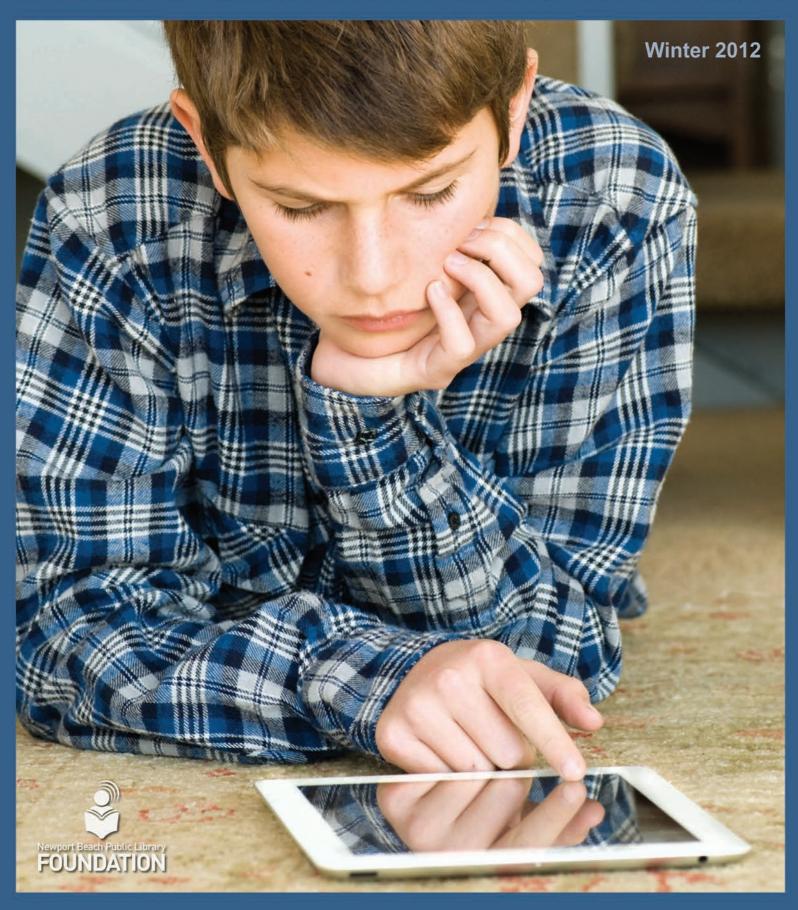
BOOKMARK

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION



Letter from the Executive Director

Pausing to Reflect ... and Celebrate

As we pause to reflect on this past year and look ahead to 2012, I want to update you on the "state of the Foundation."

We are fulfilling our mission to engage the community in cultural and intellectual adventure through the sponsorship of diverse public programs and cutting-edge library enhancements. More than five thousand people attended forty-four programs offered in 2011. The number of people participating via podcast is thousands more. The private contributions from our Library Foundation members during this year have enabled us to invest \$230,000 to make all this possible.

The vigilant oversight of our finance committee and the capable management at Canterbury Capital have resulted in a significant recovery of our endowment fund. We have fully regained the losses suffered in 2008 and are seeing growth once again.

We are proud of what we do for the Newport Beach Public Library and how efficiently we operate as an organization. Although our operating budget has seen little increase during recent years, we have actually expanded our programming.



Much research and thought is poured into Library Live, the Martin W. Witte Distinguished Speakers Lecture Series, the financial workshops and even the book titles selected for the popular monthly discussions. The result is first-rate programming that is unparalleled in Orange County and not often seen in public libraries.

We have just completed a redesign of our entire website to reflect our mission and make it easier for you to learn about programs, buy tickets, read our new *Bibliophile* blog and, very soon, shop at our online store. The *Bibliophile* blog will give you weekly, substantive, relevant and even humorous blogs about our library, our speakers and authors, and the library world as it transforms along with everything else in our society.

Finally, we had the great good fortune to receive a \$500,000 contribution in December. This gift positions us to support the library at a time when it is transforming as part of the significant expansion associated with the new Civic Plaza. With an additional 17,000 square feet being added to the library, there are abundant opportunities to create more programs, install new technologies, purchase more materials and provide enhancements for the new study/reading areas. This money will be put to good use for the benefit of all who participate in our programs, take our workshops, use our technologies and read our books.

