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Dec. 2014/Jan.  
Feb. 2015

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



# BOOKMARK

"It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood, a beautiful day for a neighbor." Fred Rogers

Dear *Friends*,

I woke up the day after the November election and felt like *Mr. Rogers!* Charlotte County voters passed the one cent sales tax extension for another six years. This money has been allocated for a number of capital improvements projects, one of which is a new library for our community. I want to thank each of you who supported the passage of this extension. The City of Punta Gorda has offered land to the county for a new community library. This land



Land next to History Park

is next to the History Park and very close to our current location. It will take time for this project to come to fruition, but the goal of our new library has moved from a dream to a reality.

I want to thank *Friends* Board Members Martha Kelley and Leanne Norlin for their service to the Board.

Although both ladies have stepped down from the Board they are still involved with *Friends*. Martha has agreed to continue to co-edit this award winning newsletter.

We have elected our new 2015 Board. I want to welcome our newest member Nancy Lewis who will serve on the Membership Committee. We are so fortunate to have a group of dedicated people who give so much time and energy to make the *Friends* the success we are!

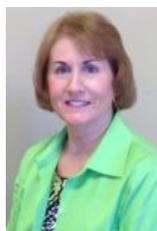
It is hard for me to believe that 2014 is drawing to a close. This has been a very busy and rewarding year for the *Friends* and the community. We are looking forward to many great library events in 2015 including the two Literary Luncheons, the Volunteer Luncheon and the Travel Around the World programming events at the library.

I want to thank Board member Julie Bennett for coordinating with the local elementary schools for an in-school program on *reading and good character*. This is the *Friends* holiday gift to the children of our community (page 1).

I am so fortunate to serve with so many talented people who work toward making our library and our community a great place to live.

I want to wish you a Happy Hanukkah, a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Valentine's Day!

See you in the library,  
Katie Mazzi, President



*Friends* of the Punta Gorda Library Presents

Children's Author

**Julie Woik**

Creator of

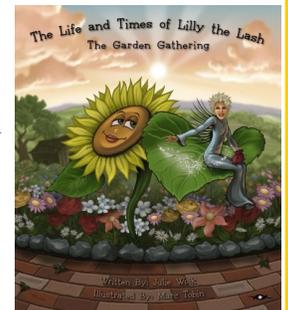
**Lilly the Lash**



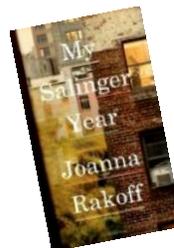
We are pleased to be bring our first children's author to Punta Gorda elementary schools in December. Julie Woik, author of the *Lilly the Lash* book series will present her acclaimed interactive program to kindergarten through third grade students at the following elementary schools: East, Sallie Jones, Deep Creek, Good Shepard Day School and Charlotte Academy.

Woik, a resident of Sarasota for 30 years, is the author and powerhouse behind the successful and inspiring character building book series, *The Life and Times of Lilly the Lash*. Woik, having worked in the field of psychiatry, as well as the business world, found that writing and creating children's books which teach important life lessons had become her passion.

We agree that this is truly a great opportunity for *Friends* of the Punta Gorda Library to work in partnership with our community and the Punta Gorda schools to further the joy and excitement of reading in our children.



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Martha Kelley reviews  
*My Salinger Year*, by Joanna Rakoff  
(plus a small bonus, page 3).

**Library and Bookstore Volunteers needed!**  
**Training provided.**  
**Contact Kathy Harriott @ Punta Gorda Library**  
**941-639-2049 for complete details.**

# BOOKMARK

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



**BOOKMARK Editors:**

Martha Kelley, Mary Knowlton

Email: [info@friendspg.org](mailto:info@friendspg.org)

Visit our newly designed website

[www.friendspg.org](http://www.friendspg.org)



**2014 Board of Directors**

- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Katie Mazzi   | President           |
| Celia Eames   | Vice president      |
| Sara Benson   | Secretary           |
| Hank Bauman   | Treasurer           |
| Julie Bennett | Art Bruning         |
| Joy Dibble    | Mary Knowlton       |
| Nancy Lewis   | Jerri Marsee        |
| Lois Modrow   | Gretchen Neidlinger |
| Nancy Padgett |                     |

**Honoray Board**

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Hank Bauman      | Ginny Caldwell           |
| Jane Fitzpatrick | Jan Roemler              |
| Penny Shattuck   |                          |
| Sue Galvin,      | <b>Bookstore Manager</b> |



Alison Layne, Librarian  
 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-5pm  
 Closed  
 Sundays, Mondays & Holidays

# Library Advocacy - Art Bruning

**Thank you for your support of the sales tax extension!** Our dreams of a new library in Punta Gorda can now become a reality; we urge our Charlotte County officials to expedite the process.

