



WATERMARKS

LO Reads 2019

The Book of Unknown Americans by Cristina Henríquez is the selection for LO Reads 2019! Find out more inside this issue of Watermarks.



Become a member of the Friends

Membership in the Friends of the Lake Oswego Public Library brings many benefits, and it's tax deductible. Plus...

Friends members receive a free copy of the LO Reads book and coveted ticket to the LO Reads author lecture.

Note: In January 2019, Friends membership will increase slightly to \$40 family and \$25 individuals. For more information visit our website at friendslopl.org.

Thank you for your continued support!

President's Message

Happy Autumn!



Our Friends Board has been working diligently behind the scenes on many important projects. We voted on a new slate of officers at our Annual Meeting in September and said farewell to our beloved Library Director, Bill Baars. After eleven years of leadership in the top library in Oregon, the intelligent, witty, principled and amazing Bill has retired. Past president, Terry Huber, made sure Bill received a volunteer application for the Booktique, to the delight of our volunteers! Bill will also continue the work he championed with Oswego Heritage Council, which has enabled that group to scan and digitize thousands of documents, letters and ephemera for the benefit of our Lake Oswego heritage. Thank you, Bill! (Read Bill's farewell letter inside.)

During our Annual Meeting, we welcomed two new board directors. Jessie and Kristen bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our board. Our new treasurer, Donna Rocco, has stepped into her position with skill and grace. We are incredibly fortunate to have her on our board. Ted Ricks, our current Board Secretary, has agreed to take on the Friends presidency in September of 2019. He and I will work together for a seamless transition. Please join me in congratulating Ted in this new role!

As to the location of Booktique, we have been searching the area for a new location as we await our final home in downtown LO. Big thanks to Ted Ricks and Margaret Ogren, who met with realtors, visited potential sites and made endless calls in an effort to find a workable space. Thank you to Real Estate Broker Chuck O'Leary who has worked gratis on the Friends' behalf, and to Gary Stein and the Lake Oswego Review for featuring our plight. We should have news soon. At the same time, we have been meeting with the stakeholders and architects at Mackenzie to create a workable shared space with Arts Council. Once we have a final design scheme, I will share it with you all.

Lastly, the Lake Oswego Reads book has been chosen and I am so excited about reading and experiencing this book as a community. Remember that all current Friends members will receive a copy of "The Book of Unknown Americans," by Cristina Henríquez, as well as one or two tickets to hear her speak in February. This is just one way we thank you for your continued support of the Friends of Lake Oswego Library. Without your support through membership, donations and purchases made at the Booktique, our library would be unable to offer the wealth of programming they currently provide our community. Thank you!

Nancy Niland, President

Library Wish List programs

Twice each year, the Wish List Committee reviews the list of programs that will be supported by the Friends. Requests are received from library staff for review and approval by the Committee. The Committee includes V'Anne Didzun, Judy Craigs, Terry Huber, Susan Richardson and Pat Wagner. Below is the list for September 2018.

LO Reads program and author presentation	\$19,500
First Tuesday Music Series	\$2,500
Special shows for youth	\$3,000
Total requested	\$25,000

LO Reads 2019

The Book of Unknown Americans is a story of hope and dreams, guilt and love and a book that offers a new definition of what it means to be American. It examines life in America today from the points of view of various immigrants, primarily the Toros and Riveras families, but it also gives short insights into the backgrounds, aspirations, and overall lives of others living in the apartment

For full LO Reads information and updates, visit the LO Reads webpage at ci.oswego.or.us/loreads



New members join the Friends' board

Jessie Halligan works as an HR Manager for a local Staffing company. She was honored to serve as Chair for the Lake Oswego Library Advisory Board while a resident of Lake Oswego. She now lives in West Linn but is excited to join the Friends Board to keep up her support of Lake Oswego Library. Jessie has an almost 3-year-old daughter who is all about the Library Story Time. In her spare time she loves to read, work on craft projects and spend as much time with her family as possible.



