

Volume 15 Issue2
December 2018

A PUBLICATION OF *FRIENDS*
PUNTA GORDA LIBRARY, INC.
PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA



BOOKMARK

Dear Friends,

I want to welcome back to Punta Gorda the many residents who have been away for the summer and fall as well as the snow birds who have arrived to spend the winter in our beautiful city on the water. This welcome gives me the opportunity to share news on the progress of the new Punta Gorda Charlotte Library as well as other news of note.

Recently four Friends Board Members, Hank Bauman, Treasurer, Lois Modrow, Vice President, Minerva King, Secretary and I were afforded the opportunity to walk through the new library currently under construction. Jenny Buccieri, Charlotte County Construction Project Manager, arranged for the walk through. The walls are up, the roof is on, the windows are in and the framing has been completed. The construction is on time and the new library is scheduled to open the summer of 2019.

As a reminder, the first public input meeting for the new library was held in January 2016. When the architect asked for people to list their priorities for the new building, there was an overwhelming request for the *Friends* to continue to have a bookstore and for it to be larger. The County and the architect listened to the community and we are getting a larger space for the *Friends* Bookstore. Part of the walk through was to allow us to see our space and share our needs for the design of the new bookstore. There is also going to be office space for the *Friends* where we will process donations and work on *Friends* business. The architect will provide us design drawings for both the bookstore and the office as well as the costs for each.

The *Friends* will be paying to furnish the Bookstore and office. All financial decisions will be made by the *Friends* Board of Directors. This is in addition to the \$50,000 the *Friends* donated to help pay for an enhanced exterior design of the new library. We will also be funding some of the new furnishings in the main part of the new library. The *Friends* are able to do this because of the support we have from the community, both businesses and residents. Our funding comes from memberships, business patrons, the Friends Literary Luncheon fundraiser and donations. We appreciate your support.

In the last issue of the BOOKMARK, we announced the 2019 Literary Luncheon featuring *NY Times* and International Bestselling Author, Paula McLain. Tickets went on sale to *Friends* members on October 11, 2018. We were thrilled with the response and it sold out immediately. Copperfish Books will be selling Paula's books at the luncheon. We know there are many people who want to meet Paula and have a book signed, so Copperfish is making arrangements for Paula to have an event at the store while she is in Punta Gorda. The details have not been worked out, but you can check their website or stop by Copperfish and ask. It will be announced in the paper and on social media.



The March 2009 issue of the BOOKMARK announced the first annual *Friends* Luncheon which was held on March 27, 2009 at Twin Isles Country Club. The featured guest was literary actress Barbara Rinella. Her presentation was based on Nora Ephron and her book *I Feel Bad About My Neck and Other Thoughts On Being a Woman*. The luncheon was a success and Barbara has graced us with three more presentations over the years.

Since 2009, our Literary Luncheon has become one of the most popular events in our community, so much so, that we had to move to the Isles Yacht Club which is a larger venue and has allowed us to more than double the number of guests that attended the event in 2009.

As I close out the year, I want to thank the *Friends* Board for their commitment to our mission of serving the library and our community. I am delighted the entire Board will be staying together in 2019 and together with you, we will celebrate the opening of the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library in 2019.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a good holiday season. My season's greetings to you and yours include Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

See you around the library,

Katie



**Wishing you a very Merry
Christmas, Happy Hanukkah
and Happy New Year!**

"A book is a gift you can
open again and again."

Garrison Keillor



BOOKMARK

2013 Award Winning
Newsletter publication of
Friends
Punta Gorda Library, Inc.



BOOKMARK Editor:
Minerva King



Email: info@friendspg.org
Visit our newly designed website
www.friendspg.org



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Punta Gorda Public Library
424 West Henry Street
Punta Gorda FL 33950
941-833-5460

Library Hours:
Tuesday-Wednesday 10am-6pm
Thursday-10am-7pm
Friday-Saturday 10am-6pm
Closed:
Sundays, Mondays & Holidays

Community News

Advice for Your Device

If you need help with your electronic device, contact the Punta Gorda Library. Help is offered in 30 minute sessions on Friday mornings and afternoons. The morning sessions are between 10:00-11:00 and the afternoon sessions are between 2:00pm - 3:00pm.

