



## NEWSLETTER

July 2024

### Board of Directors:

Debbie Reis, **President**  
Stephanie Hillman, **1st Vice President**  
Elizabeth Haynes, **2nd Vice President**  
Willa Mauro, **Recording Secretary**  
Barb MacTurk, **Corresponding Secretary**  
Michelle Sievertson, **Treasurer**

**Directors:** Robin Jenkins, Marjorie Malcolm, Bill Cech, Marilyn Tucker, Laura McEwen, Sandie Hazel, Donna Andersen

The Board meets the 3rd Thursday each month.

FRIENDS OF THE REDWOOD LIBRARIES (707) 269-1995 [www.eurekafrl.org](http://www.eurekafrl.org)

### From the FRL President, Debbie Reis

Our FRL Annual Meeting was held June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Humboldt County Library in Eureka. Election of officers was held. We welcome new board members Laura McEwen and Robin Jenkins. A big thank you to James Cech and Deb Whitman who are stepping down. Your service was greatly appreciated.

Ronda Wittenberg and Michael Logan were honored with the Frances Rapin Community Service Award. A \$2,000 donation will be made in their names to the Humboldt County Library.

This year's special guest speakers were Betty Chinn and Karen Price. They shared stories and excerpts from their book, *The Gray Bird Sings: The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn*. Their presentation was outstanding.

Our next book sale is the \$2 a Bag Sale on July 26<sup>th</sup> (members only) and 27<sup>th</sup> (open to the public).

Hope to see you there!

Thank you for supporting the Friends.



### BOOK SALE

**Friday July 26** 10 am to 3:30 pm

**FRL Members only.**

*Memberships may be purchased at the door.*

**Saturday July 27** 10 am to 3:30 pm

**Everyone is welcome.**

**Our Annual Bag Sale — Fill a bag for only \$2**

**Book Donation Hours:** Friends of the Redwoods Libraries appreciates donations of your gently used books. Donation hours at the Eureka library are Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to noon when volunteers are available to assist you. Please call 707-269-1995, email us at [friends@eurekafrl.org](mailto:friends@eurekafrl.org) or review the donation policy at [www.eurekafrl.org](http://www.eurekafrl.org) to ensure your books will be accepted.

## Frances Allen Rapin, 1920-2024

It is with sadness but many fond memories that we report the passing of Frances Rapin, former President and longtime Director of the Friends of the Redwood Libraries, at the age of 103. Frances remained an active volunteer until almost the age of 100, coming in to help with various tasks in the back room every week. During her time as President, she was the spark behind the creation of our Serendipity Book Store (see Serendipity elsewhere in this newsletter.) Over the course of her service she was honored by the Humboldt Library Foundation with its Helen Everett Award and also by FRL with our Community Service Award, which now bears her name. Her many contributions to the Friends over the years will be remembered with gratitude.



## The Gray Bird Sings at the Annual Meeting

A small but appreciative audience was treated to a fascinating glimpse into The Extraordinary Life of Betty Kwan Chinn when Betty and her biographer Karen Price were our guests for this year's Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Redwood Libraries on June 22. Members were able to acquire autographed copies of Karen's book, *The Gray Bird Sings*, and discuss it and ask questions of Betty.



Karen Price and Betty Chinn

Prior to the program a brief business meeting was held to conduct the election of officers for the coming year. President Debbie Reis conducted the election and introduced new and continuing officers and board members and thanked outgoing board members for their service.



Debbie presents Frances Rapin award to Ronda Wittenberg

Following the business meeting Library Director Chris Cooper reported on the State of the Library, stressing new programs that are being created, new staff recruitment, and infrastructure upgrades, including those for ADA compliance.

President Debbie Reis presented the 2024 Frances Rapin Community Service Award to recently retired staff members Ronda Wittenberg and Michael Logan, who between them provided 89 years of service to Library patrons. Michael was unable to attend, but he and Ronda will work with the Library to decide how the \$2,000 will be spent.

Following the program, delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all.

## NEWS FROM CHRIS COOPER, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

### New Library Employees

The Humboldt County Library is pleased to announce the addition of three employees to their new and exciting roles with Humboldt County Library. These new appointments will help the library in accomplishing goals including launching innovative programs and services, improving customer service, and creating welcoming and inviting library spaces.

