



Bottom Shelf Bookstore News

Wishful and Whimsical

This little note was found in a donated book and saved to our "Found Items" envelope. It seemed the perfect introduction to our 4th Coronavirus issue. The fairy dust will be scattered when the Bottom Shelf reopens. Will we open soon? We shier hope so!

Bottom Shelf Day Managers

1st, 3rd Monday: Connie Knutson
 2nd, 4th, 5th Monday: Linda Lovett
 Tuesday: Sue Billing
 Wed: Debbie Schubarth
 Thursday: Violet Hulit
 Friday: Lynne Barker
 Saturday: Debbie Schubarth

Volunteer Coordinators

Marilyn Bradley
 Open position: Contact Sue or
 Marilyn if you are interested.

Dear Fairies, 🌟 🌙 🍷
 I'm sorry I haven't written all
 summer vacation! I read
 the letter you wrote
 me last and I thought
 I've got to write them! I'm
 going to school on September
 6th. 5th grade too! I was wonder-
 ing is there schools? (Fairy schools)
 And is there a girl, (Fairy girl)
 with brown ~~eyes~~ eyes and
 brown hair with red, pink,
 and purple wings? (and 10 years
 old) Can we be pen pals? I
 shier hope so! Well Bye!
 P.S. Can you tell me
 the name of the Fairy too?
 P.P.S. I've conseald some of
 my Fairy Dust (Well is that
 really dust.) Can you send me
 some of yours?

Coronavirus Diaries

For the past six months we have all had to endure being shut in our homes. We were wondering how people coped during this difficult time. So, we asked some of our volunteers the following questions:

1. How much weight did you gain or lose during the last six months?
2. What was the best book you read?
3. Best bingeing program?
4. How many zoom meetings?
5. Best organizing?
6. How did you get your food—delivery, pickup or in-store?
7. Best travel fantasy? Where would you like to go if you could?



Jean Hester

Weight loss or gain? Didn't gain or lose
Best book? *American Romantic* by Ward Just
Binging? Didn't do any binging, but is now enjoying watching the Padres
Zooming? Has been involved in three zoom meetings. Her only problem was people kept knocking on her door which interrupted her zooming. She wants a sign to hang on her door that says "Do Not Disturb - I'm Zooming"
Organizing? Has been organizing her photos
Food? In the beginning was lucky enough to have friends and neighbors who delivered food from Trader Joes

Nancy Kreile

Weight Loss or gain? Lost 55 pounds
Best book: *Kristin Lavransdatter* by Sigrid Unsett
Binging? Professor T (PBS)
Zooming? With family, with a book club and has taken several Yoga and exercise classes.
Organizing? Lots of plans to organize - still thinking about it
Food? Received deliveries from Eli's and also did pick-up from Albertsons
Travel fantasy? A walking tour of Switzerland was canceled - hopefully she'll go in 2021

Jan Grant

Weight loss or gain? Jan says she's casting larger shadows
Best book? *The Home Edit Life* by Clea Shearer. She liked it so much, she bought two copies for friends
Binging? Two series on PBS - George Washington and The Roosevelts
Zooming? Every Saturday morning with family
Travel? A cruise planned to go through the Panama Canal was canceled. She's still trying to get a refund. She and her husband purchased a motor home and traveled to Kentucky to visit son and granddaughter



"I can't tell if your gazing into my eyes or checking your e-mail."

m.e.msnair

-from The New Yorker, 9/28/20

Pennie Leachman

Weight loss or gain? No weight gain or loss
Best book? *The Three Body Trilogy*, by Cixin Liu, (Chinese Sci-Fi)
Binging? The Bosch series
Zooming? With homeowners association and book club
Food? Commissary, Costco, Target. It was so frustrating to find such empty shelves
Travel? Had to cancel a trip to Utah

Helen McHargue

Weight loss or gain? Lost ten pounds due to walking regimen
Best book? *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood
Binging? My Brilliant Friend
Zooming? Book club. Didn't like it when you could only see people's eyes because they hadn't adjusted screen angle
Food? Husband foraged
Travel Fantasy? Cruise on the Ganges in India

Help Wanted

Friends of Fallbrook Library Board Vacancies

There are currently three vacancies on the Friends of Fallbrook Library Board. If anyone is interested in filling one of these rewarding positions, please contact Tom Mintun at 760-723-8475 or email: tmintun@roadrunner.com

DIRECTOR – MEMBERSHIP **Responsibilities**

- a. Maintaining a computerized data base of current memberships containing names, home and email addresses.
- b. Acknowledging each new member and renewed annual membership via email or letter.
- c. Preparing for the President's signature, a letter acknowledging each new life membership.
- d. Informing the Bottom Shelf Bookstore point of contact of new Friends of the Fallbrook Library members to be added to their mailing lists.
- e. Coordinating with the Post Office on bulk mailing of newsletters.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE (two positions)

The designation of Director at Large is used for board members who have no specific, designated responsibilities. These may be individuals who are new Board members wishing to become more familiar with Board functions and the scope of activities and purposes of the Friends of the Fallbrook Library.

