

Off to a flying start!

The kick off for Livermore Reads Together 2017 on Sunday, January 29 at 2 PM starts the excitement. Here's your chance to meet and talk with experienced Livermore aviators (more information on page 4) and see footage of planes in action. The month-long series of events focuses on aviation from start to finish, with special emphasis on history and courageous people worth knowing about. There will be a free tour of the airport during February as well.

The featured book for our citywide readalong, *Flygirl*, inspired the Livermore community to focus eyes and minds on the sky in new and exciting ways, with something for every age group. We're excited to be able to welcome its award-winning author, Sherri L. Smith, who will talk to us about her thought-provoking book dealing with aviation, race and gender issues. She'll hold a question and answer period afterwards. Also, there will be a *Flygirl* Readers Theater performance presented by volunteers from Livermore Shakespeare Festival.

There's more! Learn about aviation pioneers like Fred Wiseman, who built the first airplane in California and flew the first airmail flight in the United States, and John J. Montgomery, a prolific California inventor who was flying gliders twenty years before the Wright Brothers' famous flight in 1903. Discovering more about aviator Amelia Earhart and the Tuskegee Airmen will also be on



Photo by John King

Civic Center Art Gallery Aviation Exhibit

Month-long exhibit of amazing photographs by local photographer John King, as well as by Livermore Airport pilot Dan VanDusen.

the agenda, with a lively concert by The Swingin' Blue Stars of the USS Hornet as the finale of the program. Best known for their vocal renditions in 3-part harmony of the songs of the WWII era—especially those made famous by The Andrews Sisters and groups like the McGuire Sisters—this family-friendly event will delight the whole family. Don't miss additional activities, including crafts for kids and teens, an animal program and a family movie day featuring Disney-Pixar's *UP*.



Friends FOOTNOTES

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VISIT THE FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

at Civic Center Library
1188 S. Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA
(925) 373-5520

SATELLITE BOOKSTORES

Panama Red Coffee Company
2115 First Street

Starbucks

101 E. Vineyard Avenue at Isabel

FRIENDS ONLINE STORE

[www.amazon.com/shops/
livermorelibraryfriends](http://www.amazon.com/shops/livermorelibraryfriends)
www.thriftbooks.com/library/foll/

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET

Third Thursday 7 pm at Civic Center
Library Board Room
Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sept., & Nov.

OFFICERS 2016-2017

Dave Runyon PRESIDENT	vacant VICE PRESIDENT
Matt Berry TREASURER	Robert Thornhill SECRETARY

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 – November 30, 2016	
Total Income:	\$29,083.29
Total Expenses:	\$11,543.17
Library Grants:	\$35,250.00
Net Assets:	\$106,296.80

Library of Things at the Library

The Livermore Public Library now offers games, educational toys, and technology and exploration tools for patrons to check out.

This Library of Things is a new service that makes available non-traditional items for checkout—such as board games, robots, and telescopes. Based upon suggestions in surveys from last winter and spring, selected items are offered that serve our community’s needs. Items include microscopes, computer programming toys, and children’s games like Candy Land and Connect 4. There are also games for adults, such as Carcassonne and Apples to Apples. Patrons may check out items for 2 weeks.

The Library of Things will be at the Civic Center Library at 1188 S. Livermore Ave., but items may be placed on hold and picked up at any of the branch libraries. For further information about the program, please call 925-373-5500.

Donations go to veterans

Since her dad was a Pearl Harbor survivor, it seemed like a natural fit to Linda Dierks to volunteer at the Livermore Veterans Administration facility. She often chatted with the residents and enjoyed hearing their stories. When she moved on to other volunteer opportunities, “those who served” still remained in her thoughts. That’s why Linda, a Friends Bookstore volunteer, still makes a trip there every month or so, bringing a little bit of the community to the residents who don’t get to visit our bookstore.

With permission to do so, Linda sets aside items that she thinks would be especially welcome. These include Reader’s Digest condensed books, large-print editions of some books (not romances), and DVDs about sports, westerns, and entertainers from the 1940s and '50s, whom vets remember from their younger days. “They especially like John Wayne movies,” Linda said. Thanks to Linda for caring.



Presidents Message

Thanks to all our volunteers for a very productive fall season!

