



Of Books and Things

A newsletter published periodically by the
Friends of the Rancho Bernardo Branch of the San Diego Public Library

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friendsoftheranchobernardolibrary.org

New FOL Board Introduced at Annual Meeting



New Board members were elected on February 3, at the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting. Shown above are new and continuing Board members for 2018: (front row from left) Jan Ash, Treasurer; Elisabeth Koenig, Secretary; Diane Heinz, Bookshop; Judy Levine, President; Vivian Eisenecher, Membership; (back from left) Harvey Levine, Concerts and Finance Committee; Millie Boaz, Vice President Operations; Bob Luehring, Lending Library; Jeffrey Meyer, Publicity; Ann Connolly, Workroom; Diane Harris, Newsletter; Dave Hall, Vice President Membership and Support; and Oliver Smoot, Webmaster. Not shown are Kathy Luehring, Hospitality and Lending Library; and Dick Luehring, Book Sales.

Next Bag Sale on March 3

BYOB (bring your own bag) and fill it with books--only \$3 for FOL members!

President's Report

As president, I see myself as the mechanic with the oil can, trying to keep the machine running smoothly, rather than the carpenter with boards and nails, working to build something new. So what do I need to do to make this happen when we have an excellent library, and our organization is generally efficient?

We do have a glaring weakness: lack of committee support in several critical areas.

Our best asset is people. Men and women—and sometimes teens—who live here. It's the enthusiasm and labor of just plain folks like you and me who make the wheels of this bus go round and round. We have 75 volunteers. Fourteen are board members who carry overall responsibilities for the Bookshop, sales, concerts, the newsletter, and the Website, as well as functions you don't see. And they do excellent work.

However, except for Sales and Workroom, we lack depth, the committees that give life to the saying, "many hands make light work." For you, volunteering for a committee allows you to test whether you like the work and the people. Right now, we need helpers for membership, hospitality, website management, and concerts, for starters, and of course, more people will always be welcome in the workroom and the shop and for other sales. We also intend to expand our money-raising efforts beyond the sale of used books, and we will be looking for people to help in that effort.

Of course, the Rancho Bernardo Branch Library receives City funds but the money for programs, books, DVDs, and CDs falls woefully short of what is needed for our dynamic community. For a relatively small contribution of time, you can join a committee and be part of this wonderful enterprise. Please give it some thought. And thank you.

Judy Levine

February Best Sellers

Take a look at the newest books that have been added to the Friends' Lending Library:

<i>Promise Me Dad</i>	Joe Biden
<i>The Wife</i>	Alafair Burke
<i>Robicheaux</i>	James Lee Burke
<i>The Wanted</i>	Robert Crais
<i>Woman in the Window</i>	A. J. Finn
<i>Andrew Jackson</i>	Brian Kilmeade
<i>City of Endless Night</i>	Preston & Child
<i>The Take</i>	Christopher Reich

And don't forget to check out the other recent additions. Keep on reading!

Kathy and Bob Leuhring

In Memoriam

**Paul Duggan
1941 – 2018**



The Friends lost a Board member and friend who served as our Webmaster and also as Treasurer. He will be much missed by all who knew him.

Annual Meeting Highlights

The featured speaker for the FOL Annual Meeting on February 3 was our Rancho Bernardo Branch Manager Trish Jenkins. Trish outlined a variety of exciting programs coming up at the Branch...programs made possible in major part due to funds provided by the support of the Friends.



Two of the new programs sparked particular interest. The first is the Memory Lab. This is a combination of equipment and volunteers that will help patrons take old technology, such as video tapes, slides or photo negatives, and transfer those images to DVDs or other media. The Branch is currently ordering equipment and training volunteers to staff this exciting new offering.

The second new program will be a weekly event hosted by Ancestry.com to assist those interested in learning more about finding their roots. Keep an eye out for the start dates of these programs later this year.

Trish introduced too many events to list here, but they will provide activities for all age groups, from story time for kids to mindful meditation, chess for all ages to crafts of all kinds.

Trish was also pleased to announce the addition of Steve Torres-Roman, the new Youth Services Librarian, who will introduce himself below.

As always, Trish ended by expressing her gratitude for the wonderful support of the Friends of the Library, without which these many offerings would not exist.

Steven Torres-Roman

Hello patrons and readers! My name is Steven Torres-Roman, and I am the new Youth Services Librarian at the Rancho Bernardo Branch Library. Thank you for your warm welcome, and I look forward to serving you as part of the library staff.

In the coming months, we have some exciting programs and events for our younger

patrons. For example, on February 13, we have the *"Who Am I?" Game Book* activity for preschoolers, where parents and children create their own book that serves as a game, a keepsake, and an outlet for the children's creativity. We also have a *Japanese Kite Workshop* on February 16 for children ages 8 and older; this activity will serve as a tiny window into Japanese culture, and give the children a sense of accomplishment, seeing their "do-it-yourself" kites flying high this spring season!

To accentuate our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programming, we offer the *Crazy 8s* after-school math club for children grades 3 through 5, an eight-week series of activities designed to present mathematical concepts in a fun and interactive environment.

To round off this wonderful peek into coming programs, did you know that 2018 was the Year of the Dog? In that vein, we are offering *Going to the Dogs*, a quarterly combination of discussions and movie days featuring classic canine films that the whole family can enjoy!

And these programs are merely some highlights pulled from roster of daily programs that we offer local youth! As always, we are very thankful to the Friends for their interest, time, and generosity, which allows for so many of these opportunities for our community.

Come check out these programs!

Volunteer Opportunity!

Are you a bit bored? Are you looking for a way to help out in the community? Do you like meeting people from all walks of life?