Book Store Tours

Miss the Bottom Shelf? Miss the boxes of donations, the smell of old books, the customer's browsing, the kid's excitement? Click on the links for the next best thing.

Tour Dickson Street Bookshop in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

<https://youtu.be/cINzXWUhB3w>

Visit the Last Bookstore, Los Angeles.

<https://youtu.be/MwSRHBRcwmM>

Turned Pages/Second Hand Bookstore documentary. "New Morning Books" in Adelaide, South Australia

https://youtu.be/a3XLW_5mLWg

Half a Million Books. A short documentary, quirky and fun about Camilla's Bookshop in England, described as "a bookaholic's dream." Sadly it was burned down in March, so this video is the only way to visit it.

<https://youtu.be/1cPPkVXXmyM>

A Second Hand Bookseller in India. A young woman is overwhelmed by the number of books in two shops in Bangalore, India.

https://youtu.be/h79B_znlkzo

Confessions of a Bookseller, Shaun Bythell. A video tour of his famous store, The Bookshop, in Wigtown, Scotland.

https://youtu.be/mRlly8eQt_s

Bridging the Grocery Gap During Covid-19

Copyright © 2020 by Lori I. Austin



Lori I. Austin is a native San Diegan, who has lived in Fallbrook for the last five years. When not volunteering at the Food Pantry, she enjoys being a part-time librarian, traveler and writer.

I finally heard my voice say, “I want to volunteer anyway.”

To learn more about the Fallbrook Food Pantry, please go to <https://www.fallbrookfoodpantry.org/>

To learn more about the San Diego Food Bank and Hunger Awareness Month, visit <https://sandiegofoodbank.org/endhunger/>

This story was originally published in the digital edition of Edible San Diego on September 11, 2020
<https://ediblesandiego.com/articles/>

We are all used to measuring distance in miles or feet. Lately, though, I’ve been thinking about how we use other gauges—like the wrinkles on our faces, the dollars in our wallets, or the food on our tables—to measure the distance between ourselves and others.

I knew some people in my community might be in danger of going hungry, but I found it reassuring to assume that everyone managed to have a full belly at bedtime. Then the Coronavirus pandemic hit and the news began to feature long lines of the newly unemployed waiting for hours to receive a week’s worth of groceries for their families. Many of these folks were much more used to donating to food drives than benefiting from them.

I called my local food bank and found out their customer base had shot up thirty percent in a month. In addition, not everyone was able to pick-up their groceries, either due to lack of mobility, lack of transportation, high-risk status, or all three. People needed food, and the food bank needed volunteers who were not at high risk to deliver it. I hesitated, thinking, *I can do this. But should I do this?* My spouse is 71, and my mother is 98, way over the age 65 stay-at-home threshold. I’d hate to expose them to the Coronavirus any more than I already do. I’m their primary food provider as well as an essential worker. I finally heard my voice say, *“I want to volunteer anyway.”*

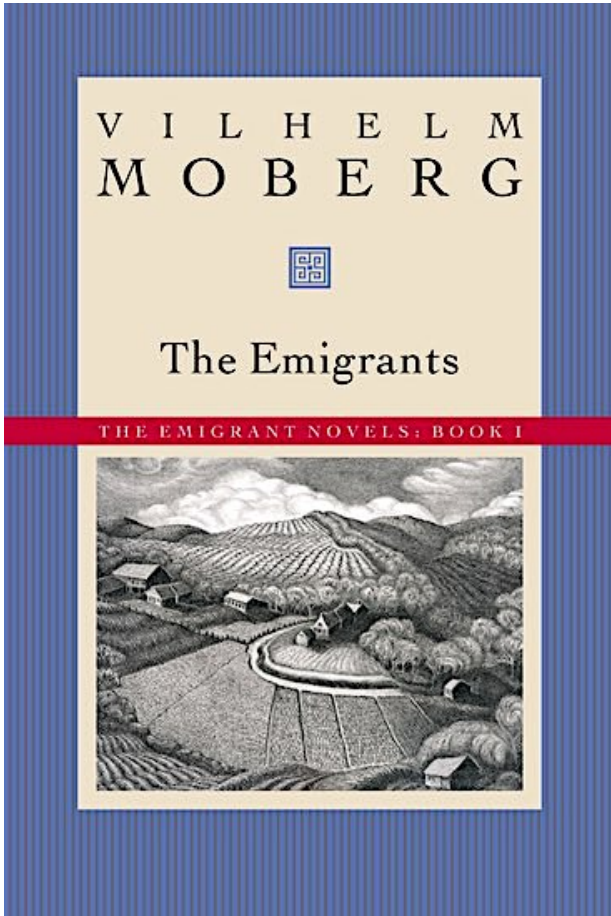
So now every Tuesday I set off from the food bank, my car crammed with a dozen boxes of local produce—avocados, lemons, and oranges—and frozen foods, canned goods, bags of potatoes, cartons of eggs, and gallons of milk. Each week my customer list grows, my route takes a little longer, and I keep discovering parts of my town I never knew existed—a world of apartment buildings and senior housing and flights of stairs—so many stairs!

