

Bandon Library Friends and Foundation

Newsletter

November, 2008

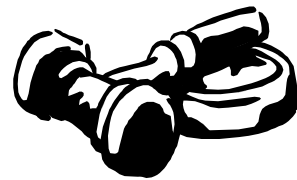
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Box 128, Bandon, OR 97411, website - www.bandonlff.org

The Pres Says

A significant event occurred since our last newsletter when BLFF hosted a Friends of the Library of Southwest Oregon Conference on October 18 in the Sprague Community Room of the Library. This event has been held intermittently each year and hosted by Friends of various libraries. This year at our invitation about 35 members from other communities attended. Represented were Florence, Coos Bay, Drain, Port Orford, Gold Beach, Langlois, Myrtle Point, Coquille and a representative from Douglas County Library Association.

The conference is designed to facilitate communication between the organizations in this part of the state and exchange ideas on issues, problems and positive progress. We organized the format in a round-table fashion beginning with participants introducing themselves and mentioning a few topics they would like to have discussed in some depth. As a result, we discussed the following:

- Fund Raising
- Recruiting Active Members to "Friends"
- What Involves "Non-Profit" Status
- The Role of the Library in the Community
- Friends Relationships with the Library, Library Boards, and City
- The Changing Library and Future Impact



The attendees were very active in the discussions with a wide range of views expressed. Breaks were taken to provide opportunity for tours of the library. In addition due to diligent and hard efforts on the part of our members we served snacks during the morning coffee break and lunch not only to all the participants and ourselves, but also invited the library staff. The response was apparently quite good as we received a number of complimentary comments on the conference and the library--- as well as the food. I think that we all felt that the effort was well worthwhile and we learned new things. -- J. Merle Logan

From the Director's Chair

This is an odd time of the year for the library. As the rains of autumn begin, people come to the library to sit, read, use the Internet, and greet friends. Our circulation actually goes up during this period.

We've made a change in how we collect information for new library cards. From now on Social Security numbers will no longer be asked for when you fill out your application for a new card. In addition, we have deleted all SSNs from our cardholder database.

We first began asking for Social Security numbers when the first cards were issued in the early '90s. At that time, it was a good way to uniquely identify people with similar names or people whose names had changed. Since then, privacy concerns and the real threat of all those numbers connected to personal information on a database of over 60,000 people cause the Library Directors to rethink this policy. Hacking tools are more sophisticated now. Our system has never been compromised, but we didn't want to risk it. We will still ask for Driver's License numbers. We hope this will enable us to identify individuals accurately and not put them at risk.



Deirdre Krumper, Director

Who's Who at Bandon Library

One of the newer volunteers at Bandon Library is Joan Thisby. She is a transplant from Big Lake, Alaska, just ten miles north of Wasilla, hometown of Governor Sarah Palin. Joan actually began her life in West Seattle, but moved to Alaska at age seven, arriving by airplane, wearing her "black, pink and grey reversible skirt". (How's that for a memory?) Although Joan did not say she could see Sarah from her house, she does have stories to tell about Alaska, and will show you the scars from her mosquito bites. As a result, she says she is not particularly an outdoorsy person.

While husband, Gary, is remodeling their home on Seven Devils Road, which "has big trees, privacy, and feels like home", Joan has found plenty to do as a volunteer for Bandon Library. She believes this is the best time of her life and seems to like our more southerly climes in spite of the rain.



Joan is enthusiastic about Bandon's "great thrift shops and garage sales" and when she isn't exploring those, you might find her playing with her black lab, Stella, or Stella's new best friend, Harry, the rat terrier.

Mysteries are among her favorite reading and Alexander McCall Smith heads the list of authors she enjoys. Our kinda gal!

Holiday Book Sale, December 6

It barely seems possible the year has gone by so quickly and time for the Holiday Sale has come 'round again, but BLFF is indeed preparing and planning for this event.

Book bargains, videos, and even miscellaneous white elephant gift items will be available in the Sprague Community Room for members between 10:00 a.m. and noon on the 6th. All are welcome from noon until 4:00 p.m.

Raffle tickets for Patricia Armstrong's autumn quilt, will be on sale until 4:00, at which time the name of the lucky winner will be drawn. Tickets are \$1 each, or eight for \$5.

As always, your smiling faces will be anticipated. Even if you just stop by to say "hello", have a cup of coffee or tea and a cookie, the Friends will be glad to see you. Happy Holidays!



