

Friends Trends

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

No. 62

January 2022

Of By-Laws, and Budgets, and Book Sales

by Peg Phelps

When we last had a general meeting on June 9, 2021, we presented a revised set of By-Laws. We were changing the By-Laws to allow continued operation of the Friends of the Jefferson Public Library, even when we could not meet in person, by using online programs like Zoom. The changes also give the board the ability to make some decisions without consulting the general membership, in the cases where a general meeting cannot be held due to a pandemic, storm, or some other unforeseen circumstance. In order to change the By-Laws, we must present them at one meeting and vote on approving them at another meeting. We will call for a vote of approval at our meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, at 10 a.m. in the sorting room. If you would like to read through the changed By-Laws, links to the By-Laws may be accessed from the Friends' website at <http://friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org/news.php> We will also have printed copies available at the meeting on January 19. We hope to finally put these By-Laws in place.

Our second order of business at the general meeting will be to approve the budget for the year 2022. This year, we are changing our fiscal year to a calendar year, which will be much easier to think about. The budgeted items are in the middle column of the budget report, which can be accessed online at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XM5eL7P4oshuv4z6-wII_Mce4-D3Opdg/view?usp=sharing We will also have printed copies of the budget at the meeting on January 19.

We are planning to have a Big Book Sale from March 18-20, 2022, at the Pontchartrain Center. At the January 19th meeting, we will sign up volunteers to work at the sale. We do hope you will consider giving some of your time, since several of our regulars are unable to help due to COVID. If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to volunteer, please call us at 504 455-2665 and leave your name and contact information. We will call you to arrange a time to help.

Due to the omicron variant of COVID-19, masks will be required of all meeting attendees. We regret that we cannot serve refreshments at this meeting. This is so people will not need to remove their masks at any time during the meeting.

Once COVID is behind us, and when we can use the library's meeting rooms again, we will happily return to our usual meeting format.



"Read the best books first, or you may not have a chance to read them at all."

—Henry David Thoreau

We find good homes for used books.

Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

(a member of United for Libraries, the
Association of Library Trustees,
Advocates, Friends, and Foundations)

Officers

Diane Schleifstein, President
Judy Welcker, Vice President
Peg Phelps, Treasurer
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Marie Orth, Corresponding
Secretary
Anna Campos, Past President

Board of Directors

Annette Centanni, Patricia Cox,
Judy Zawislak, Lisa Conescu,
Joan Demers, Jan DeVidts,
Sandra Blount, JoAnn Rosenfeld

Mission

The Friends of the Jefferson Public
Library is an independent, nonprofit
organization of civic-minded volunteers.
We support the Jefferson Parish Library
by promoting library awareness, providing
needed unbudgeted items for all its branches
through fund raising, and
participating in literacy programs.

Address and Phone

P. O. Box 9391
Metairie, LA 70055
504-455-BOOK (2665)

Web Site

<http://www.friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org/>

Friends Trends

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Annette Centanni
Contributing Editor: Peg Phelps

FRIENDS OF THE JEFFERSON
PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 DAYS ONLY!
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
MARCH 18-20, 2022

Friday - Saturday 10 AM to 7 PM
Sunday Noon to 5 PM
The Pontchartrain Center
4545 Williams Blvd. Kenner

**Over 65,000 Books, DVDs, CDs,
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**The Friends
Need You!**

**Renew Your Dues
or Become a Member**

On-Line:
friendsofjeffersonlibrary.org
or Call:
504-455-2665

The Friends of the Jefferson Public Library

GENERAL MEETING

10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

Friends' Sorting Room, Administration Building
East Bank Regional Library, 4747 W. Napoleon Ave., Metairie

Sign up to volunteer
at our Big Book Sale
March 18, 19 and 20!
Set-up March 17
Pontchartrain Center.

**Approval of the
By-Laws and
2022 Annual Budget**
Masks Required - No Refreshments

P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, LA 70055
504-455-2665 friendsjpl@yahoo.com

Gaylord Boxes

The book sale committee is looking for used pallets and/or Gaylord boxes for packing books after the sale. If anyone can sell or donate either used pallets or used Gaylord boxes to us, please call 504-455-2665 or e-mail FriendsJPL@Yahoo.com. Pallets and Gaylord boxes must be in usable condition.

Thank you!

We're on FACEBOOK!!!

Check out the "Friends of the Jefferson Public Library" Facebook page!

"Like" us on Facebook to get our reminders and updates on the latest happenings and Friends events!



