



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

Hats Off to Bob Leuhring



Bob Leuhring was honored at the “Hats Off to Volunteers” event on April 14. This annual celebration is sponsored and organized by the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation to honor outstanding volunteers in Rancho Bernardo.

More than 60 organizations are invited to single out a special volunteer and describe that person’s contribution. Presenters called each honoree to the stage and gave them a special hat as a token of the community’s gratitude. This year’s presenters included Brian Maienschein, Mark Kersey, Kristin Gaspar, and other community leaders.

The Hats Off brochure contained this statement, provided by the Friends of the Rancho Bernardo Library when nominating Bob: “When we need help, we ask Bob. He works unstintingly, sorting books, stocking our bookshop, co-chairing the Friends Lending Library, and subbing for other volunteers. Bob’s help is invaluable, and we are grateful to him for his time, his enthusiasm, and his willingness to work. Oh, yes. Also his muscles.”

This event also provides an opportunity to increase our visibility and show what we do for the RB community. For the last several years, we have had a display table featuring bookmarks, brochures, and some giveaway books. This year’s table was “manned” by Vivian Eisenecher, Millie Boaz, and Diane Heinz. Many thanks, ladies.

**Remember Our Next Bag Sale on Saturday, June 16
10:00 am to 4:00 pm**

President's Report

Judy Levine

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO ENRICH THE LIBRARY EXPERIENCE FOR RANCHO BERNARDO RESIDENTS

Recently, I was thrilled to have the privilege of handing Trish Jenkins, our branch manager, a check for \$26,400 on behalf of the Friends of the Library. She forwarded the check to the San Diego Public Library Foundation (SDPLF). The funds came from Bookshop sales, bag sales, and Amazon sales, plus memberships and income from investments. Making our donation in a lump sum at the start of the SD Fiscal Year allows staff to plan ahead.

With matching funds from San Diego, the money we raised will provide:

- **Many programs for all ages in RB (If there were no money from the FOL that means almost no programs)**
- **The leased collection of books and DVDs (that can't be borrowed by other branches)**
- **Additional books, DVDs, and CDs beyond the City's budget**
- **NEW CHAIRS for Community Room and Seminar Rooms are on order**

The Foundation responded to us saying: "The Friends of the Rancho Bernardo Library's continued dedication enriches the library experience for the many children and adults who visit city libraries The (SDPLF) is so fortunate to work with dedicated Friends groups like yours."

In addition, the Friends will pay for refreshments and program supplies separately.

Thank you to the many Friends who helped raise these funds (names are not listed because there are too many):

- **All those who sort in the Workroom**
- **All those who assist customers in the Bookshop**
- **The three who list special books on Amazon, then wrap, and mail them when they sell**
- **Board members who do the organizing and work hours upon hours in sales**
- **All who have joined the Friends, including the growing number at \$50 and \$100 levels**
- **Our Finance Chair who (successfully) watches our investments like a hawk**

Now we are looking to diversify our fundraising. Our new Fundraising Chair, Laurie Davidson, has an article of her own in this newsletter. I urge you to consider volunteering for this new committee to help develop the framework for the future. **The need will grow in the future, not diminish.**

Help Wanted: Workroom Coordinator

Like to be surrounded by books? Enjoy working with people who are happy in their work? Don't mind issuing occasional emails? Looking for a way to serve the Friends of the Library, without having to attend Board meetings? Serving as the Workroom Coordinator may be the job for you! If you want more details, please contact Millie Boaz, Vice-President of Operations, by email mmboaz1938@att.net or phone 858-485-1940.

Lending Library

A valuable perk of membership in Friends of the Library is the ability to check out books from the FOL Lending Library. Best sellers and new books are added each month, so books that you otherwise might have to wait weeks or months to read are there for you. Here are the new books for June:

Fiction

Rumaan Alam

That Kind of Mother

Dorothea Benton Frank

By Invitation Only

Paula McClain

Love and Ruin

Aimee Maloy

The Perfect Mother

Meg Wolitzer

The Female Persuasion

Non-Fiction

Jon Meacham

The Soul of America

Peter Stark

Young Washington

Tara Westover

Educated

Check out the FOL website for more titles.