We are financially sound and program rich because of all of you who participate and invest in the myriad ways you do. Thank you so much for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at programs in 2012.

Tracy Keys

Executive Director



Cover: Sam Burgi, age 11, reads a book on his iPad but also enjoys traditional print format books.

All photos by Joe Mozdzen unless otherwise noted.

BOOKMARK

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
OF THE NEWPORT BEACH
PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION



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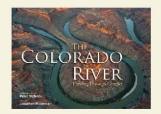
library live

Library Live was founded by the Library Foundation in 1995 to provide a unique forum for outstanding authors to appear at the Newport Beach Public Library where the audience has an opportunity to hear from the author, engage in dialogue and purchase books to be signed. Library Live also encompasses speakers-in-conversation (playwrights, artists, film directors), writing workshops and other cultural programs. We hope you will enjoy the upcoming season.

The Colorado River: Flowing through Conflict

Photographer Peter McBride Thursday, January 26 @ 7:00pm





Native Coloradan Pete McBride has spent almost two decades studying the world with his camera. He has traveled on assignment to more than sixty countries for the publications of the *National Geographic Society, Smithsonian, Outside, Men's Journal, Esquire*, and many others. His most recent project took more than two years documenting his local river—the Colorado. One of the most loved and litigated of the rivers in the world, it ceases to reach to sea. McBride's journey culminated in an acclaimed coffee table book: *The Colorado River: Flowing through Conflict*, and an award-winning short film, *Chasing Water*.

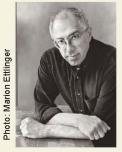
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The New Hollywood with Robert D. Kline Wednesday, February 22 @ 7:00pm

Tickets: \$20 General Admission \$15 Foundation Members Wine Reception @ 6:00pm Producer, director and former studio head Robert Kline, returns for his annual hosting of "A Night of the Oscars." He will take us through an evening of the top movies and screen roles as well as behind-the-scenes stories of Hollywood and film. For a special new highlight, Mr. Kline will present a feature on the "New Hollywood," the real power brokers and how a new generation of film and stars is being born.

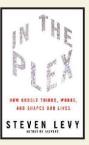
Sponsored by MorganStanley SmithBarney



Glimpse into the Googleplex Author Steven Levy

Friday, March 2 @ 7:00pm

Tickets: \$55 General Admission \$40 Foundation Members Wine Reception @ 6:00pm Promo codes for discounts will be mailed to all members. Be sure you have signed up for e-mail.



We are pleased to announce that Steven Levy, author of *IN THE PLEX: How Google Thinks, Works, and Shapes Our Lives* will make a special appearance at the library. Mr. Levy will be in California for the TED Conference.

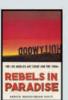
Drawing on unprecedented access to Google's top management, from legendary co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page on down, acclaimed technology journalist and *Hackers* author Steven Levy tells the inside story of the astonishing success, influence, and ambition—as well as the embarrassing blunders—of what is arguably the most important and forward-looking company in the world today. For almost three years, Levy—who has covered Google from its earliest days for *Wired* and *Newsweek*—immersed himself in the company's culture and corporate life, to report how it really operates, how it develops its products, and how it is managing its stunning growth.

library live

Rebels in Paradise Hunter Drohojowska-Philp



Thursday, March 22 @ 7:00pm



Hunter Drohojowska-Philp, a Los Angeles-based art critic and journalist, writes about art, design and architecture. *Full Bloom: The Art and Life of Georgia O'Keeffe*, her first book and the most definitive biography of the artist to date, was published by W.W. Norton in September 2004. Her most recent book, *Rebels in Paradise: The Los Angeles Art Scene and the 1960s*, was published in 2011 by Henry Holt and Company and was on the *Los Angeles Times* bestseller list in the non-fiction category for twelve weeks.

Her monographs include the text for *Modernism Rediscovered*, the three-volume set of architectural photographs by Julius Shulman, and the text for Pedro Guerrero's book of his photographs. Her text for *Sensual Mechanical*, a monograph of the work of Craig Kauffman will be published by Frank Lloyd Gallery in 2012.

Framed Greg Gorman



Thursday, May 10 @ 7:00pm



For more than four decades, Greg Gorman has continued to master the art of photography. His work documents the contemporary obsession of the 20th century celebrity. From personality portraits and advertising campaigns to magazine layouts and fine art work, Mr. Gorman has developed and showcased a discriminating and unique style in his profession.

