



Legendary blogger plays Fairy godmother

by *Peter Kaye*

Deep in the heart of Blogland dwells a mysterious messenger. Some say her X-rated ravings make her the Wicked Webmaster of the West. Others say she's a clown because of her book, "Why Girls Are Weird," and because of her irreverent screenplays. But librarians from Del Mar to Oakland see Pamela Ribon in a different light -- as a fairy godmother who has filled their shelves with hundreds of books.

Last year, her web site, www.pamie.com, donated money, time, materials and more than 650 books to the Oakland Public Library. In 2004, www.pamie.com switched her efforts to San Diego County: "One year ago San Diego County was ravaged by fire. More than 2,400 homes were destroyed. Many people found refuge in their local library. This year the county's library budget has been drastically cut and many branches may be closed on Sunday."

Pamie.com's 2004 Cool Kids Club was quick to respond. The month-long book drive ended July 25 with 450 donations. More still are arriving. Although most donations went to East County areas devastated by wildfires, Del Mar did receive 20 books.

"They were split evenly between children's and adult books," said Librarian Gretchen Schmidt.

Jennifer from Orange County donated three books and wrote, "I chose the Del Mar Library because my family and I spend several mini vacations a year in that lovely town. The library is the quaintest, most charming little craftsman building you've ever seen and shouldn't all libraries be so splendid?" Erin wrote, "The Del Mar Library will be getting one copy of 'Sink Reflections' by Maria Cilley, the woman who got me making my bed every day." Along with a children's book, Jeri sent the Yiddish Radio Project CDs "because I love good radio as much as I love good books."

In expressing appreciation to Pamie's Cool Kids Club, Schmidt said donors have other avenues to keep contributing. "We've listed books and media that need to be in the library collection but due to budget cuts can't be purchased."

Schmidt said contributors can ask to see the library wish list at Earth Song Bookstore, 1440 Camino del Mar, pay for books and bring them to the library. Or, she said, they can click on the wish list and Del Mar Branch Library boxes at www.amazon.com make their purchases and have them shipped to the library.

If you have questions about the "wish list," call the library staff at (858) 755-1666.

President's Message

The County Board of Supervisors received many letters from area residents in support of keeping the Del Mar Library open on Sundays. Your letters really did make a difference! The County Supervisors considered our concerns and, acting on a motion made by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, restored the Sunday hours to the budget.

In anticipation of reduced funding because of property tax revenue being shifted to the state, the County Library budget was originally drafted with Sunday hours eliminated, in the five branches that are presently open on Sundays. We are pleased to keep our Sunday hours so that we can provide a place for our youth to study and continue with our Sunday programs for adults.

Any day now new furniture should arrive for the Del Mar Room. The Friends have purchased Arts and Crafts style furnishings, consistent with the architecture of the building. Soon there will be two new comfortable chairs, a table and a reading lamp.

Our staff has just completed a record-breaking summer program for children. The Friends finance the programs but the staff does all the hard work. Please thank them. As we enjoy the last days of summer, the library staff has already planned an exciting fall program for both children and adults. Please consider participating. You will be glad you did!

Kathy F innell

Del Mar friends is published several times each year by The Friends of the Del Mar Library. Items for publication should be submitted to the editor at: lmartin7@san.rr.com (Word file attachments preferred) or mailed to: FDML, POB 993, Del Mar, CA 92014. Send requests for address change or additions to the mailing list to: FDML, POB 993, Del Mar, CA 92014.

FDML Board Members:

President, Kathy Finnell
Vice-president, Sandy McCay
Treasurer, George Pache
Secretary, Barbara Anderson
Book Acquisitions, Pat Freeman
Book Sale, Barbara Anderson
Special Events, Di Holker
Publicity, Peter Kaye
Del Mar *friends* Editor, Linda Martin
Children's Programs, Sharon Patterson
At Large, Marian Perlman

**San Diego County Library
Del Mar Branch**
1309 Camino Del Mar
Del Mar, CA 92014

Gretchen Schmidt, Librarian



Pat Welsh (left) and Betsy Schulz check out the new bench dedicated at the Friends' Annual Meeting May 25th.

