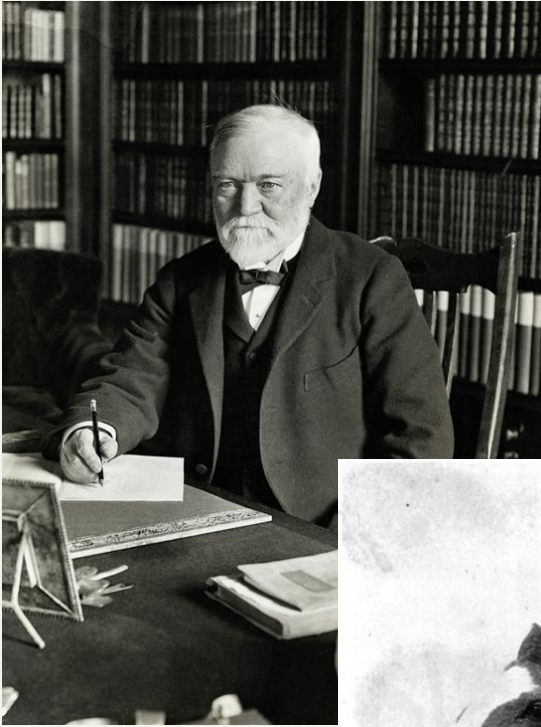




**SSFPL Main Library**  
**West Orange**  
**Avenue**



Andrew Carnegie  
(above)

Rue Randall Clifford  
(right)



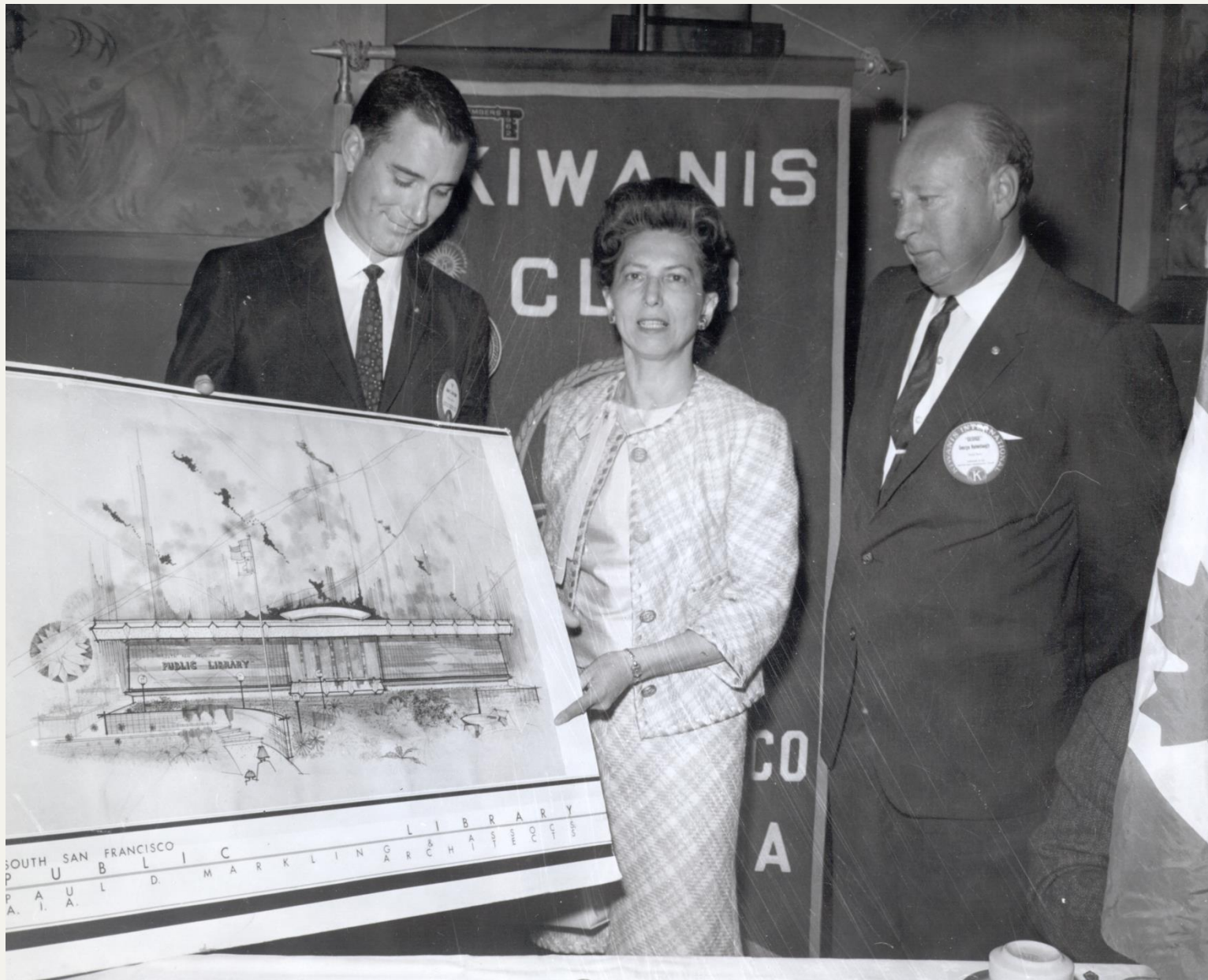
Late 1890s/Early 1990s: Andrew Carnegie funds approx. 3,000 public libraries. (Carnegie Philanthropy Foundation.)