Kathy and Bob Leuhring



June 16 Bag Sale

Ready to stock up on books for summer reading? The next Bag Sale is coming up Saturday, June 16, between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm at the RB Library. We'll offer books in the usual places: inside and outside of the Bookshop and in the Workroom and environs. **Prices will be \$3 per bag for members, \$5 for non-members.** In addition there will be some deep discounts on some of our Better Books (these

will NOT be included in the bag sale prices).

If possible, remember to bring your own brown grocery bags or bags of comparable size. Tell your neighbors, family and friends!

Book Sales News

Over the years we have been selling books at low prices, and still do. Since 2017 we have also had great success with selling "better books" on Amazon. Last year we sold 61 books, and 21 so far this year, for a total income of \$2,325.

In addition to our \$3 and \$5 bags that will be for sale June 16, we will be offering deep discounts on as many as 30 books currently listed on Amazon. Examples are *American Racer, 1900-1940* currently selling online for over \$300 with our price at \$158; a *Holy Bible Catholic Life Edition* bound in white leather selling for \$55; and *Panorama 71*XXe Siecle No.36* (an art book) going for \$103. Look for the Better Books signs. There will also be a \$10 book table.

Dick Leuhring, Book Sales

Concerts Recess for Summer

The Friends concert season was completed on May 23, with an energetic performance by the West Coast Wind Quintet. The audience was captivated by the interaction of flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and French horn.

We will resume our concerts on September 26. A number of top-ranked classical and jazz ensembles are under contract. Mark your calendar for a long-awaited return of San Diego Principal Double-bass, Jeremy Kurtz-Harris, performing with pianist Ines Irawati. Jeremy has been a pioneer in making the double-bass a spectacular solo instrument.

To get on our monthly email list, send your email address to rbconcerts@earthlink.net.

Harvey Levine, Concerts Director

We Need Your Help

The Board of FOL is undertaking an exciting new initiative to broaden our fundraising base. We are very proud of the current level of support to our branch, but we feel called upon to do more! In light of dwindling support from the city of San Diego, pressing current needs and innovative dreams for the future, our goal is to develop a wider variety of opportunities for patrons of our wonderful library to offer their financial support.

I've been a lifelong lover and patron of libraries, and a part of what drew me to settle in RB 20 plus years ago, was the beautiful facility here. I am an experienced non-profit fundraiser, having most recently worked for Mira Costa College Foundation. Putting my skills to work for FOL seems like a perfect way for me to give back to my community.

What we need now, in this first phase of this initiative, are several good people who are interested in helping to flesh out a plan and are willing to join the newly formed Fundraising Committee. Knowledge of the community of Rancho Bernardo, fundraising experience, event planning familiarity, Internet savvy—any or all of these strengths are welcome. However, what's most important is enthusiasm for our outstanding library and its important role here.

If you're interested, or have questions about this opportunity, please contact me, Laurie Davidson, at lauriedavid1@gmail.com.

Library Happenings

In the past months, we have had a lot to celebrate. Our youth program attendance has been climbing steadily. Recent notable programs include our *Spring Into STEAM* events, including the *Foam Rocket Launcher* event on April 17, where students learned about the relationship between force, angle of

launch, and launch distance with projectiles; and the *Glider Landing* program on April 28, where special guests from the local naval base taught students about the physics and



dynamics of flight, and helped students model those principles using balsawood gliders. Our *Free Comic Book Day* celebration was also a hit: we gave away 90 free comic books to local youth over the course of the day, and children learned how to create their own mini comic books.

The San Diego Public Library's Summer Reading Program is coming up soon. The theme for this year's program is "Reading Takes You Everywhere." In addition to the usual incentives (coupons to museums and restaurants), we will be giving away a book to every 10 books read for adults, and for every 10 hours of reading for youth. As you know, the Summer Reading Program helps to combat the "summer slide"—the tendency for students to lose some of the achievement gains they made during the school year—by bridging the gap by encouraging reading and the cultivation of active minds.

We also have many special larger programs, thanks to the generosity of Friends of the Library. Check out the bulletin board and the brochure featuring some of the upcoming programs. Thank you for your commitment to our Branch and to the enrichment of our community's patrons and youth.

Steve Torres-Roman
Youth Services Librarian

