



# FOCL News

A Publication of the Friends of the Clarksburg Library

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## Golden Anniversary Celebration

### Greg Merwin To Be Featured Speaker For FOCL's 50<sup>th</sup> Gathering, January 22

Gregory Merwin, a native of Clarksburg and one of the founders of the Friends of the Clarksburg Library, will be the featured speaker for FOCL's golden anniversary meeting. It will be held on Sunday, January 22, at 2 p.m. in the Library Activity Room, 52915 Netherlands Road, Clarksburg.

In his speech Mr. Merwin will outline the early history of the library, much of which is centered on a controversy that led to the purchase of Floyd King's home, which was converted into the library as it exists today.

In addition to being one of FOCL's founders, Mr. Merwin was also the organization's first vice president and helped establish the Purple Thread, a small

*The Friends of the Clarksburg Library was incorporated on February 5, 1962, and the founders are shown here: first row (l. to r.) Mary Olson, Ruth Davis, J. B. Long; second row (l. to r.) Marion Heringer (FOCL's first president), Carolyn Slater, Rev. Martin Recio, Greg Merwin, Della Van de Mark; top row (l. to r.) Maude Pylman, Vivian Douglas (county librarian), June Kay, Gus Olson, Jr., Betty Cleaves, and Ed Davis.*

thrift store that generated the funds necessary to purchase the home for Clarksburg's Library. He was also chairman of FOCL's building committee.

Greg Merwin, a graduate of the local schools, received his BS in civil engineering from Stanford University in 1956, and he was drafted by the U. S. Army in 1957. Following his military service, he joined his brother, Dennis, and Father, S. H. Merwin, in what became one of the largest dichondra (a lawn cover) farming operations in the world. It is now managed by his son. In 1959, Gregory married Patty Nikula, and they have celebrated 52 years of marriage. In addition to their son, Jeff, they have a daughter, Elizabeth, and four grandchildren.

Although Patty and Greg are truly dedicated to their family, they are also major contributors not only to the Clarksburg community but also to Yolo County and beyond. In addition to his work with the library, Greg has been a leader in the Boy Scouts, Farm Bureau, Yolo Land Trust, California Beet Growers Association, United Church of Christ, American Guild of Organists, and Clarksburg Community Church. In addition to his many leadership positions in the church, he has been the church's organist for over 52 years.

### 'Wines of Clarksburg' For 2011 Successful In Many Different Ways

After all of the bills had been paid and the income tabulated, the "Wines of Clarksburg" and art auction added \$11,628.61 to the total income for the Friends of the Clarksburg Library in 2011, according to Twyla Buzarellos, FOCL's volunteer accountant who owns her own accounting firm.

Compared to the funds raised from the event in 2010, the new figure is over 12 percent greater than it was a year ago.

"Although we are very gratified with the monies we earned from the event, especially in these difficult financial times, I was even more satisfied with all of the wonderful compliments that we received from those who attended," said Ted Smith, FOCL President. "Two people told me near the end of the day last September, 'This is absolutely the best wine tasting event that we have ever attended.' They spoke of the wonderful wines and good food served in a truly beautiful setting, along with the fine art and delightfully familiar music. Then they said, 'And the people were so friendly'."

### Board Will Meet On January 17 To Act On Wine Tasting, Other Issues

The board for the Friends of the Clarksburg Library will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, in the Library Activity Room to take action on a number of items, including whether or not to hold the annual wine tasting and art auction next September. The board will also make final plans for the annual gathering of the organization, which will be held on Sunday, January 22.



## Board Begins Process To Meet ADA Laws

The FOCL board has engaged Kaufmann Architects to prepare the necessary plans for bringing the Clarksburg Library and the adjoining activity room into compliance with the require-

### Boy Scout From Troop 83 To Work On Storage Shed

Logan Vlach, a candidate for Eagle Scout status in local Boy Scout Troop 83, has begun a project for the Friends of the Clarksburg Library as part of his work for achieving the highest ranking in Scouting.

Logan will be making major improvements to FOCL's storage shed, which his brother, Devin, built as his Eagle Scout project. Logan expects to complete his work in the next few months. He is adding shelving, insulation, floor covering, wall covering, and storage carts for the shed.

ments of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The board met last November with Jim Bob Kaufmann, a Clarksburg resident and architect, to begin the process for meeting the federal law. In the meeting Mr. Kaufmann identified all of the changes that he believed would have to be made, and the board voted to have him proceed. His first task will be to develop plans for remodeling the building, and then the board will need to approve them and submit them to the appropriate authorities for approval.

Once approval has been given, the board will need to engage a builder to do the renovations.

Although most of the work will be centered on the bathrooms, the act will also require changes to parking areas, entranceways and exits, and walkways.

## Approval Is Given For WIC Program To Use Library Activity Room

After meeting with representatives of the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Program, the FOCL Board agreed to let them use the Library Activity Room to provide their services to eligible families living in the Clarksburg area. They will use the room for a few hours each month.

According to the representatives that the board met with, there are at least 47 eligible Clarksburg families.

WIC is a federally-funded health and nutrition program for pregnant women, new mothers, and infants or children under five years of age.

More information on the program in Clarksburg is available from our librarian or the Yolo County WIC Program.

*EDITOR'S NOTE: You received a copy of this newsletter, because the bylaws for the Friends of the Clarksburg Library specify that "all individuals living in the Clarksburg area" are members of the organization and are "entitled to one vote at a general meeting."*

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