Many of his advertising endeavors have enlisted the talents of celebrities including his award-winning I.a. Eyeworks campaign. Portraits of Divine, Grace Jones, Andy Warhol, John Waters, and David Hockney have graced the pages of *Interview, Wallpaper, Paper* and *Details* for I.a.Eyeworks.

Mr. Gorman will show some of his iconic images from his forty year photographic career as well as recent work from photo projects around the world. He will present the work featured in his latest two book projects, *In Their Youth*, which features young actors at the start of their careers and *Framed*, the compilation of his imagery for the I.a.Eyeworks ad campaign.

Book sales and signing • Seating limited to 200; first-come, first-served

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Have You Thought About Writing a Memoir? Memoir Writing Workshop with Jean Ardell

Tuesdays — 6:00 - 8:30pm February 7, 14, 21, 28 March 6, 13

Tuition: \$240 (six sessions)
Class is limited to 12 students

To be held in the Central Library Conference Room

About the instructor:

Jean Hastings Ardell's work has appeared in newspapers, magazines, literary journals and anthologies. Her book, *Breaking into Baseball: Women and the National Pastime*, appeared on the *Los Angeles Times* list of bestsellers. Jean studied English at the University of California at Irvine and completed her graduate work in non-fiction writing at the University of Southern California. In 2011, Jean co-hosted the Nine Spring Training Conference in Tempe, Arizona; presented the keynote address at the Baseball Reliquary's induction ceremony at the Pasadena Central Library; and hosted "A Conversation with Shawn Green" at the Newport Beach Public Library. She has especially enjoyed leading memoir workshops at various venues during the past fifteen years.



Dr. Stephanie McClellan is a local hero in Newport
Beach, particularly for playing a major role, from visioning
to fundraising, in the realization of the Hoag Hospital
Women's Pavilion. She was at the library recently to talk
about her book, So Stressed: The Ultimate Stress-Relief Plan
for Women which was co-authored by Beth Hamilton. M.D. As
an author, practicing physician, inventor, businesswoman, and
internationally known advocate for women's health and wellness,
Dr. McClellan has built a reputation as a thoughtful and caring
Women's Health expert.

Her talk focused on how women can learn to better manage their stress so they can live vitally and proactively. She feels our present healthcare regimes are remarkably adept at maintaining states of chronic illness for a very long time, at great expense to our culture and at a cost we can no longer bear.

Dr. McClellan devoted a lot of time to discussing brain physiology, particularly as it applies to stress. She explained that the "fight or flight" response of our brain is rarely called for in the way it was with our ancestors, but it is nonetheless with us at every moment. In recent times, our fight or flight stimulus is called upon in a plethora of ways that can lead to constant unresolved stress. She shows how women can build stress resilience through nutrition, exercise, and relaxation while helping them better understand how the brain, hormones and the immune system work. At the core of her work is the hope that every woman can take responsibility for her own stress and work proactively to restore health. At the core of her work are the practical tools for every woman to take responsibility in restoring her own health. Her ability to beautifully articulate brain function allows us to understand critical aspects of controlling stress including circadian rhythms, the stages of sleep and the way we are hardwired to be social creatures.

Jeffrey Toobin may be the most knowledgeable and astute observer of the U.S. Supreme Court, a very public institution that is nonetheless not very well known to the average citizen. His latest book, *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*, opens up to the reader the inner workings and machinations of this most sacred of U.S. courts. The book has received awards from the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. Toobin is also a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, a senior analyst for CNN since 2002 and the author of four other books.

To an attentive audience at the library, Toobin imparted a great deal of information on the personalities and chamber politics of the U.S. Supreme Court justices, past and present. For his research, Toobin conducted exclusive interviews with the justices and former law clerks and logged many hours of court sessions as an observer. He explained in detail the functioning of the institution, its colorful and often polarized players, and how the court itself has changed throughout the years as political parties changed—not just back and forth, but as conservatives and liberals on the court changed as well.

Toobin broke down the numbers of the present court: For the first time in history, six men and three women— the most women on the court. Other statistics include six justices from Harvard and three from Yale; six Catholics and three Jews and four justices from New York City. Despite all the differences Toobin insists that while there are rancorous relations among the justices, the court is very much a congenial place. As for

the most important decision that will go in front of the court this coming year, Toobin is certain that it will be the challenge of Obama's Health Care Bill.



