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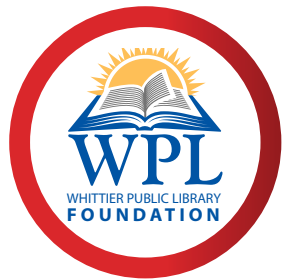
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WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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News

WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

Summer 2017

whittierplf.org

President's Message

New Board Members

Please welcome two new members to our board — **Don Alvarado** and **Wes Murray**. Don retired recently as legal counsel for Smart and Final and began working for a law firm in Orange County. We have Don to thank for getting the producer of the wonderful documentary, *Somm*, to introduce his film at *Whittier Reads*. Both Don and his wife, Michelle, are active volunteers in the Whittier Community. You may have met him at a Boys and Girls Club event.

Wes Murray, a retired land-use planning

consultant, and his wife Rita, are also very active in Whittier community service. Wes has served on Whittier's Planning Commission and Design Review Board, and is currently an enthusiastic Lion and familiar face in our *Veterans Resource Center*.

We look forward to their active participation on our Foundation board, beginning with the new fiscal year on July 1.

Good News about Central Library

I'm sure that you, as steadfast Library supporters, will be pleased with the latest news about Central Library. To call the

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Whittier Reads Report

The month-long series of *Whittier Reads 2017* at the Whittier Public Library has concluded; but the various lectures, author's talk, wine tastings and dinners have left their mark. Author Frances Dinkelspiel ponders the question in *Tangled Vines*: "Why is wine so special?" Her response: "The answer, of course, is that it brings people together."

And that it did. *Whittier Reads 2017* brought our library patrons and friends together in large numbers to read and discuss the book, *Tangled Vines*; to listen to the author speak about her extensive research in writing the book; to share a dinner with Frances; to hear interesting speakers talk about prosecuting an arsonist and the history of winemaking in California; to sample

wines paired with delectable small bites; to listen to the executive producer of the movie, *Somm*; and to enjoy an exquisite evening and dinner as we learned how to cook with wine.

The *Whittier Reads* committee is very thankful to the many foundation sponsors who supported each and every program

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Frances Dinkelspiel Talks about Tangled Vines



President's Report (continued)

architects' plans a "remodel" does not do them justice. Just as a wonderful new facility was created from the original building at Whittwood, so will Central have the look, feel, and function of an entirely new library!

Thank you to all of you who participated in the citywide survey. More than two-thirds of voters surveyed are in favor of putting the issue on the ballot in November, according to the expert consultant's report to the City Council. Respondents are also willing to pay an assessment, based on the value of their home, for the Library expansion and remodel.

Please let our City Council hear from you. Let the Council know what the Library does for you, how much you value the library's programs and services for the community at large, and that you encourage them to put the bond issue measure on the ballot. These are particular concerns expressed by survey respondents:

- The need for an enlarged and improved Children's Area

- Improved access for seniors and the disabled
- An expanded Computer & Tech Center
- A Veterans Resource Center that is larger and more readily accessible
- More computers for use by the public (The Library's public computers were used **930,000** times last month alone!)

I remember being terrified as a child of the dark, vine covered, stone staircase that led to the children's section in the old Carnegie Library. As an adult I have watched my daughters, and now my granddaughter, skip joyfully into the library to attend programs or to do schoolwork. I have also seen how the staff nurtures and teaches them.

Thank you, each and every WPL Foundation member, for your support of these priceless resources!

October 12, 2017: Save the Date

Plan to join us for WPLF's **Booktoberfest**.

Sue Settlage, President, Founding Member

Whittier Reads Report (continued)

throughout the month. We are grateful to the donors who donated items for the Author Dinner silent auction; as well as the underwriters who gave generously to the two dinners we hosted. The *Whittier Reads* programs could not have been possible without the creative and dedicated support of the Whittier Public Library staff.

Ms. Dinkelspiel was surely referencing the power of wine when she wrote: "The wine enhanced the evening, turning a special occasion into an exceptional one." There is also power in connecting over a good book. We thank our author and you, for making *Whittier Reads 2017* an exceptional one.

Mary McCarthy, Whittier Reads Chair



Doris Huxtable, Paymaneh Maghsoudi, Eileen Bigelow



Frances Dinkelspiel with Don & Michele Alvarado



Mary McCarthy & George Ronay at the History of Wine Industry Talk



Table Decor, Cooking with Wine Dinner



Grape Grower Sam Vena



Chef Ruth Lester



Maurice & Melanie Bickley, Laila Jacobsma, Judge Lapham, Frances Dinkelspiel, Dr. John Sudick



Dr. John & Mary McCarthy, Frances Dinkelspiel and Judge Lapham



Cooking with Wine Dinner



Sylvia Foltz, Jan & Bill Geiger, Teresa Gunther, Joyce Fitzgerald (standing)



Eileen Bigelow, Mary McCarthy, and Kathryn Bigelow


Thanks to the following businesses for their support of the Whittier Public Library Foundation.



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