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BOOKSTORE HOURS

MON TUES THUR FRI

10 AM—5:30 PM

WED 10 AM—4 PM

SAT 11 AM—2 PM



SPRING 2026


F R I E N D S
of the orange public library



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mary Galuska

"Keep your face to the sunshine, and you cannot see a shadow." Helen Keller

With spring just around the corner, Friends of the Orange Public Library is holding a few events to celebrate the sea-

son! We are having a special Children's Book Sale on Saturday, March 14 in the Tannas Family Children's Garden from 10 AM to 1 PM. The best part is all books will be 25¢ and 50¢, so you can stock up for the little ones!

Our Spring Bag of Books sale will be in the Community Room of the Main Library on Saturday, April 25 with members only from 10 AM to 11 AM and general public from 11 AM to 1 PM. We'll have all genres of books for you to fill a bag for only \$5, or \$4 if you bring your own Friends bag.

Members, if you have not already done so, please renew your membership to FOPL for 2026. You may do so online at www.foplca.com or pick up a form in our bookstore. And, please, tell your friends about our "Friends" and visit us in the bookstore!

ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to all members who voted last month. Congratulations to **Mary Galuska**, President, and **Peter Wetzel**, Treasurer, for your continued service on the Friends of the Orange Library Board of Directors. The proposed changes to our by-laws also passed.


Congratulations!



714.288.2424



FOPL2424@GMAIL.COM



FOPLCA



FOPL.CA



WWW.FOPLCA.COM

FOPL BOOK SALES 2026

CHILDREN'S BOOK SALE

Saturday, March 14
TANNIS FAMILY CHILDREN'S
GARDEN
10 AM - 1 PM
Bookstore Opens 10 AM

SPRING BAG OF BOOKS SALE

Saturday, April 25
Community Room
10 - 11 AM Members
11 AM - 1 PM Public
Bookstore opens 10 AM

SUMMER READING BOOK SALE

Saturday, June 13
TANNIS FAMILY CHILDREN'S
GARDEN
10 AM - 2 PM
Bookstore Opens 10 AM

FALL BAG OF BOOKS SALE

Saturday, September 12
Community Room
10 - 11 AM Members
11 AM - 2 PM Public
Bookstore Opens 10 AM

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE BOOK SALE

Saturday, December 5
Community Room
10 AM - 2 PM
Bookstore Opens 10 AM

Interested in becoming a
volunteer for the FOPL?
Please scan the QR Code
to apply online or visit us
at www.foplca.com



SHOPPING FROM YOUR COUCH Jim Dickinson, Internet Sales Director

If you are looking to purchase books online, please consider checking our listings on both eBay and Amazon.

eBay: www.ebay.com/usr/foplbookstore407

Amazon: www.amazon.com/shops/foplbookstore

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

All non-lifetime memberships expire in December. Are you interesting in 'gifting' a membership to a friend or family member? Use the QR code provided or go to www.foplca.com to get more information. Don't let your membership expire!



Upcoming Library Closures

Saturday, May 2
Orange Public Library & History Center
Closed

Monday, May 25
All Libraries Closed



FOPL MEMBERS ONLY

Every **Tuesday** in the Book Store
purchase up to 10 regular priced
books for 50% off.



ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY & HISTORY CENTER

Monday, April 20 10 AM—4 PM

407 E. Chapman Ave. Orange, CA 92866 Community Room

To schedule your appointment, go to RedCrossBlood.org and use
sponsor code: COO or contact **Linda** at 714 288-2569

lgroscost@cityoforange.org.

Complete your pre-donation and health history questionnaire from
your mobile device using RapidPass® .

MISSION STATEMENT

Friends of the Orange Public Library supports and enhances
our local libraries' resources and programs.

MEET OUR NEW SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR, EZEL BARROSO

“My name is **Ezel Barroso**, and I’m the new Social Media Director for the FOPL. I was born and raised in California and have lived in just about every part of the state. I live with my wife, Julia, and our two (incredibly spoiled) dogs - Gilly and Otis. I was raised by a single immigrant mother from Venezuela, who is still my hero when she’s not poking fun at me. I’m a marketer by trade, though I’m exploring other fields. Aside from spending time with my wife, I enjoy brushing up on history and current events, trying new recipes, and meeting up with friends.



Ezel and his new bride, Julia

I joined the FOPL’s Internet Sales team last summer after a layoff, hoping to give back and put some unexpected free time to good use. I applied, spoke to **Jim Dickinson** on the phone for about an hour, and was quickly brought in to learn how to list and ship books for our Amazon and eBay stores.

Now that I’ve taken on the role of Social Media Director, my job is a bit different. I manage our social media profiles by creating posts, responding to messages and comments, and finding new ways to engage with our community. I also manage the website by updating pages and files behind the scenes. I’m excited to be a part of the FOPL Board, and I look forward to helping expand our online presence and continuing to support our local library."

Thanks **Ezel**. We’re excited to have you on our team.

