book Sale earned more than \$5,000 from the May sale and online sales.

Scholastic Book Fairs, organized by Anne Britton and staffed by FOML volunteers, were both virtual, then finally in-person in November 2021. Over \$4,000 in earned book credits were used for books to support library programs.

Barnes & Noble bookfairs have become a staple of fundraising efforts. FOML earns 15% of store sales in the form of gift cards which are resold at face value. These two bookfairs during the year raised more than \$6,500 in gift cards thanks to smiling volunteers at the store. Members are encouraged to purchase remaining gift cards.

These events are powered by volunteers and Marilyn Drew as Volunteer Coordinator makes everything run smoothly.

Advocacy efforts this year included proclamations solicited from the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County, declaring October as Friends of the Library Month. A more proactive approach in telling the library's story and stating its needs clearly and effectively is FOML's goal for the future.

The quarterly Friends newsletter, a current advocacy effort, has a new team with Judy Pierce and Judy Herrero taking the lead in producing the newsletter, along with Maree Hawkins.

Friends' programs got creative when faced with new challenges. One example of a "COVID pivot" was substituting a coloring activity for the popular Halloween Parade. Cande Brody led this effort. As the library gradually returned to regular hours, yarn lovers led by Ellen began "bombing" the library with color and whimsy. It became an outreach effort by offering free knitting and crochet lessons in the library's new Makerspace. The spring project is a "Yarn Garden", enlisting the help of the community as a Love Modesto project on April 30.

Denise outlined efforts to reflect and recommit to our mission, including:

- aligning FOML funding of library item requests to help fulfill library strategic goals;
- began reviews to formalize the roles and responsibilities of elected and appointed board positions;
- drafted a giving policy to guide us in both giving and receiving monetary and in-kind gifts;
- began assembling procedure details with an eye toward succession;
- conducted surveys of members' and board of directors' opinions on our direction and personal involvement;
- formed a new fundraising committee to focus on grant and large donation possibilities.

With a thanks to the board executive committee, she ended with a challenge by asking:
What is not on the list? What MORE can we do?

Minutes: December meeting minutes previously distributed to board members were approved as presented on Pat's motion seconded by Maree.

Treasurer's Report: Denise for Jonaca Driscoll

The current account balance is strong.

December 2021 through February 2022 Summary

Expenditures	\$ 4,280.00
Income	\$ 8,710.28
Current Assets	\$42,380.99

Insurance Change: Membership in the California Library Association offers a lower rate of insurance (\$315) than the current provider (\$550). A proposal to shift coverage was presented.

ACTION TAKEN: On a motion by Anne and seconded by Christine the change of insurer was approved and Denise will proceed with the switch.

Librarian's Report: Chris Moreno

Operations/Staffing Updates:

- Good News! As you all know, close to 90% of library funding comes from 1/8 cent sales tax. This Fiscal Year Sales Tax Numbers have been trending higher than expected.
 - Sobering News: Very hard to predict if this trend is sustainable or result of stimulus packages and spikes in local spending.
 - Majority of overages in sales tax funds will go towards large one-time purchases to improve facility infrastructure: IT upgrades, increasing book budget to purchase replacement and update outdated materials, and a long list of essential facility maintenance projects.
- New State Guidelines: Masks are now highly encouraged in libraries (not required).
- Currently, all Children's programs require masks until March 12th.
- Facilities Manager: Marco Sepulveda (formerly City of Modesto) replaces Tom Kaps, taking charge of facility maintenance and safety for all branches. Bryan Sontag now in charge of library operations/services for all branches.
- HR Representative: Angelique Prendez (County HSA) replaces JoAnn Henley.
- IT Manager: Andrea Rush-McNeel starts March 14 (County ITC) replaces John Flemming.
- Hughson Library: Sophia Petrakis (Newman) replaces Ann Hutchinson.
- Newman Library: Veronica Walker (LA Newman) replaces Sophia Petrakis
- This spring the library will be recruiting for a Reference Librarian position to fill the vacancy in Modesto Reference department and will supervise the Makerspace programming.
- Exterior painting of Modesto Library is expected by the end of the calendar year.

