There’s more to the Friends Bookstore than great prices and high-quality books, CDs and DVDs. There’s a team of dedicated volunteers turning donations into dollars that support the many programs at our fabulous library.

Behind the Scenes at the Book Store

The store receives thousands of donations from members of the community and from the Library itself, which periodically removes books from circulation. These donations range from mass-market paperbacks to rare, autographed first editions. Once delivered, books are shuttled to a dedicated holding area, informally called “the cage” because of the screens that surround it. They are screened for condition, then sorted and priced.

Mickie Berg, a Friends board member and former teacher, shows up every weekday morning to oversee this labor-intensive stage of the operation. “Hardcover fiction books usually sell for $6 apiece,” she said, “except brand new releases, which we price at $8. With nonfiction books, we determine their rarity and price them accordingly,” adding, “We check Amazon, and slash their prices about 50%.” Kristin Jameson, First Vice-President of the Friends Board of Directors and bookstore committee chair, prices books that she categorizes as “collectibles.” “The indefatigable Lisa Engelman also helped price and showcase special books in the store. Other stalwarts who roll up their sleeves and pitch in are Friends past presidents Barbara Sadoff, Lori Goldman and Ann Golenternek.

“The work is so gratifying,” said Ann, who has been involved since the 1980s. “People who can’t afford to go to Barnes and Noble to buy a $26 book can afford to shop at our store. But many of our savvy shoppers simply love the thrill of finding a bargain.” The ultimate bargains are the $1 books, those are the province of volunteer Judy Albert.

She plucks appropriate titles from the incoming crop and places them on special sale shelves. Kristin, who schedules volunteers to work in the store every day, recently recruited a volunteer squad to clean out and overhaul the staging area and participate in a blitz to price books and get them on the shelves. Also serving on the valiant crew with Mickie are store volunteers Victoria Hunt Wilson, Debbie Rabinowitz and Peggy Wehrle, in addition to board members Nam Kim, Barbara Linder, Shelley Wagers, Martha Galvan, Jean Rosenblatt, Joyce Ziman and Launa Romoff.

Please turn to page 2
In 2007, the Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library began a reading group with 20 eager readers discussing the book WATER FOR ELEPHANTS. The buzz grew by word of mouth and now there are three days of discussion each month, for a total of 90 - 100 readers. The growing popularity of the FOBHPL book groups is the direct result of our remarkable facilitator, Judith Palarz, a passionate advocate for literate writing and stimulating story telling with the talent to convey that passion to her audience.

Judith began her career as a facilitator by leading discussion groups at Dutton’s Brentwood Books where she learned the book selling business. Her reputation grew and soon private groups and presentations at the Huntington Library filled her calendar. In addition to her experiences at Dutton Books, Judith brings a wealth of knowledge garnered as a teacher and advisor at LAUSD. She worked in programs for Special Needs and Gifted children, was employed as a Director of Corporate Training for a national electronic components company and was both a volunteer and staff person with the League of Women Voters. A devoted following of readers comes from all over the city to hear her weave her magic. The Friends are proud to have her as the face of our book discussion groups and invite you to join us.

The Book Groups meet the third week of every month: Tuesday & Wednesday: @ 10:15 a.m - Thursday @ 1:00 p.m.
Book Club choices and schedules are always listed on the Friends’ website, www.friendsofbhpl.org.
Attendance is free for members of Friends of BHPL. Non-members pay only $5 for each session.
Membership extends from January 1 through December 31 of the calendar year... a bargain for Judith followers.

cont’d from page 1

With all the books and labor donated, fully 100% of proceeds from sales in the store are able to continue supporting the Library. Some programs the money makes possible are such activities as summer reading programs for children and teens, children’s story times, the “Wonderful Wednesday” children’s entertainment. Others include adult literacy programs, free digital magazine subscriptions for patrons and our popular book club. Friends also paid for beautiful murals in the children’s area and other works of art that cover the library walls. The Friends bookstore is the only one in Beverly Hills with a selection ranging from popular fiction, and literary classics to biography, art and cookbooks. (And it changes almost daily.)