These dreams are not primarily of bricks and mortar, but of an expanded environment that promotes our mission...of a friendly, welcoming place that brings together people of all ages and from all walks of life. It's a place that stimulates our curiosity, guides our inquiry, and provides the resources we need to better understand and enjoy our culture and the world around us.

Libraries are not just storehouses for books and materials. They focus on people, inviting them to explore and to exercise their creativity. They provide places to read and reflect as well as spaces for shared learning and collaboration; and they provide us with free access to literature and mainstream technology. Thus, they actively enrich our lives and enhance the quality of our community.

Engaged people help make the library a special place. We are grateful for the many community members who access our library, and for the staff and committed volunteers who facilitate our mission. We invite you to become involved also. Come help us maintain the Friend's Bookstore, give the staff a hand with their many service responsibilities, and share your talents with others who enjoy the library. Your time will be well spent and sincerely appreciated!

*Art Bruning is a Board member and former Superintendent of School in Hopkins, Minnesota*

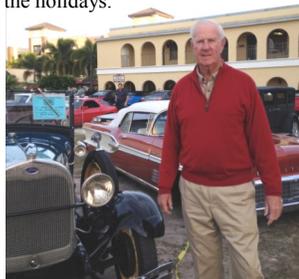


*"Without labor, nothing prospers." Sophocles*

## Friends SCENE IN PUNTA GORDA

*ONE NEVER KNOWS WHO MIGHT BE SEEN AROUND THE CITY!*

Left and below our P.G. Christmas Tree, Jim Kelley at Nov. Gallery Walk, Marjorie Smith and Skywalker, John Wright at P.G. Chamber's 10th Birthday Bash, Phil Cerciello owner Phil's 41 gearing up for the holidays.



Right John Wright drives Santa to Holiday Gallery Walk; below, Lisa Doukas' Jazzercise group at Fishermen's Village.



## Meet & Greet . . . Sip & Eat

*Join Friends at the Punta Gorda Library for this free Membership event*  
**Tues. December 9, 10 am- 4 pm**

**Coffee, tea, and our famous cookies will be served.**



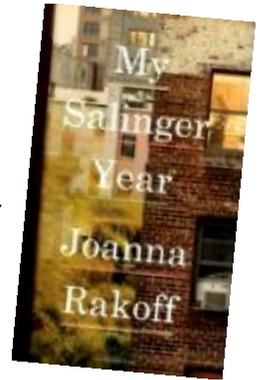


# BOOK REVIEW



## *My Salinger Year*

by Joanna Rakoff



*My Salinger Year*, a memoir by Joanna Rakoff, is a delightful small book about one year in the life of the author after she finished college and followed her dreams to New York City, in search of a career in publishing. A fledgling poet and lover of literature, Joanna was delighted when the opportunity opened for her to have a job as an assistant to Dorothy, not only the top editor but the president of the “Agency”, a small but highly respected New York literary agency whose major client was J. D. Salinger. Dorothy had been Salinger’s literary agent since they accepted *The Catcher In The Rye*, which took the country by storm in 1951. Salinger, being the personality that he was... aloof, shy and private to the point of being reclusive, never had any desire to move away from the Agency or his editor.

Joanna joined the firm in 1996. Though a very old and prestigious firm, they had not moved forward with the times. She found the place carpeted with lovely Orientals, dimly lit and old fashioned...no computers here to lighten the load; shared desk phones, Selectric typewriters and a floor-pedal Dictaphone greeted her at her new desk. The partners were of the mind that NOTHING should change with modern times, as Salinger liked things just the way they always had been. Salinger would call every couple of weeks to check up on his books, Dorothy and the Agency in general but basically just to chat. He was almost reclusive in his shyness and the telephone provided him the anonymity he demanded and needed.