DUMBWAITER UPDATE

Christine Huard-Spencer, Inventory Director

As many of our volunteers know, our stock for the Bookstore is stored in the basement in an area dedicated to the Friends. Materials are moved up and down to/from the basement via the dumbwaiter. The dumbwaiter was built a long time ago as part of the library that previously stood on the site of the current library. As the dumbwaiter has aged, it became less reliable and occasionally broke down. With a grant, the library has initiated the replacement of the dumbwaiter. That construction has taken a few weeks and is expected to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

During the construction period, all the book sorting normally conducted in the basement was been done in the Staff Conference room right next to the dumbwaiter. This has taken a lot of coordination with the library and the Friends and has been going smoothly considering the steps necessary to switch gears from using the basement to using the Staff Conference room. The sorting of materials has gone well and volunteers are taking materials/boxes from that room to stock the bookstore. This effort has involved a lot of people with special acknowledgement of Library Assistant Director, Amy Harpster’s, contributions to make the room available to us and to the volunteers who do the sorting and who take materials to the bookstore.

Once the new dumbwaiter passes its inspection, we will be able to use it to move our materials up/down stairs again. Looking forward to the new dumbwaiter!

**FRIENDS OF THE ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
ADJUSTED FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE, 2025**

HOW WE DO IT
Peter Wetzel, Treasurer

We are proud of providing over \$125,000 in support of our library system last year and our financial review shows the numbers. But for you, our members and supporters, we want to show just how we turn donated books into money. How does a small, all-volunteer charity raise this much value? And, please note that roughly 90% of money raised goes to support grants to the library.

We try to continually improve our operation of handling donated books to get maximum value from each one. Here is how it is done.

First, we solicit donations, both through our donation bin in the library parking lot and, more recently, entire collections from donors liquidating personal libraries. Last year, we received between 30,000 and 40,000 donated books!

Donated books are quickly sorted to remove any badly damaged or unusable books and the rest are placed on shelves for viewing and evaluation. Since the highest value we can get for a

book is to place it directly into the library’s collection, we first invite library staff to select any book on the shelves for direct use; this saves the library from having to buy that book. Last year, library staff collected over 2000 books with imputed value of about \$40,000.

Then, we examine each remaining book to determine its value online through Amazon, eBay, or similar markets. Books which are out of print or have collectable value can be sold for good prices. By developing more skilled knowledge of what is most valued and by adjusting our sales routes to minimize commissions Internet Director **Jim Dickinson** and his team have tripled our results over the past few years. Last year, internet sales brought in over \$27,000 net.

The remaining books, constituting about 80% of donations, are then sent to our sorting area where our Inventory Director, **Christine Huard-Spencer’s** team, sorts them by title, subject, or other criteria and stocks them in our basement before they are sent to the actual bookstore inside the main library. We restock the bookstore every day so that there is always something new for our customers to find. Store staff are trained to be helpful and welcoming to potential buyers. Last year, our bookstore brought in \$52,000 in sales.

If not sold after several months in the store, the books are discounted and, finally, offered for 25¢ on our outdoor kiosk. Somehow, we never have any left over from there.

It is this systemic handling which gains us as much as we believe we can out of each donated book and we keep making improvements. The whole system depends on our wonderful donors and our hard-working volunteers, plus support from our City Library, to keep things going. Thank you all.

SOURCES OF FUNDS	
Bookstore Sales	\$52,000.00
Internet Sales	\$27,300.00
Cash Donations	\$8,400.00
Membership	\$3,000.00
Special Sales Events	\$3,000.00
Twenty-five Cent Kiosk	\$2,300.00
Sales at Branch Libraries	\$500.00
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$96,500.00

USES OF FUNDS	
Grants to OPL	\$86,000.00
Insurance	\$2,000.00
Internet Supplies	\$1,000.00
Membership Expense	\$1,000.00
Bank Fees	\$1,200.00
Administration	\$1,000.00
Increase in Assets	\$4,300.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$96,500.00

THANKS MEGAN O. FOR THE GREAT REVIEW ON YELP

★★★★★ 2/10/26

Today was the day I woke up and decided to stop gatekeeping this amazing library. I come here 1-2 times a week to browse the books and buy from the friends of the library bookstore.

First, the library is beautiful. There are fountains, trees, and flowers. It's right next to the Orange Circle, so it's such a cute area. I will sometimes go for coffee in the Orange Circle after visiting the library.

Friends Bookstore- This bookstore has the BEST selection of books. Outside is a bookcase of \$0.25 books. Inside the book store, there are rows of books and they even have a kid/teen section. Books range from \$0.50 to \$1.50, with some special priced books (usually \$3). Also, every month they have a special sticker color that indicates that those books are \$0.50! I have gotten so many books here for myself, as gifts, and for work (I'm a school counselor and they have a section for mental health books in the kids section!).