Like us on
Facebook

News Notes

Recent happenings at the Jefferson Public Library



JPL Staff

Above: Library Director Marylyn Haddican, center, accepts a check from Friends board member Jo Ann Rosenfeld, left, and President Diane Schleifstein. At right, member Judy Welcker poses with the quilt she won. The fundraiser netted \$234.00 for the Friends.



Patricia Cox

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Bill Memorial Library in Groton, CT

By Anna Campos



Exterior view of the Bill Memorial Library. Photo by Tim Campos.

Dedicated on June 19, 1890, the Bill Memorial Library was established by Frederic Bill, a native of Groton who began his career selling books in the United States and Canada. In 1888, he proposed to the citizens of Groton that he establish a library in memory of his two sisters, Eliza and Harriet. The library originally opened in an upper room of the First District schoolhouse and consisted of 1700 books selected by Mr. Bill.

In 1907, Mr. Bill renovated the library, enlarging the main reading room and adding a natural history room for his collection of birds, butterflies, and paintings.

A year after Mr. Bill's first wife died, he married Julia O. Avery, the first librarian of the Bill Library. The tombstones of all three Bills are located on the library grounds.

Today, the Bill Memorial Library houses 21,000 books and other materials. It has a reference room, children's room, and young adult section, and has a research collection for genealogy and local history. For more pictures of this beautiful building and more about its history, visit the library's website at <https://www.billmemorial.org/history>



Left: the children's room at the Bill Memorial Library. Right: a view of the shelves in the main room of the library. Photos by Anna Campos.



The Shadow Knows (and TELLS All)

Greetings, Fellow Booklovers. Good riddance to both 2020 and 2021. My wish is that we, The Friends, will all be blessed with a happier and more fruitful 2022!

Our Powers-That-Be have not been sleeping!

Nor have they been on vacation. Oh, no! The board, the sorters, the Store and the Amazon enterprise have been planning full steam ahead, two Big Book Sales and some other activities for you to enjoy. At this point, no one knows for sure which plans will come to fruition, but at least *ideas* are in place should the opportunities for them arise. As an example of Friends' dedication, **Anna Campos** reported to me on November 11, 2021, "The Library was closed for the Veterans holiday, but almost all of the sorters showed up for work." She added, "We mustn't have a life!" My thoughts about her observation are that, "It isn't that we don't *have* a life, but that our 'Friend-' ship is an integral *part* of our lives, and we are continuing as best we can with the tradition that has already been set."

The Friends always have a Plan B! It has been in effect since shut-down day, March 13, 2020. Since I have been keeping track for you, I'd like to share with you some of the more recent things that have been going on behind the scenes.

We have been finding good homes for our donated, used books and some other items! The puzzle mini sale in late October netted \$1,813.50, and the cookbook/holiday items/DVD sale on No-



Above: Diane Schleifstein took this picture of the puzzle mini sale. Below: the cookbook mini sale, photographed by Anna Campos.



vember 20 netted \$906. A quilt raffle brought in close to \$250. An enthusiastic crew showed up for set-up day for both sales; cashiers, floor staff and purchase runners to assist customers load their cars were on hand as needed. Every customer wanted to know when the next Big Book Sale was to be held.

Recently, the **Catholic Women in Action** approached the Friends in order to purchase 100 boxes of children's books to donate to needy schools, especially those affected by Hurricane Ida. They had raised the money to fund their purchase. That sale, coordinated by **Patricia Cox**, netted \$1,000.

See **The Shadow** page 7

We find good homes for used books.

The Shadow

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Another sale of books is scheduled for January 17, when **Thrift Books** will pick up the contents of one of our storage containers. They will pay the Friends a percentage of whatever they sell on-line. Some of the labor of palletizing the books will be undertaken by high school students seeking ways to earn service hours necessary for graduation. It seems to me this project is a triple win situation for all parties concerned!

Meanwhile, the **Amazon ladies** have been hard at work listing all they can sell on-line. November was a banner month, during which the ladies netted over \$5,100; December was profitable, also, with sales of \$3,800 being transferred to our account.

Sandra Blount and her trusty crew of packers have continued to provide **Raise-a-Reader** packets to **East Bank Ochsner**. This is a service the Friends provide to new mothers to encourage their children to become lifelong readers.

And lastly, According to **Manager Patricia Cox**, the Store is celebrating the best month of sales

since **December, 2019**. She reports that it took in almost \$3,500 in sales receipts—even with the store being closed for eight days. Had another week of sales been possible, they would have surpassed the 12/2019 benchmark.

The Store was closed for 85 days during 2021—almost three months, due to pandemic, Hurricane Ida, and other problematic weather. **Patricia** states that she and her staff are looking forward to more regular hours of operation in the coming months, and a calmer, quieter and healthier future in 2022.

