

Happy Anniversary!

On February 24, we celebrated the new building's first anniversary with a birthday party, complete with cake and prizes. For the occasion, Culinology students in the university's Food and Nutrition program created a giant cake replica of the building under the direction of Professor Klaus Tenbergen. Over 150 pounds of flour and 360 eggs were used! The cake was an accurate model, depicting in miniature the photomural of Lois Connor weaving an Indian basket and even the building's Starbucks sign. It was too beautiful to eat (and non-edible, anyway), so the Culinology students also provided 800 cupcakes that were eagerly devoured by students and university employees attending the two-hour event.

The festivities took place outside the Leon S. Peters Ellipse Gallery on the second floor. Library Dean Peter McDonald wielded a giant knife to symbolically cut the cake. He was assisted by Provost William Covino and by junior nursing student Amanda Tang, identified the week before as the Library's one-millionth visitor.

Tickets for a drawing were given at the party. Every ten minutes, winners were announced, who received gift baskets, movie tickets, and Starbucks gift cards.

The Provost congratulated the Library on the excitement it has generated on campus and the important contribution it makes on a daily basis to both the campus and local communities.



Our one-millionth visitor

Associate Dean Dave Tyckoson kept a close watch on the Library's gate count. He knew that the one-millionth visitor to the Library would walk through the door on Wednesday, February 17. Local media had been alerted and were on hand to interview Amanda Tang, a junior nursing student from Elk Grove who was the lucky patron. She received a gift basket of Fresno State Farm Market products. Tang said, "Being a nursing student, I pretty much live at the Library. It's a great place to study without any distractions."



Tyckoson said that the 1 million mark came much sooner than expected. "Previously, our highest total in one year had been about 800,000. We are very happy to reach this landmark within our first year of operation in the new building."

Expanded facilities and improved services in the new building contributed to the increase in popularity. There are three times as many study stations in the new building as there were in the old and twice as many laptop computers available to check out. The addition of Starbucks has helped to attract students and others from the university community. All these factors combined to make the library more exciting and the destination of choice on campus.

Madden Library Donor of the Year



Pete P. Peters was honored at the Madden Library's 10th Annual Donor Recognition Reception on Friday, January 29. The event, attended by almost 100 people, was held in the Table Mountain Rancheria Reading Room on the third floor of the Madden Library. Ten members of Peters' family came from as far away as the Bay area and Orange County. Bud Richter spoke about Pete Peter's exemplary character and accomplishments and described his role in the Leon S. Peters Award and Legacy Project.

Pete Peters was instrumental in the Library's obtaining significant gifts from the Leon S. Peters Foundation and the Pete P. Peters Foundation. In recognition of these gifts, the

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Donor, continued

Library's Ellipse Gallery was named for Leon S. Peters and the Ellipse Balcony was named for Pete P. Peters. These are the premier exhibition spaces which also will be used for receptions, lectures, performances, and other programming.

The Ellipse Balcony provides a wonderful showcase for Fresno State art students to exhibit their work. Kristen Roan and Meiru Huang, both recent graduates, were the first students to have their work featured here. They spoke to the group about the significance of Peters' gift in launching their artistic careers. The Ellipse Balcony provides a superb exhibition space that is accessible to everyone on campus, as well as to community members. In addition, it will serve as an inspiration for students who will aspire to have their work exhibited in the Library.

A "Wicked" good party!

"Wicked," the hit Broadway musical, was the theme of the Arne Nixon Center Advocates' eighth annual Secret Garden Party, held April 11th at the home of Dr. Peyton Bryars and Dr. Richard Jennings in north Fresno. Over one hundred people enjoyed the first cloudy hour outside. When a steady rain began to fall, they were invited inside to a beautiful sun room.

Entertainment included songs by "Wicked" characters Glinda (Jackie Gomez), Elphaba (Lisette Lancaster), and Fiero (Terry Lewis). Decorations included a chalk Yellow Brick Road, a rainbow balloon arch, a bubble machine at the champagne station, a lunchbox tree (see *Ozma of Oz*, the third *Oz* book), and a poppy field made of cupcakes. Master Gardeners demonstrated techniques for container gardening, edible landscaping, sustainable gardening, and topiary. A pair of non-scary winged monkeys (played by Delaney Rocca and Ellie Twohey, both aged two) drew the most praise.

The party grossed more than \$23,000; all profits benefit the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children's Literature, part of the Henry Madden Library. This year's earnings will support programs like the national *Oz* conference, featuring Gregory Maguire, author of the novel *Wicked*.



Gene Rose: The Water Wars Continue

Environmentalist Gene Rose, once deemed the "Conscience of Yosemite" and "The Best Friend a River Ever Had" addressed a packed house at the Friends' February program. He shared his views on the damaging effects of agricultural and industrial development on the natural world of the Central Valley and the Sierras, but assured the audience he was not against agriculture, just against the unplanned and careless mishandling of the land and waters of central California. During his many years of investigative reporting for *The Sacramento* and *Fresno Bees*, Rose gained acclaim for his insightful, in-depth studies of environmental issues in central California and throughout the West. His perceptive analysis of the history of the area resulted in several books; the latest and most well-known is *The San Joaquin: A River Betrayed*.

