

# Bookfriends



Winter 2009

## A Message From Our President, Mary Roskom

Spring is just around the corner! A new season brings renewed energy and we need *everyone* to be energized this year.

As most of you are aware, the City of Rio Rancho imposed substantial budget cuts on all departments, including our libraries. To meet this mandate, some wonderful library programs would have been cut. However, the Friends of the Library have stepped in and volunteered to make up the funding difference. Instead of funding selected programs, the Friends will fund almost all of the programs.

To do this, we need fundraisers. We have planned a **Bowlathon** at Santa Ana Star Starlight Lanes on **Saturday April 18th, at noon**. We hope to recruit *36 teams of five persons each*. Local businesses and interested individuals will provide team sponsorships. Individual bowlers will solicit pledges for their bowling. This should be a good time for all. I hope you will generously support your local bowler or team. Come out and join the fun!

Again this year the Friends will honor library volunteers at a **luncheon** to be held on **Friday April 3rd** at the Loma Colorado Library Auditorium, starting **at 11:30**. All Friends are encouraged to join us in honoring our volunteers. At this same time we will be having our **annual general meeting and election of new Board members**. Three existing members of the Board are on the slate due to term expiration but we still need interested parties from the community to submit their names. If interested in running for a Board position, please contact Nominating Committee Chairman Jan Marfyak.

I am happy to report that our new Tuff Shed is in place and is just waiting for the city to complete concrete work before we can use it.

This new storage facility will allow us to store more books for our bookstore sales and monthly sales.

We are in the process of looking at other ideas for a Fall fundraiser. If you have any good suggestions, we'd surely like to hear from you.

Thanks for your support of the Friends and please encourage friends and family to join the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho! This is one of the real gems of our community! 

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## Friends' Current Board of Directors

Kristal Breeze has helped out with the Friends' monthly book sales for over 8 years. She has been a board member for almost 2 years and manages our *Books for Babies* Program. Her term ends this April.

Linda Downey, a retired medical office consultant and an antique dealer for the past 20 years, served on the boards of many nonprofit organizations and chaired several of their fundraising activities. She recently created and implemented a new Friends Amazon.com book site which sells our higher valued books. A Friends member for 7 years, her term ends April 2011.

Anne Goodman is a former community college instructor of English as a Second Language, G.E.D. and rhetoric, and a former reference librarian in Alamogordo, NM. She has lived in two other countries and six states, including a "splendid" 17 years in NM. She has lived in Rio Rancho for 14 months and been a Friend for 10 months. Her term ends April 2011

Cynthia Jacques, a telecommunications retiree with mainframe computer, project management and internal auditing training, is a board member of the Friends, Enchanted Hills Homeowners Association Neighborhood Association, and ReadWest (where she also tutors). She is FOL Secretary and editor of *Bookfriends*. Her term ends April 2010.

Babs Langner, a transplanted South Dakotan and retired teacher of English literature who taught at Highland High School in Albuquerque, currently volunteers at St. Michael's Pantry and is also a member of the Scandinavian Club Council of International Visitors. Babs is Vice President of the Friends and manages our book sales. Her second consequence term ends April 2010.

Jan Marfyak, a retired Federal government employee, served as both a friend and trustee in other library systems before moving to New Mexico. He has extensive training and experience in public policy planning and financial management. He is President of the Rio Rancho Libraries Trustees as well as being a member of the Friends for 3 years. His term ends this April.

Kim Newell, prior to relocating to Rio Rancho, volunteered with different library systems. She has been a Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho volunteer since 2007. Her term ends April 2011.

George Oppenheimer, a long time loyal Friend, has headed our Business Membership committee. Due to competing interests for his time and talents, George has decided not to run for re-election to the Friends' board when his term ends this April.

Amber Porter, a high school Junior, is also Rio Grande Division Lt. Governor for the Southwest District of Key Club International, a Youth City Councilor for Division 2, and has been actively involved in youth services for the Rio Rancho Public Library System. She has volunteered for the libraries since she was 12 years old and is serving her first term on the FOL Board. Her term ends April 2011.

Mary Roskom retired from a career in the healthcare field and has previous Friends experience as Treasurer of the Friends of the Shuter Library of Angel Fire. After serving six months as Vice President here, she has served as Friends' President for the past 1 ½ years. She also serves as Board Secretary for the Sandoval County CASA, Inc. Her term ends this April.