Programming:

- Storytime is back: Tuesdays at 10:30am and Bilingual ST every other Wednesday at 10:30am (Library Auditorium). Limited Space requires advance registration.
- Much of the virtual programming may continue. Summer Reading will again be on Bean Stack.
- The library now has a document camera.
- Career Development Programming: in a partnership with the Stanislaus County Workforce Development department and a grant received through the State Library, will offer expanded access to career resources and services for job seekers. The services include access to a collection of online job training, skill building, academic and vocational exam prep, and professional development tools. The partnership will also provide a series of workshops, "From Job Search to Career Success", will be

offered to help job seekers learn about library and community resources, assess current skills, and refine their job search process. These workshops will be held virtually as well as in the Makerspace.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Adopt-a-shelf (or section) involves shelf reading and maintaining organization in a specific section under the supervision of Brian Lillie.

Budget Items Request to FOML for 2022/2023

- Proposed items were presented to the board for review for discussion, then adoption at the June meeting. [see addendum]

Election of Officers

Ellen Dambrosio presented the slate of nominees proposed by the nomination committee which met in December. There were no nominations from the floor.

President	Denise Nordell
Vice President	Beverly Schlegel
Treasurer	Jonaca Driscoll
Secretary	Anne Britton

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve by acclamation the nominees as presented was made by Cande and seconded by Judy Herrero. Passed unanimously.

Julie Saugstad and Isa Weichmann were nominated as new at-large Directors.

ACTION TAKEN: Motion to approve by acclamation the nominees as presented was made by Marilyn and seconded by Pat. Passed unanimously.

Carmen Pedrioli was thanked with a small gift for her unstinting involvement on the board as she steps away after her many years of service.

Announcements

Used Book Sale is Saturday, May 7 on the library potico. Pat has declared this the last year she will take lead on the Used Book Sale endeavor. She lauded her lieutenants, Ed and Jean Haven's dedication. She also thanked the family of Rod Wright who donated over a ton (literally) of books for the 2022 sale after his passing.

Yarning with Friends will continue to meet the first Monday of each month at 5:30 for knitters and crocheters. Watch for the flower garden textile mural coming to the library lobby.

Upcoming Events

The next few months include a number of events and volunteer opportunities:

April 8-13	National Library Week	May 7	Used Book Sale
April 25-30	Diá de los Niños/Libros at Modesto	May 11-16	Scholastic Book Fair

Submitted 8 June 2022

Anne Britton, Secretary

Modesto Library Funding Request to FOML, 2022-2023

Items Requested	Total Requested	Quarterly Meeting Date Funds Requested				Strategic Priorities
		9/7/2022	12/7/2022	3/1/2023	6/7/2023	
Circulation Display Supplies (Poster Board, Paper, Velcro, Paint, Dye Cutter materials, etc)	\$500	\$500				3.a
Juvenile Justice Center book club materials/refreshments (YSO, Annie Snell)	\$800		\$800			3.b, 5.a
Modesto Dia Event (April 2023)	\$1,200		\$1,200			3.a, 3.b, 4.c, 5.a
CLA Conference [May 2023] (and other professional development trainings)	\$1,600			\$1,600		2.d
Harry Potter event (December 2022)	\$800	\$800				4.a, 4.c
Adult Programming/Makerspace Supplies (\$250/Quarter)	\$1,600	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	3.b, 4.a, 4.c
Childrens Programming/Crafts (\$800/Quarter)	\$3,200	\$800	\$800	\$800	\$800	3.b, 4.a, 4.b, 4.c
Books for County Fair (Susan Lilly)	\$300				\$300	3.b, 4.a, 5.a
Epson FastFoto FF-680W High-speed Photo Scanning System (Makerspace)	\$650	\$650				4.a, 4.c
Laptop (Makerspace)	\$1,600	\$1,600				4.a, 4.c
Flatbed Photo Scanner (Makerspace)	\$450	\$450				4.a, 4.c
Aquarium Fish	\$300				\$300	4.a
Totals	\$13,000	\$5,200	\$3,200	\$2,800	\$1,800	
Possible Fund Raising Goals:						
• Modesto Bee and Microfilm Digitization project (BMI Imaging Systems)						
• Story Hour Room (Make it ADA compliant or repurpose that space)						
• Portico Landscape Project						
• Modesto Auditorium Renovation (New Theater Curtain, paint, etc)						
• Staff Breakroom Updates (paint, furniture, etc)						

Revised 3/01/2022