



President's message "At the Peak"

It's hard to believe that winter is coming to an end (but is the snow finished with us??). It's been an exciting couple of months at the Library. We have seen some extremely interesting programs and heard some wonderful speakers. We appreciate all of you who attend these programs, as it not only widens our horizons and knowledge of our diverse community and the world around us, but it also gives us a chance to meet up with people we don't see regularly. If you don't normally come out for these programs, give it a try. You might meet a new friend, meet up with an old friend, or even win a door prize!

Reading in the winter is such a good way to spend a cold day or evening in front of a warm fire. Whether you read a physical book or listen to an audio version, there are hundreds of good reads available at the library. The Friends of the Library Bookstore recently has been "spotlighting" books that are new releases, so you can stay abreast of the latest in literature. You can find out all about that by reading the regular posting in *goodmorningidyllwild.com*, or by checking the "Spotlight" bulletins at the library.

Finding it hard to choose a book to enjoy? How about joining one of the book clubs sponsored by our library? Ask the staff about them, and you will be sure to enjoy not only the books suggested, but discussing them with a group of people at a monthly gathering.

What's new in Idyllwild? The Friends of the Idyllwild Library, with help from the ICF grant we received in 2024, are happy to provide a Little Free Library, to be installed near the Town Hall building. We will be providing and maintaining a supply of children's books that will be available to all the kids in the community. The idea is to

"Take a book, leave a book.... Like a book? Keep a book" !!



Isn't that going to be fun for the youngsters who make use of it! Thank you to Mary Zimmerman, one of our board members who operates the Friends Bookstore at the library, to the Idyllwild Community Fund who provided grant money for the project, and to the Town Hall management for letting us place this on their property.

Several of our Friends of the Library Board members are planning to attend a conference in May, title "*Serving with a Purpose*". This annual event supplies the participants with valuable information about libraries, library support groups such as the Friends of the Library, and lots of other things. It's a great time of collaboration with library groups from all over the area. Last year's conference featured Georgeanne Irvine, who works at the San Diego Zoo and has authored many educational children's books. Those of us who attended the session at which she spoke were so taken with her that we invited her to come to Idyllwild and speak to our community. I hope some of you were able to attend *that* one. It was delightful, and she donated several of her books to the library to supplement the ones that the Friends

of the Library purchased for the children's room at our library, and several more for door prizes. This year, one of the key speakers is William Kent Krueger, who authored such books as *Ordinary Grace* and *The Frozen River*. We're looking forward to hearing him, and to the various workshops that will be provided. Those of us who attend the conference will be sure to report back in our next newsletter edition, so stay tuned.

Happy Reading, everyone! When winter is done and spring has sprung, we can trade our fuzzy slippers and fireplaces for our yard swings and lemonade, for that's where we'll be reading for the spring and summer 😊

Lorie De Marco
President, Friends of
the Idyllwild Library



Upcoming Speakers

- **April 8th – Author Talk “Grandpa Ranger” Presented by Robert Peak**
- **April 22nd – Author Talk “Sicilian Odyssey” Presented by Larry Fine**
- **May 27th – Pacific Crest Trail Association Presentation by Ehan Hardacre**
- **June 10th – Science Talk by Larry Kawano**

Children's Programs

Spring 2025 – Children's Programs
Fresh air, warmer weather and blooming flowers. What's not to love about spring? Besides delighting in another beautiful springtime in Idyllwild, we've been enjoying a lot of great children's programs at the library.

We were pleased to host **Janice Murasko** with **ARF** (Animal Rescue Friends) in February for a very important story time about dog safety. Janice's presentation was truly engaging and enjoyable. Her enthusiasm and insights on dog safety truly made an impact on the children and adults. We thank Janice for giving of her time to bring this timely message to the children of our community.