The following assistance is available during an Advice for Your Device session:

- Setting up your Cloud Library (eBooks) account
- Setting up your Hoopla account
- Setting up your Pronunciator account
- Setting up your Freegal account
- How to use the library catalog
- Setting up an email account



These sessions are intended for learning specific tasks that can be accomplished within a half-hour session. If they are unable to provide the technology assistance you need, they will work with you to research alternative services in the community.

Be sure to bring your fully charged device, your library card and any usernames and passwords for your email accounts. Reservations are required—Reserve your 30 minute appointment at 941-833-5460.

They are unable to do computer repairs or hardware troubleshooting.

Libraries in the Ancient World

by Greg Summers, *Friends* Director



The ancient library of Alexandria, Egypt was one of the world's great collections of literature. Estimates of the holdings are that hundreds of thousands of papyrus scrolls comprised the collection. Almost all significant Greek works, along with volumes from North Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, were housed in the library. Imagine the ancient Greek philosophies, comedies, and tragedies. Some are extant today, but others are lost. In ancient times, however, all reportedly were present in the Library of Alexandria.

The circumstances that led to the building of the Library are fascinating. When Alexander the Great set out from Greece to conquer as much of the known world as possible, the mission was not just conquest: it was also a mission of exploration and collection of knowledge. When Alexander died without an heir in 323 B.C., the empire was divided among his top generals, with Ptolemy taking over the rule in Egypt and founding a dynasty. This was the Hellenistic world, which saw a blending of Greek culture with other cultures. Hellenism, of course, is the reason why the Greek language was used in many places outside of Greece.

Ptolemy I Soter (savior) established the Temple of the Muses – the Museion – in the Mediterranean seaside city of Alexandria (named for his late commander). The temple complex housed the museum, gardens, a zoo, and the Library. Later, a branch library was built at the Temple of Serapis.

Acquiring volumes for the Library was a challenge. There are accounts of ships and visitors to the city having their written volumes seized and taken to the Library. There, the written works were copied by hand, the originals were placed in the Library, and the copies were given to the original owners of the items. A similar story is that the originals of ancient Greek dramatic trilogies by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides were borrowed from the Athenian state archive and that a deposit was paid by the Ptolemaic king. The volumes were copied, the originals were kept in Alexandria, and the copies were sent to Athens, with the Egyptian king forfeiting the deposit.

The library no longer exists, and accounts of its destruction vary. One story is that, during the Roman period, Julius Caesar was in Alexandria and threatened by Ptolemaic ships in the harbor. Caesar ordered that the ships be set afire, and the fire spread and destroyed much of the city, including the main Library.

Another story is that, once Rome had become Christian, Emperor Theodosius I gave the order to destroy pagan temples. This story centers around the Temple of Serapis and the destruction of the branch library. A third explanation is that, many centuries after Rome had fallen, it was the Muslim Caliph Omar who destroyed the Library.

No matter how the destruction happened, a noble effort of humanity collapsed. Cultural treasures that had been carefully gathered and placed in the library were lost forever. A lesson for moderns is to always, always have backup sources of information.

www.friendspg.org

Youth

PG Storytime



Thursday, Nov. 1st 5:30 to 6:00 P.M.

[Punta Gorda Library](#)

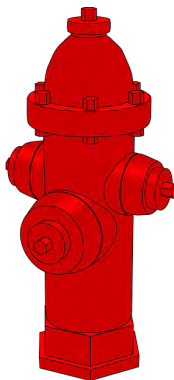
Bring your child ages 0 to 5 for an evening Pajama Storytime. Get your little one all dressed and ready for bed in their PJs, then come on over to the library for a story. Healthy snacks will be served before you take your child home to tuck them in to sleep.



