

BEST Friends

Business · Economics and Science · Technology · Patents Fall 2019 Newsletter

BEST Friends, P.O. Box 712217, Los Angeles CA, 90071

best.friends.lapl@gmail.com

<http://tinyurl.com/lapl-best>

President's Message

Greetings, BEST Friends!

Our Fall program and luncheon is set for, November 12th – I do hope you'll join us for it. Elizabeth Pomeroy, author of *Glen Dawson, Mountaineer and Bookman*, will give a presentation about the accomplishments of her book's namesake, in business and in the outdoors. See page 13 for the reservation form.

Glen Dawson's father, Ernest, founded Dawson's Books in 1905 at 713 South Broadway in Downtown Los Angeles. It later moved to 518 South Hill Street, followed by 627 South Grand Avenue where it operated for 30 years, before moving to 550 South Figueroa in 1952. After Ernest Dawson's death in 1947, Glen and his brother Muir took on operations. When it closed in 2010, at its final location on Larchmont Boulevard, the book shop had operated continuously for 105 years.

There is a lot of history of doing business in Los Angeles packed into those years, and Elizabeth Pomeroy will unpack the dynamic Glen Dawson's role in it, and his other adventures as a climber and outdoorsman.

Do you know any LA History fans who might be interested in this program? BEST Friends programs are always open to all, so please do share this event and invite others to attend with you!

I'd like to give a special front-page thanks to Ann and John Shea, and Sandeep Gupta, for their ongoing dedication to staffing the BEST Friends used book sale on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

The monthly book sale remains the primary source of fundraising which allows BEST Friends support the BEST departments at LAPL Central, and Sandeep and the Sheas make it happen. Many, many thanks to Ann, John, and Sandeep – you're the best. (get it?)

It sure would be nice if we could find a few more volunteers to help run the sale. Are you able to help us a few hours once a month or every other month? It is not hard work, and it's the most important fundraising we do. Please email bestfriends.lapl@gmail.com if you can help.

I'll buy you a BEST Friends tote bag if you volunteer.

Election of officers for 2020 will take place at the November 12 meeting. Would you be interested in serving a term? You can send nominations to best.friends.lapl@gmail.com. Board members meet usually once a month, at noon, in the Business/Economics Dept. Staff Room, and the meetings rarely last more than one hour. This is an excellent way to serve the Central Library. Please volunteer and bring your ideas and perspective to our BEST Friends board.

In the last newsletter, I asked “What can BEST Friends do for you this year?”, and meant it sincerely. Let us know! Are there other activities you’d like to see, beyond Fall/Spring programs? Do you have topics to suggest for future meetings? Let us know: bestfriends.lapl@gmail.com. We’re always open to new ideas and hope to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued support, I look forward to seeing you November 12th!

Truly yours,
Shelly Ray
President of BEST Friends, 2019

Be a BEST Friend by Volunteering!

Email best.friends.lapl@gmail.com to volunteer and request more information

Library Book Sales: Book sales are held in the 2nd Floor Rotunda from 10:00 am - Noon the 3rd Saturday of the month.

Next sales scheduled: October 19, November 16, December 21

BEST Friends Board 2019

President	Shelly Ray
Vice President (Programs)	Ann Shea
Vice President (Membership)	Sandeep Gupta
Secretary	Brad Owen
Treasurer	John Shea
Member-at-Large	OPEN
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Newsletter Editor	Richard Kraus

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The screenshot shows the BEST Friends website. At the top, there is a search bar and a navigation menu. The main content area features a section titled "BEST Friends Board 2019" with the following members listed: President Shelly Ray, Vice President (Programs) Ann Shea, Vice President (Membership) Sandeep Gupta, Secretary Brad Owen, Treasurer John Shea, Member-at-Large OPEN, and Newsletter Editor Richard Kraus. Below the board list, there is a message from Shelly Ray, President of Best Friends, regarding the monthly book sales and the need for volunteers. The message states that BEST Friends participates in the monthly book sales at the Central Library on the third Saturday of the month, and that volunteers are needed to help with the sales. The website also includes a sidebar with links to various sections such as Home & About Us, Book Sale @ Central Business & Economics Department, Contact Us, Membership in BEST Friends, Newsletters, Science, Technology, & Patents Department, What's Happening, Blog Posts, Upcoming Programs, Signup, Recent site activity, and Volunteers needed!