On Tuesdays, \$1.50 books are half off for members. It's \$12 a year for a membership but it includes \$5 towards books and half off Tuesdays. TOTALLY worth it. I have gotten so many good and even newly released books here for \$0.50-\$3! It's really a steal!

Everyone I have encountered working/volunteering there have been so kind and helpful. I genuinely LOVE coming here and browsing books and talking to the volunteers.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Courtney, Membership Director

A reminder to all our members: our calendar runs January – December. Please don't forget to renew! We are extending, yet again, our Super Tuesday Deal; show your FOPL membership card and receive half off regular priced books (limit of 10).

For our wonderful and dedicated volunteers; please check the alphabetized manila folders to pick up your membership cards. The folders are located in the back room of the bookstore, next to the Volgistics log-in PC. It helps us to save on postage; more money to give to the library. There are still a few volunteers that need to renew so please don't forget. Life members; you're all set!

If you have little ones that like to read, or be read to, we will be having a children's book sale March 14 in the Tannas Family Garden 10 AM – 1 PM. All books will be priced at 25¢ and 50¢.



PROSPECTING FOR GOLD
Jim Dickinson, Internet Sales Director

Back in 2022, the Friends organization recognized that the practice of selling donated books through online stores such as eBay and Amazon should be given more focus and resources than in the past. As a result, when I joined the Friends in July 2022, I was tasked to manage online sales. We decided to "shake things up" by broadening the selection process and bringing in more volunteers to assist with reviewing our incoming donations. I term the process, "panning for gold."

When donations are first received, they are reviewed by the library for addition to their shelves. This selection represents about 5-6% of the donations we receive. The rest are reviewed by trained volunteers (our "prospectors") who look for higher dollar value for possible marketing through our online bookstores on Amazon and eBay. We set \$20 as the minimum value we will consider listing a book, CD or DVD for sale. The donations that fall short of this minimum value, will most likely be sold in the bookstore at a great savings to our buyers.

We evaluate each prospect for its competitive price and popularity. Most books sold are in the \$20-40 range but we are also lucky to find valuable, sometimes rare, items to list. We sell at least 4-5 items a month that range from over \$100 up to \$500.

As a result of our change in focus, policies and staffing, we have managed year over year to increase the amount we are raising for special grants to the Orange Public Library. Here is the net amount Internet Sales has raised each year for the past four (4) years:

- 2022 - \$ 7,812
- 2023 - \$15,560 (doubled)
- 2024 - \$25,497
- 2025 - \$26,937 (an all-time record)

With the continued support of our generous community and the hard work of our Friends volunteers, we hope to continue providing significant amounts that can be put to funding all the special programs at the Library that may not be offered without our support.

MEMBERS JOIN US FOR ANNUAL MEETING

What a treat to have three of our FOPL members join us for our Annual Members Meeting, held every year in January.

Once a year, we hold our Annual Members meeting. This meeting provides an opportunity for members in good standing to vote for board positions in person, as well as listen to each Director report on their section, ask questions and provide feed back to our Board.

We'd love to see more of you attend next January.

FOPL Vice President **Christine Huard-Spencer** stands with **Roger Simon** and Library Foundation Board members **David** and **Karen Bustamonte**.



SPRING CHILDREN'S BOOK SALE

MARCH 14

10 AM TO 1 PM

TANNAS FAMILY GARDEN

407 E Chapman Ave,
Orange, CA 92866

**ALL CHILDREN'S BOOKS
25¢ TO 50¢**



FOPL BOOK SALES

2026

Children's Book Sale

March 14th | 10am - 1pm
Tannas Family Children's Garden

Spring Bag of Books Sale

April 25th
10am - 11am Members only • 11am - 1pm Public
Community Room, Main Library

Summer Children's Reading Sale

June 13th | 10am - 2pm
Tannis Family Children's Garden

Fall Bag of Books Sale

September 12th
10am - 11am Members only • 11am - 1pm Public
Community Room, Main Library

Holiday Boutique Book Sale

December 5th | 10am - 2pm
Community Room, Main Library

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RENEW NOW—USE YOUR CREDIT CARD WWW.FOPLCA.COM—RENEW NOW—PAY IN PERSON IN THE BOOK STORE—RENEW NOW

Friends of the Orange Public Library Membership Form

Be the first to know about our sales and use your Bookstore Bucks in the bookstore. Invite a friend or family member to join. Give the gift of membership! Renew online at www.folca.com.

Contributions to the FOPL are tax deductible to the extent allowed by federal law (Fed. Tax ID#330150200)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Annual Membership Options

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| ___ Volunteer \$10* | ___ Supporter \$100 |
| ___ Individual \$12 | ___ Business \$100 |
| ___ Family \$25 | ___ Lifetime \$250 |
| ___ Patron \$50 | <i>*must volunteer with FOPL</i> |

Sign up or renew your membership on our website. It's quick and easy to do.

www.foplca.com

Or, feel free to drop your membership off with cash, check or credit card at our Bookstore.



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