



FRIENDS' FOCUS

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

Vol. 2005, Issue #2



ANNUAL MEETING FEATURES AUTHOR

A fun time was had by all at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Library! The event, held on Sunday afternoon, April 3, included a brief regular business meeting of the Friends Board, the election of new officers, refreshments galore, and best of all, a presentation by the dynamic and talented Pari Noskin Taichert. Pari, a national award-winning journalist and author of mysteries set in New Mexico, spoke about her newest novel, set in

AUTHOR EVENT!

Pari Noskin Taichert has chosen your Belen Public Library as the location of the launch of her nationwide publicity campaign for her newest book, *The Belen Hitch!* The Friends of the Library is hosting her book signing and reception at the library on Saturday, September 10, 3 - 5 P.M. First-edition hard copies will be available for purchase and signing. Everyone is welcome!

Belen and due for release in September. She talked about the writing of *The Belen Hitch* and how she spent many hours in our community for research and interviews. Pari gave the crowd a preview of the book by describing many of the characters and reading excerpts. At the end of her presentation, she fielded a variety of questions from the audience. Pari's first book, *The Clovis Incident*, has been a regional bestseller since its publication last year by UNM Press, and it was nominated for an Agatha Award. Copies of *Clovis* were available for purchase and signing after the meeting. Pari is now working on her next book, with Socorro as a possible setting. (Continued on page 3)

Officers of the Friends of the Library

President

Bernice Boyle
861-2032

Vice President

Tami Wiggins
864-8560

Secretary

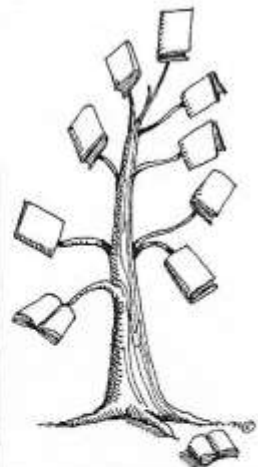
Donna Hernandez
861-1285

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.

July 2005



The Board of the Friends of the Library thanks Pari Noskin Taichert for her appearance and presentation at the annual meeting of the Friends. From left to right, Donna Hernandez, Treasurer; Pari Noskin Taichert; Bernice Boyle, President; and Tami Wiggins, Vice-President.

NEWS

JUNE ROMERO FEATURED IN *NEWS-BULLETIN*

The March 30 edition of the *Valencia County News-Bulletin* featured the Friends of the Library Readers' Group and its facilitator, June Romero, on the front page of the "Caliente!" section. June also provided a book review of one of the group's recent selections, *Eventide* by Kent Haruf. In the feature article, June described how she acquired a love of reading when she was a child and talked about her approach to reading and being a part of a book group. June is enthusiastic about not only reading but interacting with others who love to read and has facilitated the Friends Readers' Group

since its inception last summer. The Friends applauds June and her tireless efforts on behalf of the Readers' Group!

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library Readers' Group is Monday, July 25, at 10 AM. The group will discuss *Snowleg* by Nicholas Shakespeare. Anyone may attend the Group's meetings on the last Monday of each month at 10 AM at the library. Meetings are informal, and membership in the Friends is not required. Just read the book and show up! Call June at 864-1825 if you would like more information about the Readers' Group.

Keep Current!

Are you a current member of the Friends of the Library? Check the date on the mailing label of this newsletter to determine when your membership expires. If it has expired, use the membership form on the back page to renew.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS SOUGHT

Did you know that earlier this year the Legislature appropriated \$500,000 toward the renovation and expansion of Belen's existing library facility? Did you know that Board of the Friends of the Library has established a Building Fund so that YOU can contribute to this effort? (See the form on the back page.) If you would rather contribute your time or talents toward the fund, the Board has some ideas for fundraising activities, such as a bake sale or snow cone sale at the Belen Farmers' Market this summer. If you have any fundraising ideas of your own or would be interested in volunteering at an event, please call Bernice at 861-2032.

LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAMS UNDERWAY

The library's summer reading programs, sponsored in part by the Friends of the Library, began June 15. This year's programs are the Talking Books Program for children ages 3 to 12 and the Teen Reading Incentive Program for young adults ages 13 to 18. Participants submit reading logs to earn raffle tickets for prizes, including three bicycles donated by Bethlehem Masonic Lodge No. 56. Registration for the programs is ongoing and free.