BEST Friends is proud to support the following two ongoing programs at Central Library. Mindful Meditation is hosted by the Science, Technology & Patents Dept. and Classic Tai Chi Classes are hosted by the International Languages Dept.



Mindful Meditation

Thursdays, 12:30pm to 1:00pm

Check with the library to confirm dates

<https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/mindful-meditation-6>

Central Library: Meeting Room A

Mindful Meditation session and talk led by UCLA MARC certified facilitators. (Mindful Awareness Research Center (MARC), UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior)



Classic Tai Chi Classes

Saturdays, 10:00am to 11:30am

Check with the library to confirm dates:

<https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/classic-tai-chi-classes-0>

Central Library: Meeting Room A

Join us for free classic Tai Chi classes by instructor Bill Cheng. Each class will include a demonstration, posture practice of 108 Classic Tai Chi forms, and time for questions and answers. 2016 LAPL blog entry describing the program:

<https://www.lapl.org/collections-resources/blogs/lapl/learning-tai-chi>



Planning Your Visit to LAPL Central

Downtown construction can turn getting to Central Library into a kind of adventure, full of surprises! Here are some resources to help you navigate with ease.

630 W. 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Driving and Public Transit Directions: <https://www.lapl.org/branches/central-library/directions>

Parking Information: <https://www.lapl.org/branches/central-library/parking>
Parking underneath library is in the 524 South Flower Street Garage

NOTE: Weekend closures of Flower St. near Central Library will continue for a few months. When necessary, use Grand Ave. to access the parking garage. Follow detour signs as you approach Grand on 5th Street (turn left on Grand and look for the garage entrance on your right).

Street Closures/Construction Notices: <https://www.metro.net/projects/connector/> and <https://twitter.com/metroconnector>.

Library Hours of Service

Monday	10:00 AM	8:00 PM
Tuesday	10:00 AM	8:00 PM
Wednesday	10:00 AM	8:00 PM
Thursday	10:00 AM	8:00 PM
Friday	9:30 AM	5:30 PM
Saturday	9:30 AM	5:30 PM
Sunday	1:00 PM	5:00 PM

*Holidays & closures: <https://www.lapl.org/holiday-closures>



BEST Friends

Business & Economics and Science & Technology

Spring Meeting Program & Luncheon

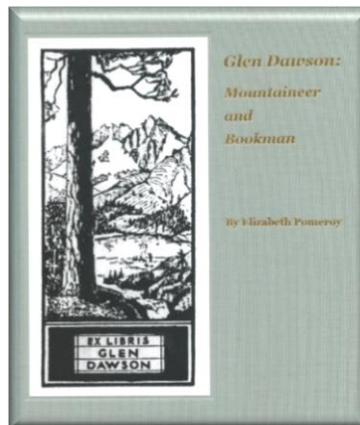
Tuesday, November 12, 2019

12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm

Los Angeles Public Library
Meeting Room A, Central Library
630 W. Fifth Street. LA, CA 90071

Elizabeth Pomeroy

Glen Dawson, Mountaineer and Bookman



Elizabeth Pomeroy will present an illustrated program on the life and accomplishments of Glen Dawson, a man of books as well as an avid climber. The program will trace the 105-year history of Dawson's Book Shop, founded by his father Ernest. Since 1905, Dawson's has been a leading source in Southern California for rare and out of print books in the fields of California history, Western Americana and photography.

Elizabeth is a native Californian and has been active in the education field for many years as a teacher and administrator. Elizabeth founded her own publishing company, Many Moons Press, in 2000 and publishes books on Southern California. She is a member of the Los Angeles Corral of Westerners and numerous historical societies in the area.

Parking is available in the 524 S. Flower Street garage at a reduced rate during library hours with library card and library validation.

SEE THE RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE 13

Business & Economics--What's Happening

<http://www.lapl.org/central/business.html>



by Youngsil Lee
Senior Librarian, Business & Economics Dept.

Full staffing in the Department ended on June 30 after a short span. Ken Benham retired after 19 years in the Department. Rest of the librarians are working harder to pitch in to fill the gap. We simply hope to be able to fill the position soon.

