

# Friends Trends

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

NO. 47

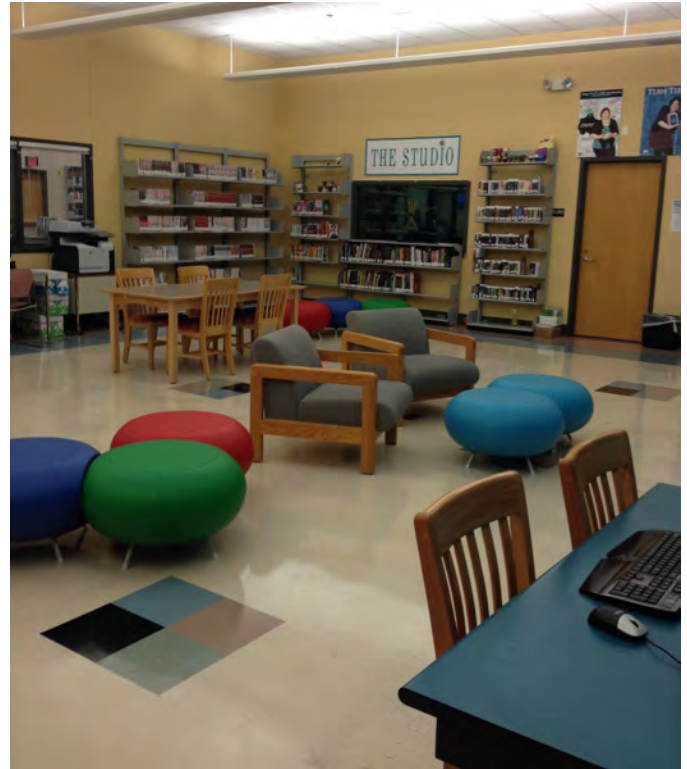
February 2016

## Teen Centers offer variety of activities

by Peg Phelps

Wow, they didn't have activities like this at the library when I was a teen! That was my reaction after I interviewed Jennifer Bishop, Teen Librarian at East Bank Regional Library. From computer games, to homework help, to a talent show, to crafts, to a theater troupe, teen aged residents of Jefferson Parish have really got it all. Jennifer says that a comparable program, led by Natalie Miller, is available at West Bank Regional Library. Other branches have separate Young Adult book sections or spaces set aside for teens.

Located on the second floor near the audio-visual area at EBR, the teens have a large room of their own, which is decorated with bright paint and funky furniture. In the teen center, there are computers for doing homework and separate computers for playing games. Widely popular with teens, a collection of graphic novels, including the



*The teen center at East Bank Regional Library, showing some of the new seating. Additional furniture is on order. (Photo by Anna Campos)*

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Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

## GENERAL MEETING

10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, March 9, 2016  
East Bank Regional Library  
4747 W. Napoleon Ave., Metairie

**Guest Speaker: Sal Serio**  
Curator, American Italian Research Library

### St. Joseph's Altars in New Orleans




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FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

(a member of United for Libraries: the  
Association of Library Trustees, Advocates,  
Friends, and Foundations)

### Officers

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Anna Campos, Vice President  
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Joan Demers, Ailleen Janney,  
Jan DeVidts, Maria Tujague

### Mission

The Friends of the Jefferson Public Library is an independent, nonprofit organization of civic-minded volunteers. We support the Jefferson Parish Library by promoting library awareness, providing needed unbudgeted items for all its branches through fund raising, and participating in literacy programs.

### Address and Phone

P. O. Box 9391  
Metairie, LA 70055  
504-455-BOOK (2665)

### Web Site

<http://www.friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org/>

### Friends Trends

Editors: Anna Campos, Annette  
Centanni  
Contributing Editor: Peg Phelps

## Steele Memorial Library

*photo by Peg Phelps*



*The Steele Memorial Library in Elmira, New York, honors Joel Dorman Steele and his wife, Esther Baker Steele. The textbooks they created made them a major influence in American education at the end of the 19th century. The library was incorporated in 1893 and relocated several times, moving to its present location at the corner of Church and Clemens Center Parkway in 1979. In 1995 it became the central library for the Southern Tier Library System, which serves community libraries in New York State.*

*(Information taken from Steele Memorial Library webpage  
<http://www.steele.lib.ny.us/steelbio.htm>)*

## We're on FACEBOOK!!!

Check out the "Friends of the Jefferson Public Library" Facebook page!