Local teacher Rue Randall Clifford heard about the Carnegie grant program and rode through town on horseback gathering signatures to show public interest in establishing a library.

1916: South San Francisco is awarded a Carnegie grant to build the library. The town is required to provide land for the building and fund ongoing staffing, books and supplies costs. Mrs. Caroline Coffinberry is hired as the first librarian. A Library Board of Trustees is created, and the City Council gives \$200 to purchase books.

1917: The Grand Avenue library opens as a free public library on August 15.



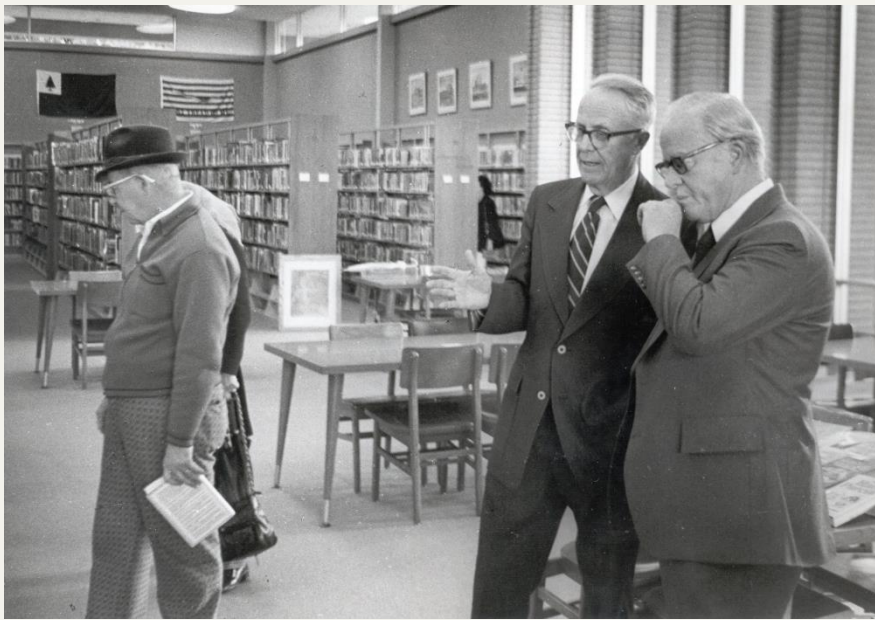


City Librarian Loretta Hussar (center) presenting plans for new library on West Orange - 1966



