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JOIN FRIENDS of the PETALUMA LIBRARY

Make check payable to “Friends of Petaluma Library” - 100 Fairgrounds Dr., Petaluma, CA 94952  
We invite you to participate in one or more Friends activities:

☐ Staff Book Sales

☐ Help with Hospitality

☐ Schedule Volunteers

☐ Staff Bookstore

☐ Publicity

☐ Newsletter

☐ Sort Books

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Renewal \$10

☐ New Member \$10

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Individual \$10

☐ Patron - \$25

☐ I need information regarding Donations,  
Gift-to-Honor, or Endowments.

☐ Life - \$100

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Benefactor \_\_\_\_\_

*Friends of the Petaluma Library does NOT share personal information with any organization or list.  
Friends of the Petaluma Library is a 501(c)3 community service organization.*

friends of the  
Petaluma Library

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FROM THE BRANCH MANAGER

Dear Friends,

The Petaluma Library reopened on August 25 with a grand celebration which over 1800 people attended. If you have not been to visit, you are in for a treat! The renovation has received many compliments, with people often mentioning the improved lighting, convenient study rooms, comfortable new lounge chairs, fun children's area furniture, and clean, bright look overall. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for their major funding contribution towards the project! Each week since reopening we have seen 4000-5000 people in the building and very healthy numbers of library material check-outs, keeping library staff very busy. Once again, we are the busiest library in the Sonoma County system. The Friends reopened their bookstore about a month after the library reopening and have been similarly busy since. Thank you again for all the energy and commitment that the Friends add to our wonderful library community.

Diana Spaulding

HISTORY ROOM

It took a while – a whole year! – but now the Petaluma History Room is downstairs and ready for visitors. I spent the last year up at Headquarters readying the papers of Helen Putnam and processing some of the other fun collections like the “Clampers”, the Red Chair Project, and more. The downstairs collection is home to the most popular items from our archives: the yearbooks from PHS, Casa, Kenilworth, Petaluma Junior and St Vincent’s, City directories, and general history books about Petaluma - oh! and don't forget to come by to see the wonderful local cookbooks from our civic organizations through the years.

In addition to Helen Putnam’s papers, upstairs we have the archival collections that includes the papers of Sculptor Mary Fuller McChesney, Butter and Egg days, Fiesta Days, the Miss Petaluma Program, and papers from our own local lawyers Lippitt and Howell dating back to the late 1800s that follow the legal lives of many of Petaluma’s families. There's lots to see here.

Petaluma’s history now has its own room in the library, come by and check out some of our stories. These are viewable and accessible when the PHR is open: all day Thursday and Fridays, and until 2PM on Saturdays, or by appointment.

Connie Williams, History Room Librarian

ADULT SERVICES

Fall has arrived in all its glory! Your Adult Services Librarians are very happy to be in our newly renovated building and have our community forum room available for use again! We have all sorts of programs and events planned. Here are some highlights:  
To help people with increasing their computer skills, we're offering Computer Basics classes, some in Spanish and others in English. Recently, we covered using the keyboard and mouse, and more of these classes have been scheduled in the coming months to teach knowledge of files and folders, as well as cybersecurity. We expect to offer at least two topics each quarter.  
In addition to our monthly in-person Book Club and weekly Chess Club, we are looking ahead to special events, such as Emergency Prep for Seniors on October 9 and Chair Yoga on October 14.  
We are also happy to announce that Michelle, with her longtime experience in our Children’s Services has joined us in the Adult Services Librarian role. Come say hello next time you're in the library.  
Thank you to the Friends for your continued support!

Amy, Kerrie, Emma, and Michelle

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PERMIT NO. 273

FRIENDS OF THE PETALUMA LIBRARY  
100 Fairgrounds Drive  
Petaluma, CA 94952  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TEEN SERVICES

This is an exciting and special time as teens enjoy a new and inviting space in the renovated library. In early September, we began our teen volunteer program with an orientation and regular volunteer opportunities that will continue throughout the year. Looking toward Fall, teens are creating book displays and assisting with our children's Lego program. They also look forward to creating a spooky book display, as well as assisting with our children's Seeds & Reads program, and upcoming Studio Ghibli Friday Flicks family movie night

Fall programming is under way with beaded lizard keychains and haunted gingerbread houses crafts, along with tasting snacks from around the world in our monthly Universal Yums program. We'll finish off November with a Make Your Own Earrings craft where a professional artist will show teens how to make a pair of dangle earrings to take home. A perfect time to keep or gift earrings to a friend or family member.