Kristin Engstrom is a semi-retired software engineer who has lived in Lake Oswego since 1991. Kristin's professional expertise is primarily database design and development, but an MBA from PSU makes her especially adept at applying technology in practical ways to solve business problems. Some years ago Kristin downsized her personal library and committed to using the public library instead of accumulating a collection of books that would inevitably spend most of their time sitting on a shelf. In her spare time, Kristin enjoys gardening, horseback riding and needlecrafts.



Donna Rocco "When I tell people, I moved in to First Addition so that I could walk to the Library, they think I'm joking. I'm not. Ok, it wasn't the only reason, but it was certainly a factor. Libraries have always anchored me to the communities in which I have lived. So, when I saw the call for someone to be Treasurer of the Friends of the Library it seemed like the perfect opportunity to use my experience as a CPA to help a place I really cared about. I spend most of my time at the library between the mystery, travel, and gardening sections; and on occasion just sit and thumb through the latest magazines. I haven't checked out "Accounting for Dummies" yet, but its comforting to know its available.



Ted Ricks spent 25 years in educational book publishing, including roles as Editor in Chief of Harper & Row in New York City, Documentation Manager at Hewlett-Packard, and Usability Program Manager and Chief Operating Officer for Labyrinth Learning. Ted is a member of school and book publishing boards. He is a bibliophile, and has a passion for books and bookstores.



Bill Baars' farewell letter

I sat in my car for a bit after leaving the Lake Oswego Public Library last Friday evening; my last day as Director of this amazing Library. I watched as the lights went out on the second floor and then the first and as a couple of what had been my co-workers left the place that has meant so much to me. It's so difficult to say goodbye.

Keeping me company in my car were a few boxes containing things I'd accumulated during my tenure and had kept in my view every day. I have the actual brochure for the sale of Lake Front Property in Oswego, and photos taken of and from the house my grandfather built in the 1930's on Maple Circle, on Kelok Bay. I have photos of my great-grandparents who had a small farm before that in Lake Grove, as well as a picture of the first Library at 4th and D, where I attended the opening festivities in 1962. Such a long time ago. I have two photographs of Dorothy Stafford, one of the two of

(Bill's letter continued) ...us and one taken on the first day she arrived in Oregon. Poems from her husband and son that graced my office walls, books written by them that were on my shelves. I have art work purchased from students that was created for Lake Oswego Reads. I have my vocational service award from our outstanding Lake Oswego Rotary club. Pictures of family, notes from friends, letters from Library users. Flowers, cards, gifts, thoughtful tangible items.

Less tangibly but even closer, I carry so much love in my heart. And I thank all of you for that. For the privilege of being the Director of my hometown Library; your amazing Library. It is a place of wonder, serendipity, community, collaboration, challenge, education, recreation and joy. I have seen many of those things on a daily basis. I have seen how Libraries transform lives, every hour of every day. I have seen a community dedicated – like no other – to education and enrichment, to interaction, to conversation, to programs; to an institution that is great because they believe in its importance and strive to make it so. I have had the great fortune to work with the best Library staff anywhere, and smart, dedicated, effective City and Community partners. Please bear with me as I thank a special few, just a fraction of those who are due mention. There are many, many more out there. You, reading this, are a part of this, too.

I would not have returned to my beloved Lake Oswego had it not been for the previous Library Director, Jan Erickson. I had worked under her leadership at the Multnomah County Library and after her move to LO she gave me glowing reports of the Library community, City staff and the City Council and Mayor. Jan always gave me the best possible advice and direction; this proved to be no exception. She is also responsible for my advocacy of programming and innovation. Jan has since passed away and I've missed her every day. And, of course, she was right (she loved to hear that!). I have been thinking of her a lot lately. I know that many of us have had one special mentor in our lives. She was mine.