Summer months tend to be a little slower than others so we did massive weeding with the books pulled out by Deloitte volunteers in June. We also cleaned out annual reports file cabinets and put a new lock to keep them from vandalism. Many staff had to take a few mandatory trainings and some were involved in summer lunch, Leadership Pioneer Institute and community outreach. With all that, summer turned out to be not that slow but we got a lot done. So we treated ourselves with a pizza party as usual.

After a few months of reduced hours of service at the Job & Career Center, PACE finally was able to hire a new full time counselor. Rebecca Gonzalez started in August and has been settling in her new role at the library. She is trying to learn as much as she can to bring up the Portal's level of service to assist people with job searching.

We sponsored many programs for the past few months; UCLA VITA tax assistance, BEST Spring luncheon on Social Security, Deloitte Day of Impact, recruitment events for local employers, PACE small business workshops, and Aging Mastery programs. We continue to provide useful programs to serve our public in diverse interest to make this place accessible and helpful for what they need. We are in the talks on a new series of financial education programs for seniors.

New budget year started as of July 1 and we were very disappointed with big budget cut this year. It is mainly due to setting aside a big chunk of materials budget to purchase e-media for the system. This unexpected news started a series of discussion among ourselves and others at the Central Library to define what our roles in the system and how to sustain that.

Once promising progress of small study rooms had to stop some time ago and we were told that the library has to hire a new vendor to complete the construction. We sure can wait for more after all these years of waiting for things to happen, small or big.



On Your Way

Winning tips for
Financial Success

October 1 – 31, 2019

<https://www.lapl.org/onyourway>



Money Matters at the Los Angeles Public Library, and we want to help send you On Your Way to financial freedom.

Through the end of October, the library is hosting On Your Way: Winning Tips for Financial Success, a free, online challenge that allows patrons to win a series of great prizes just by using some of the library's many online financial resources.

Sign up for free today
or learn more at
[lapl.org/onyourway](https://www.lapl.org/onyourway)

Three grand prize winners will receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card. Five others will receive a Financial Budget Planner.



@lapubliclibrary

[lapl.org](https://www.lapl.org)

Science, Technology & Patents Department Update

<http://www.lapl.org/central/science.html>

<https://www.lapl.org/labs>

<http://www.facebook.com/scicenlap>



OctaviaLab
Creativity Within Reach



By Bob Timmermann, Senior Librarian
Science, Technology & Patents Department

This July 20 marked the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon. And while it was a fairly brief story lost amidst a turbulent news cycle in America today, the Science Department was able to give people who wanted it a very long look back at it.

The department's oldest book about modern rocketry, *Rockets Through Space*, by P.E. Cleator, was published in 1936. Robert Goddard, who is regarded as the father of American rocketry, has a book in the collection from 1946. It's titled *Rockets*.

Contributions around this time by the most prominent German rocket designer Wernher von Braun and Russian Sergei Korolev obviously weren't available in English because of the small matter of World War II. Von Braun (after he moved to the U.S. after the war) had two books published under his name in 1953, *The Mars Project* and *Conquest of the Moon*. The former was translated from German and the latter was actually written by Cornelius Ryan and was a published version of a series of articles about space travel that appeared in *Collier's* magazine. Korolev's name was not revealed to the outside world until after he passed away in 1966.

By the time that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was formed in 1958, the group started publishing dozens of reports each year. And the Science Department has nearly all of these in its closed stacks, a giant wall about just about any topic that related to space travel. NASA's predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics was formed in 1915 and our oldest publication from it is from 1921.

When the Science Department staff was working on a display to put out for the public on Apollo 11, we thought there would be an interesting planning document about lunar exploration. But there actually wasn't one. Instead, the first trip to the moon was not something that was the result of a few scientists getting together and writing one big report. It was the work of thousands of scientists, engineers, and mathematicians working together for one goal.

So from something like NASA Technical Note D-1106 title "Elements and Parameters of the Osculating Orbit and Their Derivatives" (published in 1962 and composed on a typewriter) or Technical Note D-4279 "Establishing Allowable Temperature Gradients For Tungsten-Uranium Dioxide Fuel Elements Using Experimental Cyclic Strain Data" (published in 1968 and looks to have slightly better typesetting), it all somehow added up to getting two people to the Moon and back.

Members of the Year, 2019!