- We transitioned the Bookstore to all volunteers and no book storage while maintaining high customer satisfaction and sales.
- We completed the clean out of the old library storage room on October 15, 2016.
- We fine-tuned the coordination between the Bookstore and sorting volunteers to ensure the Bookstore has first choice on donated books, and are processing all donations in a timely manner.
- We optimized the book sorting process.

We also funded current, new and expanded Library programs. These programs include:

- Purchase of a Rigamajig Creative Play Building Kit, promoting hands-on learning for use. Rigamajig is a large-scale building kit, conceived for hands-on play and STE(A)M learning (science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics). The Library is seeking to serve and inspire those who learn best by doing. Cost: \$5,250.
- Livermore Reads Together 2017. Supplies for programs, copies of the book, and publicity materials. Cost: \$6,500.
- Purchase of a ScanPro 1100 microfilm scanner to replace the library microfilm machines that are inoperable. This will enable users to not only view and print from microfilm, but also scan to email or a USB. \$8,700.
- Continued funding of the highly popular Lucky Day collection, which offers additional copies of the latest books for checkout, and now to include DVDs. Cost: \$7,500.
- 2017 Children's and Teen's spring programming. This includes performers, authors, crafts and activities for children and teens from preschool through grade 12.

Our Friends' vice president, Natalie Avery, recently resigned to focus on her other jobs and her family. We welcome questions and/or self-nominations for her position, which is now vacant. The duties of the vice president include fulfilling any and all duties of the Friends' president when required by the president's absence or inability to serve. The VP also meets regularly with the other board officers to set agendas for board meetings and to address pertinent issues between regular board meetings. In addition, the vice president serves on committees as needed and performs other duties as the board of directors may prescribe. Please email me at president@Friendsoflivermorelibrary.com if you are interested in this position.

Everyone is working hard to cover shifts and enjoy the holidays. Thank you very much for your continued high quality work supporting our Library and community.

– **Dave Runyon**



Clean out of old library storage:

Helpers were youth and adults from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Because of their assistance, the job was finished in one day. Dave Runyon said, "Those kids (and the parents) were amazing - very cheerful, efficient and hard-working."



Meet Livermore Aviators

Sunday
January 29
2 PM

Civic Center Library

*Learn about flying
and what it takes
to be a pilot.*

*See exciting footage
of airplanes in action!*

Stephen Lehmann talks Wiseman



Tuesday
February 7
7 PM

Civic Center Library

*Stephen Lehmann,
president of the Windsor
Historical Society, will talk
about Fred J. Wiseman, who
built the first airplane in
California and flew the first
airmail flight in the world!
While living in Windsor,
California, this self-taught
aviator built an airplane on
a local ranch and flew into
record books.*

Nothing compares to being able to ask questions and see for oneself what flying is like. Here is a chance to ask the experts!

Bruce Anderson, now retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, has been flying for over 40 years. He has helped disassemble, transport and reassemble several military aircrafts for display at the Castle Air Museum in Atwater, CA and is also a docent aboard the aircraft carrier USS Hornet. Many of his aviation videos can be seen on his YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/user/paralleler.



Bruce Anderson

Candace Harding is a commercial airline pilot, a certified flight instructor and a private plane owner with over 5,500 hours of flight time. She has also been a flight dispatcher and taught people to fly in her spare time. She is a member of The Ninety-Nines: International Organization of Women Pilots, and is a travel specialist at Travel Bug in Livermore.

Barbara Blissert is a private pilot, licensed for 28 years and flies as a hobby. In addition to a 40-year career in human resources, for seven years she worked at the former Ahart Aviation flight school at the Livermore Airport. She is also an active member of The Ninety-Nines and is secretary-treasurer of the San Joaquin Valley Chapter. These days she rents planes so she can fly with various pilot friends.

Jacque Warda is a professional aerobatic air show pilot. When most people turn 50, they figure it's time to relax and settle into neutral while coasting toward retirement. Not Jacque B! When Jacque turned 50, she launched her solo aerobatic career with her one-of-a-kind Pitts Special biplane. In 2003, Jacque finally quit the humdrum of a white collar profession and realized her dream as an air show performer, becoming the first female pilot to enter this business at the age of 50. She has flown more than 1000 air shows and thrilled over 1,000,000 fans.