It took Joanna nearly a year to get past being basically a secretary to Dorothy. She was finally allowed to read and edit some scripts, poems and small novels. During this time, she lived with her erratic, would-be author boyfriend, Don. He was caustic, conceited and wildly jealous of any authors’ successes (including Joanna’s, after her book of poetry was published)...a relationship doomed from the beginning. Her passionate love affair during her college years with a bright, articulate and handsome man, now living in California and who never got over their breakup, was always just in the background...making this reviewer a bit impatient with her personal choices during the first half of the book.

*My Salinger Year*, is a great study of J.D. Salinger and his wonderful, unforgettable novels, his unusual personality and his fear of fame and the insecurities that this produced. It is also a book of New York City in the early pre-computer/digital age. This is a memoir of a young Joanna Rakoff’s odyssey; her independent journey into the world of publishing and who early on, eagerly makes the trade off of a life of personal poverty (leaving her oven on with the doors open to heat her tiny apartment during the bitter cold winter) for the joyful experience of actually living and working in Manhattan in a job she loves. The reader will delight watching her make her way in a world not yet ready to allow her the independence she so fiercely sought.

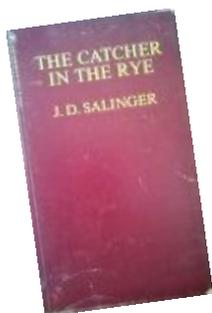
Joanna’s story, her life, her off-beat friends and the working woman’s world of the mid 90’s, is fascinating and brings back stirring memories to those of us who ever had the good fortune of living and working in Manhattan.

This unpretentious jewel of a memoir made it impossible for this reviewer not to go immediately to the library and get a copy of J.D. Salinger’s, *The Catcher In The Rye*...a book I first read in 1954 and have never quite forgotten. Who could ever forget Holden Caulfield.....

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## *The Catcher In The Rye*

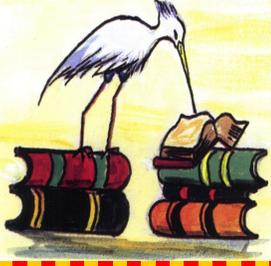
by J. D. Salinger



This story begins in a mental hospital where we find Holden Caulfield, J.D. Salinger’s incredible sixteen year old anti-hero, recovering from a nervous breakdown. He is a man-child who fought growing up with all he possessed until it nearly drove him out of his mind. He constantly battles his grief for his brother Allie, who died three years earlier of leukemia, and his obsessively protective love for his little sister, Phoebe. Young and at war with society as he perceives it, he recognizes the phoniness of those around him, starting with his Pencey Prep school mates (yet another prep school from which he had recently been expelled), their professors and even within his own family. His fear of growing up makes him dream, he tells Phoebe, of being a “catcher in the rye”, where he tries to catch children before they fall off of his perceived cliff of childhood. Adulthood, is just not something that Holden can handle, nor does he want to try... it is just too scary.

This is J. D. Salinger’s little story which grew and grew and has stayed in the hearts and minds of generations of fans.

*Both books reviewed by Martha Kelley*



Judi Roth  
Platinum Sponsor

# Friends Of The Punta Gorda Library Presents

Friends Benefactor  
**GOULD**  
FAMILY TRUST

**Barbara Rinella** is returning for her fourth performance with *Friends* as Queen Elizabeth II, based on Sally Bedell Smith's best selling book *Elizabeth The Queen The Life of a Modern Monarch*. Mrs. Rinella calls her witty first person renditions "academic entertainment." By becoming characters in important recent books, Mrs. Rinella has created a lively "living literature" for enthusiastic audiences in the United States and internationally aboard Crystal Cruise Ships.



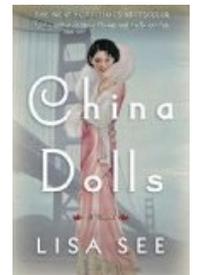
**Wednesday, January 28, 2015**  
**Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda**  
**Doors open 11 AM, Friends remarks 11:45 AM**

**SOLD OUT**

**Barbara Rinella's performance 12 Noon**  
**Luncheon 1 PM**

**SOLD OUT**

**Lisa See** in her beloved *New York Times* bestsellers *Snow Flower And The Secret Fan*, *Peony In Love* and more recently, *Shanghai Girls* and *Dreams Of Joy*, has brilliantly illuminated the strong bonds between women, romantic love and love of country. Now in *China Dolls*, which is about Asian-American nightclub performers of the 1930s and 1940s, she returns to these timeless themes.



