



# FRIENDS' FOCUS

Newsletter of the Friends of the Belen Public Library  
333 Becker Avenue, Belen, NM 87002

Vol. 2004, Issue #3



## ANNUAL BOOK SALE A SUCCESS!

The Friends of the Library held its annual book sale Saturday, October 16, at the Belen Public Library. It was the Friends' most successful sale ever! More than \$800 was raised and will go toward supporting activities such as the summer reading program, the family literacy program, and installation of the new book drop. The Friends sincerely appreciate those who came to the sale and the many volunteers who helped make the sale such a success. Many people donated books, and several others helped set up and take down the sale, even taking time off from work to do so! Several members donated free refreshments. An especially big thanks is extended to Sue Raether, the Book Sale Chairperson, for coordinating and executing yet another profitable and well-attended book sale.



*In the photo at left, Bernice Boyle, Friends President, and Donna Hernandez (with book bag), Friends Treasurer, congratulate Sue Raether (front right) on another well-executed book sale.*



*At right, Randlee Horsecbief of Los Lunas makes her selections from the children's book table.*

### Officers of the Friends of the Library

#### President

Bernice Boyle  
861-2032

#### Vice President

Tami Wiggins  
864-8560

#### Secretary/Treasurer

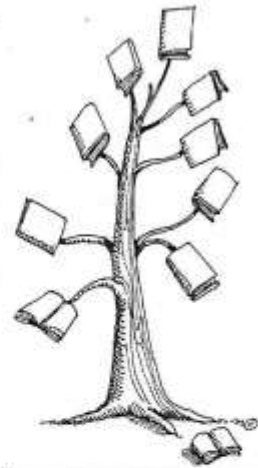
Donna Hernandez  
861-1285

#### Book Sale Chairman

Sue Raether  
864-3326

#### Library Director

Beverly McFarland  
864-7522



### Our Mission

The Friends of the Library supports libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading.

December 2004

## NEWS

### READERS' GROUP PROVIDES LITERARY INSIGHT

The Friends of the Belen Library Readers' Group continues to be well-received. The readers' group formed in July and has been meeting regularly since then. June Romero, the group's coordinator, said, "One of the fun things about getting together as a group of friends to talk about a favorite subject, reading, is the diversity of our responses to given titles." June reports that the next meeting is Monday, January 24, to discuss *Seldom Disappointed* and *The Sinister Pig*, both by Tony Hillerman. These books have already been read and discussed by the group:

- *The Secret Life of Bees*, Sue Monk Kidd
- *The Master Butchers Singing Club*, Louise Erdrich
- *Empire Falls*, Richard Russo
- *A Map of the World*, Jane Hamilton
- *An Unfinished Life*, Mark Spragg

Anyone may attend the readers' group's meetings on the last Monday of each month at 10 AM at

the library. Meetings are informal and come-as-you-are. Membership in the Friends is not a requirement for attending the group, but membership is encouraged since it's only \$5 and includes a cloth book bag.

Call June at 864-1825 if you are interested in joining the group or have questions about the book group experience. The Friends of the Library extends a big thanks to fellow member June for her efforts!



June Romero is seen here in action with the Readers' Group.

### Friends Board Provides Annual Meeting Sneak Peek

Mark your calendar now for the annual meeting of the Friends of the Library, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, April 3, 2005. The meeting will consist of a regular business meeting of the Friends Board and the election of new officers. (The Nominating Committee will include nominees in the March newsletter - see item below.) In addition, there will be a featured speaker and book signing. The Friends Board is excited to announce that Pari Noskin Taichert, a local writer and author of books of mysteries set in New Mexico, has accepted the invitation to speak at the annual meeting. Pari has just completed a novel about Belen, titled *Belen Hitch*, which is now at the publisher's. The writing of *Belen Hitch* required Pari to spend time in our community for research and interviews. Pari's already published book is *Clovis Incident*, copies of which will be available for purchase and signing at the meeting. She is now working on *Placitas Peril*. Plan now to attend the meeting to find out first-hand who will be on next year's Board AND to experience what promises to be an intriguing presentation!