"Like" us on Facebook to get our reminders and updates on the latest happenings and Friends events!"



## Friends' Favorites

(An ongoing column featuring *Friends* and the books that have influenced their lives)

by Annette Centanni

Naomi Saul's Book Review

*The Family Way* by Jayne Ann Krentz

"At home I have two full boxes of Jayne Ann Krentz's novels (all bought at Big Book Sales!), which I have read," states Naomi Saul. "She is one of my favorite authors! Actually, she writes under at least ten different pseudonyms, one each for different styles and for different settings or time periods."

According to the internet, she was born Jane Castle, which she uses for some of her fiction; she also goes by Jayne Ann Castle Krentz, and by the ever popular Amanda Quick. The internet also states that Krentz is known as "a pillar in the contemporary romance genre," and is "famous for her work ethic," habitually starting work by 7 A M, and writing six days a week.

No wonder Naomi and millions of other readers like her so much!

At the time that I interviewed Naomi, she had just finished *The Family Way*. "At first I didn't like the strong-willed main character, a powerful corporate research agricultural scientist, experimenting in producing crops in foreign countries. I grew to like him, however, as the story progressed and I learned why he was the way he was." To make it interesting, this strong-willed man had a relationship with a pregnant woman, whose influence led him to reconciliation with his estranged family. Quite simply put, "I like her down-to-earth style," says Naomi. The women Krentz writes about are never "damsels in distress;" they are all heroes. Naomi adds, "I also like her science fiction novels, which contain mystery or

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## It's nomination time

by Anna Campos

The Awards Committee is accepting nominations for the two awards given at the Volunteer Luncheon, to be held in June. The prior awardees are listed below, and the nomination form is on page 13.

### Volunteer of the Year Awards

- 1999: Ethel Tarleton
- 2000: Fay Bilby
- 2001: Judy Zawislak
- 2002: Peg Phelps
- 2003: Kathy Norton
- 2004: Brenda Huchingson
- 2005: Jack Weldon
- 2006: David Valentine and Carolyn Lindsay
- 2007: Blamid Sunseri
- 2008: Arlene Manguno and Joan Demers
- 2009: Ailleen Janney and Sue Hellwig
- 2010: Patricia Cox
- 2011: Anna Campos and Annette Centanni
- 2012: Chris deVillasana
- 2013: Jan DeVidts and Sandra Blount
- 2014: Mary Lou Spanja and Mary Anna Lightner
- 2015: Ted Blohm and Diane Davey

### Friends of Distinction Awards

- 2005: Lisa Conescu
- 2006: Patricia Cox
- 2007: Judy Zawislak and Peg Phelps
- 2008: Sally and John Hoffschwelle; Sandra Blount
- 2009: Mary Lou Spanja
- 2010: Marie Breerwood
- 2011: Kuniko Izumi and Kathy Pennington
- 2012: Maria Tujague and Rick Demers
- 2013: None
- 2014: Robert Campos and Ann Buchel
- 2015: Milly Spear



## The Shadow Knows (and TELLS) All

Greetings, Fellow Friends, and Happy 2016 to you!

Without further ado, I will plunge right in and spill what has been happening at the **Center**, the **Store**, and the other favorite haunts we frequent, lest you remain out of the loop. Woe to you if you *think* you have been flying under my radar; you *might* not be mentioned, but never count on it, as I have many sources of prime information, AND I keep notes!