**Kara Fales** is HCL's newly appointed Administrative Services Officer. She has worked for the County of Humboldt for many years in the Auditor Controller and Human Resources departments in various capacities. Kara looks forward to joining the team at the library. She looks forward to bringing a fresh perspective to the library and engaging with our community.



Kara was born and raised in Eureka and her family roots go back to this area for generations. She stayed locally and graduated from Humboldt State University (CPH) with a BA in History, and a minor in Native American Studies. Kara and her husband have two grown children. They are animal lovers, and in their free time you can find them outdoors taking in the natural beauty that surrounds them.



**Jan Kohl** was recently appointed to Senior Library Assistant for the Circulation Division of the Eureka Library. She will serve as the division 'lead' and support Library Operations Manager Sean Hinman and the Circulation team. For the past twenty-seven months, Jan has been serving as a full-time Senior Library Assistant in HCL's Circulation Division and the Branch Coordinator of the Trinidad Library. Prior to that, Jan served four years as a Library Assistant for the Circulation Team.

She moved with her family to Eureka in 1999. Once Jan had her feet planted in Humboldt soil, she started working at Freshwater School as an Instructional Aide in a 2nd grade classroom. She also served as an Instructional Librarian in the afternoons until her departure in 2018.

During her tenure at Freshwater, she received a certificate as an Instructional Materials Research Associate.

Jan is looking forward to her expanded role in the circulation division of the Humboldt County Library. She will continue in her role as the Billing Specialist, supervise our fantastic page team, and more as the Circulation Team continues to develop the ways in which this role will take shape.

**Rose Turner** started her assignment as HCL's first Senior Library Assistant for the Library @ Your Door program. Rose is a dynamic and versatile team member who has served in the Library's Circulation, Adult & Youth Services, and Administration divisions. She has a unique skill set and a vibrant combination of people skills and driving experience, as well as library and bookstore experience. Rose leads the Middle School Writing club at the Eureka Library. She has served as a Rural Mail Carrier for the U.S. Postal Service and an office administrator for the Butte County Department of Child Services. We are fortunate to have Rose play an expanded role at HCL.





## FRL Membership Matters

Head's up! Beginning in September, we're implementing a \$5.00 surcharge for individual and family members that receive printed newsletters. As individual and family members renew, the surcharge will be assessed for printed newsletters.

The FRL Board evaluated the cost of printing and mailing newsletters and found that they cost more than \$10.00/yr. per person. Since individual membership is just \$5.00/yr and family membership is \$8.00/yr., this means funds raised through higher price point membership fees and book sales are being diverted from supporting the library to paying for the newsletter.

The board considered whether to raise the membership fees or to add a surcharge for printed newsletters. We want to make sure as many people as possible can continue to be members at a price point that fits their budgets. While we cannot justify spending more on delivery of newsletters than we receive from the member in membership fees, a substantial number of members receive their newsletters by email. We will be shifting all members who provide email addresses to emailed newsletters. Those who wish to continue to receive printed newsletters should notify us when they renew.

I look forward to seeing you at the membership table at the next book sale.

Beth (Elizabeth) Haynes  
Second Vice President, FRL



## Serendipity Turns 25!

The Serendipity Book Store, the Little Store on the Second Floor of the Eureka Library, will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday this fall. The brain child of Frances Rapin, who was President of FRL at the time, with the enthusiastic support of Library Director Judy Klapproth, a group of volunteers worked for over a year to bring the store into existence. Imagine our joy, and surprise, when sales for the first year totaled over \$25,000!

Over the coming months various activities will highlight Serendipity and what it has achieved over the last quarter century, providing a wonderful source of reasonably priced books and media to our patrons and helping to support the needs and programs of the Humboldt County Library System. Watch for more news!



# Friends of the Redwood Libraries

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

P. O. Box 188, Eureka, CA 95502-0188

(707) 269-1995 www.eurekafrl.org

(Please Write Legibly)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Please Check:  New Member  Renewal

### Membership

- Individual ----- \$5\*
- Family ----- \$8\*
- Contributing ----- \$15
- Sustaining ----- \$25
- Business ----- \$35
- Life ----- \$250
- Patron ----- \$1,000

\*Digital Newsletter Only. For hard copy, add \$5.00

(Make Checks Payable to FRL)

\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE CHECK YOUR INTEREST REGARDING VOLUNTEER

#### WORK

- QUARTERLY BOOK SALES
- SERENDIPITY BOOK STORE
- PUBLICITY
- FRIENDS OF THE REDWOOD LIBRARIES BOARD OF

#### DIRECTORS

\*\*\*\*\*

I would like to receive the Friends of the Redwood Libraries Newsletter as hard copy.