If you have been inactive for a while, whenever you feel ready to rejoin the efforts of the Friends already in place, you will be welcome, plus any of your friends and relatives you can encourage to join our ranks. Lots of positions are open for the Book Sales, for sorting and to man the Store and Amazon. Trust me, the “Friend”-ship will be worth every minute of energy you expend on it.

Until next time,

Your “Friend”ly Shadow

“Books bombarded his shoulders, his arms, his upturned face. A book lit, almost obediently, like a white pigeon, in his hands, wings fluttering. In the dim, wavering light, a page hung open, and it was like a snowy feather, the words delicately painted thereon.”

—Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*

Holiday Party at WBR



After a year of delay, the Friends were finally able to host their Holiday Party at West Bank Regional Library on December 4th. Covid restrictions made it difficult for everyone to get together, but a few hardy souls came to celebrate. (Photos by Anna Campos)

*“It is still as distinct as Paradise--the opening of your first Book.”
--Emily Dickenson*

We find good homes for used books.

Friends of the Jefferson Public Library
Post Office Box 9391
Metairie, Louisiana 70055
455-2665

Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form

Please use this form to give your reasons for nominating one of our members as volunteer of the year. Please describe, in detail, your reasons for nominating this person. The committee will consider the work done in the past year, the number of hours expended, any office or committee chair the nominee holds, and his or her overall participation in Friends' activities. A list of previous recipients is printed on the reverse side of this page. Use more than one sheet of paper if necessary. Please return this form in person to the sorting center, email (or request an e-copy from) Anna Campos at camposanna@hotmail.com, or surface mail to P. O. Box 9391, Metairie, LA 70055, no later than May 1.

Name of nominee:

Why does this person deserve to be named Volunteer of the Year?

Your Name (optional):

(See back of form for a list of prior award winners.)

Volunteer of the Year Awards

1999: Ethel Tarleton
2000: Fay Bilby
2001: Judy Zawislak
2002: Peg Phelps
2003: Kathy Norton
2004: Brenda Huchingson
2005: Jack Weldon
2006: David Valentine & Carolyn Lindsay
2007: Blamid Sunseri
2008: Arlene Manguno & Joan Demers
2009: Ailleen Janney & Sue Hellwig
2010: Patricia Cox
2011: Anna Campos & Annette Centanni
2012: Chris deVillasana
2013: Jan DeVidts and Sandra Blount
2014: Mary Lou Spanja and Mary Anna Lightner
2015: Ted Blohm and Diane Davey
2016: Millie Spear and Paulette Mauterer
2017: Maria and Rodney Tujague
2018: Marie Breerwood
2019: Collette Ricaud
2020: Cheryl Ledet (Special Award)

Friends of Distinction Awards

2005: Lisa Conescu
2006: Patricia Cox
2007: Judy Zawislak & Peg Phelps
2008: Sally & John Hoffschwelle; Sandra Blount
2009: Mary Lou Spanja
2010: Marie Breerwood
2011: Kuniko Izumi & Kathy Pennington
2012: Maria Tujague & Rick Demers
2013: None
2014: Robert Campos and Ann Buchel
2015: Milly Spear
2016: Leslie Fall
2017: Judy Welcker
2018: Janice Paine
2019: Marie Orth

What's cooking at the Friends?

Jo Ann Rosenfeld served this tasty treat at the Friends' Holiday Party on the West Bank

Nina's Appetizer Meatballs *submitted to Allrecipes.com by Jody*

prep: 10 mins
cook: 1 hr 5 mins
total: 1 hr 15 mins
Servings: 20 appetizer servings

Ingredients

3 cups ketchup
1 (16 ounce) jar grape jelly
1 teaspoon garlic powder
salt and ground black pepper to taste
3 pounds frozen cooked meatballs

Directions

Instructions Checklist

Step 1

Stir ketchup and grape jelly together in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat; cook, stirring, until smooth, about 5 minutes. Stir garlic powder, salt, and pepper into ketchup mixture.

Step 2

Stir meatballs into ketchup mixture; simmer, stirring occasionally, until meatballs are hot and sauce is slightly thickened, about 1 hour.



Jo Ann Rosenfeld dishes up her meatballs. Photo by Anna Campos.

Cook's Note: I always use Heinz(R) Ketchup and Welch's(R) Grape Jelly. The frozen meatballs make it fast and effortless, but your own favourite cooked meatballs work just as well. I usually prepare the recipe the night before, then into the fridge overnight, then into the slow cooker to reheat for the buffet. The flavour really permeates the meatballs this way.

HAVE a recipe you'd like to share? E-mail a copy to camposanna@hotmail.com. Include a photo if you can.

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