Courage in action

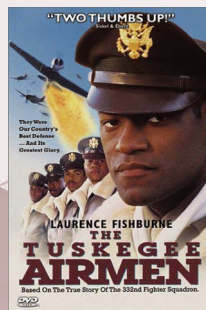
The Tuskegee Airmen were some of the most celebrated service members in military aviation history, yet many Americans have never heard of them. These young, patriotic black men trained to become the first African American military pilots despite overt racism during a time when segregation was still the law of the land. They distinguished themselves—flying combat missions and escorting bombers—and advanced the cause of Civil Rights, setting the stage for the integration of the American military in 1948.

There will be a viewing of the 1995 film (PG-13), *The Tuskegee Airmen*, winner of the 1996 Peabody Award and 3 Emmy awards on Saturday, February 4, 1 PM, at the Civic Center Library. A discussion with members of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. will follow.

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring the accomplishments and perpetuating the history of African-Americans who participated in air crew, ground crew and operations support training in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Their mission is also “to encourage young people to get excited about aviation,” explained David Cunningham, member of the William “Bill” Campbell Chapter, TAI (the Bay Area chapter). Cunningham, son of Major John O. Cunningham, a Tuskegee Airman, serves as chapter president to honor his father and the other airmen. He said, “I want people to understand what [the Airmen] were about 70 years ago, and to get everyone involved.” TAI

introduces young people across the nation to the world of aviation and science through local and national programs and provides educational assistance to students. Come hear their stories.

Cunningham shared his father’s history: John O. Cunningham enlisted in the Army in 1941. “His aptitude granted him the position of Surveyor. But when his superior officers found out about his one year of college, the Army trained him as an officer, then as a pilot,” recounted David. After training, he was assigned to the South Pacific along with the 93rd Battalion, a segregated Black artillery outfit. “With the 93rd, he travelled through the Solomon Islands, New Guinea and the Philippine Islands. Tuskegee Airman John Cunningham achieved an Air Medal for his skills in directing artillery fire during the liberation of the Philippine Islands.” After the war, he went on to have a distinguished military career and retired with the rank of Major in 1962. He died in 1969.



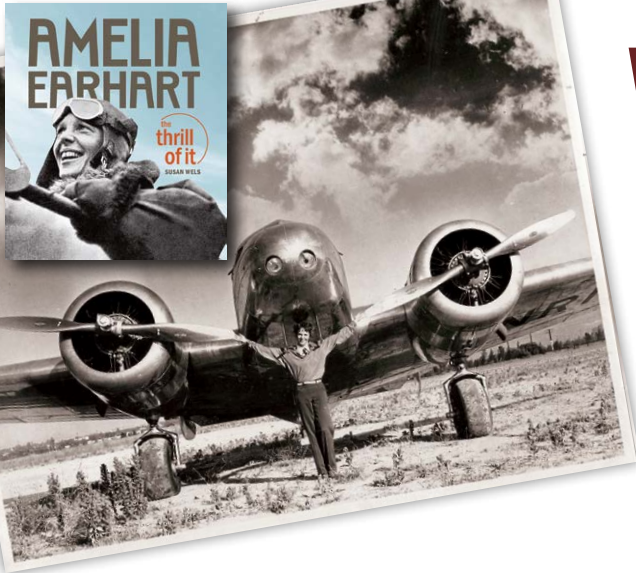


Who was the real Amelia Earhart?

She was the first woman pilot to solo across the Atlantic, the first flyer to cross the Pacific alone, and the first person to cross both oceans alone—so Amelia Earhart’s disappearance after taking off from Oakland, CA in 1937 for a round-the-world flight became one of the great mysteries of modern times. It still fascinates almost eighty years later. Join Bay Area author Susan Wels as she tells the story of the woman behind the iconic female aviator’s image.

Wels will discuss her book, *Amelia Earhart: the Thrill of It* on Sunday, February 12, 2017, at 2 PM at the Civic Center Library.

The first half of the twentieth century was filled with aviation exploits never attempted before, capturing the imagination of the public. Although men and women were among these pioneers, “the profound courage of early women fliers who enjoyed taking risks was impressive,” said Wels. “Amelia Earhart has always been seen as an iconic figure among them, but she was much more.” The breadth of her accomplishments is impressive. In addition to studying chemistry, physics and medicine, “she was a poet, photographer, social worker and fashion designer, besides being an accomplished aviator. Most people don’t know that about her,” said Wels, in a telephone interview. The author was able to examine recently available collections of her personal papers at Purdue University Library and at Harvard’s Radcliffe Institute for a very unusual view of who Earhart was. “One of the most amazing things to me was to page through these gigantic scrapbooks that she had put together herself (12 or more), which gave an intimate view of her life through her own eyes.” In this beautifully illustrated book, Wels gives the reader so much more than a bulleted list of her accomplishments. She shows us that even during her childhood, Earhart was driven, self-directed and unafraid. She defied convention, crossed boundaries and refused limits. Wels said, “She was ahead of her time—then and now. Nothing stopped her. She took her chances and was willing to live with the consequences.”