The **October Big Book Sale** was one of the best ever, grossing \$59,221, or \$13,000 more than at the March sale. If you remember, the 15th was as bright a sunny day as we could have hoped for, contributing to the enthusiasm of the 400 customers who were lined up waiting for the doors to open. A record 506 eager readers crossed the portals during the first half hour. The **cashiers** stayed insanely busy all day



Photo by Daniel Gitlin

Thursday. Thanks to the diligence of **Leslie Fall** and unnamed **Sidekick**, the 1500 customers in the computerized data base had all received their post cards. Apparently the TV spots, posters, bookmarks, news ads and signs had all done their jobs, too. The 1300 boxes of merchandise sold and silent auction items netted \$43,176. Thanks go to **Judy Zawislak**,

**Chair, Peg Phelps, Co-Chair/Treasurer**, and the 93 regulars and volunteers who manned the set up, restocked the tables, assisted customers, and handled the cash registers. Mega praise goes to the **guy volunteers** who directed traffic, pre-tallied large orders, and helped load customers' cars! Thank you! I hope you all made the TY Coffee. Thank you if you **CAME** to the sale as a **customer**! We really appreciate all of our faithful customers.

**Work never stops at the Sorting Center**; it resumes the very day after each sale. One such morning an urgent notice went out to all: a donor had mistakenly donated a rare, 1920's edition of *Hamlet* that he wanted returned. Well! Amid the thousands of books, **Paulette Mauterer** located the lost copy –on the Amazon cart, waiting to be listed online and mailed away! **Paulette's** luck ran out shortly thereafter, however, when her trusty packing partner, **Cory Kowalski**, was ordered by her doctor to stop working around “dusty, old books,” due to allergies. Fortunately, **Cheryl Ledet** stepped up to help with weekend packing, thus has eased the situation; but **Paulette** is presently looking for more help, possibly from the Thursday sorters. Is anyone interested in a new challenge? **Diane Pittman**, if you decide to try, **Amazon is prepared to double your pay!**

In November, **President Sandra Blount** was asked to speak to an AARP group at East Jefferson General Hospital. It is rumored that **Sandra** used the opportunity to “plug” membership in the Friends. On December 2, **Sandra** presented **Library Director Marylyn Haddican** with a check for \$100,000, the second such check within the calendar year. This took place at the annual Holiday Party the Friends sponsor for the library staff, this year held at **West Bank Regional Library**. **Sue Hellwig**, one of our few West Bank volunteers, did a splendid job coordinating and setting up the

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*We find good homes for used books.*


## Teen Centers

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Japanese Manga novels, fills the shelves. The Young Adult fiction collection is located right outside of the teen center. Teens are also welcome to check out the library's DVD and CD collections, also located near the teen center.

Although wildly popular in the summer time, crafts, movie nights, and game nights are offered all year round. During the school year, teens participate mainly in reading, and using the computers for live homework help through Brainfuse or HomeworkLouisiana. The teen centers on both banks of the river present a College Day, when representatives from many colleges are available to answer questions. This year, WBR will host its college day on March 26, and EBR on April 23. Some of the colleges sending representatives are LSU, UNO, Delgado, Tulane, Louisiana Tech, and Northwestern. In conjunction with *The Princeton Review*, free ACT practice tests are offered by the teen center at EBR.

In summer the teen center expands its programming to include crafts, special events, and participation in the Summer Reading Program. During a recent summer, an Iron Chef competition was held, with each contestant receiving special ingredients they used to make delicious desserts. Teens also participated in a theatrical acting troupe. A further option was making movies using the Teen Center Studio, which includes two iMac edition computers. Along with many other great teen summer program activities, the 2016 Summer Reading Talent Show, which is scheduled this year for Saturday, July 30, is a vetted show that attracts big crowds.

The teen programs are free and open to anyone aged 12 to 18. While Jennifer emphasized that the teen center is undergoing renovations, it is a great place to spend time while visiting the East Bank Regional Library. Dates and times for all teen activities are available at the library's web site, <http://www.jplibrary.net/>. 

## The Shadow

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event. **Look for pictures of the party in this issue.**

In early December, also, **there was a crisis around the lunch table!** **Aileen Janney** and the **Redhead** simultaneously discovered there were no more of the chocolate mint cookies they are both addicted to. You would have thought the world was coming to an end! This crisis resulted in the later purchase of **six** packages of said cookies by various people who couldn't bear to witness the drama. Shortly thereafter, **Sue H.** brought in her famous "Queen Cake," and everyone else brought other offerings to share (after all, it was Christmas), so peace reigned once again around the lunch table.