Charles Smith has served as Director of the Belen Chamber of Commerce, President of the Belen School Board, Vice President of the NM School Board Association of NM and has participated in three NM First Conferences. He is a bailiff in the Municipal Court of Rio Rancho, a board member of Albuquerque's Public Broadcasting Station's Advisory Council, and a board member of the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho. His term ends April 2010.

Pat Watson, after raising her family, went to back as an auditor for a banking corporation and later opened her own real estate brokerage office. A native New Mexican, Pat moved to Rio Rancho 3 ½ years ago and joined the FOL 3 years ago. Pat is a docent at two Albuquerque museums and is FOL's Treasurer. Her term ends this April. 

## Friends' Shop Report

### *Do you think you know what R.S.V.P. means?*

If you answered that it means you should have good manners and let the person that sent you an invitation know if you are coming or not, you would be correct. However, R.S.V.P. can mean something else for “certain” people.

For those “certain” people, R.S.V.P. also means Retired Senior Volunteer Program. The qualifications for this special program are that you have to be at least 55 years old and work at least 2 continuous hours a month. The majority of the money is a grant from the Federal government and they set specific guidelines. The county helps with the rest of the money and there is a little bit of leeway in how it is administered. There are many, many places to volunteer in Sandoval County and many of these places are participants in this program.

Several years ago, a gentleman from Sandoval County and a volunteer, Marian Lustig came to visit The Friends of the Library volunteers to inform us of this program called R.S.V.P. He handed out brochures that explained how the program works. If you chose to be a part of this program, all you needed to do was fill out an information form and return it with a copy of your driver’s license and car insurance. Also included was a time sheet that was very easy to fill out.

I agreed to be the site coordinator at the Friends bookstore. The people that joined had to fill out this simple time sheet every week they worked as a volunteer with the Friends of the Library. In return for registering and filling out the registration form and the monthly time sheets, they would get a check every 3 months with a small stipend. It is not a lot of money, but if you need it, it does help defray the cost of gas. If you don’t need the money you can donate it anywhere you want. Many of our volunteers work at more than one site. Those people can use one time sheet and list all the hours they work in multiple places. Marion Lustig is the volunteer that picks up the time sheets monthly.

The money received is not a taxable event. It is considered unreimbursed expenses. So you can breathe easy about that! No one wants to pay more taxes.

When I train people for the bookstore, I always tell them about R.V.S.P. I give them the packet for them to take home and read about the program so they can decide if they would like to join. It’s easy with no mess, no fuss.

Gloria Shapiro

Volunteer scheduler for Friends of the Library bookstore in Rio Rancho

891-1190



## Star Heights Learning Center

*By Christine Hinrichs-Porter, Star Heights Learning Center Coordinator*

### Everyone Needs Friends!

The Star Heights Learning Center, a satellite of the Rio Rancho Public Library, loves making new friends! Many of the tween and teen members (grades 5-9) invite their friends in to show them it's a great place to go after school. Thanks to the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, the Star Heights Learning Center is able to offer an array of craft programs and other activities every Friday afternoon for kids. The Friends also provide funds for special needs within the center, and for the Summer Reading Program.

The Friends provide funds for craft supplies such as, paint, fabric, paintbrushes, scissors, markers, scrapbook paper, colored pencils, craft glue, and on and on. These items make it possible to offer hands-on activities for kids such as making dreamcatchers, memory boxes, rock painting, Valentine's cards and more. These activities provide a feeling of accomplishment, a boost in confidence and a sense of belonging for our young members.

The Star Heights Learning Center participates in the Summer Reading Program that is offered throughout the Rio Rancho Public Library system. Thanks again to the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, we are able to offer incentives for reading accomplishments, such as, gift cards to book stores, theme pencils, theme bookmarks, and popular books. Friends' funds also enable us to provide materials for two craft or other activities for each of the six weeks of the Summer Reading Program. Events the Friends will be sponsoring this summer are a Teen Talent Show at Esther Bone Library, an Expressions Expo for Teens at the Loma Colorado Library and a kick of Summer Fun event here at the Star Heights Learning Center.

This fiscal year the Friends of the Rio Rancho Public Library set aside \$200 for new large pillows or other casual seating. With that money, I have just purchased two amazing media rockers from the Lovesac, Inc. at Cottonwood Mall. They are high quality, comfortable seats that are great for leisure reading or for listening to music! The kids already love them! These rockers will eventually be transferred to the adjacent program room once a door is installed. A door to the program room is another funding project the Friends hope to make possible at the Star Heights Learning Center! This is a large project that would not be possible without the Friends' continued support to the Center.

