

# Friends of San Lorenzo Library Newsletter

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## Annual Membership Meeting

The Friends annual membership meeting will be held Jan. 26 at 6 p.m. in the library meeting room. We will have light refreshments beginning at 5:45 p.m.

The annual meeting is when vacancies on the board of directors are filled. It is also an opportunity for Friends members and supporters to comment on library facilities and services and on the Friends organization. The library manager will be on hand to answer questions about the pending renovation of the library and to talk about a new library.

On the agenda of the board of directors that night will be discussion of whether Friends should lead a drive to raise funds from the community, business, and foundations for a new library.

## Help!

The Friends of the Library are people throughout San Lorenzo, Cherryland, Ashland, and hillside neighborhoods who believe that our library is an important community asset. We would get nothing done without the many members and nonmembers who actively participate in our work.

Enthusiastic volunteers are always needed, either for new tasks or to lend a hand in current activities. You set the amount of time you can volunteer -- no amount is too small.

We need someone to maintain our website, record the minutes of board meetings, work on book sales, represent us at special events, publish our newsletter, as well as serve on the Fundraising Committee.

If this is an offer you can't refuse, contact Howard Beckman (hpb@netvista.net, 278-7238).

## Friends Retire

Betty Moose, a longtime member of Friends, resigned as president at the November board meeting.

Betty has been a forceful advocate for the San Lorenzo Library as well as a key figure in the San Lorenzo community. She is president of the San Lorenzo Heritage Society, a driving force behind the Gray Panthers of Southern Alameda County, and was a trustee of the San Lorenzo Unified School District.

Betty also resigned from the board of directors as of the November meeting, before the expiration of her term in 2011. However, she will continue as an active participant in Friends, including her role as one of two Friends appointees to the county's San Lorenzo Library Advisory Committee.

In addition, Billie Rostad resigned from the board late this year, before the expiration of her term in January. Billie had also served as recording secretary at board meetings. She will continue to co-host the "Senior Outreach" program for Friends.

## Library Renovation

More specific plans for renovation of the San Lorenzo Library were released recently by the county library administration.

Work is expected to last from July through October, during which time the library will not be open for service. Two major changes are planned. Shelving will be replaced and a new raised floor will be constructed to allow computer connections throughout the library.

We are concerned that the amount of shelf space may be less than what we have now and that the large investment in "renovation" could be better set aside for construction of a new library.

Library manager Anthony dos Santos will talk about these plans, and answer questions, at the Friends annual membership meeting Jan. 26.

## Membership Committee

Earlier this year the Friends board created a Membership Committee to maintain relations with members and to recruit new members.

Promoting Friends throughout the San Lorenzo Library community -- including San Lorenzo, Cherryland, Ashland, and hillside neighborhoods -- is essential to building our credibility as the community's voice in library affairs. And it is an essential responsibility as a state-chartered nonprofit educational corporation.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Natalie Kent, includes three members of the board. We would like to have many members participate in this committee, since effective recruitment requires intimate knowledge of the many neighborhoods within the San Lorenzo Library community. How should we approach people? What should we tell them?

If you would like to help develop Friends into a strong network of library supporters, contact Natalie ([nkentszlibrary@aol.com](mailto:nkentszlibrary@aol.com)), (510) 461-2475.

## Book Sales

The exact date for our next book sale has not been set, but it will be sometime in Feb/March. The book sales are our major source of revenue, much of which is contributed to the library for special programs and services. The sales require many, many volunteers, and would not be possible without the dedication of a core group of members.

Planning for book sales this year has been complicated by the planned closing of the library in July - October. We hope we can find a place to hold a book sale during that period, as well as store books before and after the sale.

Ideas? Can you help? Call Betty Moose (278-2094) or e-mail Natalie Kent ([nkentszlibrary@aol.com](mailto:nkentszlibrary@aol.com)).

## Our Website

For up to date information on board of director meetings, book sales, and news you won't get anywhere else, visit our website at

[www.FriendsofSanLorenzoLibrary.org](http://www.FriendsofSanLorenzoLibrary.org)

We need someone to maintain the website. If interested, contact Howard Beckman ([hpb@netvista.net](mailto:hpb@netvista.net)).

### Board of Directors

- Howard Beckman
- Jean Boulton
- Marilynne Dias
- Natalie Kent
- Carl Webb