Beyond the ongoing upkeep of the teen book collection in which Friends funds play a crucial role, we are also growing a new collection called For Your Eyes Only. Thanks to the Friends, this specialized and very important county wide collection is focused on sensitive topics for teens. I've already noticed many books from this collection being used!

Thank you, Friends, for all you contribute towards library services to our teens.

Shannon Duarte, Teen Services Librarian

CHILDREN’S SERVICES

Greetings from your friendly Children’s Services Team!  
It’s been a roller coaster of a year (and more)! We finally completed the “modernization” that was in the works for nearly a decade. Last summer (July 2024) we moved into the Kenilworth Teen Center, transformed by our awesome Facilities team into a “Mini-Petaluma” library. Though it was a powerhouse of a tiny library serving our community... it wasn’t large enough to house the collection, programs, services or even staff we normally have. Thanks to the City of Petaluma, we were able to provide children’s programing and storytimes at the Community Center and Fairgrounds. The Rohnert Park Library became a second home for many of our staff. We saw many Petaluma residents visiting at Rohnert Park to get their “Big Library” fix. Rohnert Park’s statistics support that theory!

Fast forward to August 2025, and we moved back into our “Big Library.” It was 3 weeks of frantic work to return our materials from storage and prepare the library for the public. Was it worth it? Absolutely! Thanks to the funding of the Friends, City of Petaluma (with hard-won grants), residents of Petaluma who overwhelmingly voted to support their library, and the Sonoma County Library staff, we have one of the most beautiful libraries in the county.

Individuals and families have flocked to the Petaluma library since the reopen. We are so popular, we often get dizzy! But don’t expect a quiet space! Instead, be amazed by the sound of happy children as they play and explore their new space. Budding artists practice on our paper covered tabletops and coloring sheets. Dozens of books are selected for bedtime. Early literacy programs such as Storytime and Read to the Dog (all 3 therapy dogs) are hopping. Innovative programs such as Guitars Not Guns, Chess Club, Seeds and Reads, Sugar Skulls and African Art workshops provide engaging learning outlets for our youth.

We proudly encourage you all to visit the Children’s Area! The Friends’ support means the world to us and has allowed us to complete a beautiful remodel, provide top-notch events and materials for the children and families who cherish their Petaluma Library!

Yours truly,

Cailin Yeager, Jackie Foster

WE’RE BACK—ALMOST

The Petaluma Library is reopened and better than ever.  
The Friends of the Petaluma Library are returning to our mission—to support the staff and volunteers and patrons of our beloved public library.  
We currently have **524** members and active volunteers and we cherish each of you. Our family has shrunk a little since we were last operating our sales and store and other activities.  
Some can only cheer the rest of us on due to health or distance or other circumstances—thank you. For those who can volunteer, we **do** need you even if only a few hours at a sale or a few hours each month in the store or a few hours helping with donations.  
You can reach us by email at [[petalumafriends@sonomalibrary.org](mailto:petalumafriends@sonomalibrary.org), <mailto:petalumafriends@sonomalibrary.org>]  
or call me Bill Putnam at 707-322-0985

Bill Putnam, Membership

BOOKSTORE VOLUNTEERS

Hi! This is Janice Kearns, the new volunteer coordinator for the bookstore. I have contacted all the previous volunteers but have not heard back from a few. Of those few, please call and let me know if you’re still interested in volunteering. Also anyone reading this who might be interested in volunteering contact me. On Monday – Friday there are two shifts; 12:00 pm -2:30 pm and 2:30 pm- 5 :00 pm. On Saturdays 11:00 am -4:00 pm. Here is my phone number and email: [Janice03021947@gmail.com](mailto:Janice03021947@gmail.com) and 707-338-3480.