The bench inscription reads:

To Pat Welsh, Betsy Schulz, Dean & Matt Johnson, 80 volunteers & hundreds of donors. Thanks for creating the Del Mar Library multi-media wall. 2003

Photo by Kathy Finnell

Continuing Earth Song's tradition...

by Linda Martin

From the street, Earth Song Bookstore looks pretty much as it has for decades. A sandwich board on the sidewalk announces upcoming musical events and readings by local artists and authors, and a window display advertises daily racing forms. Just inside the door, a prominent display features books by dozens of Del Marians and other area writers. Works by Del Mar artists and photographers cover every wall, clear up to the ceiling, and a cozy reading nook with miniature chairs and hundreds of children's books is tucked away in the rear. The checkout near the arcade door is compact, unobtrusive, and state of the art computerized, of course. Why "of course?" Earth Song's new owners, Donna Codd and Mike Torres, are self-described "escapees" from the corporate software world.

After moving here from New Mexico about nine years ago and working for a software firm in La Jolla, they suddenly found themselves "downsized" out of their jobs, and decided to try something entirely different. They first tested their entrepreneurial wings with the purchase of Del Mar Glass. Without any experience in construction, they learned "on the job" and did so well they were able to bring another couple, more software career dropouts, into the business. In the market for another challenge, "we just happened to walk into Earth Song," says Donna, "on the day Anne Mery decided to sell her popular Del Mar establishment." (Mery can now be found at The Grove, her bookstore and gallery at 30th and Juniper in South Park.)

"It was perfect timing," says Donna. "We've never looked back."

Continuing Anne Mery's promotion of local artists and authors, Donna and Mike display works by dozens of Del Mar writers, and at least ten fine and graphic artists. "Still," says Donna, "I have to turn away several vendors every business day, including authors asking us to sell their books. "I just have to say 'no,' as we have limited storage and display space." Donna insists that saying "no" is the most difficult aspect of her new role at Earth Song.

Business is good these days, and includes many repeat customers. The tourists who take time to comment on the changes at Earth Song delight Donna. It probably helps that the attractive storefront caters to racing fans, but Donna thinks the repeat business speaks well of the Del Mar community and loyalty of Earth Song's clientele. "People come back," says Donna, "when they feel good about a place."



Earth Song's new owners with Anne Mery (at left)
Photo courtesy of *Del Mar Times*.

Earth Song's new owners agreed to continue Anne Mery's purchasing role in the Friends' Red Dot program. Now Donna has agreed to become even more involved with the library. She recently accepted an invitation to become an at-large member on the Friends' board.

Donna sees her role on the board as a representative of Del Mar's business sector, but she's much more than that. She's also a mom, a grandmother and a strong advocate for Del Mar's artistic community. Earth Song hosts many events that showcase the work of local musicians and writers. One of those "super moms" we read about, the winsome blond runs the bookstore, handles the accounting for Del Mar Glass, and manages a household with teenagers *in situ*. Amazingly, she and Mike even did most of the "hands-on" rehab work for the Del Mar Terrace "fixer-upper" they bought six years ago. Donna just returned from Albuquerque where she fulfilled another favorite role -- grandmother to three-year old Addie and a newborn grandson, Landon. (Find information about scheduled readings and "singings" at www.earthsongbooks.com)

Del Mar Library "Back to School" Programs for Youth and Families

September 22, 2004 - Youth Craft.

Decorate a wood picture frame. Sign up required. Ages 7 and up. Wednesday, 4:00-4:45p.m.

September 23, 2004 - Family Craft Night.

Decorate a fun foam picture frame. All ages. Thursday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

September 29, 2004 - Books & Art.

Listen to the story "Can You Guess Where We're Going", sketch an historical building in Del Mar from a photograph, and finish it off with a watercolor wash. Instructor: Sandra Dodd. Ages 8 and up. Sign Up Required. Wednesday, 4:00-5:00p.m.

October 2, 2004 - Kids History Day.

Climbing Your Family Tree, presented by Larry D. Brooks. He describes constructing a family tree, developing "oral histories" for living ancestors, and how and where to research information. Please bring some information on your parents and grandparents including birthplaces, dates of birth, where they have lived, and if deceased, locations and dates. Ages 8 and up. Sign up required. Saturday, 1:00-2:00p.m.

October 13, 2004 - Family Night.

"Jumpin' Up Songs: music for families", performed by Patricia Hall. Come participate in a fun evening of music and sing-a-long for the entire family. All ages. Wednesday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

October 16, 2004 - Teens, Family & Friends. Cookie Magic with Tami Jones. Learn cookie-decorating techniques and

decorate cookies from an autumn cookie collection. Teens & parents. Sign up required. Saturday, 9:00-10:00a.m.

October 16, 2004 - Youth Program.

Cookie Magic with Tami Jones. Come have fun decorating cookies to take home. Ages 6 and up. Two sessions - Sign up required. Saturday, 10:15-10:30a.m. and 10:30-10:45a.m.