We Have a Winner!

We are pleased to announce the winner of our annual Library Lit Creative Writing Contest open to all local high school students. Aviva Meyers, freshman at Laguna Beach High School, won \$250.00. The judges included author Gordon McAlpine and library staff and Trustees. Congratulations Aviva!



An Askew Point of View by Aviva Meyers

Though he was a knight, Nigel detested "Sir" preceding his name. He could see when a thankful villager was about to say "Sir Nigel," and he always interjected with, "Just Nigel, my dear, just Nigel." This was received with a confused look that Nigel knew was astonishment. After all, what sort of knight rejected his title? An unpretentious one, that was the sort, Nigel had decided..

The old hag at the library, however, was different. She ignored his title not out of the knowledge that he loathed it, but out of disrespect. She sat hunched over her desk with the book-checking contraption in her hand, a grotesque smirk twisting her lips, and her ugly nose hooking over from betwixt her spectacles.

"Nigel," she would acknowledge pretentiously as he rode to the front desk upon his noble steed.

"Peasant," he would reply. And with a conciliatory wave: "Well, aren't you personable today?"

"Your horse is made of wood."

He would bray laughter. "And your heart is made of stone, my good lady. And your hair the color of it. Now I must not dawdle, for Lady Melanie is expecting me in the children's section, I believe." With this, he would turn his horse and trot off to continue his courtship of the good lady.

Lady Melanie was a tall, slim woman with sunset hair in a loose knot and warm brown eyes that twinkled like torches lining a castle wall. She wore black pantsuits...or whatever it was that women called them. (Nigel wasn't familiar with the modern fashion of the opposite persuasion.) She was soft in her ways and mannerisms, feminine and intellectual, like the swan. Though damned if Nigel knew where a swan's intellect came from. Lady Melanie's hands were little butterflies that fluttered about as she talked to Nigel in her soft voice. Once in a while, she would break the conversation to gently guide a child in his quest for a book. Nigel charmed her with little nothings about the weather and big somethings about human morals. But neither had expressed their undoubted and unyielding love, which was the only unsolvable problem Nigel had ever encountered.

On a fine summer's day of agreeable weather—much like the day when Nigel slew the Dragon of U.C. Irvine—the valiant knight rose from his dozing post at the library's doors. He stretched his battle-weary limbs and smiled at a passing toddler and his mother.

"This is Gonzo." He pointed to his noble steed, saddled and proud.

The child looked intrigued, but the mother much less so. She shot Nigel a look that he had seen many times before and pulled her son's hand more urgently. Some people just didn't understand his over protectiveness of the library, and were frightened by it. But he dared not leave for long, lest Lady Melanie should meet death by the hand of an old foe. With thoughts of Lady Melanie, Nigel left Gonzo to enjoy the summer smells and strode into the library.

It was not an impressive place by any standards. But it was small and cozy and painted in warm, hospitable colors. Shelves, books, beanbags, the elderly; what more was needed? Of course, the picture was rather tarnished by the hag at the desk.

"Nigel," she greeted coolly.

"Peasant," said he cheerfully. "Where is my Lady Melanie?"

"Gone," said the hag, typing a few keys on the thinker-machine.

Nigel sprung up in the air in outrage and drew his sword. "Gone? Who has taken her?"

"No one has taken her, you dolt. She was fired. Put the stick away."

"Fire? Burned at the stake? For what crime?" Nigel shouted, waving his arms madly with sword still in hand.

"Inside voice," growled the hag. "And no, not burned at the stake. Fired. She no longer works here!"

"I do not understand," said Nigel, drawing himself up menacingly.

"Well, in simple terms: thou art screwed, Nigel."

"Beatrice, be kind." Lady Christine walked in from the Employees Only room. Nigel had discovered her to be a woman with a heart of gold. "Nigel." She smiled her amiable smile. "Melanie has realized that her ambitions lie elsewhere, and has left—"

"After she was fired," interjected the hag.

"Yes," sighed Lady Christine. "After she was fired."

"For what would she be fired?" Nigel, incredulous, slammed his fist upon the desk. "Lady Melanie is a sweet and caring woman and would do nothing to deserve this mistreatment!"