Library at West Orange becomes the new  
Main Library on February 19, 1967





West Orange dedication ceremony - February 19, 1967



First History Room exhibit at West Orange - 1967





Library staff - 1989





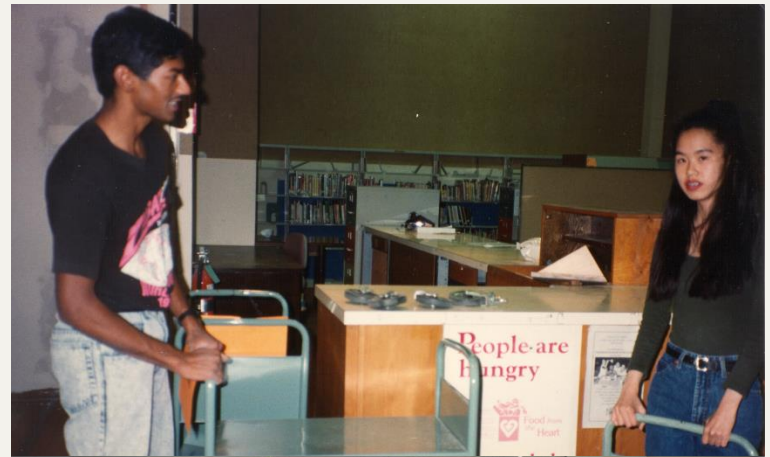
Grand Library 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration - 1991





National Library Week celebration at Main Library - 1993





Main Library renovation - 1994





Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon - 1997





Children's music program - 2001





Remodeled children's area at Main Library – 2010





Remodeled adult area at Main Library - 2010





Main Library reopens April 24, 2010

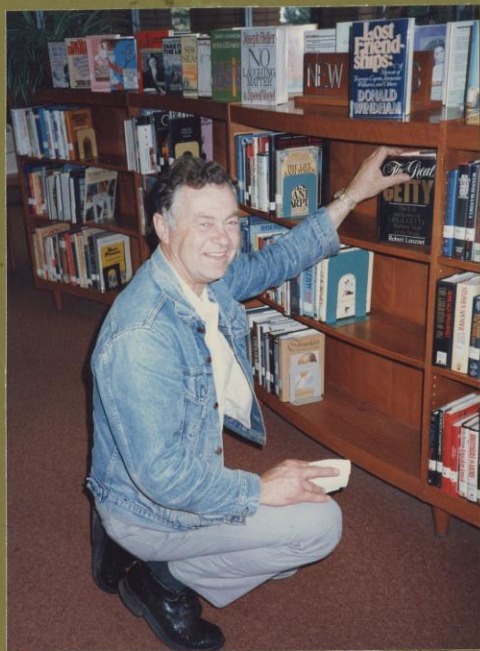




Circulation Desk circa 1985  
(Library History Scrapbook, 1980s and 90s. SSFPL History Room.)



Malcolm Robertson, South San Francisco resident and patron of West Orange and Grand Avenue libraries for sixteen years, likes all types of reading material. He uses the library about four times a week and comments "the library is well-maintained, good collections, sensitive to patron needs."



(Library History  
Scrapbook, 1980s and  
90s. SSFPL History Room.)



Scott Hansen has used the West Orange and Grand Avenue libraries for over twenty years. (Note: He also met his wife at the library when she was working at West Orange) Scott's current reading is horror novels of Stephen King. During one of his more recent visits, he found the reference staff particularly helpful in finding back issues of Photography magazines. He has been to the library at least fifty times in the past year.





(Library History  
Scrapbook, 1980s and  
90s. SSFPL History Room.)

Duane Stephens is currently working at West Orange Library in the Work Experience Program sponsored by South San Francisco High School. He has been using the library since fifth grade (at least once a week). He also uses the school library. He likes to read self-help books, and is currently reading The Power Of Positive Thinking by Norman Vincent Peale. Duane also likes biographies. Whenever Duane wants to know more about a subject, he automatically thinks of the library. He says that his father also uses library books for household projects.



(Library History  
Scrapbook, 1980s and  
90s. SSFPL History Room.)