October 20, 2004 -

Books & Art. Listen to the story "Insects Are My Life", and make a fossil mosaic. Instructor:



Sandra Dodd. Ages 6 and up. Sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-5:00p.m.

October 27, 2004 - Youth Craft.

Make a Halloween craft. Ages 6 and up. Sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-4:45p.m.

October 27, 2004 - Puppet Show.

Puppetree Players present "The Martians Crash Halloween". All ages. Wednesday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

October 28, 2004 - Family Craft Night.

Make a Halloween craft. All ages. Thursday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

November 3, 2004 - Native American Heritage Month.

Mary Beach presents Pocahontas. She will share tales of her life and discuss how the first Thanksgiving started. Program includes Native American music, costume dress up and visual aids, including a storybook. All ages. Wednesday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

Youth and Family programs (cont.)

November 10, 2004 - Books & Art. Listen to the story "When Clay Sings", and make a clay pinch pot with Native American designs. Instructor: Sandra Dodd. Ages 6 and up. Sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-5:00p.m.

November 17, 2004 - Youth Craft. Make a Thanksgiving craft. Ages 6 and up. Sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-4:45p.m.



November 18, 2004 - Family Craft Night. Make a Thanksgiving craft. All ages. Thursday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

December 1, 2004 - Youth Craft. Make seasonal cards and a gift bag using rubber stamps. Instructor: Izzy Shapiro. Ages 7

and up. Two sessions - sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-4:30p.m. and 4:30-5:00p.m.
December 4, 2004 - Teens, Family & Friends. Make thank you notes and gift cards using rubber stamps. Instructor: Izzy Shapiro. Teens & parents. Sign up required. Saturday, 9:00-10:00a.m.

December 8, 2004 - Books & Art. Listen to the story "Tacky The Penguin" and make a penguin collage. Instructor: Sandra Dodd. Ages 6 and up. Sign up required. Wednesday, 4:00-4:45p.m.

December 15, 2004 - Youth Craft. Make a winter craft. Sign up required. Ages 6 and up. Wednesday, 4:00-4:45p.m.

December 16, 2004 - Family Craft Night. Make a winter craft. All Ages. Thursday, 6:30-7:15p.m.

The best summer programs!

by Jo-Ann Smith
photos by Kathy Finnell

This year's Summer Reading Program was very successful, with 164 children registered, more than any previous year. Fifty-two youngsters completed their objective, reading 100 books over the course of the summer. Of all the programs scheduled, the most popular was "Wild Wonders," where the children were encouraged to touch real, live animals. Other popular

programs were the Puppet Show and Legoland model building. In the summer crafts sessions, participants made sun visors, paper bag puppets and "Read for the Gold" torches.

Fifteen teens participated in the Rock Painting event August 5, with Sandra Dodd (pictured below at left) teaching the fine art of painting flowers and critters on rocks provided by the Library staff. The Library also provided lunch, drinks, and munchies. The mood pencils distributed were very popular with participating teens.



Del Mar Library Programs for Adults -- September - December 2004

September 18, 2004 - Make It & Take It.

Weave a twined round reed basket to display found objects. Instructor: Carol Lang. Sign up required. Saturday, 9:00-11:00a.m.

September 26, 2004 - Meet The Author.

Local author, Shimon Camiel will speak about his book, "The Outhouse War and Other Kibbutz Stories". Sign up recommended. Sunday, noon-1:00p.m.

October 8, 2004 - Meet The Author.

Local author, Patricia Hall [www.pattyhall.com] will present the program: "Raggedy Ann & Andy: a book is born". Sign up required. Seating is limited

because grade school classes will be attending. Friday, 9:00-10:00a.m.

November 7, 2004 - Meet The Author.

Dr. Philip Goscienski, M.D.

[www.betterlifeseminars.com] will speak about his book, "Health Secrets of the Stone Age", and how you can improve your health through nutrition and exercise. Sign up recommended. Sunday, noon-1:00p.m.

November 20, 2004 - Make It & Take It.

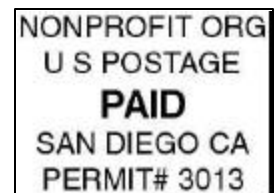
Make a fall floral arrangement with seasonal flowers and pumpkins. Instructor: Sherrie Woods. Sign up required. Saturday, 9:00-10:00a.m.

Don't forget the Friends' "on-going" book sale at three locations in the Library. Please ask staff for assistance. Appraised books can now be purchased on the Internet.

Go to www.librarybooksales.org



Del Mar friends
P.O. Box 993
Del Mar, CA 92014



Address Service Requested