At the **Read Across America** story time on March 5, we introduced a new digital resource offered by Riverside County Library System known as **TeachingBooks**. TeachingBooks is a PreK–12 reading and library service that has hundreds of thousands of videos, audio, and online resources designed to deepen everyone's connections to the books they are reading. This new resource is made possible by the California State Library and the Riverside County Office of Education.

Dia de los Libros y Ninos/Day of the Books and Children is a yearly celebration of children, families, and reading. It always culminates at the end of April. Volunteer **Pat McComas** will be sharing bilingual stories observing National Frog (Rana) Month with the theme “Don’t Worry, Be Hoppy!” Bilingual story times are normally held the first Wednesday of each month. Mother’s Day bilingual story time is celebrated with a charming and yummy tea for moms.

This spring, we once again partnered with ***In-N-Out Burger*** for the annual ***Cover to Cover*** children’s reading program. Participants earn a free hamburger or cheeseburger by reading just five books or for every five hours they read. This program has always proved to be a great reading incentive. We appreciate In-N-Out Burgers’ generosity for sponsoring this literacy program.

The caterpillars and butterflies make a return in May. Children observe caterpillars grow, become chrysalids, and emerge as butterflies. It’s always a grand time every spring releasing the **painter lady butterflies**.



Idyllwild’s Best Book Club/Youth Book Club is going strong. The ‘tweens and teens are busy reading up a storm. We completed a fun narrative-fiction series by Jessie Janowitz with ***The Doughnut Fix*** and ***The Doughnut King***. For March’s book club we shared our thoughts on the classic fantasy ***The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*** by C.S. Lewis. In April book club we’ll consider Aaron Johnson’s dual-time narrative entitled ***Mystery in Rocky Mountain National Park***. We always have a good book discussion, followed by a theme-related craft, and end with a delicious

snack. We appreciate the Friends of the Library for their support of this book club.

Some of the projects we enjoyed at the afterschool **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) program included playing a version of ice hockey and sliding various objects (rocks, marbles, pom poms, bottle caps) over a sheet of ice in order to determine the amount of friction made by the object and whether they would slide on the ice. Another STEAM program involved learning about Bernoulli's Principle. We discovered how air pressure changes allow objects to lift off the ground, i.e. airplanes. Children had fun levitating a ping pong ball and a balloon, flipping a soda can from one cup to another by applying air pressure without touching the soda can.



The experiment in April entails learning about the science and physics involved in making a bouncy ball.

The library once again collaborated with **@Neighborhood Forest**, which provides free trees for children to plant. The trees normally arrive at the library in time for the children to plant them before **Earth Day**.

Idyllwild Library along with **Mayor Max** played a role in the **Riverside County Arts**

& Culture Month in March 2025.

Participants could pick up a Riverside County Exploration Passport at our library in order to take an artistic adventure throughout the county to the various participating galleries, museums, and cultural centers.

Some of our newest Library Card holders!



Watch for details of a new early literacy/preschool reading program – **A Thousand Stories to Kindergarten** – offered by Riverside County Library System.

We are in the planning stages of the new 2025 summer reading program. This year's theme is ***Summer Reading Adventure: Discover, Learn, Grow.*** Look for great things happening this summer.

As you can see, this spring we are having lots of fun reading as well as enjoying many great activities and programs for the children. Please come and join us and bring your friends.

Susan Righetti
Idyllwild Library
Children's Program
Coordinator



Membership

Please give your support to our library by renewing your membership. This link www.friendsofityllwildlibrary.com allows you to click on membership. Or pick up a membership envelope in the Friends Shop in the library and mail it in. Thank you to all who have renewed their annual membership.

Thank you, Jeri John - Membership Chair



Friends of the Library
P. O. Box 2183
Idyllwild CA 92549

Friends of the Library Social Media

Please visit us on social media! The Friends of the Idyllwild Library now have accounts on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

For more information on upcoming programs, check our branch calendar at www.rivlib.net or the Friends' webpage at <http://www.friendsofityllwildlibrary.com>

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