The City of Rio Rancho has made budget cuts due to the present state of the economy. The Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho have stepped up to make sure that youth programming continues, and that other essential needs for youth are met. Their diligent fundraising and community book donations help fund these programs and special needs.

We here at the Star Heights Learning Center are grateful for the generosity and fiscal understanding that the Friends show for the youth of Rio Rancho. We are glad they are our FRIENDS! 📖

### **A note from T.A.G.**

The Teen Advisory Group for the Rio Rancho Public Library wishes to thank the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho for their continued support through funding for refreshments for our meetings, and especially funding for our teen events at the library, such as the Twilight Ball and the upcoming kick off Summer Fun Party for the Summer Reading Program. The Friends are also funding snacks for our rehearsals for the Dr. Seuss Reader's Theatre event, "Green Eggs and Ham" on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Without the Friends T.A.G. would be very limited in what it could do! 📖

## Esther Bone Memorial Library

*by Robert Nankin, Branch Manager*

### Esther Bone Memorial Library Is Having a Birthday!

The grand reopening of the Esther Bone Memorial Library was on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The newly renovated library will be celebrating its first year of operation very soon. Of course Esther Bone originally opened in 1992 and was the first stand-alone library in Rio Rancho. We are thrilled to have her back in operation after being closed from November 2006 through January 2007. Anyone who has visited the renovated facility will be treated to new lighting, furnishings, flooring, wall and window coverings, heating and air conditioning, a new roof and much more.

In the past year the library has been visited by over 100,000 people and everyone loves the new look. One of the nicest features of the renovated library is the new self-service Friend's Bookshop. Two very dedicated members of the Friends' group, Mary Roskom and Jan Marfyak, have worked very hard in keeping the store's shelves stocked and books organized. Patrons interested in buying books deposit money in a slot inside the shop. The store has been very successful with upwards of \$50.00 or more being deposited each week.

In addition the Friends of the Library have resumed outdoor book sales at Esther Bone. These were always a popular event at the old library and patrons are thrilled to have access to these events again. The outside book sales run every other month in the spring, summer and fall.

The Friends have been a tremendous help to the staff at Esther Bone. The group has funded many children's and adult programs. Without the Friends assistance the library's summer reading program in 2008 would not have been such an amazing success. The library is looking forward to a very successful 2009 and already has some great programs planned. This includes concerts, lectures, and events for children and even famous authors.

Through the efforts of reference librarian Tracie Antonuk and the generous funding of the Friends of the Library, author Michael McGarrity will be speaking at the Esther Bone Library on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. The internationally known author will also be available after his presentation for a book signing. Most of Michael McGarrity's books take place in New Mexico and feature the detective work of Kevin Kerney. The library is expecting a very large turnout for this program.

For more information about the Esther Bone Memorial Library or any of the upcoming events, please visit us at 950 Pinetree Rd. in Rio Rancho or you may call 891-5012, extension 3128. 

### **We Thank These Businesses & Organizations that Support the Friends.**

- Rio Rancho Printing
- Eye Associates of New Mexico
- Precision Organizing and Records Management, LLC
- ReadWest, Inc.—Literacy Volunteers of America
- The Juliette RP Vision Foundation 

## JOIN US!!!

The mission of the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho is to provide program and activity support to the Rio Rancho Library by securing community participation with, raising funds, increasing resources, and administering all gifts for the benefit of the Library and, as the need arises, promoting Library-related issues. "Library" includes Loma Colorado Main Library, Esther Bone Memorial Library, and the Star Heights Learning Center.

What does this mean to you? It means that your support through membership, volunteering, and/or donations allows us to help the Library to provide increasing numbers of quality programs to our youth, tweens, teens, and adults.

As our President Mary Roskom stated on page one of this issue, our Annual Membership Meeting will be held Friday, April 3. This meeting includes a luncheon for our volunteers who so generously give of their time pricing, sorting, and volunteering at our bookstore and book sales. Other volunteers who give of their time are our board of directors.

Please seriously think about sharing your time and talents with, and joining, the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho: a dedicated group of people who look forward to seeing you.