City Manager Doug Schmitz and Mayor Judie Hammerstad were visionary leaders, and they assembled a top-notch staff. 15 years later and I am enjoying the support of City Manager Scott Lazenby and Mayor Kent Studebaker. They are a pleasure to work with. My co-workers at the City are the absolute best. I know how hard they work, I know that our citizens expect the very best and these folks are outstanding at what they do. It is inspiring to work with a team of this caliber and I am incredibly impressed with their dedication. They have pride in their work and it is justified.

I have enjoyed a great relationship with every Mayor (thank you Judie, Jack and Kent) and City Council. There is no greater gift than time and expertise and I value not just our working relationship and their support but their friendships as well. Speaking of friends, The Friends of the Lake Oswego Library are doing – daily – outstanding work. I have had the pleasure of working with that group of dedicated individuals and a special mention is due Presidents Colleen Bennett, Terry Huber and Nancy Niland. (And V'Anne Didzun has always kept me on my toes.) Wonderful people, and the Booktique (with their terrific manager Mo Ogren) has been a wonderful partner supporting Library programs and collections. A big shoutout to Jack (and Jeanne) Radow and Herb Baumgarner for establishing that amazing book store. We have both incredible volunteers and a wonderful Library Advisory Board. If you're interested in being more involved in the Library, consider doing so though volunteering whether it be at the Library, the Booktique or as a member of the Library Board. There is no greater or more appreciated gift than your time, and you'll have the opportunity of working with some delightful and remarkable people. The Library continues a close collaboration with the Oswego Heritage Council and I could not be more impressed with their work under the leadership of their Board, the incredible Nancy Niland, and archivist Mark Browne. I look forward to continuing great work with these community treasures.

I'm going to miss Lake Oswego Reads, but that program will always be close to my heart. We have had some stunning events, writers, programs. I think of Anthony Doerr, Abraham Verghese, Ivan Doig, Tim Egan; Kim Stafford the year we celebrated his Father's poetry; really all of them. I have to say that 2012 was truly special. The year of Mink River and Brian Doyle. To have spent the month in Brian's presence, to hear him speak to our community of our community. To hear him MAKE community. For me it was the reason I wanted to do the reads program in the first place. It was truly unforgettable. LO Reads is blessed with an amazing steering committee led by the astounding Cyndie Glazer. It is an honor to be her friend and to have worked with her so closely and so well.

I could not have done what I needed to do without Beverly Ross. To me she is the unsung hero of my LOPL years. Her job title of Administrative Support only describes a fraction of what she did. She was my savior, my sounding board. She listened, she counselled and cautioned me when I needed it. We were truly a team. Any success I've had is as a result of collaboration. Hers more than anyone else's and that's saying a lot.

I want to thank The Lake Oswego Review for not only being THE place to find out what was going on at the Library – and everywhere else in town – but for pursuing excellence, valuable, useful information and as a community resource. Under publisher Brian Monihan and with their the excellent, indefatigable and hugely talented editor Gary Stein (that guy is EVERYWHERE) I look forward to keeping up with all things Lake Oswego.

I am going to miss the staff of our wonderful Library. Every day. I have been extremely fortunate to work with an amazing, smart, sensitive, dedicated, gracious, passionate, dedicated group of people. I know how lucky I am. With these folks – and our wonderful new Library Director Melissa Kelly – that the Library – and the community – will continue to thrive, learn, challenge and delight each other.

And I'm going to miss you. I'll miss every opportunity to talk with someone about our Library. To hear your stories, to get your input on how to make this Library even better. YOU have made this Library great. It's been an incredible honor to be the Director of your Lake Oswego Public Library. Thank you.

Friends of the Lake Oswego Public Library
www.friendslopl.org

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Checks may be left at the Circulation Desk or mailed to address below. Please make check payable to: **Friends of the Lake Oswego Public Library**
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Proceeds benefit Lake Oswego Public Library and it's programs.

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