Janice Kearns, Bookstore Volunteer Coordinator

PETALUMA FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY  
BOOK SALE

**November 20 - 23, 2025**  
Location: Community Room, Petaluma Library, 100 Fairgrounds Drive, Petaluma

Books of all sorts, adult's, YA's and children's. Some electronic media and vinyl.

Thursday 11/20: 3:30 - 5:30 PM Members only, memberships available at the door  
Friday 11/21: 10AM - 5:30PM  
Saturday 11/22: 10AM - 5:30PM  
Sunday 11/23: 1 - 2:30PM Half price sale, 2:45 - 4:30PM Bag Sale

Pricing: Regular sale: all books priced by the inch; electronic media/ vinyl as marked.  
Bag sale: \$4 a bag (we provide), and \$10 for 3 bags

DOROTHY’S PLACE  
THE FRIENDS OF THE PETALUMA LIBRARY  
BOOKSTORE

**Bookstore hours**  
Monday – Friday 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Saturdays 11:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Sundays – Closed

PLEASE NO DONATIONS UNTIL DECEMBER

Petaluma Regional Library Hours

<b>Monday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am -- 6pm</b>
<b>Tuesday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am - 8pm</b>
<b>Wednesday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am - 8pm</b>
<b>Thursday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am – 6pm</b>
<b>Friday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am – 6pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>10am – 6pm</b>
<b>Sunday.</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>1pm – 5pm</b>

NEWSLETTER REQUEST

We need your email address. We are planning to send future newsletters electronically.  
Please send your name and email address to: [petalumafriends@sonomalibrary.org](mailto:petalumafriends@sonomalibrary.org). On the subject line put membership.  
We like to keep our membership up to date with the members home address, phone numbers and email addresses. If any of the information has changed since you became a member please notify us by mail: Friends of the Petaluma Library, 100 Fairgrounds Drive. Petaluma, CA 94952 or the email in the first paragraph.  
ThankYou.

## FOL PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

We have finally opened up the bookstore and hope to see everyone come to the library to see our new, refurbished book store. We have lost some room, but are trying to fill in the gaps. I'm sorry to let you know that we can't take donations yet, but we're looking to the end of November, after our book sale, which is November 19 - 24, to begin accepting donations.

We are looking for many new volunteers who can help with sales, book shelving, pricing, etc., for the book store and set up, move book boxes, etc., for the book sale. We will be sending out a notice on "sign-up" for you to help out. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who have helped get us up and running. Regretfully, our prior manager has resigned and myself and Lynette Weber have stepped forward to run it.

One of our pricers, Gerry Groves, who is 99, has fallen and broken her leg. We wish her well and hope for a speedy recovery. I just love this library and bookstore! We have raised and donated monies to help our library provide you, the public, with many necessary extras to help make your library experience a happy, productive & useful resource. And we did it with our volunteers.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us! Thank you.

Bernice Fowler  
FOL President

## TREASURER REPORT

**Balance on hand January 1, 2024.      \$127,213.12**

### Receipts.

Dues.	\$ 480.00
Contribution	1,600.00
Book Sales (on line)	9,097.08
Book Sales (store)	11,868.59
Book Sales	1,673.68
Bank Int. & Misc.	<u>35.88</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$24,755.23</b>

### Disbursements

Donations to library	\$71,200.00
Printing and Postage	523.16
Rental	3,648.00
Hospitality & Ado	24.47
Insurance	905.00

**Balance on hand December 31, 2024      \$68,031.32**

### Account Balances

Checking.	\$ 3,304.38
Savings	\$64,726.94

Margaret Smith, Treasurer

Supplies& Misc.

7,636.40

**Total Disbursements**

**\$83,937.03**

## DOROTHY'S PLACE

Dorothy's Place, The Friends of the Petaluma Library bookstore, is open and the volunteers are excited to show you around. There is new carpet and a new more open lay out. The books are rotated frequently so come in often to see what is new.

We know you have lots of books to donate. **PLEASE** do not bring them in. We are not accepting any books until the end of November. In the meantime, come see us and shop the store and check out the November Book Sale, November 20 – 23.

The bookstore hours are posted in the newsletter.

Bernice Fowler and Lynette Weber, Co-chair