

# FRIENDS OF PATAGONIA LIBRARY

346 Duquesne Ave. Patagonia, AZ 85624 - 520-394-2010 - [www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org](http://www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org)

## Our Patagonia Library

*By Marilyn Miller, President*

Every year, your donations put new books, audiobooks, and movies on the shelves, buy subscriptions for online books, magazines, and movies, and pay for mundane but essential items like protection software on computers and the plastic for covering books to extend their shelf life.

Because of your generosity, this year we were able to replace our six aging public computers, used by patrons who don't have personal computers or printers. Whenever you come to the library, you'll see the computers in use as patrons check their email, pay bills, research topics, and print out everything from tax forms to directions to the dentist.

All day, a steady stream of people come into the library as residents from Patagonia and the nearby areas read and check out books and magazines, use the computers, hold meetings, ask questions, browse, and socialize with neighbors and friends. Tourists make the library a stop during their stay in Patagonia. The Patagonia Library definitely plays an essential role in our community. Thank you for helping create this vibrant space.



## Library Director's Corner

*By Kayla Miller, Interim Library Director*

In the spring of 2023, the library received a grant from the Arizona State Library for \$10,000 to renovate the children's computer room. These funds will create a comfortable, welcoming learning environment. Six new computers will be purchased to replace the outdated ones. Additionally, the grant will fund an after school tutoring program for students who are struggling in school or need individualized help.

Our second success was the children's summer programming. The kids read 142 books altogether, which is comparable to our pre-COVID numbers. The children's program, Mad Scientists, had the highest participation, with 5-6 kids attending every week. Our young writers wrote two complete novels, which will be added to the library's collection as physical books. Dungeons and Dragons has been so popular that it will continue throughout the year and will be available to kids and adults alike. We typically have 15-20 participants each week.

## Let's Get Quizzical

By Linda Shore

Fourteen tables of trivia buffs gathered in the library courtyard for "Let's Get Quizzical," the 4th annual Friends of the Library Trivia Night. Held under the stars, it was a magical event.

Emcees Francesca Claverie and Kate Peake took the 89 participants through six rounds of questions created by Quiz Master Jan Herron and her daughter, Suzannah.

The winning team, "Farr Better at Something Else," was led by Molly Anderson.

A lively, competitive game helped the Friends raise over \$3,000 to support library programs and collections. Plans are already underway for the next quiz in 2024. The Friends hope to see you and your team there.



## Why I Like the Library: Words from a Young Patron

By Benjamin R. Krzys

Reading is very important. At the library, I learn about history, science, gardening, and much more. I learn to write better when I read. Reading teaches me grammar, spelling, and creative writing. I really liked the summer programs. All the summer program's experiments at Mad Scientists were fun. I really like my roly poly habitat that we made. Kayla taught me a lot about writing in the Young Writers program.

The library staff are so kind. One of them gave me two of her roly polys. Kayla did a lot to prepare for the pizza party; she also does a lot to prepare for Dungeons and Dragons. The staff orders books and movies that my family and I like.

As a home schooler, the library is truly a wonderful place to go.

## Celebrating National Friends of Libraries Week

By Marilyn Majalca

Patagonia Mayor Wood proclaimed October 15-21 Friends of Libraries Week.

We served cake and lemonade to patrons in the Library's Reading Room. A poster displayed high points of the Friends history and a list of activities. Previous Friends Board members, members of the Library Advisory Board, Town Council members, and volunteers were invited to participate in recognition of all the efforts it takes to support our library. You can read the Proclamation at <https://www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org/news-from-the-friends/>.



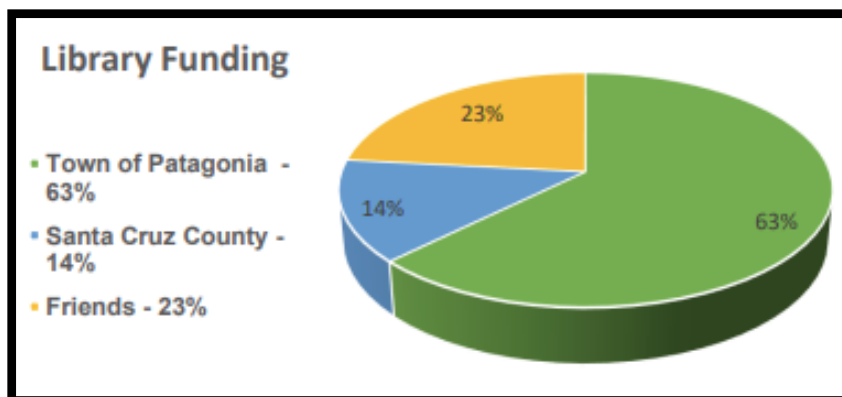


## Library Funding

By Steve Finch

Each year, it takes \$150,000 to keep our library going. The Town of Patagonia provides two-thirds of the funding. The town money and some funds from Santa Cruz County pay for staff salaries, utilities, and building upkeep. The Friends of the Library pays for the

books, DVDs, computers, software, and programs that fill the library for public use. Most of that comes from your donations to the Friends with an additional amount raised by the Friends through book sales and events like our annual Trivia Night.



## Friends of Patagonia Library Partners with Local Business

by Friends of Patagonia Board Members

The Trading Post offered to sell used books for the library, an arrangement that has been wildly successful. We interviewed Rainey Carpenter, an employee at The Trading Post and a Friends Board member, about customer reactions.

### **How do people feel about finding used books?**

Shoppers at Patagonia Trading Post are always intrigued when we tell them about the books from the library. People love it and most want to learn more. It's quickly becoming a crowd favorite. We have a Book Nook with a great selection of new books, but when shoppers see we have discounted books previously donated to the library, it is an immediate attraction. Not everyone has the money to buy two or three new books at a time, but they can with the discounted library books. It is becoming a crowd favorite.

### **Who buys the used books?**

Mostly visitors from out of town. I think as more people see we have a large selection of used library books for sale, we'll have an even bigger interest.

### **Favorite genre?**

Birding and Southwest.

### **Tell me a story.**

A couple came in and saw a coffee table book we were selling for five dollars. It was a really nice photography book, but it had water damage and wasn't getting much attention at the in-library book sale. The couple told me their closest friend wrote the book and gave them a copy, but he didn't sign their copy. The water-damaged book was signed. They were so excited to find a signed copy.

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