The next Storytime is December 6th
Register on the library website or call 941.833.5460.

Sponsored by the *Friends* of the Punta Gorda Library

PG Fire Department Visit



The Punta Gorda Fire Department made a visit to the Punta Gorda Library's pre-school class on Wednesday October 10th for the celebration of Fire Safety Week. The firefighters taught the kids the importance of fire safety. They brought fire hats and fire safety goodie bags that included a PGFD frisbee, a ball, a coloring book and crayons. They showed the kids that a "regular" person is a firefighter even after changing into their gear. This was done to help kids to not be afraid of what a firefighter looks like in their complete gear. They firefighters also brought their fire truck, which the kids got to see after story time.

PG Library Laboratory

School age children are welcome to come to our monthly Library Laboratory. We use STEAM experiments for the kids to explore. Check our library website for each month's theme!

The next two Library Laboratories are scheduled for Thursday, December 13th and Thursday, January 12th, from 4:30-5:30.

Register online or call 941.833.5460.
Space is limited, so please register early.



Adult Programs

Creativity Workshops

Let's get our creative juices flowing, from poetry to photography and everything in between.

<u>Making Holiday Cards</u> – Saturday, December 8 – 4:00pm – 5:00pm	Learn to make holiday cards
<u>The Art of Zentangle</u> – Saturday, January 12 – 3:30pm – 5:30pm	Create beautiful art
<u>Photography as a Fine Art</u> – Saturday, February 9 – 3:30pm – 4:30pm	A talk on photographic art
<u>Meditative Coloring</u> – Saturday, March 9 – 3:30pm – 4:30pm	Relax and color

Reservations required. Seating is limited.

For more information, contact the library at 941.833.5460.



The following free programs, sponsored by the Friends of the Punta Gorda Library, will be presented at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve Street, Punta Gorda:

February 8 - 6 p.m. Cracked Walnuts performing "Celtic Voyage".

The group consists of husband and wife Jan (penny whistle and washboard) and Jeff (6 string and tenor banjo).

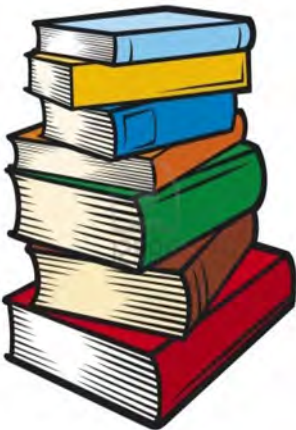
March 27 - 6 p.m. The Daniel Bennett Group

Recently voted Best New Jazz Group in New York city by Hot House Magazine, the trio features Daniel Bennett on saxophone and flute, Nat Janoff on guitar, and Matt Feick on drums.

The Book Discussion group meets the fourth Thursday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The title for December 27th is The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden.

The following are the titles for 2019:



January 24th	Camino Island by John Grisham
February 28th	Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingate
March 28th	Every Breath You Take by Mary Higgins Clark
April 26th	All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
May 23rd	Before the Fall by Noah Hawley
June 27th	Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee
July 25th	The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
August 22nd	The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin
September 26th	Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly
October 24th	Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng
November	No Meeting– Happy Thanksgiving
December 26th	Skiping Christmas by John Grisham

Library News

The New Punta Gorda Charlotte Library



The Charlotte Scarborough Taylor Workbooks



Saved from the scrap pile in 1964, two extremely rare workbooks dating to the mid-1800s were donated by a Punta Gorda Library volunteer. These workbooks were painted by Charlotte Scarborough Taylor, one of the earliest female entomologists in the Americas, and they are now bound together in one volume. This amazing book has many stories to tell.

Come listen to the stories and find out more about these extraordinary workbooks, the woman who made them and her unique connection to the area!

