

MARK TWAIN LIBRARY

Tattler

Fall 2019



CHEERS TO THE CALIFORNIAN!

Our friend Mitch Ancona, owner of Ancona's Wines and Liquors, has always believed that a local business should give back to its community whenever possible. A year ago, he came to the Library with an out-of-the-box way to do just that which has recently come to delicious fruition.

Long story short, he spearheaded the creation of an original wine with some well-known wine-maker friends (Fred and Jamie Peterson of the Peterson Winery in Sonoma, CA), enlisted a celebrated and generous local artist to design the label (Robert Mars), and is offering a portion of the proceeds from the sale of that wine to Mark Twain Library! For every case sold, the Mark Twain Library will receive \$50; if it all sells – the library will receive \$5000!

The red wine called **THE CALIFORNIAN**, inspired by our founder (a young Mark Twain was a contributor to the so-named San Francisco newspaper) made its official debut in October. There are only 100 cases...it will never be made again. It boasts "lush, juicy fruit and warm spices beautifully balanced with smooth texture and velvety, subtle tannin. A lingering dry-but-succulent finish make this wine an absolute pleasure for nearly any red wine lover."

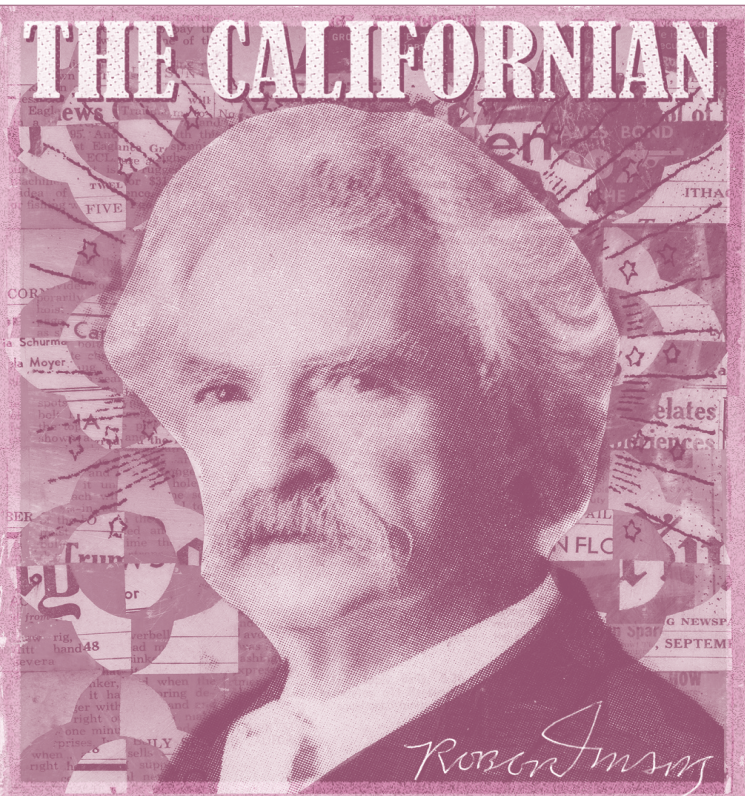
Cheers to Twain, cheers to Mitch, cheers to Robert, and cheers to you, dear reader, for hopefully grabbing some. We can't think of a more scrumptious way to fill our library's coffers. (Ancona's Wine | 720 Branchville Rd | Ridgefield | CT | 06877 | (203) 544-8958 | <https://www.anconaswine.com>)

EXPERTS SAY: ATTEND THE ART SHOW!

According to reliable research, looking at art releases dopamine in the brain –the "falling in love" hormone that makes us giddy and content. Studies have also shown that viewing art in a peaceful setting can decrease cortisol, the stress hormone. And, strolling a gallery often inspires compassion as we strive to imagine the events and emotions surrounding a piece. **So, to find happiness, compassion and stress relief...why not attend the Mark Twain Library's 47th Annual Art Show?!**

Each December for the past 5 decades (almost), the Library has been turned into a stunning gallery with inspiring works of art hanging in and around the stacks. The Art Show presents a juried selection of over 160 including oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, drawings, mixed media and sculpture pieces by celebrated artists local and beyond – some nationally recognized. All of the art is for sale, with 35% of the proceeds going directly to support the library.

The Show kicks off on Friday, December 6 with the highly anticipated **Preview Reception**. This glittering gathering has earned its long-standing reputation as Redding's Party of the Year. Hundreds flock to their cultural hub to sip, nibble and engage, with glorious art as the backdrop. Invitations were sent to all current supporters of the library; tickets go on sale for the general public on November 4th. **Visit www.marktwainlibrary.org or email sandi@marktwainlibrary.org for information.**



LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday and Thursday: 10 AM to 8 PM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 AM to 5 PM
Sunday: 12 PM to 5 PM

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Thursday, November 28 – Closed
Tuesday, December 24: Close at 1 PM
Wednesday, December 25 – Closed
Tuesday, December 31: Close at 1 PM
Wednesday, January 1, 2020 – Closed

CONTACT

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WWW.MARKTWAINLIBRARY.ORG

A HIGHLIGHT OF THE PREVIEW PARTY IS THE SILENT ART AUCTION.

Pieces are donated by the artists, so 100% of the proceeds go to the Library. That's why WE love it. But our guests love it too. The room buzzes with a light-hearted spirit of competition as folks try to stay on top of their bids. They subtly hover, feign disinterest, or boldly stake their claim on one-of-a-kind works of art that are priced to sell. It's all over at 9:30 when the bidding is closed; winners leave triumphantly with their masterpieces tucked under their arms.