Revised 4-24

Karen & Dan Price, Eureka  
 Stephanie Byrd, Eureka  
 Emily Capra, Eureka  
 Peter and Karen Dubaldi, Eureka  
 Jo McCutchan, Eureka  
 Chloe Quinones-Crosby, Eureka  
 Dan Ruggles, Rio Dell  
 Gerald Watkins, Kneeland  
 Buckskin Ashley, Crescent City  
 Emilio Florendo and John Chaix, Eureka  
 Matt Clementz, Eureka  
 Carol Conway, McKinleyville  
 Savas Evsen, San Francisco  
 Melinda Fears, Eureka  
 Jeff Wessel and Gina Fragola, Eureka  
 Kristine Fresquez, Loleta  
 Michael Guenon, Eureka  
 Brent Henry, McKinleyville  
 Victoria LaPlante, Mantague  
 Debbie Mullin, Eureka  
 Carol Nielsen, Eureka  
 Bill & Eve O'Donnell, Bayside  
 Suzie Piazza, Eureka  
 Sue Portugal, Eureka  
 Juliann Stell, Arcata  
 Joan Williams, Eureka  
 Evan Wrye, Arcata  
 Rand Chung, Eureka  
 Andrew Call, Eureka



**WELCOME  
New Members!**

## FRL Board Members for 2024-25

Debbie Reis, **President**  
 Stephanie Hillman, **1st Vice President**  
 Elizabeth Haynes, **2nd Vice President**  
 Willa Mauro, **Recording Secretary**  
 Barb MacTurk, **Corresponding Secretary**  
 Michelle Sievertson, **Treasurer**

**Directors:** Robin Jenkins, Marjorie Malcolm,  
 Bill Cech, Marilyn Tucker, Laura McEwen,  
 Sandie Hazel, Donna Andersen



Right: Debbie with new Board Members, Robin Jenkins and Laura McEwen



## **BOOK SALE!!!**

**Our Annual Bag Sale**

**Fill a bag for only \$2.**

**Friday July 26 10 am to 3:30 pm**

**Members only.**

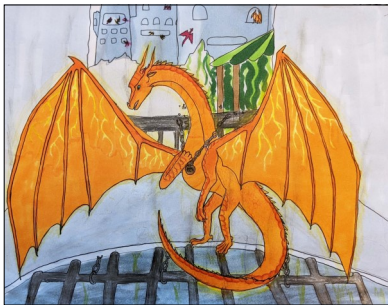
**Memberships may be purchased at the door.**

**Saturday July 27 10 am to 3:30 pm**

**Everyone is welcome.**

## **CALLING ALL CHILDREN**

*Marilyn Tucker*



Bella Beard, *Escaping Peril*

You still have time to enter a picture for the 2025 Children's Art Calendar! We'd love to receive your artwork, and remember, everyone who enters will receive a certificate for free books at the Serendipity Book Store!

All children, age 5 to 12, are eligible to enter up to three pieces of art. The theme this year is "A Book I Have Enjoyed", so think of a book that you have read or that was read to you and



Archer Cairns, *Hop on Pop*

draw a picture that reminds you of that book. Use lots of color and be creative. You can use crayons, paints, or colored pencils.

You can find an application on the FRL web site, [eurekafrl.org](http://eurekafrl.org); at the Serendipity Book Store upstairs in the Eureka Library; or at the Eureka Library Circulation desk. The artwork, along with its application, can be taken to the Serendipity Book Store; the Eureka Library Circulation Desk; mailed to FRL Children's Art Calendar, 988 Diamond Drive, Arcata, CA 95521; or emailed as a jpg attachment to [rmtuck@suddenlink.net](mailto:rmtuck@suddenlink.net). Please submit your artwork by August 12, 2024.

We're looking forward to another fantastic calendar, and with your help that will happen!