Virginia Sharp, a resident of Pacifica, has been using the South San Francisco Public Library for twelve years. She has been visiting West Orange at least once a week during the past year. Virginia likes to just browse when she comes to the library, saying "we're the best in the area, terrific service".



Liz Astle, a South San Francisco resident, has been using the West Orange Library for fifteen years. She also uses Grand Avenue, and the San Mateo County Office Of Education Library in Redwood City. She is currently reading a political book, as well as borrowing children's books, cassettes, and using the Reference Department.







Gleeful ghosties and ghouls for the West Orange Avenue Library Summer Reading Program Club Party Tuesday included Ed Emond, Rosa Rivas, Marina Lans, Marilyn Aasland, Frances Chamberlain, Laura Hussey and Cheryl Gratano. Festivities and refreshments concluded the Summer Reading Program and prizes were presented to boys and girls who read 10 books or more.

(Library History Scrapbook, 1980s and 90s. SSFPL History Room.)





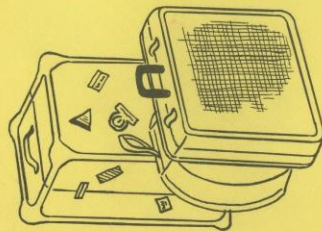
## *World Traveler Reading Club 1970*

### R U L E S

1. Tourists must read 10 books, 3 having something to do with travel and 7 either fiction or non-fiction of your choice.
2. Tourists must give a report to a library worker after finishing each book. Only 10 books may be reported.
3. Children in grades one, two, or three may draw a picture of the book instead of an oral report.
4. Dates for the reading club, June 29 through August 20
5. Sign-ups start June 8, 1970.

Club ends with an International party in August.

*Let's take a  
Vacation Trip*



*at our  
Public Library*

*Simms*

(Library History  
Scrapbook, 1980s  
and 90s. SSFPL  
History Room.)





(Library History  
Scrapbook,  
1980s and 90s.  
SSFPL History  
Room.)



Wednesday, November 20, 1985

## Halley's Comet talk at library

By Bill Hurschmann

The South San Francisco Public Library will get Halley's Comet off to a flying start Dec. 2 when a top astronomer visits the library for a free program.

Andrew Fraknoi, executive officer of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and a part-time professor of astronomy and physics at San Francisco State University, will be the guest lecturer in the program entitled, "Return of Halley's Comet."

The program, free but with a reservation required, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level auditorium at the West Orange Avenue Library branch, 840 W. Orange Ave. To reserve a seat, visit the library and secure a ticket.

Halley's Comet, during its return late this year and early 1986, is a once-in-every-76-years occurrence. It is expected to be quite dim and may be difficult to see from most urban area of the United States.

Fraknoi also is editor of the magazine, *Mercury*, published by the Astronomical Society and is the author of three books and numerous articles on astronomy



Courtesy of Ruth S. Feitag

'HALLEY'S COMET RAG' This is the cover page for sheet music entitled "Halley's Comet Rag." It was written by Harry J. Lincoln in 1910, the most recent appearance of the comet.

education and interdisciplinary approaches to astronomy.

From 1982 to 1984 he was host of "Exploring the Universe," a two-hour weekly talk show on KGO-FM, San Francisco.

The library program will include instructions to help locate the

comet as well as an introductory discussion about comet science and lore, a preview of the spacecraft missions meeting the comet and a general introduction to astronomy as a hobby.

The library also will have displays on Halley's Comet.

(Library History  
Scrapbook,  
1980s and 90s.  
SSFPL History  
Room.)



# Creative Acting Workshop

A Theatre/Library Experience!!

**FREE**

For Young People 12 Years and Over

Co-Sponsored by  
So. S.F. Public Library  
Art-Rise Theatre  
Peninsula Library System

A 10 week course in creative expression,  
play reading and performance.