**Tuesday March 17, 2015**  
**Isles Yacht Club, Punta Gorda**  
**Doors open 11 AM, Friends remarks 11:45**  
**Luncheon 12 Noon**  
**Lisa See's presentation and Q & A, 1 PM**  
**Book Signing, 2 PM**  
**Books by Lisa See available for sale courtesy Copperfish Books**

To reserve your seats for this event, submit this completed form, along with a check made payable to Friends of Punta Gorda Library, in person or by mail to: **Friends of Punta Gorda Library, 424 W. Henry St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950**. Seating, at tables of 8, is assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment is required to make a reservation. There are no tickets. You will be given your seat assignment at "Check In" the day of the event. If you have questions, please call Jerri Marsee at 941-613-9048 or e-mail her at [jmarsee@comcast.net](mailto:jmarsee@comcast.net). Order Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

**Friends Member \$40**      **Non-Member \$45**

# of Tickets

Total Cost

**Lisa See Tuesday, March 17** \_\_\_\_\_

If purchasing multiple seats, please list the names of persons attending:

# Bookmark Feature - Sandra Miskell, Library Volunteer

"I was born in Washington, D.C., the eldest of eight children and raised in Maryland. I retired after thirty two years with Giant Food Inc., as the Director of Risk Management and Insurance. In 2001, we moved to Burnt Store Isles, where I enjoy many different activities including Boating, Golf, Bridge, Mah -Jong and two Book Clubs. I volunteered for two years, through the Library, as a tutor at Sallie Jones Elementary School with second graders. I have also volunteered at the Punta Gorda Library, referred to by me, as 'My Library' for numerous years where I have met many wonderful people and enjoy helping them when they come into the library. My husband says there are three things you don't want to bring up with me because I will burn your ears off...my three Grandchildren, Disney and My Library." Burn your ears off or not, we love to hear you talk about our wonderful library and the work you do with us, Sandra... thank you.



*"Intellectuals solve problems; geniuses prevent them." Albert Einstein*



## Reader's Advisory Group at the Punta Gorda Library

Reader's Advisory Group meets every month on the second Thursday from 1:30-3:00 p.m. at the library. Please join us to "show and tell" a recently read book. These are excerpts from the shared reviews.

***Years Of Wonder***, by Geraldine Brooks – Ms. Brooks set her novel in the village of Eyam, England in 1666 when the plague was rampant in Europe. Eyam closed or cordoned itself off to prevent the plague's spread. On August 13, 2014, a story appeared in the New York Times, about the Ebola outbreak in Africa and made reference to the village of Eyam. The protagonist of Brooks' book, Anna Frith, watches as illness and death spread through her own home and throughout the village. At the village clergyman's urging, the villagers agree to cordon themselves off...with one exception, the Lord of the Manor. As the hardships of the cordon progress, frantic villagers frenzied with fear, seek to place blame. Midwives and healers, who work with potions, become targeted. Throughout the grief and sorrow of this *annus horribilis*, emerges acts of heroism and love, making it also an *annus mirabilis*, "a year of wonders", as the plague subsides and Eyam is safe once again.

***Plum Pudding Murder***, by Joanne Fluke. This is a part of the series about Hannah and takes place in Lake Eden, Minnesota, where Hannah owns The Cookie Jar, a bakery. During Christmas, the owner of the Crazy Elf Christmas Tree lot is murdered. There were rumors that the owner of the lot "was cooking the books" and when he was found dead, many people fell under suspicion. Hannah and her boyfriends, the local sheriff and the dentist, work to solve the case. Meanwhile, Hannah continues to bake for her shop. There are recipes for cookies and desserts in this book. Unusual and fun.

***Dewey: The Small Town Library Cat Who Touched The World***, by Vicki Myron - In January of 1988, Vicki Myron, head librarian of the Spencer, Iowa Library, found a small cat in the drop box with the books. Ms. Myron's story of how an eight week old kitten, who's official name was "Dewey-Readmore-Books", grew to be the delight of every library patron, young or old at the Spencer Library. The story of Dewey will warm the hearts of all who read this book.

