Judy Williams, SCFOL Prez Sez:, August, 2013

I want to thank those of you who have renewed your Membership in the Friends of the Library. Please help us encourage new memberships. Your support is very important.

Some of you may wonder, what does your membership mean to the library? Here are some of the ways your commitment makes a difference:

- As the saying goes, there is strength in numbers. As many of you know we are actively advocating for a new library in San Carlos. As we approach potential donors and the city council, it is important that we can demonstrate the community interest and need for the new building.
- Until such time as we have a new building, we must maintain our current library. There are limited city/public funds available to upgrade the libraries, so the Friends have taken on this responsibility. Last year we purchased new tables and chairs to make our environment more comfortable and friendly, as well as an awing for the out door portion of the Book Sales, and new signage out front.
- This year, due to a generous donation, we are upgrading our Children's Area to make it more user friendly for our young patrons.
- Your dues support the very important youth activities, such as the Essay Contest and the Summer Reading Program. These programs are so important to help teach our youth the value of the library and how it can help improve their educational experience.

On January 9, 2014, the San Carlos Library will celebrate its 40th Anniversary. This year, in recognition of this occasion, SCFOL is planning several events to highlight the important value the San Carlos Library has had to our community. Please log onto our Web site often so that you will be the first to know when these special events are scheduled.

I hope that each of you will want to become an active member of the Friends. A variety of opportunities are available to you. For example:

- Offer to help at the Book Sales. We can always use more volunteers to set up the sale, break it down, cashier, sort and categorize the books which are donated for the book sales. Remember to donate your own used books, and check out our selections before you purchase new books.
- Help develop a "Nook" area for the Friends.
- Become a member of the Events committee, which will be planning the 40th Anniversary as well as future fund raising activities.
- Offer to help with our advocacy efforts for a new library.
- Assist with the development and distribution of the Newsletter and publicity fliers. We need someone to help submit on-line publicity to a variety of venues.
- Attend the programs (OASIS, speakers, art exhibits, hobby groups, exercise classes, and book club meetings) that are being held at the library and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same.

You are always welcome to attend and participate in the Board Meetings held at 4:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the Community Room. We would welcome your input and support. You are important to us; become an active SCFOL member.

Judy Williams, President

San Carlos Friends of the Library,