

# FRIENDS OF NIPOMO LIBRARY

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

With the help of our members and colleagues the Friends of Nipomo Library was able to accomplish a number of projects during the 2016 calendar year. Listed below are some of those items:

- The annual student essay contest was a success, as usual. Funded by a grant, this program invites students from the three local grade schools, as well as home-schoolers, to write or draw (depending on grade level) an essay with a library-related theme. The response was wonderful and there was a standing-room only crowd on our January awards night. This program continues this year and we are currently reviewing the new contest entries.
- In order to ensure that FONL properly handles money from various fund-raising activities, our treasurer arranged for a presentation by the CPA who does the annual audit review and tax filings. This ensured that all funds are properly reviewed and designated.
- During the year the FONL supported many library programs, purchases and projects through various fund-raising activities such as book sales and silent auctions and, of course, membership dues and donations. The total income for the year was over \$17,000.
- The FONL continues to participate in public outreach programs to reach the community and provide information about library programs and facilities. One of the most successful was the booth FONL had at a Dana Adobe Nature Day. We gave away toy snakes and animal pencils (we were next to a of a wildlife group who had the real things) along with a schedule of the library children's programs and had gift baskets (with free raffle tickets) full of nature books. We met and talked with families who hadn't been to the library before so it was worth the work and effort.
- The FONL continues to provide a story time for preschoolers on Wednesday which has proved to be very popular. The enthusiasm of the little ones for stories and songs is amazing. Our FONL volunteers who run this program have boundless patience and creativity.
- The FONL threw a party to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the current library building. In attendance were many of the FONL members, donors and sponsors who gave their time and money to make this library possible. Written commendations were given to FONL and the library by County Supervisor Lynn Compton and State Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian.

- The 20th Anniversary Memory Garden was completed in October, thanks to the generous donations of local businesses in partnership with the FONL. The front of the library now has ground cover, planters and benches which are used by the public. Thanks, also, to the assistance of Parks and Recreation staff as well as SLO County Library Administration in completing this project. Plaques were placed on the planters honoring the library founders and members. Special recognition was given to Kathy Doudna who gave so much of her time and energy to the library.

These are only a few of things that the FONL board, members and volunteers have accomplished during this year. We are grateful to all of them for the time, money, creativity they have contributed to make the Nipomo Library an important part of our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Sondra Vaughan, President