Thanksgiving

This time of year when there is pause to gather, give thanks, and share the symbols of our good fortune around the dining table with turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie or whatever meal makes the day, BLFF is thankful too.

In August, we hosted an appreciation luncheon in the Sprague Room. Nearly forty people attended, including many of the Library's most faithful volunteers, the BLFF and Library Boards, the Library staff, Mayor Mary Schamehorn, and City Manager Matt Winkle. It gave everyone an insight as to the amazing number of Friends and the enduring popularity of Bandon Library.

There were introductions around, including Past-President Lloyd Lyman who admonished with a smile, "I just came for the food". Everyone enjoyed the barbeque and potluck style lunch. It was a fine success and all are looking forward to doing it again next year.



Thank you for being a Friend!

*Love wholeheartedly, be surprised, give thanks and praise
- then you will discover the fullness of your life.*

Brother David Steindl-Rast



Monday Nights at the Library, Travel and Film

November 24, at 7:00 p.m. Bring your holiday houseguests and take a digital photo trip to Poland with Ed Swenson. (Coffee and cookies too)

On December 8, at 7:00 p.m., Classic Film Night will offer Barbara Stanwyck, Dennis Morgan, and Sydney Greenstreet in *Christmas in Connecticut*, an all time favorite comedy involving a '40s style Martha Stewart and her efforts to create the perfect holiday.

Hitchcock's thriller, *Torn Curtain*, with Paul Newman and Julie Andrews follows on **January 12, also at 7:00**. Popcorn is free. Come join us!

Goodbye for Now

As some of you may know, two of BLFF's favorite Friends are headed for a new home in Arizona. Nancy and Dick Calvert have sold their house in the woods on Tom Smith Road and are trading Douglas firs for pinion pines and cactus.

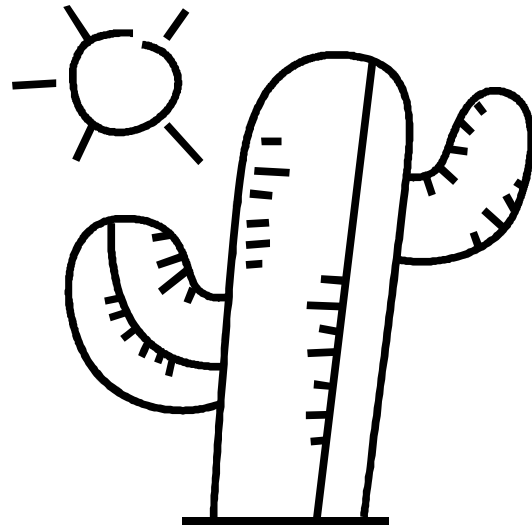
Nancy has been a devoted and tireless helper in sorting book donations, organizing storage, helping to direct set-up for sales, and assisting in many other BLFF activities during the past few years. Her steady, reassuring approach has made book sales much easier for all concerned.

On Monday Nights at the Library/ Travel Night, Dick has taken us on several adventures. It's hard not to catch the travel bug when he relates his engaging and somewhat unorthodox encounters with the real people of countries we would all like to explore.

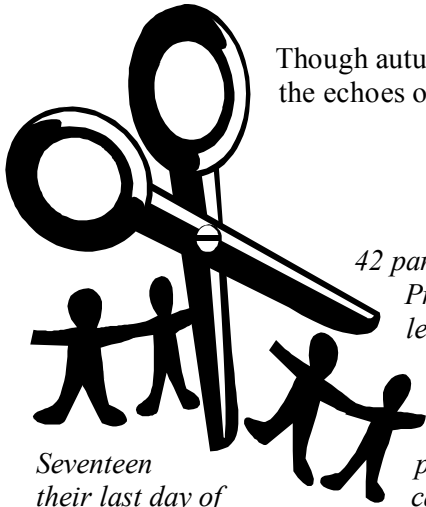
We wish Dick and Nancy well in their new home and hope they will return to Bandon often.

Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by an encounter with another human being. Each of us owes the deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this inner light.

-Albert Schweitzer



The Children's Room



Though autumn has arrived and the children have returned to their classrooms, the echoes of their summer library adventures can be heard in this account:

The Kid Report

42 participants completed Bandon Public Library's Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Reading Bug", on July 31st. In addition to learning facts and trivia about bugs and insects (Do you know how many teeth a mosquito has?), campers enjoyed stories, crafts, games, and snail races during the six-week program.