Each week I get a little stronger as I lug the contents of forty-to fifty-pound boxes up those steps to my customers’ front doors. I envy the teenagers at the food bank who deftly hoist those boxes like they were filled with Styrofoam pellets. Still, it’s impossible to escape how lucky I am as I place the boxes and bags on the chairs and walkers left for this purpose beside the front doors. Two of my customers are on hospice, in hospital beds set up in their living rooms. Others can barely get around on their own power. And all qualify for food assistance.

Over the weeks I have come to learn a little more about the folks on my route. Honestly, it’s hard to forge relationships when communication comes through smiles and window waves and voices through screen doors. Still, I have found out that two of my clients, in better times, worked at the food bank that now serves them. Another is often not at home when I arrive because he is down the street volunteering at his church.

One woman gives me a small donation for the food bank almost every time I drop off her groceries. Last week it was a dollar. “I’m sorry,” she said. “It’s all I can afford this week.” I thank her, knowing her donation is her way of giving back, of feeling whole, of being part of the solution to the crisis that we are all facing together. I understand that both she and I are doing the same thing, each in our own way, and the distance shrinks between us.

Nancy's Book Review



I think a lot of us can relate to *The Emigrants*, a saga about a family traveling from Sweden to the new world in the 1800s. My ancestors emigrated from Norway so it was interesting to follow along with this wonderful story and think about how my relatives had a similar experience.

Karl Oscar, his wife, Kristina and their children boarded a ship in Sweden and ten weeks later after the grueling sea journey, landed in America. Moberg is a master of description and you share the sweat and tears of the characters as they try to navigate their way to their new home. You can feel their awkwardness and embarrassment as they try to speak the difficult new language.

You travel with them as they trek from New York to Minnesota. Once they stake their claim for a piece of property, you learn about their tremendous self-reliance as they build their home, begin to farm and establish a community.

But don't be frustrated when you finish this book and wonder what's going to happen to this courageous family—there are three more books in the series. After *The Emigrants*, you can follow their adventures by reading *Unto a Good Land*, *The Settlers* and finally, *The Last Letter Home*.

My only complaint with the book is that the author is sometimes very long-winded and what could have been said in one paragraph might stretch to several pages. A good editor could have solved this problem. This didn't stop me from enjoying the book, however.

And there are even two films based on this series—“The Emigrants” and “The New Land.”



Merry Christmas and Happy 2021!



Bottom Shelf Dreamin'

'Twas the night before Christmas
When all through the shelves
Not a creature was stirring
Not even the elves.

The volunteers were nestled
All snug in their beds
Dreaming of books unsold
That were stashed away instead.

When what to their wondering eyes did appear
There was Santa opening the Bottom Shelf door.
Customers lined up with money in hand
As if Santa had waved a big magic wand.

He smiled and he waved as his sleigh took flight
"Sell lots of books," he laughed as he flew out of sight.

by Nancy Javier

This newsletter may contain material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the owner or donator or customer but is implied by donation. It is in limited, non-internet distribution only for the private entertainment and education of Friends of the Fallbrook Library.

Farewell, Kay Wolk!



Kay Wolk, after many years volunteering at the Bottom Shelf, is leaving Fallbrook and moving to Eskaton in Grass Valley for a new chapter of her life.

Kay, our cookbook specialist, has been on the job taking care of this section of the store for seven years. She worked the cash desk for many years before assuming the cookbook position. Based on her wealth of experience, she knew what sold and what lingered. Each donated book got her careful scrutiny before she decided how to price it. We will miss her expertise.

Did you know Kay is a certified antique appraiser? She also volunteered at Rancho Guajome Adobe where she applied her professional skill assuring that items in the house were true to the period. In her spare time, she volunteered at the Angel Shop. Fallbrook is losing one of its finest citizens.

“I’m sure going to miss the gang at the Bottom Shelf,” Kay said. We regret being unable to kiss Kay goodbye but everyone will be able to wish her well once she is resettled. Contact Debbie Schubarth for Kay’s phone number and email address after November 9th.