***Big Little Lies***, by Liane Moriarty - Sometimes the little lies are the most dangerous. This book tells the story of Madeline, Celeste and Jane. *Madeline* has to deal with living in the same town as her ex-husband and his young yoga-instructor wife. She is also dealing with her teenage daughter who has decided she would rather live with her father and be an "activist" like her stepmother. *Celeste* is a beautiful woman of privilege whose beauty and social status belie a dark secret that is beginning to unravel. Single mom, *Jane* has moved to the beach town to get away from her past. When all of their secrets intersect at Parents' Trivia Night at school, tragedy ensues. The story, told in flash backs and police interviews, keeps one wondering what will happen next. This novel is by the widely acclaimed author of *The Husband's Secret*.

*"You don't have to be great to get started, but you have to get started to be great." Les Brown*



## Librarian - Alison Layne

I hope that you find some time during your busy holiday

season to visit the library because the cold snap in the air makes curling up with a good book or movie a comforting thought. We have many exciting programs happening and some new technology around the corner. We have removed our old self check machines in order to bring in the new ones around the beginning of the new year. We know that you will find these new machines fantastic and they will ease the wait in the long lines at the library. The holidays are a time when we get to share our love and give thanks and I would like to thank all of you for a fabulous year at the Punta Gorda Library. We had a great summer and it's shaping up to be a great winter. Your affirmative votes for the One Cent Sales Tax Extension have brought us one step closer to a new library in South Charlotte County. Thank you. If you have ideas or suggestions for our new library, you will be able to share them at public input sessions that will be scheduled as we get closer to the project beginning. The libraries are gearing up to welcome Godfrey's Associates, Inc. to assist us with our Library Capacity Plan that will assess current facilities and capacity levels; and work to establish a future plan for library infrastructure, including facilities and technology, service capacity, and sustainable funding for the future of the Charlotte County Library System. This will replace our current Master Plan that was developed in 2002. Happy Holidays!

### Calendar of Library Events

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>DECEMBER 2</b> Meet the Author 10am Writers' Read 11am	3	4 Cookie Swap 11am Family Movie 5pm	5 Café Philo 11:30am	6
9 Meet & Greet Friends 10am-4pm Movie Matinee 1pm	10 Master Gardeners 11am	11 Reader's Advisory Group 1:30pm Lorenzo Marion 5:30pm	12 Café Philo 11:30am	13
16 Meet the Author 10am Alzheimer's 2pm	17 Mad Science Club 4pm	18 Friends Board 9am Winter Creations 4pm Teen Program 5pm	19 Café Philo 11:30am	20 Kid's Stuff 10am
23 Meet the Author 10am	24 <b>CLOSED</b>	25 <b>CLOSED</b>	26 Café Philo 11:30am	27
30 Meet the Author 10am	31	<b>JANUARY 1</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	2 Café Philo 11:30am	3
6 Meet the Author 10am Writers' Read 11am	7 Tiny Tots 10:15am Glad Scientists 10:30am Sunshine Adventure 11am	8 A Cup o' Tea 11am Reader's Advisory Group 1:30pm Family Movie 5pm	9 Café Philo 11:30am	10
13 Meet the Author 10am Movie Matinee 1pm	14 Tiny Tots 10:15am Sunshine Adventure 11am Master Gardeners 11am	15 Teen Program 5pm	16 Café Philo 11:30am	17 Kid's Stuff 10am
20 Meet the Author 10am Alzheimer's 2pm	21 Tiny Tots 10:15am Sunshine Adventure 11am Mad Science Club 4pm	22 Book Club 4pm	23 Café Philo 11:30am	24
27 Meet the Author 10am	28 Tiny Tots 10:15am Sunshine Adventure 11am Friends Luncheon 11am	29	30 Café Philo 11:30am	31
<b>FEBRUARY 3</b> Meet the Author 10am Writers' Read 11am	4 Glad Scientists 10:30am	5 Smashing Sandwiches 11am Family Movie 5pm	6 Café Philo 11:30am	7 Dog Tales 11am
10 Meet the Author 10am Movie Matinee 1pm	11 Tiny Tots 10:15am Russian Duo 10:30am Sunshine Adventure 11am Master Gardeners 11am	12 Reader's Advisory Group 1:30pm	13 Café Philo 11:30am	14