### Friends News of Note

- Membership numbers for the Friends have grown by 51 since April 1, 2004. Thanks for joining us!
- The library's new book drop has arrived! Installation will occur as soon as City crews can perform the necessary concrete work.
- Thanks for supporting "GO Bond C" (Library Books Acquisitions) in the November election. The Belen Public Library will receive \$70,318.
- Security cameras have been installed at the library's front entrance since the doors and windows have been broken so often. A camera will also monitor the book drop once it's installed.
- Are you interested in running for a position on the Friends of the Library Board? Call Bernice (861-2032) or Tami (864-8560) and request that YOUR name be included on the March ballot.

## NEWS

### LIBRARY RENOVATION PLANS PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL

Thank you, members of the Friends of the Library, for turning out in such numbers at the October 4 Belen City Council meeting to support your library! At that meeting, John Pate, an architect with Molzen-Corbin & Associates, on behalf of the library's Board of Directors presented to the City Council preliminary drawings for library renovation and expansion. The Council approved the plans and placed the library as Number 2 on its list for the 2005 legislative session. Council comments included: (1) the renovation and expansion is sorely needed; (2) the number of people who came to the meeting to show their support for the library was impressive; (3) library renovation and expansion is not only exciting but a sign of a healthy and educated community; and (4) the Council will try hard to secure the required funds, estimated at \$1 million.

### MEET THE STAFF OF THE BELEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

The staff of the Belen Public Library is a dedicated group of people who work hard to provide your community with a superior library. The Board of the Friends of the Library would like you to know a little bit about these devoted people and a few of their responsibilities.

Beverly McFarland, Library Director, has myriad responsibilities including analyzing community information and library needs, monitoring revenues and expenditures, assisting the Library Board, preparing grant applications, planning and coordinating projects and activities with regional libraries, and administering two computer networks.

Kathryn Trujillo, Assistant Library Director, performs duties that include overseeing reference and circulation services, answering reference questions, acquiring materials for the young adult collection, presenting weekly computer workshops, and acting as Director when required.

Aileen Littlejohn, Cataloguer, catalogues library materials, maintains inventory and other databases, and works at the service desk when needed.

Diana Phillips, Circulation Manager, manages circulation procedures, maintains registration files and confidentiality of library records, and assists with interlibrary loans.

Stephanie Wallace, Children's Librarian, plans, organizes, and regularly presents programs for children, staffs the children's information desk, acquires materials for the children's library, and works with local educators to provide book talks and tours.

Lilly Bravo, Literacy Coordinator, implements family literacy programs, provides training for volunteer tutors, matches tutors with clients, and collaborates with UNM-VC, the Coalition for Literacy, and others to provide county-wide literacy programs.

Nicole Galvan, Library Page, maintains the organization of the library collection and works at the circulation desk as needed.

The next time you're in the library and see any of these enthusiastic women, please let them know how much you appreciate their efforts!



Top row, left to right: Beverly McFarland (Library Director), Aileen Littlejohn (Cataloguer), Nicole Galvan (Library Page). Bottom row: Diana Phillips (Circulation Manager), Lilly Bravo (Literacy Coordinator), Stephanie Wallace (Children's Librarian). Not pictured: Kathryn Trujillo (Assistant Library Director).



Friends of the Belen Library  
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<http://www.youseemore.com/belen>



To: \_\_\_\_\_

Maintain your membership!  
 If the date on your address  
 label has come and gone, re-  
 new using the form. →

87002+8125 

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you believe in libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading, join the Friends of the Belen Public Library! Your membership entitles you to participate in a preview of the annual Book Sale, receive the Friends' Newsletter, and much more! Are you already a member but are unsure if you are current with your membership dues? Check the date on the mailing label of this newsletter to determine when your membership expires.

New Member       Renewal      \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Please check a Membership category:

Individual (\$5)       Patron (\$25)  
 Family (\$8)       Lifetime (\$100)

We need you! Please volunteer some time and energy to serve on a committee!

Refreshments       Program  
 Book Sale       Publicity

Mail your completed form along with a check made out to **Friends of the Library** to 333 Becker Avenue, Belen, NM, 87002. Or on your next visit to the Library, drop off your check and form at the front desk.