If you wonder about board projects and board members' backgrounds, please refer to page two of this newsletter where a brief biography of each of our twelve board members is provided. (Our bylaws mandate no fewer than five board members but do not state a maximum — so, come join us!) Board members also volunteer their time. Board committees include but are not limited to: Membership, Business Membership, Nominating, Bookstore, Book Sale, Public Relations/Newsletter, *Books for Babies*, and Fundraising. Board meetings are generally the third Thursday of each month from 6:00—8:00 p.m. at the Loma Colorado Main Library. 📖

### Donations & Book Harvesters

Let us help you with your donations. If your donation of books is too large or too difficult to bring to the Loma Colorado Main Library, please call Jan Marfyak at 994-3066 to arrange a pickup date and time. Our **"Book Harvesters" will pick up at the owner's convenience.** 📖

### Donations & Book Hutch

The Friends sincerely thank everyone who so generously donates gently used books, CDs, video tapes, DVDs, and/or puzzles. Their sale proceeds fund quality programs for children and adults at Loma Colorado, Esther Bone, and the Star Heights Learning Center.

Please bring donated items to the Loma Colorado Main Library:

- Drive up to and then place your bagged or boxed donations inside of the Friends' donation hutch on the north side of the Loma Colorado Main Library.
- Then drive around to the main lot by the front door, park, and enter the library.
- Go directly to the Friends' Shop if you would like a receipt for tax purposes. 📖





## I want to be a Friend of the Library of Rio Rancho.

New Member

### Membership Categories

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student/Senior (62 & over) \$5

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Friend (1 person) \$10

Family \$20

Sponsor (1 person) \$25

Supporter (1 person) \$50

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Patron (1 person) \$100

Benefactor \$250

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Friends of the Library is a 501(c)(3) organization that raises funds and promotes the Rio Rancho Library. Membership dues and other contributions are tax deductible. We can be contacted at (505) 891-5013.

Your membership and contributions help to expand the effectiveness of the Library as an educational and recreational center in Rio Rancho. The Friends of the Library gratefully accepts bequests, memorials, honorariums, and commemorations.

Please make your check payable to: **The Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, Inc.** Mail to PO Box 15143, Rio Rancho, NM 87174 or bring your membership form to the Friends' Shop at the Loma Colorado Main Library.

### **I would like to help:**

- in the book store
- with book sorting and pricing
- by serving on the Board
- at monthly book sales

Business Friends, for membership information, please contact Linda Downey  
at 349-8836 or FOLORR-lDowney@cableone.net.

**Bookfriends**, the newsletter of the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, is published quarterly. Members' comments and contributions are welcome. Please mail material, including your phone number, to Newsletter Editor, Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, PO Box 15143, Rio Rancho, NM 87174

Volunteer Liaisons to the Board of Directors are Gloria Shapiro (Bookstore Volunteers) and Karen Reinhold (Pricing and Sorting).

### **Continuing to help Rio Rancho's schools**

FOLORR continues to collect donated General Mills' *Box Tops For Education* and Campbell's (and associated brands') labels with UPCs found on selected products. Our four distributions have gone to Rio Rancho schools which collect these special tops and/or labels to later redeem for books and other educational supplies. This project ties into the Friends' goal of increasing literacy (and thus education) within our community. Details are available on: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com). The *Box Tops* and *qualifying labels with UPCs* can be left at the Friends' Shop at the Loma Colorado Main Library.



Friends of the Library  
of Rio Rancho, Inc.  
PO Box 15143  
Rio Rancho, NM 87174

**Address Service Requested**

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

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RIO RANCHO, NM

PERMIT NO. 1964

**Rio Rancho Library System  
Locations & Hours**

Loma Colorado Main Library  
755 Loma Colorado Drive NE  
(505) 891-5013  
Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



Esther Bone Memorial Library  
950 Pinetree Road SE  
(505) 891-5012  
Monday, Wednesday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday, 12 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



Star Heights Learning Center  
800 Polaris Blvd. SE  
(505) 891-3938  
Monday-Friday, 2 p.m.-6 p.m.



## FOL Dates to Remember

 **4/03: Annual Volunteers Recognition Luncheon & Board Elections 11:30 a.m.— 1:00 p.m. — Loma Colorado Main Library's Auditorium**

 **4/18: Bowlathon fundraiser at Santa Ana Starlight Center, noon**

 **Saturday Book Sales — Loma Colorado Main Library's Auditorium, The second Saturday of every month  10 A.M. to 1 P.M. **

**Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9, Jun. 13, Jul. 11, Aug. 8, Sep. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12** 