Rose gave a brief history of discovery and development of the Valley, accompanied by spectacular photos of the natural views of our area. Further illustrating this idea, the Library's Leon S. Peters Ellipse Gallery featured an exhibition entitled "The San Joaquin River: History and Revival of a Heartland River" with historical photographs, video clips, and artifacts on loan from the San Joaquin River Parkway.

A Day in the Library

The Library kicked off its centennial celebration (1911-2011) with “A Day in the Library” on April 10, the Saturday during the university’s Vintage Days event. From 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., when the Library opened for business, 200 people were welcomed with tours of the building, demonstrations, and special displays. The first 100 people received free tickets to that afternoon’s Bulldogs baseball game, generously donated by the McCormick Barstow law firm. With a baseball theme, hotdogs, peanuts, and Cracker Jack® were appropriate refreshments. Guests explored the building, stopping at several stations where expert Friends and librarians displayed and explained highlights from their personal and the Library’s collections. Three librarians led tours to show off the new building and the Library’s resources.

As our delighted visitors entered the Library, a huge railroad crossing sign could be seen. Associate Dean Dave Tyckoson beautifully displayed a wonderful selection of railroad memorabilia. The public viewed menus, ticket stubs, china, and even a comfy blanket from train riding days gone by.

An estimated 75 people made their way to the Library’s Special Collections Reading Room for Don Larson’s presentation on World’s Fairs. A continuously looping PowerPoint presentation with world’s fair photos fascinated many. Tammy Lau, head of Special Collections, was pleased that a number of people attending promised to donate something from a world’s fair for the collection. People appreciated the exhibit created by Jean Coffey, Adam Wallace, and Don Larson, calling it “fantastic, bordering on spectacular.”

Greg Lapp, choral director and music theory instructor at University High School, shared information on the Library’s extensive music collection. His presentation highlighted an opera research project, which he assigns annually to his junior-year students. People were interested in the Music & Media resources, but they also inquired about University High School, the program, admissions policies, and the new Art Dyson building under construction, which Lapp was happy to answer.

Native American expert Ron Goode greeted visitors in the Table Mountain Rancheria Reading Room, a perfect location for his topic: Native American baskets and soap stone carvings, which he had on display. He described how objects from our valley and foothills reflected the lives of their creators. For example, the size of the Indian “soccer” playing field reflected the length between villages and the ball was constructed not to roll too far.

Goode’s willingness to share his knowledge was appreciated by all who stopped by.

Librarian Emeritus Tom Ebert gave a presentation about “Women Who Wrote the West,” who shaped not only the image of the West but also its history. He told of Jesse Benton Fremont, who transformed her husband’s scientific reports of his 1842-45 western expeditions into national best sellers and Fremont’s guide, Kit Carson, into a legendary mountain man. Elizabeth Bacon Custer managed to create a 19th century mythic hero of her husband, George Armstrong Custer, despite his disastrous defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Angelica Carpenter, Curator of the Arne Nixon Center for the Study of Children’s Literature, entertained visitors with behind-the-scenes tours and information about the upcoming “Oz: The Books!” conference. Co-sponsored by the International Wizard of Oz Club, the May conference will have over 40 speakers from 7 states and England. The keynote speaker will be Gregory McGuire, author of *Wicked*.

Vern Crow, a local advertising executive and Civil War expert, spoke on “Why the Civil War Fascinates Americans.” With a display of books and maps, he engaged visitors with tales about the Civil War. His book, *Storm in the Mountains: Thomas’ Confederate Legion of Cherokee Indians and Mountaineers*, is praised as offering a rare look at a unique and colorful outfit, which fought in the Blue Ridge Mountains during the War.

Dan Taylor, Sports Director at Channel 30 for almost 25 years, discussed his book, *Rise of the Bulldogs*, about the Fresno State baseball team’s 2008 national championship. He answered questions ranging from national sports to local draft picks and he is a near expert on the mysticism of the NCAA.



More than one person was heard lamenting the lack of time...so much to see and do. Library volunteer Terrance Smith was heard to say, “What a great way to spend a Saturday!”

Look for these Friends programs during Fresno State's Centennial Year, 2010 to 2011:



2010

- ◆ **September 10** ◆ Friends of the Madden Library dinner and annual meeting: "100 years of *Fresno Bee* Coverage of Fresno State"
- ◆ **November** ◆ "The Long Perspective on the Fresno Art Scene"

2011

- ◆ **January** ◆ "100 Years of Architecture in Fresno" with Lauren MacDonald
- ◆ **March** ◆ "A Century of Educational Innovation" by Rick Hansen, Fresno State professor of English, with a tour of University High School featuring UHS Chamber Singers
- ◆ **May** ◆ Fresno State alumnus and curator, author, filmmaker, and producer Kerry Yo Nakagawa will share his multi-media projects, documentaries, curriculum, and film "American Pastime"

Call us at 278-5790 if you want more information or if you would like to become involved. Programs are subject to change.

Our programs are free of charge for the Friends of the Madden Library.
Not a member? We would love to have you join us. Please visit our web site at
www.csufresno.edu/library/campaign/friends.php

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