Dr. Annette Snapp, from the Charlotte County Historical Department, will present a program explaining the background of this antique book on December 7th from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.





Friends of the Punta Gorda Library

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**Friends Present 2019 Literary
Luncheon Featuring
New York Times and International
Bestselling Author
Paula McLain**

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Isles Yacht Club, 1780 West Marion Ave, Punta Gorda



Doors open at 11 a.m., opening remarks at 11:45, luncheon at 12:00, Presentation at 1:00 p.m.

Sold Out



Friends of the Library Membership



This newsletter, The BOOKMARK, is mailed out 4 times a year to the Friends membership. This is the most important way we have of keeping you informed and in the know! The BOOKMARK is mailed using a USPS Non-Profit Mail Permit which is beneficial with the reduced postage rate. The drawback is that the BOOKMARK is not forwarded to a new address. Although you can stop by the library and pick up a copy, you may not be getting information on a timely basis and may miss out on important events or news. Please let us know if you have moved or will be moving. You can email us at info@friendspg.org or fill out this form and drop it off at the Friends Bookstore in the library or mail it to us at:

Name: _____

New Address: _____

**Friends of the Punta Gorda Library
424 West Henry Street
Punta Gorda FL 33950**

Each time you make a purchase through Amazon, first go to <http://smile.amazon.com/>. Sign in to your account or create an Amazon account. Friends of the Punta Gorda Library will receive a donation of 0.5% of your purchase with no increase in cost to you! We appreciate your support.

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Friends of The Punta Gorda Library
424 W. Henry Street
Punta Gorda Florida 33950

The mission of the *Friends of the Punta Gorda Library* is to promote awareness of, appreciation for, and use of the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library. The greatest little secret in our area, hiding in plain sight, is THE LIBRARY. To view all its resources go to www.charlottecountyfl.com/Library.

The new, larger library is currently under construction on Shreve Street with a projected completion date of July 2019.

Friends provide the library with vital funding, which may not otherwise be available, for increasing media collections, funding children, teen and adult programs, and procuring furniture and equipment.

Friends raise money through membership dues, special events and the *Friends* Bookstore. The Bookstore sells the recycled donations given by friends and patrons. Money is also received from donations given by individuals, businesses, non-profits and corporations.

Friends fund free music and drama programs during evening hours at community locations. *Friends* monies also support and expand children's programs in STEM, Reading and the Arts.

On January 30, 2019 at the Isles Yacht Club, *Friends* will host the annual Literary Luncheon. The author will be Paula McLain, *New York Times* and international best-selling author. *Friends* members may reserve seating beginning October 11, 2018 and non-members may reserve beginning December 20, 2018.

Please become a Friend! Annual memberships are January 1st through December 31st, (memberships dated after October 2018 will be for the entire 2019 calendar year).

Thank You for your continued loyalty and support. The *Friends* website is: www.friendspg.org

Katie Mazzi

President

Lois Modrow, Nancy Lewis, Georgia Buda

Membership

----- ✂
Please use this form for a new membership or for a renewal. Bring or mail this to the library—

424 W. Henry St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950. Contributions are tax deductible - *Friends* is a 501(C)3 corporation.

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____

___ RENEWAL ___ NEW ___ LIFETIME

___ Adults # ___ Children

Please make checks payable to:

Friends of the Punta Gorda Library

NAME (S) _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ @ _____

Yes, I would love to volunteer (circle area of interest) Bookstore, Library, Board Position, *Bookmark*, Hospitality, Membership, Advocacy, Fundraising, Marketing, Publicity, other

___ FAMILY ANNUAL \$15.00

___ FAMILY LIFETIME \$150.00

___ DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Please Print Clearly

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BOOKMARK

Friends Punta Gorda Library, Inc.
424 West Henry Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950-5906



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Share this information with your business friends and encourage them to become a *Friends* Business Patron.

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