We apparently have some Superwomen at the center, I have found. **Joan Fontaine** was back from meniscus surgery in ONE week, and **Judy Howat** made a spectacular recovery from a shingles outbreak. I guess **Judy** decided she wasn't going to miss **Ouida Prieur's** Christmas Village open house on December 9th, and reappeared among the living sooner than expected. BTW, refreshments were marvelous, **Ouida**—especially your slush! (**Ouida** is another of our Superwomen, to handle a party with such ease!)

Superman? **Chris deVillasana** was out for some time in November and December with a broken scapula, incurred in a biking accident. When he returned on January 5, I asked him if he were now behaving himself. He replied, "Well, I'm back to my horseback riding lessons; I'm now only taking small jumps." **Chris!!!**

**Other happenings at Sorting are as**

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## The Shadow

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**follows:** Undaunted, the **Redhead** keeps putting her name slips on books she would like for the Store, and Amazon listers keep listing them and returning the slips to her, sans books. I guess hope springs eternal.

When **Judy Welcker** found \$100 in a book, **Peg P.** quickly deposited it in the Friends account. (She was spotted at the bank the next day.) On January 7, **Maria Tujague** found an additional \$126. **Peg** made an additional trip to the bank.

Elvis aficionado **Wendy Luna**, of Amazon fame, traveled to Tupelo over the holidays for a New Year's Elvis Tribute Artists contest. **Wendy** has been to Vegas and other places where Tributes have been held. Ask her to show you her pictures of herself and Elvis hotties on her iphone!

**Maria Tujague** and **Ann Buchel** have birthdays on January 1. This year they celebrated by taking December 31st off from **Sorting**, even though it was a special workday called by **Pit Boss Peg**. Was this legal, ladies? We want to know if she docked your pay.

**Mary Lou Spanja** must have an endless supply of Energizer Bunny batteries. Her work table is always cleared off, no matter how long she has to work to do so.

When **Aileen J.** was out with a recent illness, **Judy Z.** was forced to pack a toppling religion shelf. **Judy** was such a good sport, I didn't even hear any grumbling. You see, **Aileen**?

**Diane Schleifstein**, SuperGrandma, has been giving me advice on what activities to pursue when my **Edward** comes to visit for four days in February. Everything she suggests, however, seems to require a great expenditure of energy!

**Janice Paine**, Thursday Amazon lister, "ghosts in," does her thing, and "ghosts out," incognito fashion! But boy, can she list! **Rosemarie Goetz**, Wednesday lister, does the same thing, but the difference is, we *hear* her. She always comes in hungry, ready to sample the snacks.

**Judy Howat** has a patented technique for gentle persuasion I witnessed for myself recently. Batting her baby blues she purrs, "Hello, **Ted (Blohm)**. "I bet you can pick up this box for me!" He could, and he *DID*.

**Marie Breerwood**, **Maria T.** and **Judy Z.** have been keeping me supplied with sympathy and get well cards they get in the mail, for when I wear my "Corresponding Secretary" hat. I hope I don't have to send them out at all, but at least not at any time soon.

**Amazon workers** had a very big 2015, a total of 2,462 books sold, or 24 more than in 2014. \$42,193.19 was transferred into the Friends account. As **Peg P.** pointed out at a recent meeting, "This is like another book sale." Recent exceptional sales included a 23 volume set of *The Zohar*, a translation of a Hebrew text, that sold for \$361, a history of the Colt 45 service pistol that sold for \$500, and a 1913 book of fairy tales that sold for \$285. Congratulations to all listers, packers, trouble shooters and record keepers! You truly make up an A-Team.

**The Friends Store** also had a very successful 2015. **Patricia Cox**, store manager, extends hearty thanks to all who contributed by selecting merchandise, working, donating time and treasure and by shopping. In December, the store sold over 800 books, 600 gift items and 32 afghans. Loyal and dedicated volunteers kept the store open for every shift, and took in over \$4,600 for the month. **Diane Schleifstein** was top salesperson; she had a