Seventeen pre-schoolers (ages 4,5,6) received certificates and prize bags on their last day of camp. Prizes included bookmarks, bug tattoos, bug pencil toppers, bug candy, butterfly nets, and new books. Not only did all the pre-schoolers complete their reading lists and earn all their prizes, but most read extra books to earn a special "Above and Beyond" certificate.

Twenty-five early readers received certificates and prize bags on their last day of camp. In addition, they all qualified to attend the grand finale Library Camp-Out. (Yes! We really "camp out" in the Library.)

After arriving Friday, August 1, campers dined on pizza, visited and played games with several of the Cranberry Princesses (Princess Ashley P., Princess Ashley T., Princess Clarissa), enjoyed a short theatrical performance by some of their peers (Lachlan Miller, Darby Underdown, Max Underdown, Hannah Wayne, Helen Wayne) under the direction of Geneva Miller, and crafted dragonflies to take home. Once sleeping spots were claimed and pj's donned, campers munched on s'mores, watching "A Bug's Life" before lights out.

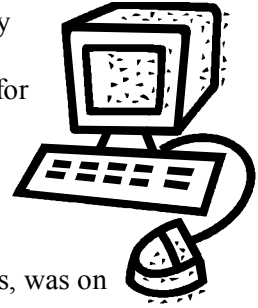
While the majority had to be rolled out of their beds Saturday morning, there were a couple of early birds up and reading at 5:30 a.m. Once up and dressed, everyone had cereal and fruit before packing up to head home.

A huge thank you goes to Ruth Bork who bravely volunteers every year to assist, and a big thank you to the Cranberry Princesses for teaching campers the "official princess wave and walk" and the Milk Shake dance game. Regular Story Times resumed on Wednesday, Sept. 17. I'm looking forward to another great year and Camp-Out 2009!

*Julie Tipton
Children's Librarian*

Computer class schedule through March '09 is published!

Find it at the library or on the web at bandonlff.org/classes.html, or at cyberlynxoregon.org/classes.html Cyberlynx instructors are planning the spring/summer schedule and want to meet your needs, so submit an online survey response. Let them know topics for classes you'd like, and convenient days and times. Want to know more about downloading iTunes and podcasts? Register for this new class in February!



BLFF cares!

BLFF, in conjunction with The Ford Foundation and over 30 other organizations, was on hand for the **Bandon Cares** event on November 15, at Harbor Hall in Old Town. Designed to introduce Bandon nonprofits to each other and to the public, it was well attended. While there, BLFF conducted a membership drive. Your membership dues (and your annual 'booster' donations) are important!

Library History

From time to time, a note with a submission comes from longtime Friend, Will Piehl, reminding us that libraries, historically and today, are an indispensable part of our American culture. From Harry Golden's book, *So Long As You're Healthy*:

Two Institutions turned millions of immigrants into Americans within a single generation—the greatest miracle of human relations in the past century. These two institutions were the free public school and the free public library.

It's hard to communicate to a present-day audience what the library meant to immigrants.... I remember in the ghetto branch of the New York Public Library there was a washstand in a booth off the main entrance. You washed your hands before you went to the shelves. This was no insult. Indeed it was a compliment to the men and women who came out of their sweatshops to stop at the library on the way home, a tribute to the boys and girls who sold newspapers or played in the street and who went into the library to spend an hour before supper.....

Immigrant mothers like my mother, who couldn't speak a word of English, went into that library, held up their fingers to indicate the number of children at home. The librarian issued cards, and the mother handed them out to her children. She said, "Go, learn, study, read" This was part of the process of becoming an American.

If we draw up a balance sheet of America's fixed assets, we would say that the public library is one of our most precious possessions.

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Are you a member of the Friends and Foundation? Your interest and enthusiasm are welcome!

*Please begin/renew my affiliation with the Bandon Library Friends and Foundation.
Annual Dues, \$ 5 per person. Lifetime dues, \$50 per person, or \$75 per couple.*

Checks should be made payable to: B.L.F.F. (Bandon Library Friends and Foundation)
Send to: P.O. Box 128, Bandon, OR 97411, or leave the completed form and check in
the Friends basket at the Library.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail address:** _____

New Member? ____ **Renewal?** ____ **Card given to patron?** Yes No

Amount received: _____

Please check if you would like to participate in the following: Help set up for book
sales ____ Bake for book sale bake sale ____ Assist during the book sale ____
Assist during clean up, after the book sale ____