"Things in the world are worse than they might seem to you, Nigel," said the Beatrice hag.

"You think I don't know this? Why, just last week I found a unicorn dead upon the weeping beach sand—"

"Our economy is in the toilet. Melanie is the first of many to go."

Nigel sniffed suspiciously. "Something is awry," he murmured. "Something is being kept from me."

"Nothing is being kept from you," said Lady Christine sympathetically. "Nigel, it's no use. Just go, okay?"

But Nigel was adamant. "Do not lie, my Lady. Do not let thy good heart be tainted. Even if it be the death of me, I shall find out what this conspiracy is all about."

With this defiant note, Nigel turned and made his way to the children's section. Beatrice and Christine watched him carefully.

"You don't think he'll do anything...reckless?" Christine asked.

"Isn't that in his job description?"

Christine glared at her. "He's a good man."

"He's trouble. And he won't leave us be until he finds a better explanation to Melanie's 'disappearance." Beatrice accented her point with finger quotes, a rarity.

Christine sighed. "Who do you think will be next on the chopping block?" "You."

"Thank you, Beatrice. I always appreciate your support."

"Oh, take the stick out of your ass. I'll probably be after you." She rolled her eyes. "Then I can go live on the bench with Sir Nigel."

"Well, at least he would be nice enough to share it with you. No matter how much of a bitch you are to him."

The two women shared ten seconds of heated anger and shooting eye-daggers before returning to their work.

Meanwhile, Nigel stalked the shelves, a predator among the stories. His armor clanked quietly, his sword hung by his side. A small noise startled him and he whirled, jabbing his sword out. A little girl of brown doe eyes and pink dress stared up at him. Nigel peered down at her warily, but softened his gaze when he saw she meant no harm.

"Why do you have a stick?" she inquired curiously, pointing to his sword.

Nigel smiled bitterly. "No, my darling, this is called a sword. No matter, you'll learn it all in good time. Have you seen a soft-spoken woman of glimmering eyes and sunset hair?"

The girl continued to stare, but didn't answer the question. Nigel decided she was of no use in his investigation. He walked past her and turned to the next row of shelves; when he looked back he saw her follow, sucking her thumb.

"Do you wish to accompany me in my search of Lady Melanie?" asked he.

The child nodded and quietly slipped her hand through his—the one that wasn't grasping his sword, naturally.

"Though I must warn you,"—they made their way to the children's section--"it is to be a dangerous quest, and if I tell you to run, you must run. Understand?"

"Yes"

Nigel stopped on the threshold of the little side room and looked about cautiously. Books of ABC's and Dr. Seusses lined the shelves. The little girl seated herself on a beanbag and watched Nigel expectantly.

"Tis Lady Melanie's favorite place to be," Nigel explained in a low voice. "If we were to find any clues, they would be here." He walked the perimeter of the room. "And here!" he exclaimed. He stopped at a book. "What is the title of this book?" he asked the girl, showing it to her.

"'One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish," she read slowly.

"Well, my child, if one looks closely, one sees that 'One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish' has a dripping line of red upon its spine." Seeing her befuddled look, he furthered his point in a sad voice: "Blood."

"Oh," said she. "Is Lady Melanie dead then?"

"I should certainly hope not." He swung his sword from side to side, killing the imaginary foe. The girl watched in awe. "If she is, her butcher shall have Nigel of the palace of Irvine to answer to." He offered his hand to the girl, which she took. He pulled her up and knelt at her feet. "I thank you for your help, my little Lady. But 'tis time for you to be on your own way, while I solve the last of this mystery."

She nodded seriously. Nigel stood and left her, the Dr. Seuss book in hand. He strode back to the front desk, where Beatrice was no longer present. He slipped through the small gate that separated the back of the desk from the public, and sat in the hag's chair. He placed the book down and looked about the desk. The thinker-machine was still glowing. Nigel tried typing a few keys and moving the little pointing finger on the screen, but after a few tries he realized that only a professional could manipulate this machine. But no matter. After all, why would more clues be stored in the thinker-machine? The thinker-machine was just for the library's records. He realized it was a stupid idea in the first place.