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# News Notes

## Recent happenings for the Friends of JPL

*photos by Robert and Anna Campos*



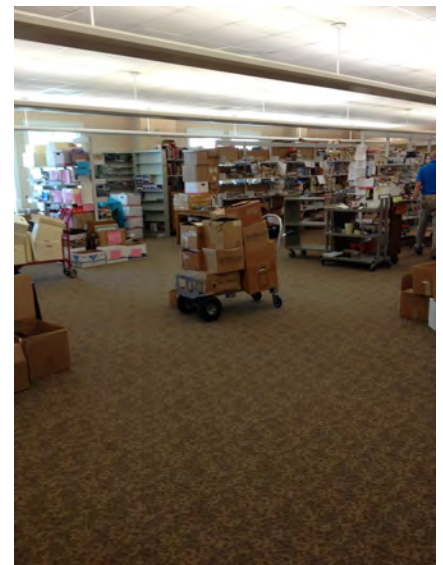
*Jefferson Performing Arts Director Dennis Assaf spoke at the September 30 General Meeting. Marie Breerwood's musically themed decorations reflected his topic.*



### Reviews

*continued from page 3*  
paranormal elements.”

“Fern Michaels is also a favorite author of mine,” states Naomi. “She has written about 25 books, 350 pages long, all rich in character development. Her characters often take sweet revenge on each other! Michaels is funny and absorbing, an easy read. I never want to put her books down once I’ve started.” ♣



*For a half hour on October 29, 2015, the sorting intake area was completely empty for the first time since the move to East Bank Regional Library. Then a donation arrived and the moment had passed.*

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### The Shadow

*continued from page 6*

\$400 day the Friday before Christmas.

Patricia reports, “Figures for the year are impressive, also. The store sold over 8,000 books and 4,000 gifts, for a yearly income of almost \$38,000.” As Treasurer Peg would say, “That’s another book sale!” December was not the busiest month, however. June was the busiest month of the year, with the sale of 920 books and 422 gift items. The income for June was \$3,790.

That’s all I have for you this time, Readers. Until the next Newsletter,

Your friendly Shadow

# What's cooking at the Friends?

*Ouida Prieur, best known as the supersaleswoman of the book sale, has submitted the recipe for one of her popular casseroles.*



## Rotel™ Chicken Casserole (makes 2 large casseroles)

- 2 lbs. (4 cups) cooked deboned chicken (large dices)
- broth from cooked chicken
- 1 can English peas (drained)
- large onion and large bell pepper, chopped and sautéed in 1/2 lb. butter or margarine
- 12 oz. vermicelli (angel hair) pasta
- 1 lb. Velveeta™cheese
- 8 oz mozzarella cheese, sliced
- 2 cans Rotel tomatoes with chili peppers (diced)
- 1 can sliced water chestnuts

Cook pasta in chicken broth and drain. Add Velveeta cheese and let melt in pasta, then stir in sautéed onions and bell pepper, peas and water chestnuts. Pour into 2 large casserole dishes and top with slices of mozzarella cheese. Cover and bake at 325°.

--Ouida Prieur

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"I'm writing a book. I've got the page numbers done."  
--Steven Wright



# Library holiday party debuts in a new location



*Quite a few of the Friends braved the Wilds of the West Bank (!) to participate in our first-ever holiday party on that side of the river. Photo by Robert Campos.*



*Library director Marylyn Haddican, FJPL Treasurer Peg Phelps and President Sandra Blount pose with a large model of the \$100,000 check presented to the library at the party. Photo by Daniel Gitlin.*



*JPL Information Specialist Daniel Gitlin also took these pictures of library staff (and some Friends) enjoying themselves at the party.*





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*Friends of the Jefferson Public Library  
Post Office Box 9391  
Metairie, Louisiana 70055  
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Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form

Please use this form to give your reasons for nominating one of our members as volunteer of the year. Please describe, in detail, your reasons for nominating this person. The committee will consider the work done in the past year, the number of hours expended, any office or committee chair the nominee holds, and his or her overall participation in Friends' activities. It will also be helpful to mention any other volunteer organizations in which the nominee participates. Use more than one sheet of paper if necessary. Please return this form in person to the sorting center, e-mail it to Anna Campos at camposanna@hotmail.com, or surface mail to P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, LA 70055, no later than May 1.

Name of nominee:

Why does this person deserve to be named Volunteer of the Year?

Your Name (optional):

*We find good homes for used books.*