Two Friends Receive Special Thanks

Friends of the Library members Donna Hernandez (left) and Sue Raether (right) were recently recognized for their extraordinary dedication to the Friends. Bernice Boyle, President of the Friends, acknowledged Donna and Sue at a recent meeting of the Friends Readers' Group, of which both are loyal members. Donna received *Sneaky Pie's Cookbook for Mystery Lovers* by Rita Mae Brown in recognition of her years of service in every position on the Friends Board. And because Sue has for years served not only as chairperson of the annual Friends book sale but in various positions on the Board, she received *Sleeping with the Literary Lions* by Peggy van Hulsteyn.



NEWS

LIBRARY BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING HELD

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Belen Public Library was held on Monday evening, June 13, at the library. After the call to order and approval of the previous meeting's minutes, Board officers were nominated, and all were re-elected: B.W. Battin, President; Lorraine Garcia, Vice-President; Brenda Mack, Secretary; Serena Douglas, Director; and Ed Padilla, Director. The Board then approved the updated circulation policy presented by Beverly McFarland, Library Director. Discussion then ensued about the status of library renovation and expansion. Beverly reported that the City is considering how best to use the \$500,000 appropriation of the \$1 million required. Bernice Boyle, President of the Friends of the Library, recounted how, during her recent visit to Sen. Bingaman's office, interest was generated in searching for grants for library construction.

The meeting continued with Beverly's quarterly Director's Report. Particular items of note included re-accreditation of the literacy program, library staff attendance at various meetings and conferences, and the donation of three bicycles by Bethlehem Masonic Lodge No. 56 for the summer reading program. Bernice provided an update on Friends activities, including a description of the annual meeting. She also announced a special upcoming event sponsored by the Friends (see page 1). Following comments from Board members and guests, the date of the next meeting was set for Monday evening, September 12.

(Annual Meeting Features Author, continued from page 1)

Before Pari's talk, the regular business meeting of the Friends took place. After the call to order, Bernice Boyle, President of the Friends, welcomed almost 40 attendees to the annual meeting. Donna Hernandez, Treasurer of the Friends, gave the treasurer's report, noting that the annual book sale had garnered more than \$800. Next, the minutes from last year's meeting were approved, and then Beverly McFarland, Library Director, provided the Director's Report. She thanked those Friends who voted for passage of last spring's bond issue, which will provide funds for the library. Beverly noted that the new book drop had finally been installed and announced that \$500,000 for renovation and expansion of the library had been appropriated by

the Legislature. Then, Bernice provided highlights from the past year, including establishment of the Friends Readers' Group, institution of a building fund for library renovation and expansion, and regular publication of this quarterly newsletter.

Nominations for the Board for the next fiscal year were provided, and the same slate of officers was re-elected: Bernice Boyle, President; Tami Wiggins, Vice-President; and Donna Hernandez, Treasurer. Committee chairs remain Sue Raether, Book Sale, and Pat Boyle, Refreshments. Finally, the proposed budget for the next fiscal year was presented and approved. After Pari's lively and entertaining presentation, the meeting adjourned for her book signing and reception.



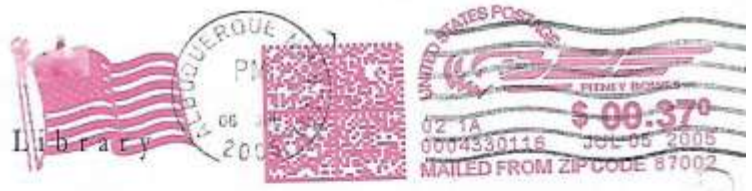
*Pari Noskin Taichert, left, signs copies of *The Clovis Incident*.*

Many Friends, right, attended the annual meeting.





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 Belen, NM 87002
 505-864-7522
<http://www.youseemore.com/belen>



To:



87002-8125 

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

If you believe in libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading, this multi-purpose form is for you! (1) Join the Friends of the Belen Public Library. Your membership entitles you to attend the preview of the annual Book Sale, receive the Friends' quarterly newsletter, and much more! (2) Are you a current member? Use this form to renew your membership. (3) Or donate to the building fund for the library's renovation and expansion!

New Member Renewal _____ Today's date

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please check a Membership category and/or indicate the amount of your donation to the building fund:

Individual (\$5) Patron (\$25) _____ Amount of building fund donation
 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.