The Friends of the Library Bookshop needs volunteers. These volunteers assist library patrons looking for books of interest, complete sales, and accept new or renewal memberships. Most volunteers work one shift a month and may substitute when needed. The benefits include meeting other volunteers, Friends and members of the RB community.

If think you would like to help out, please call Diane Heinz at 858-217-6347 or email at dsheinz@icloud.com.

Upcoming Bag Sales

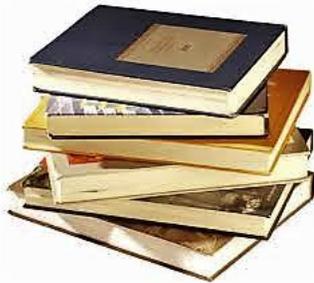
As we begin the year, a reminder that we'll offer four bag sales instead of our four-day sales. Put the following dates in your 2018 calendars: March 3, June 16, September 29, and December 8. All are Saturdays from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

The areas within the library that we've used for storage are returning to their original uses, so we've winnowed our book inventory with some terrific bargains. Check the shop for the current specials on mass paperbacks and trades. You'll not believe the prices!

The bag sales will have the standard procedure. We'll offer books in the shop, the area outside of the shop, the workroom, and the hall at the top of the stairs. The prices remain the same: \$3 for a bag of books for members; \$5 for non-members. Our total sales for last year's bag sales were just under \$2,200, and we were pleased to add that contribution to the RB Library for its programs and materials.

Remember to bring your own brown grocery bags or bags of comparable size.

Millie Boaz



Book Sales for 2017

FOL book sales increased significantly over 2016. This is the result of having four bag sales and increased sales to Amazon.

We sold 61 books on Amazon at an average price of \$27 and have listed 73 more for sale.

The Bookshop produced \$10,130 for the year. Our total book sales for 2017 totaled \$15,151, an increase of more than \$1,900 over the previous year.

Dick Luehring

Concerts Update

The Friends of the Library again presents a full schedule of chamber (classical) and jazz concerts on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 pm in the second floor Community Room. Chamber concerts are on the fourth Wednesday and Jazz on the second Wednesday of the month.

The opening concert of the season on January 24 featured the Orvieto Piano Trio.



Upcoming concerts will feature:

- Feb. 14 – High Society Dixieland Jazz Band
- Feb. 28 – Aviara Piano Trio
- Mar. 14 – Lori Bell Jazz Trio (Lori Bell on Flute)
- Mar. 28 – Erin Breene (cello) & Ines Irawati (piano)
- Apr. 11 – Allison Adams Tucker Jazz Quartet
- Apr. 25 – Travis Maril (viola) & Toni James (piano)

All concerts are free (donations encouraged).

Historian/Archivist Needed

If you enjoy scrapbooking and have a flair for the creative, you are needed!

The Friends of the Library has a collection of scrapbooks and photos built up over the years. We need help in organizing these records and archival papers and to continue the job of recording events. The papers themselves might be ultimately donated to the Rancho Bernardo Historical Society for safekeeping.

This is a non-Board position; the historian is not expected at Board meetings but would always be welcome.

If you have questions about this position, please email Judy Levine, FOL President: judithlevine@earthlink.net. Here's your opportunity to enjoy rummaging through old scrapbooks and creating 21st century versions!

Introducing Our Newest Board Members

During the year, several Board positions were vacated due to illness or family responsibilities, and through the generosity of some public-minded citizens we have filled those chairs.

Welcome to Elisabeth Koenig, Secretary; Oliver Smoot, Webmaster; and Ann Connolly, Workroom Chair. Here's a quick introduction in their own words:

Elisabeth Koenig Secretary to the Board

People, books, music—these are my three great loves. Imagine how delighted I was when I moved here in 2011 to find all three at the Rancho Bernardo Branch Library, and not far from my new home. So, when President Judy Levine asked for a new secretary, I instantly volunteered, as a way to express my gratitude for the library and its offerings.

Formerly, I served as faculty secretary at a school in New York City, so am familiar with the role. But I grew up in San Diego, frequently using the downtown library for research projects. And that was only the beginning of my association with libraries, as I partially financed my graduate education through work-study--always in libraries.

I am happy to serve on the Board and very much look forward to meeting other FOL members.

Oliver Smoot, Webmaster

Libraries have always been important to my wife Sandy and me. I know I would never have gotten my BS without the nooks in the main library. We moved to Rancho Bernardo ten years ago after many decades in Falls Church, Virginia, outside of Washington DC. We quickly became Members of the RB library and the County library, and we have enjoyed watching them evolve to serve their communities even better.

When Dick Luehring mentioned that our Webmaster, Paul Duggan, had to resign I thought I could at least fill-in since I had been the Webmaster for the RB Newcomers and Social club. Paul helped me get started, then I became committed, and now you are beginning to see my own ideas reflected on the Website. I imagine few know how much work Paul put into making our Website so good. I hope you like the changes and welcome comments for future improvements.

I would welcome others to participate in maintaining the Website. With all the Friends do we have lots of opportunities to post new articles; just send me an email.

Ann Connolly Workroom Chair

I've lived in Rancho Bernardo for about three years, although I lived in San Diego--at the beach--for many years before that.

I first learned about the Friends of the Library through the community concert series. At a concert, Millie Boaz tagged me to volunteer in the Workroom and I have spent a year-and-a-half in that capacity. I have also volunteered at Harvey Levine's concerts...handing out programs, crowd control, collecting donations and so forth.

I like volunteering with the Friends because I really enjoy hanging around libraries and other people who love books.

And More Board Moves

Also thanks to Jan Ash for moving from Workroom to Treasurer, and to Kathy Leuhring for accepting the position of Hospitality Chair in addition to her Lending Library duties.

A Reminder

If you haven't already renewed your FOL membership for 2018, please do so now. The renewal form is on the Website.