Message from the Membership Chair

If it were a thing, Ann and John Shea would be decorated as members of the year. I take liberty with that idea and hereby nominate and consider Ann and John Shea as LAPL BEST Friends Academy of Volunteering Arts and Sciences winners of the award for Members of the year 2019, with distinction, in spite of stiff competition by scores of volunteers from among you all.



It is only fair. John and Ann, as you know, were exploring Alaskan Wilderness last December, learning about the wildlife in the interest of Business Economics, Science, Technology and patents, when a grizzly bear charged at them.

Ann was okay, John fought the bear off and suffered an annoying sling and rehabilitation exercise routine for the big part of the year. You can see the sling even though I tried to Photoshop it out, mostly.

Thing is, even in spite of that, Ann and John came and managed nearly every BEST Friends booksale, shown in the picture, even that very December. I think there is always time to stop and celebrate the work of scores of volunteers and the exceptional work and commitment evident in Ann and John's diligent service to one of our dozens of flagship activities.

Only that there was no competition, no scores of volunteers, not even a dozen activities, and yes there is Alaska, Ann and John were here in sunny California far away from Grizzlies.

Yes the injury and sling were real, he is doing fine now and playing soccer maybe, their diligence is poignantly real. Between the Sheas and Dorothy McGarry, another of our long time members and an outstanding volunteer and supporter, the dedication is heartwarming and worth celebrating them.

While I ask you to acknowledge their unfailing and exceptional support, may I also ask you to consider why we don't hear from so many of you. There are many factors why the old BEST Friends is an anachronism now, so we understand, only it is our Library.

Is the onus of reinventing and re-relevancing a major Friends group of the library entirely that of newcomers without input from those who know the library and our role in figuring out the best ways to see it forward?

Thanks for reading. I would love to hear your thoughts, at best.friends.lapl@gmail.com

With Regards



Emmy image base courtesy of FIDM Museum



<https://dtla.makefaire.com/>

Central Library Downtown Los Angeles: Saturday, December 7, 2019

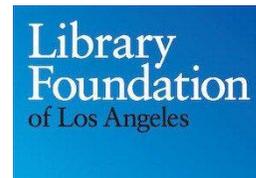
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<http://www.lfla.org/>



September 26, 2019 to January 19, 2020

Central Library, First Floor Galleries

<https://www.lapl.org/events/exhibits/autograph-book-la>

The Autograph Book of L.A. brings to life the Los Angeles Public Library's unique and historic Autograph Collection in a new book from Angel City Press and exhibit at Central Library. Following Songs in the Key of L.A. and To Live and Dine in L.A., this is the third in a series of projects examining and activating the library's Special Collections, curated and written by Josh Kun, MacArthur Fellow and Director of the USC Annenberg School of Communication.

Our Voice: Celebrating the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Awards
November 08, 2019 to January 26, 2020
Central Library, Getty Gallery
<https://www.lapl.org/events/exhibits/our-voice>



1993 Winner: Kathleen Atkins Wilson, Introduction page from The Origin of Life on Earth, 1992, Print

This exhibit was organized by the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature in Abilene, Texas. Named for Mrs. Coretta Scott King, these awards recognize the works of outstanding African American authors and illustrators and uphold the vital importance of children's literature that celebrates African American life and culture. Awarded annually by the American Library Association (ALA) for books about the African American experience, Coretta Scott King Book Awards are among the brightest acknowledgments of children's literature on America's cultural landscape. The awards commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and honor his wife, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, for her courage and determination to continue the work for peace and world brotherhood.

50-Year Mystery Solved:
Section of Central Library's Long-Lost Sculpture "Well of the Scribes"
Discovered in Arizona and Returned to Los Angeles

One question remains: Where are the other two pieces of the Well of the Scribes?

Los Angeles, October 4, 2019—Today Los Angeles City Librarian John F. Szabo unveiled a long-lost section of the 1926 sculpture "Well of the Scribes" that went missing from the Central Library gardens 50 years ago. It was found in July and was returned to the library October 3. Although this discovery solves one mystery, another mystery remains: where are the other two pieces of the Well of the Scribes?

"I am thrilled that this portion of Lee Lawrie's Well of the Scribes has returned home to the Los Angeles Public Library," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "Libraries always have fascinating stories, and fortunately for us, this chapter of the mystery is solved. We are extremely hopeful that the remaining parts of the Well can be found."