So he sat back and studied Beatrice's desk. If anyone had cause to harm poor Melanie, it would be Beatrice. Nigel had seen her angry glare (which was directed at everyone) especially intense when looking at Lady Melanie, and flared nostrils to accompany it. This desk was Beatrice's focal point; surely there was some evidence of where Melanie could be. He turned over papers and moved a stack of books. He then noticed a purse at the foot of the chair, which he bent down to open. Pens, scraps of paper, lipstick, receipts, bobby pins, a talking-communicator, and in a hidden pocket a strangely shaped red thing.

Nigel picked up the object and turned it about. The front and back were red and in the center were little metal ridges and edges. He stuck his fingernail into one of the ridges and pulled until something popped out. A little, but sharp knife. He looked from the knife to the bloodstained book, and felt tears sting his eyes.

"Oh, my poor Melanie," he sighed.

"What do you think you're doing behind my desk with my Swiss army knife?"

Nigel stood and turned quickly, drawing his sword once more. Beatrice and Lady Christine stood at the door of the Employees Only room, Beatrice angry and Christine sad.

"What did you say this was?" Nigel asked, brandishing the little knife at Beatrice.

"A Swiss army knife. Now put it down before I call the police!" Beatrice strode forward and snatched the knife from his hand.

Christine snatched a talking-communicator, dialed a few keys, and began talking in a low voice that Nigel couldn't hear. Instead, he turned to Beatrice.

"You have harmed Lady Melanie. You have lied about it. And still you have the gall to stand before me and look me in the eyes. Give me one reason not to behead you at this very moment."

"Well, first of all, you're holding a stick."

"Stop saying that!" he shouted.

"And second of all, I haven't done anything to Melanie. She's alive and well and looking for a new job."

"Then explain this." Nigel thrust "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" into her hands. She looked at him blankly. "This." He pointed to the spine.

Beatrice let out a whoosh of anger. "Christine, those kids got paint on another book."

Christine held a finger to her lips and pointed to the talking-communicator she held to her ear. Beatrice glared at Nigel.

"Nigel, this was in the children's section. Where children finger paint, then get their messy little hands all over our books. Smell it." She held the book to his noise. He hesitated, then took a whiff.

"I don't believe this," he said quietly. "Melanie wouldn't just leave---"

"Nigel," said Christine. She held the talking-communicator out to him. "It's for you."

Nigel gave her a confused look, but took the talking-communicator. "Hello? This is Nigel of Irvine."

"Nigel." The voice sounded right in his ear.

He breathed a sigh of relief and dropped his sword. "Melanie. My Lady, where are you?"

"New York." He heard the smile in her lovely voice. "Remember I told you about New York? The skyscrapers?"

"Yes," he breathed. "Yes, I remember."

"It's where I've always wanted to go, Nigel. I'm happy here. I wish you could see it. It's a different world on the east coast."

"But Melanie," he murmured, "how will we ever be together now?"

She sighed sadly. "Oh, Nigel. Can't you see it never would have worked?"

"But why not?"

"You're a knight, Nigel. You're always off to save the world. And I would have held you back. You can't always be rescuing people if you have a wife to worry about."

"But I'd give it up for you! You know I would!"

"Nigel, listen to me. You can't quit what you do. You make the world a better place. You touch people's hearts and save their lives. That's a priceless profession. Nigel, don't give it up for one single person. It's too valuable for that. You're too valuable for that."

And Nigel began to cry. "You're right, Melanie. Of course you're right." His tears splashed upon his armor. "I love you, my dear Lady."

"I know, Nigel, I know." He heard her voice catch.

"Do you love me back?" he pressed.

"Yes," she whispered softly. "I do."

Nigel wiped his eyes carefully. "I'll remember that, Lady Melanie. I'll remember everything about you."

"And I you. Fare thee well, Nigel of Irvine."

There was a pause before the line went dead. Nigel handed the talking-communicator back to Christine and stood. "May I come back tomorrow?" he whispered.

Christine opened her mouth to respond, but it was Beatrice who answered. "Of course you can."

"I never learned to read," said he. "Perhaps it's time to learn. I will see you two tomorrow to pursue this idea."

With this, he exited the library, holding back powerful sobs. Gonzo still remained by the door outside, his faithful, noble steed. Nigel smiled gently at the horse and fed him a sugar cube from his pocket.

"Come, Gonzo. We have some unicorns that still need saving."