Each year, the Art Show hopes to raise funds necessary to keep the library healthy. And – according to the experts, by attending, you'll be healthier and happier too!

47TH ANNUAL ART SHOW HOURS:

Saturday, 12/7: 10am – 5pm
Sunday, 12/8: 12pm – 5pm
Monday 12/9 - Thursday 12/12: 10am – 8pm
Friday 12/13 & Saturday 12/14: 10am – 5pm
Sunday, Dec 15th: 12pm – 5pm

ART SHOW: SPECIAL PROGRAM MENU

Clay Ornament Workshop* – Monday, 7:30 to 9pm
Clay Ornament Workshop* – Tuesday, 10:00 to 11:30am
Closing Reception featuring Joel Barlow Chamber Singers – Sunday, 3:30 - 5pm

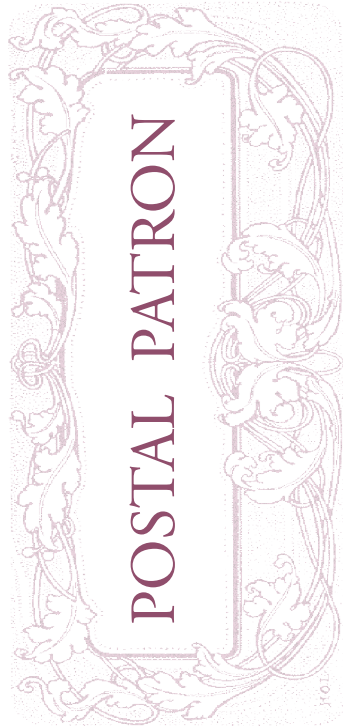
*Create your own ornaments out of clay; they will be fired at the Brookfield Craft Center

MARK TWAIN LIBRARY ART SHOW

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Danbury CT
Permit No 3015

MARK TWAIN
Library
Books Are Just the Beginning...

P.O. Box 1009
Redding, CT 06875



THE MARK TWAIN LIBRARY OF THE FUTURE?

YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP US FIGURE IT OUT!

We've been busy. A group of library Trustees and staff and volunteers have logged lots of hours – and will log lots more – strategically planning to improve the Mark Twain Library: its offerings, programs and events. To help with this process, we've created a survey and we enthusiastically ask you to take it. Do you use the library? If so how? If not, why not? What's terrific about the place? What's missing?

This **survey should take no longer than 10 minutes** to complete and will play an invaluable role in the library's plans for the future. (We're encouraging one adult household member to complete the survey to represent their family).

The survey is available on-line at: <https://marktwainlibrary.org/survey> or use the QR code here. Written surveys are available at gathering spots such as Town Hall and the Community Center and of course at the library.

We want and need to hear from everyone –

THANK YOU
IN ADVANCE
FOR
SHARING
YOUR
2 CENTS
WITH US.



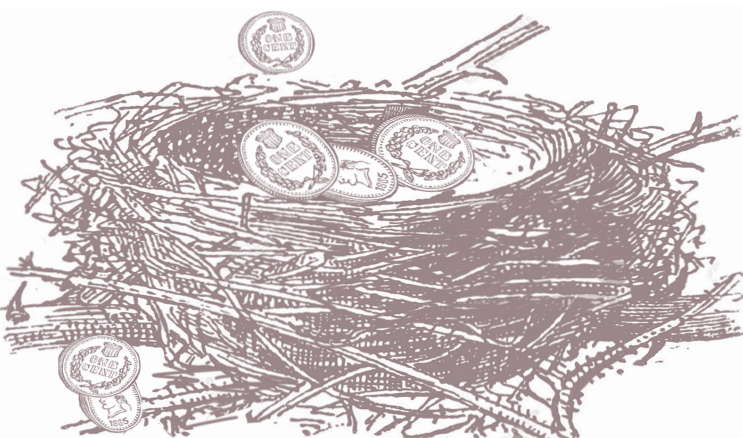
MUSIC + MEMORIES = MINI MAGIC

This past summer, Donna Forshaw and John Giardino chose to pay tribute to the library through the generosity of their friends. They held a musical gathering featuring singer-songwriter Brian Vander Ark in their backyard and suggested a donation to the MTL as the informal "cover charge." Donna explained, "My mom is why I love reading and libraries so much. We did this to honor her memory."

The Mark Twain Library serves all ages in countless ways. But as a non-profit, we are limited to what we can do based on the money we are able to raise. These **"pennies from heaven"** gathered at the suggestion of Donna and John are so very appreciated – especially by our two children's librarians Mary Dean and Lisa Cedarbaum. We will be using the money raised to refresh the cozy reading nook in the children's wing. Currently there is a grouping of very "well-loved" chairs that our youngest patrons routinely love to curl up in them with their latest picture book discovery or while waiting for their story times to begin; that mini salon will soon get a meaningful dose of magic.

We are honored that Donna and John initiated a plan that turned a social celebration into a library improvement for little ones.

A win win for sure.



YES, I WANT TO BE A FRIEND OF THE MARK TWAIN LIBRARY

I WILL LEND A HAND

With a contribution of:

- \$75 \$100 \$150 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$_____ (Other)

The Mark Twain Library is a 501(c)(3) non-profit which qualifies for corporate matching funds. All contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law.

HONOR SOMEONE WITH A TRIBUTE GIFT

- In Honor of
 In Memory of
Tribute Name: _____

CHECK: please make check payable to Mark Twain Library
Amount enclosed: \$ _____

CREDIT CARD: Visa Mastercard Amex

Account No: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Signature (required): _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

ONLINE DONATION HAPPILY ACCEPTED:

www.MarkTwainLibrary.org

**THANK YOU
for helping
to feather
our nest!**