The semi-circular bronze sculpture, created by Lee Lawrie in 1926, formed a basin that was part of the water features in the library gardens. Rendered in a subtly detailed relief, the sculpture was cast in three sections: a Pegasus, symbolizing inspiration; a panel of elegantly detailed scribes from eastern culture; and

the found panel that depicts figures from western culture. The basin graced the gardens from the library's opening in 1926 until 1969 when the gardens were razed to make room for a parking lot and the sculpture disappeared.

For decades, the sculpture's fate was a mystery. Had it found its way into the hands of a private collector, or been melted down, or abandoned and forgotten in a scrap yard?

This decades-long mystery captured the imagination of Susan Orlean, who wrote about it in her 2018 bestseller, *The Library Book*. Prompted by the tale in Orlean's book, journalist Brandon Reynolds wrote a story for *Alta* magazine about the sculpture's disappearance in the hopes that he would unearth something new. When the article was published in July 2019, the sculpture was still nowhere to be found.

Then, antique dealer, Floyd Lillard in Bisbee, AZ read the illustrated *Alta* story and immediately recognized a photo of the Well of the Scribes. Ten years earlier, he had purchased a section of the sculpture from another antique dealer without information about its provenance.

Lillard contacted Los Angeles City Librarian John F. Szabo with the news that he had one of three sections of the sculpture. Szabo traveled to Bisbee, met Lillard, and saw what is indeed a portion of the long-lost Well of the Scribes. Lillard was eager to have the sculpture return to its original home at the Central Library. On October 3, it was packed and delivered to the Central Library, where discussions are now underway for displaying the sculpture for the public.





BEST Friends

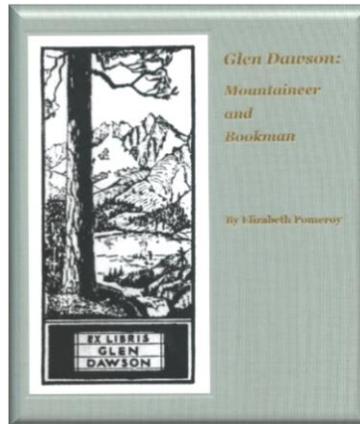
Business & Economics and Science & Technology

Fall Meeting Program & Luncheon
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm

Los Angeles Public Library
Meeting Room A, Central Library
630 W. Fifth Street. LA, CA 90071

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Glen Dawson, Mountaineer and Bookman



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Elizabeth is a native Californian and has been active in the education field for many years as a teacher and administrator. Elizabeth founded her own publishing company, Many Moons Press, in 2000 and publishes books on Southern California. She is a member of the Los Angeles Corral of Westerners and numerous historical societies in the area.

Parking is available in the 524 S. Flower Street garage at a reduced rate during library hours with library card and library validation.

Menu: Sandwiches, salad, beverage, dessert.

Program is free. Cost for luncheon: \$17.00 (members) \$20.00 (non-members)

Registration Deadline: November 7, 2019

Questions? Contact John Shea at johnshea23@ca.rr.com, phone (562) 408-6959

Checks are payable to **BEST Friends** and should be sent to:

John Shea
13613 Barlin Avenue
Downey, CA 90242

Please reserve _____ spaces at the Fall 2019 luncheon

Name/E-mail _____

Company _____ Phone _____ Vegetarian? _____

BEST Friends

A non-profit
Library support group

Past contribution
of the group includes
earliest
email systems
computer equipment
facsimile machines
and staff training

Future?

Envision
Reason
and
make it happen

**THANK YOU
for
Signing up!**

**Friends of the Los Angeles Public Library, Central Branch
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS and SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & PATENTS**

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Select membership (circle one)

- Individual \$25 (\$40, for two years)
- Corporate \$500
- Life \$500
- Student \$10

Name

Title

Company

Preferred Mailing Address

City, State, ZIP

Phone

Email

Fax

Shall we publish your address, etc., in our directory?

Y / N — you can also circle your information you wish to share.

Mail this to us at
LAPL BEST Friends
Attn: Membership Chair
P.O. Box 712217
Los Angeles CA 90071

www.tinyurl.com/lapl-best

BEST.Friends.LAPL@gmail.com

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Return service requested

FIRST CLASS