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Someone You Should Know

Natasha Palmaer

Natasha Palmaer and her husband Todd are clearly very proud of their support to the Newport Beach Library Foundation. At a time when some wonder what will happen to America's libraries in the digital future, Natasha feels confident that our libraries will remain central to the gathering of information and continue to serve as a setting for the exchange of ideas—particularly the Newport Beach Public Library. She says the current new City Hall and library remodeling are a testament to this notion. The new architecture represents the energy of a sacred and inviting space calling on our community to come together and learn.



Natasha with Gretel, her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Originally from the Bay area, Natasha and Todd moved to Southern California with their three daughters in 1995. Todd was offered the opportunity to run a Southern California home building company. Natasha left behind a board position with San Francisco's World Affairs Council where she coordinated speakers, dignitaries, authors and intellectuals from around the world. Natasha recounts one memorable yet unnerving occasion when she held a forum on the War in Croatia and the yet to be confirmed rumors of genocide. Determined to bring to light what was happening in the Balkans, she brought together University professors and international journalists. The night of the event there were warnings of possible violence erupting from expatriates from the former Yugoslavia. The evening nonetheless went on without a hitch and was a success despite the complex and emotional issue. Natasha's determination did not go unnoticed-the World Affairs Council asked her to serve on their Board of Directors.

Natasha is proud of her three daughters and is grateful to the library for all the wonderful activities they have provided for them while growing up. Each of them has had a special memory from the library. Hayley, currently a Dramatic Arts major a Syracuse University was thrilled to meet and speak to Tony Kushner at one of the *Martin W. Witte Distinguished Speakers Lecture Series*. Erika, who graduated from Central Washington University and now works for Ambrey Genetics especially enjoyed scientist Brian Greene's lecture. Youngest daughter Hannah, a business major at LIM College in New York was fascinated with Andrew Ross Sorkin's views on the current financial crisis. It is through moments like these that Natasha affirms her devotion to the exchange of ideas. She insists it is through the

Witte Series that she and Todd dedicate their primary philanthropic efforts. They have been active participants in many library events throughout the past fifteen years and have provided support in bringing noted speakers to our community.

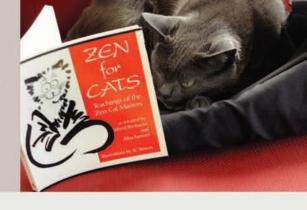
Other recipients of the Palmaer's largess include KOCE, Planned Parenthood, Women Helping Women and Corazon de Vida. Natasha is also a past President of the Orange County Philharmonic Society. Not one to sit still, Natasha has recently completed her Masters in Mythological Studies at Pacifica Graduate Institute and is currently working on her Doctoral dissertation.

An avid reader of non-fiction, Natasha recently read Chris Mathews' book, *Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero* and Stephen King's 11/22/63, historical fiction about the events leading up to President Kennedy's assassination. Her other hobbies include collecting rare books and art, watercolor painting, travel and, recently, golf.

Natasha sums up, "We are grateful to have a world-class library right here in Newport Beach. We are also extremely proud of the caliber of the staff, the commitment of the volunteers and the foresight and vision of our Foundation director, Tracy Keys, who has diligently worked to bring our library into the digital age—as well as providing an important center for community learning, research and the interchange of ideas."



One Word: Pets



The idea for this piece started with a search in the library's online catalog for a particular book about wine. Having typed the subject word, "wine," the return key was accidentally hit and suddenly a cascade of selections poured down the screen. That little mistake yielded 464 relevant titles and led to our first feature in the previous issue of *Bookmark*! This time it's something more universal in scope—pets. There are few of us who have never had a pet in our lives, and for those rare few who haven't, it might be time to peruse some of the library's 474 listings for "pets."

The first listing is a children's book, *Dino Pets Go to School* and the last is a DVD: *Krypto the Superdog Vol 1&2: Cosmic Canine* and *Super Pets Unleashed*

There are innumerable other single words one can type into the library's database that will also yield a plethora of exciting offerings to begin your quest and wile away a day in exploration. It's remarkable how many connections can be made just by entering one word into the library's database and hitting the word search. Give it a try!

Following are a few favorite highlights of the pet adventures you can have without ever leaving your computer.

Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine

Marion Nestle, acclaimed author of *Food Politics*, now tells the gripping story of how, in early 2007, a few telephone calls about sick cats set off the largest recall of consumer products in U.S. history and an international crisis over the safety of imported goods ranging from food to toothpaste, tires, and toys.

Elmo's World. Pets! [DVD]

Elmo helps young children learn about the responsibility of caring for a pet. Learn about responsibility and how to care for the family dog, cat, and even Elmo's fish, Dorothy! Find out about feeding, bathing, and taking your pet to the doctor. Come along with Elmo as he learns about dogs with jobs, like seeing eye dogs, police dogs, and more.

The Dogs Who Found Me: What I've Learned From Pets Who Were Left Behind [Book on CD]

The author reveals his experiences rescuing abandoned dogs and offers solid advice for readers who "find" dogs. His warm, candid, and unusual account of his experience in animal rescue is not sentimental about the hard work of saving dogs but rather confident, reflecting his belief that taking action on behalf of abandoned dogs is the right thing to do. Animal rescue efforts may be small in the eyes of the world, but to a redeemed animal, they are the world.

Bunnicula meets Edgar Allan Crow

An overly-alarmed Chester the cat predicts a gruesome fate for the pets in the Monroe household when a writer of juvenile horror fiction and his bird companion stay overnight.

Animals as Teachers & Healers: True Stories and Reflections

Unique and compelling, this book invites us to reconnect with the boundless gifts of joy, wisdom and deep healing that flow from our ageless and intimate relationship with the animal kingdom.

Krypto the Superdog Vol 1&2: Cosmic Canine and Super Pets Unleashed [DVD]

Prior to Kal-El being sent from the Planet Krypton prior to its destruction, Jor-El sent the boy's beloved dog, Krypto, up first as the passenger of a test rocket. However, an accident sent the dog into suspended animation until his rocket arrived at Earth, years after Kal-El's arrival. Follow the adventures of the Kryptonian superhero dog and his friends.

50 Really Exotic Pets: A Fur-and-Feather-Free Guide to the Most Lovable Tarantulas, Tortoises, Snakes, Frogs, Lizards, and Other Creatures

Whether you're already an exotic pet owner or you're thinking about becoming one, here is your one-stop guide to owning such unusual household pets as lizards, snakes, frogs, newts, spiders, and insects. It also includes expert advice on choosing the most suitable species, setting up a tank or vivarium, feeding and proper diet, health hazards and warning signs, and more!

Wackiest White House Pets

White House pets come in every size, shape, and species. What are some of the pets that belong to the nation's presidents? John Quincy Adams' alligator liked to slither across the White House steps and was fond of chasing the guests. Thomas Jefferson took walks around the garden with his pet grizzly bears. James Buchannan received a herd of elephants from the King of Siam. William Howard Taft, who was fond of creamy fresh milk, kept a milk cow in the kitchen. With comical anecdotes and hilarious illustrations, here is a side-splitting look at American history.

Who Swallowed Harold?: And Other Poems About Pets

Eighteen poems—some funny, some touching—along with illustrations, share a look at the pets we love, from puppies and iguanas to goldfish and guinea pigs.

Going Home: Finding Peace When Pets Die

In this moving and thoughtful book, the author addresses the difficult but necessary topic of saying goodbye to a devoted companion, and offers comfort, wisdom, and a way forward from sorrow to acceptance.

And last but not least: 101 Dalmatians [DVD]

Pongo and Perdita settle into their owners' flat in London to become proud parents of fifteen precocious pups, but Cruella De Vil kidnaps the puppies with an evil plan in mind.

EX LIBRIS (\$25+)

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BOOKLETS

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Max Beckett-Maines
Bernat Carreras
Donovan Coleman
Sarah Greengard
Hanah Greengard
Henry King
Brandon Pak
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Lily Paplham
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Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Vivian S. Thorp



Vivian with husband Ed Thorp

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The gifts in memory of Vivian S. Thorp will support the Library Live programs.

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In Memoriam

Christopher Hitchens,1949-2011

Mr. Hitchens was featured in the
2005 Witte Lecture Series.



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Check out the 3-minute video we produced about the series on YouTube! Just type in NB Library Foundation and revisit the great moments.

Note: All of you who responded to the Annual Fund drive in December will be listed in the next issue!



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We will be featuring some of our Wish List items in each issue of Bookmark throughout the year.

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