Directed By

**Eli Simon**

B.A. Theatre Arts — Univ. of Calif., Davis  
M.F.A. in Acting — Brandeis University

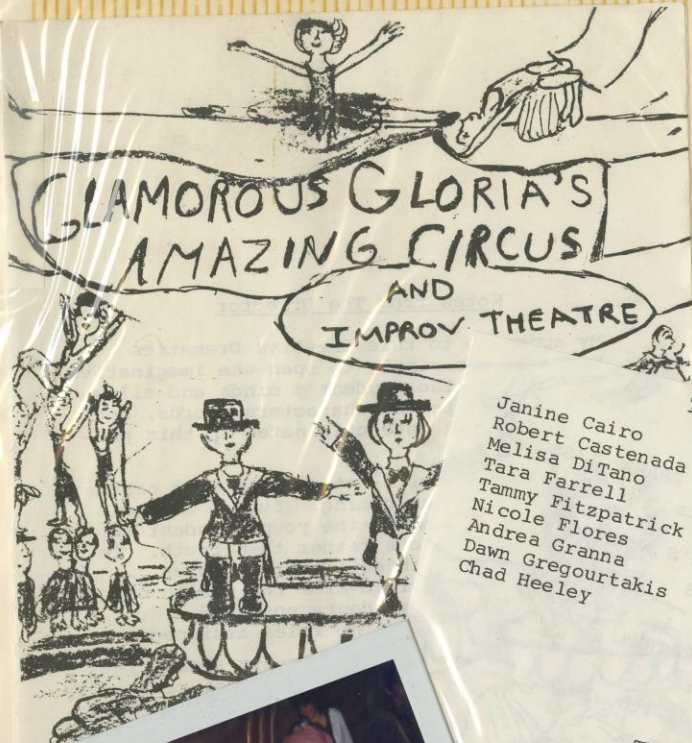
Beginning: **Wed., Feb. 19, 1986**, 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
at West Orange Public Library, 840 W. Orange Ave.  
So. San Francisco

Please pre-register for this exciting course by calling:  
877-8527

Supported by a grant from the Atkinson Foundation

(Library History  
Scrapbook,  
1980s and 90s.  
SSFPL History  
Room.)





Janine Cairo  
 Robert Castenada  
 Melisa DiTano  
 Tara Farrell  
 Tammy Fitzpatrick  
 Nicole Flores  
 Andrea Granna  
 Dawn Gregourtakis  
 Chad Heeley

THE ENSEMBLE

Jessica Jones  
 Amber Junier  
 Anne McKeon  
 Amy Olson  
 Liz Reardon  
 Abner Lou Senires  
 Bobby Stenson  
 Amber Sutton  
 Kristy Tweedie  
 Bambi Vach

THE CREW

Margaret Pierson  
 The Cast and  
 Art-Rise Theatre  
 The Staff  
 S.S.F. Public Library  
 Gene Patterson  
 Tom Fregosi  
 Bruce Jones  
 Marie Burtnett  
 Pat Flores  
 Abner Senires

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Director and Art-Rise Theatre wants to  
 be grateful thanks to the Atkinson  
 Foundation for making this class possible.  
 To Peninsula Library System and to the  
 Staff of both Grand Avenue and West Orange  
 Libraries for their caring co-operation.  
 Most of all to the students themselves for  
 their dedication and hard work.



(Library History Scrapbook, 1980s and 90s. SSFPL History Room.)



CHILDREN, PARENTS, TEACHERS: SHOP EARLY FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4 11AM-3PM

CHILDREN'S  
WEST ORANGE  
LIBRARY  
BOOK  
FAIR

NEW BOOKS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES! RECORDS, CASSETTES, TOO!



FROM  
*IF WISHES  
WERE HORSES*  
BOOKSTORE



10% OF PROCEEDS WILL GO TO CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT FOR PUPPETS!

(Library History  
Scrapbook, 1980s  
and 90s. SSFPL  
History Room.)



THE CHILDREN'S CHORAL SINGING CLASS  
DIRECTED BY MARIANNE GORRINGE



Dec. 17 4-6 p.m. Santa visits Children's Room, carols by Children's Choral Singing Class - WEST ORANGE

(Library History Scrapbook, 1980s and 90s. SSFPL History Room.)