So remember the next time you’re in the library, after you drop your book donation into the bin next to the entrance, pop into this very special bookstore; we’re located right next to Kelly’s Fudge.
Hello from the President

The beginning of my second year as president of the Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library is off to a great start! Coming off our always successful Summer Reading program for our community’s children, we are sponsoring a whole slew of programming designed to appeal to all our visitors. We have programs on parenting, programs on travel, programs with authors and, as always, our fabulous book-group moderator Judith Palarz, continues to offer thought-provoking discussions on current works of fiction. Our children’s groups continue this fall as well, with Storytime classes constantly offered throughout the week. Our Teen Zone is a thriving place where tweens and teens can interact, get homework help and attend programs specifically designed for them.

Our library is a great place to pick up a movie, an audiobook on CD or a book that you’ve been dying to read. Did you know you can search and reserve a book online? Or you can download a book to your Kindle or other e-reader automatically? Fall and winter are the best for sitting down with a hot drink and delving into a new book. I recommend it!

Sincerely,

Monique Maas Gibbons

New & Re-new

The Board is eager to welcome these new and returning members who bring with them enthusiasm, expertise, and an unfailing love of books. It promises to be an exciting new year.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE
Barbara Greene Ruskin
Helene Harris
Rosanne Keynan
Jean Rosenblatt
Shelley Wagers

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE
Barbara Greene Ruskin
Helene Harris
Rosanne Keynan
Jean Rosenblatt
Shelley Wagers

FRIENDS OF BHPL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers
Monique Gibbons, Pres.
Kristin Jameson 1st VP
Lee Saltz, 2nd VP
Lori Goldman, 3rd VP
Jeannette Mandelbaum, 3rd VP
Barbara Linder, Treas.
Mallory Lee, Rec. Secy
Shelley Wagers, Corr. Secy

Directors
Fran Behrstock
Mickie Berg
Tillie Boris
Susan Fishman
Michele Gabai
Martha Galvan
Debra Gordon
Helene Harris
Rosanne Keynan
Nam Kim
Ursula Levi
Virginia Maas
Eileen Olsen
Karen Richman
Launa Romoff
Kathi Rothner
Karen Rushfield
Barbara Greene Ruskin
Kasey Sixt
Joyce Ziman

Past Presidents
Lori Goldman
Ann Golentenmek
Betty Harris
Barbara Linder
Jean Rosenblatt
Barbara Sadoff
Charlotte Skura
The Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library is a non-profit organization that supports the Library. Funds from membership fees and bookstore revenues, as well as donations and tributes, support many of the Library's best-loved and most needed collections and programs.

The Friends' bookstore is open Mon - Sat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues. till 8:30 p.m. Sun from 12 noon to 4 p.m. For info: 310.288.2209. For volunteering: 310.288.2286. For book donations: 310.288.2271.

Please visit our website: friendsofbhpl.org

---

The Children’s Summer Reading Club was a great success... more than 2,500 participated in the “Read To Win” program and Wonderful Wednesdays played to large enthusiastic crowds.

| Children loved | Magician Tony Daniels worked with fascinated audience members. | The beat of the popular Beat Buds drew more than 600 children and their families. |
| Kiddle Karoo | Monster Puppet. | |

---

The Friends of the Beverly Hills Public Library is a non-profit organization that supports the Library. Funds from membership fees and bookstore revenues, as well as donations and tributes, support many of the Library's best-loved and most needed collections and programs.

The Friends’ bookstore is open Mon - Sat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues. till 8:30 p.m. Sun from 12 noon to 4 p.m. For info: 310.288.2209. For volunteering: 310.288.2286. For book donations: 310.288.2271.

Please visit our website: friendsofbhpl.org

---

**Fall Storytime Programs for Children**
**October 17 - November 17**

**MONDAY & THURSDAY**
- 10 -10:45 a.m. - Mother Goose
  18 months & up - 20 min. storytime
- 11-11:45 a.m. - Toddler Storytime
  30 months & up - 30 min. storytime
(Both followed by caregiver/child reading time.)

**TUESDAY**
- 10 -10:45 a.m. - Baby Storytime
- 11-11:45 a.m. - Baby Storytime
(Both for pre-walkers & include creative playtime.)

**WEDNESDAY**
- 10 -10:45AM - Early Words Storytime
- 11-11:45AM - Early Words Storytime
(Both for 12-24 months & include 20 min. storytime & creative playtime.)

---

**TWO NEW SEASONAL CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**

**Pumpkin Patch Storytime & Crafts**
**October 25**

**Winter Tales**
**November 29**

Both programs:
3:30 - 5pm in Library Auditorium