# *Friends* of The Punta Gorda Library

**424 W. Henry Street  
Punta Gorda Florida 33950**



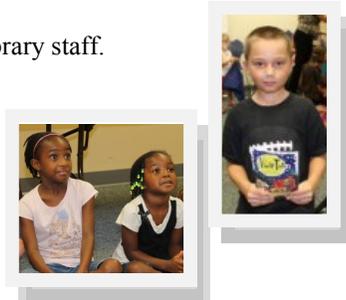
Dear *Friends* and Library Patrons,

*"Libraries are what is best about us as a society; open, exciting, rich, informative, free, inclusive, engaging."* Susan Orlean

We, the *Friends* of the Punta Gorda Library, understand how vital the existence of our library is to our community. Your membership provides support directly to our Punta Gorda Library. Annual Family, Lifetime and Business Patron memberships and donations fund library improvements that would not be possible if not for your continued generosity.

In 2014, thanks to more than 800 Annual Family, Lifetime and Business Patron members, *Friends* accomplished the following:

- Funded Annual *Friends* Volunteer Luncheon to honor library and bookstore volunteers and library staff.
- Supported the *Friends* Bookstore.
- Presented Literary Luncheon Series with actor Ted Zalewski as Teddy Roosevelt.
- Presented Literary Luncheon Series with author Gregg Hurwitz as guest speaker.
- Provided Meet & Greet ... Sip & Eat membership events.
- Funded children's programs including the Summer Reading Program.
- Presented children's author Julie Woik to Punta Gorda elementary schools, grades K-3.
- Sponsored *Cooking Club*, *The Writing Coach Is In* and other programs throughout the year.
- Redesigned our *Friends* website - [www.friendspg.org](http://www.friendspg.org).



In 2015, we have exciting plans which include:

- Funding additional Children and Young Adult events/programs.
- Presenting Literary Luncheon Series with returning literary actress Barbara Rinella as Queen Elizabeth II, in January.
- Presenting Literary Luncheon Series with nationally acclaimed author, Lisa See as guest speaker in March.
- Presenting varied fundraisers to benefit our Punta Gorda Library.

We encourage you to be more than a library cardholder - continue to be a *Friend* of the Punta Gorda Library by completing the membership form below. Thank you for your membership, your contributions and your donations of recycled books, magazines and electronic media to the *Friends* Bookstore. Your continued loyalty is appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Katie Mazzi*

*Lois Modrow*

*Alison Layne*

Katie Mazzi  
President

Lois Modrow  
Membership

Alison Layne  
Library Supervisor



Please use this form for your new or renewing membership. Bring or mail this to the library:  
424 West 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 # \_\_\_ Employees (Business Patron only)

Please make checks payable to:	___ FAMILY ANNUAL	\$15.00
<i>Friends</i> of the Punta Gorda Library	___ FAMILY LIFETIME	\$150.00
	___ BUSINESS PATRON (annual)	\$100.00
NAME (S) _____	___ DONATION	\$ _____
ADDRESS _____	TOTAL	\$ _____

\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to Volunteer (circle area of interest) - *Friends* Bookstore, Library, Board Position, Hospitality, Membership, Advocacy, Fundraising, Marketing, Publicity, other \_\_\_\_\_

# BOOKMARK

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



Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

**Paid**

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Permit No. 24

Current Resident or:

## *Friends* of the Library Business Patrons

We encourage *Friends* to support our Business Patrons.

Over **130,000** visitors enter the doors of the Punta Gorda Library yearly.

**Punta Gorda Downtown Merchants Assoc.**

**Gould Family Trust**

**Village Fish Market & Restaurant**

**Burnt Store Grille**

**Nolan Family Insurance**

**Kay's Kloset**

**Pineapple Storage**

**Reverse Mortgage Associates L.L.C.**

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Downtown Merchants' Christmas Tree.

**Opus Restaurant**

**Palm Auto Mall**

**Presley Beane Financial Services**

**Andreae Group at ReMax Harbor Realty**

**Charlotte State Bank & Trust**

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**Twin Isles Country Club**

**Copperfish Books**

**Don Gasgarth's Charlotte County Ford**

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(Businesses are listed in order of becoming Business Patrons)