FAREWELL PARTY FOR CATIE

An array of snacks, beverages and one impressive cake took center stage until the guest of honor appeared. Then there were hugs, some tears, smiles and laughter as volunteers, library personnel and Friends members came together to say “so long” to Catie Neilson, retiring Bookstore manager, on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 in the Community Rooms at the Civic Center branch. Catie told us that we hadn’t seen the last of her, as she promised she would rejoin the ranks of the volunteers in the Bookstore in the near future. Janice Diane presented her with a card and gift on behalf of grateful readers and friends.

JANUARY

**Kick off event
with Livermore Aviators
Sunday, January 29, 2 PM**

FEBRUARY

Screening and discussion,
The Tuskegee Airmen
(1995, PG-13)
Saturday, February 4, 1 PM

**Talk on aviation
pioneer Fred Wiseman**
by Stephen Lehmann
Tuesday, February 7, 6:30 PM

**Free Tour of the
Livermore Municipal Airport**
Saturday, February 11, 11 AM
Livermore Airport
680 Terminal Cir, Livermore CA, 94551
Space is limited. Sign-up begins
January 29, 2017.
Call the library at (925) 373-5573
to reserve a spot.

Author Susan Wels discusses
Amelia Earhart: The Thrill of It
Sunday, February 12, 2 PM

***Flygirl* Readers Theater**
by volunteers of
Livermore Shakespeare Festival
Wednesday, February 15, 7 PM

**Sulphur Creek Nature Center's
*Bats & Birds in Flight***
animal and craft program
Friday, February 17, 3:30 PM
Rincon Library

Teen Screen Printing Program
Teens learn to create t-shirts and
tote bags with cool aviation-themed print.
Saturday, February 18, 1 PM

Author Craig Harwood talks
***Quest for Flight: John J. Montgomery
and the Dawn of Aviation in the West***
Sunday, February 19, 2 PM

Kids create paper airplanes
Tuesday, February 21, 3 PM
Springtown Library

**Family movie day featuring
Disney-Pixar's UP**
Friday, February 24, 3:30 PM

Talk and Q&A with the author of
Flygirl
Sherri L. Smith
Saturday, February 25, 2 PM

The Swingin' Blue Stars in concert
Sunday, February 26, 2 PM





Thank you, Online Sales

In September 2016, the Friends received this thank-you note from an Amazon buyer named 'Joan', who spent \$125 for our autographed copy of Robert Kennedy's book, *The Enemy Within: The McClellan Committee's Crusade Against Jimmy Hoffa And Corrupt Labor Unions*.

I am thrilled with the copy of The Enemy Within by Robert Kennedy and more thrilled it is signed! I purchased this for a friend whose grandfather was mentioned favorably in the book. Her birthday is in a month and I'm excited to see her reaction when she opens the gift. Thank you for posting this item on Amazon.



(We were confident that the signature was genuine because, when Senator Kennedy closed the book after signing it, wet ink transferred to the opposite surface. Fountain pens were more common then than they are now. Ballpoints and felt-tips would not transfer.)

Check out our selections at www.amazon.com/shops/livermorelibraryfriends



Communicate through Facebook

If you have a Facebook account and "like" our page, you will be subscribed to Friends updates and can use the link to our amazon.com site to view and purchase books we offer for sale there. You will also be able to take advantage of discount coupons. "Like" our page and "share" with your friends. You'll find us at www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLivermoreLibrary



Friends of the Livermore Public Library Membership Form

Mail form to: Friends of the Livermore Library, P.O. Box 2483 Livermore, CA 94551-2483

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

To further support the Library, I/we have included a donation of

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities

MEMBER DUES

NEW

RENEWAL

\$10 Seniors (60 & over)

\$20 Individual

\$30 Family

\$250 Lifetime

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