



FRIENDS' FOCUS

Newsletter of the Friends of the Belen Public Library
333 Becker Avenue, Belen, NM 87002
www.belenfriends.org

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FRIENDS PLAN ANNUAL FALL BOOK SALE

The annual fall book sale put on by the Friends of the Belen Public Library is Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17! The sale will be at the Belen Public Library at 333 Becker St. On Friday from 1:00 – 5:00 PM, members of the Friends of the Library will be treated to a private preview of the sale. Then Saturday from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM the sale is open to the public. On both days, books will be sold for only “a buck a bag.” You can renew your membership in the Friends or become a new member at either sale.

The sale requires a great deal of time and effort to plan, set up, and run. You can help by buying books at the sale, of course, but also:

- **Donate books!** The Book Sale Committee is accepting donations of almost any kind of book, as well as CDs, DVDs, and videos. Children's books are desperately needed, but Readers Digest Condensed Books and most magazines are not. Just drop your book donations off at the library or arrange for pickup by calling the library (864-7522), Laura (861-1925), or Pat and Tom (861-5365).
- **Pick up the telephone!** Help coordinate volunteers to pick-up donated books; place books in storage at the library; and set-up, run, and take down the sale. To find out about this effort, call Pat and Tom (861-5365).
- **Assist with sale set-up!** Help remove books from storage at the library, sort the books, and arrange them on tables in the library's lecture hall. Call Laura (861-1925) or Pat and Tom (861-5365).
- **Assist with sale take-down!** Post-sale, any remaining books must be boxed and placed back in storage. Also, the lecture hall must be returned to its pre-sale condition. Call Laura (861-1925) or Pat and Tom (861-5365).

Much of the proceeds of the sale go toward children's reading programs. This summer almost 300 young people participated in the programs which included daily incentive prizes, performers such as a storyteller and a magician, and end-of-program parties.

Special thanks go to Book Sale Co-Chairs Laura Hawes and Pat and Tom Fritts for their year-round work to make the Friends annual book sales such successful events.



Officers

President

June Romero
864-1825

Vice President

Sue Raether
864-3326

Treasurer

Donna Hernandez
861-1285

Secretary

Dorie Corrao
864-7856

Book Sale Co-Chairs

Laura Hawes
861-1925
Pat and Tom Fritts
861-5365

Refreshments Chair

Barbara Forrest
861-1236, 859-1229

Communications

Tami Wiggins
864-3700

Readers' Group

June Romero
864-1825

Library Director

Deborah Graham
864-7522



Our Mission

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

Autumn 2009

Thank You, Boyles!

The Friends Board extends a heartfelt thank-you to Bernice and George Boyle and Pat Boyle for their many years of dedicated volunteer service to the Friends.

For many years, Bernice served as Secretary and all-round General Ambassador of the Friends, and she was instrumental in initiating and seeing to a timely completion the huge and complicated process to obtain funding for the reconstruction and renovation of the library. She faithfully maintained records of Friends membership, attended Friends events and meetings, and participated in all Friends activities. Along with her husband George, she folded, taped together, labeled, and stamped 300 Friends newsletters four times each year.

Pat has been actively involved with the Friends for several years and tirelessly served in various positions on the Friends board, most recently as President for two terms. She also worked with Bernice on the task of procuring funding for our new library.

For many years, the Boyles have worked hard, often behind the scenes, on behalf of our library. They were publicly recognized and honored for their work at the Friends annual meeting in March. THANK YOU, Bernice, George, and Pat, for your dedication, enthusiasm, and achievements, and best wishes for the future!



Friends President June Romero (left) thanks Bernice Boyle for her dedicated volunteer work on behalf of the Friends and the Belen Library.

CAN YOU COMMUNICATE?

The Friends will soon be seeking a Communications Chair. Tami Wiggins has held this post for 6 years and will be leaving this important position open at the end of the year for another Friends member to fill. Duties of the Communications Chair include:

- preparing and publishing the Spring and Autumn "Friends Focus" newsletter
- working with library staff to prepare and distribute flyers for the two annual book sales
- coordinating with the *Valencia County News-Bulletin* and other local media to publicize Friends events
- attending Friends board meetings (2 - 3 times per year)
- (optional) attending meetings of the library board of trustees (4 times per year)
- (optional) maintaining the Friends Website at belenfriends.org

Please consider volunteering as Communications Chair. Call Tami (864-3700) for more information about the position, or call June Romero, Friends President, at 864-1825 to sign up!

EVENT CALENDAR

FRIENDS ANNUAL FALL BOOK SALE:

Friday afternoon and Saturday, October 16 & 17, 2009, in the library's lecture hall. See page 1.

2010 FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING: to be scheduled; usually held on a Sunday in late March at 2 PM in the library's lecture hall.

FRIENDS ANNUAL SPRING BOOK SALE: tentatively scheduled for Friday afternoon and Saturday, April 16 & 17, 2010, in the library's lecture hall.



THE BOOK NOOK: FRIENDS ONGOING BOOK SALE

Hard Covers: \$1

Paperbacks: 25 cents

Visit the Book Nook inside the library during regular hours. It's just outside the lecture hall, next to the Red Stone Café.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED

Consider volunteering at the library on a one-time or ongoing basis. There are many opportunities, and here are just two examples:

Your library is now open until 8:00 on Thursday nights, thanks to Friends volunteers who assist the staff. The library is able to remain open a little later to provide access to library materials and services for patrons who may not be able to come in during the day.

The City of Belen's "Miracle on Main Street" celebration is planned for Saturday, November 28, and the library will be one of the focal points. The library will have extended hours that day, host many special activities, and accommodate a large number of visitors. Because of this, the library needs Friends to help with programs, activities, welcoming visitors and patrons, and various other tasks.

Call Deborah Graham, Library Director, at 864-7522 for more information or to volunteer!

Are You REALLY A Friends Member?

Friends' Secretary Dorie Corrao reminds you to be sure to maintain your Friends membership. To check your membership status, find your membership expiration date on the top line of the address label on your newsletter. Twice a year after each book sale, the membership roster is reviewed, and only members in good standing are maintained on the list.

Check the date on your label now. If you need to renew your membership, complete the form on the back of this newsletter and return it to the library or go by the library circulation desk to complete a membership form there. For more information, call Dorie at 864-7856.

Readers' Group Changes Meeting Dates

Mark your calendar! The Friends of the Belen Library Readers' Group now meets on the THIRD Monday of each month. At the next meeting on Monday, October 19, the group will discuss *The Ladies of Covington Send Their Love* (or any other book) by Joan Medlicott.

The Group meets in the lecture hall at the Belen library, 333 Becker Avenue, on the third Monday of each month at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend; membership in the Friends is not required. For more information, call June Romero, group facilitator, at 864-1825.

The Reader's Bill of Rights

(From the American Library Association at www.ala.org and Daniel Pennac, *Better Than Life*, Coach House Press, 1996)

Everyone has the right to read! And to help you make the most of that right, know that you, Reader, have:

- The right to not read.
- The right to skip pages.
- The right to not finish.
- The right to reread.
- The right to read anything.
- The right to escapism.
- The right to read anywhere.
- The right to browse.
- The right to read out loud.
- The right not to defend your tastes.

And what about the right to read several books at once? The list could go on. What would YOU add?

