A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
RIO RANCHO, NEW MEXICO

# Bookfriends

2013, Vol. I

## A Message From Our President, Mary Roskom

Spring is certainly in the air as I write this! With Spring comes our Annual FOLRR Luncheon where the Friends honor all volunteers & pay special tribute to the Volunteer of the Year. This year is no exception. ***It should be a great time, so save the date Friday, April 5.*** This meeting is also the time when we elect new Board members. We encourage you all to think seriously about running for a Board position since we do accept write-ins on the ballot.

Looking back over this past year, I can hardly believe that the Friends accomplished all that we did! One thing we did out of necessity, the occasional two-day monthly book sale, has exceeded expectations. In addition to helping us manage our inventory, it has been a great revenue source. Adding the ability to accept credit cards has also been a sales booster, both at the monthly sales & in Loma Colorado's FriendShop. We've also been able to dispose of excess inventory & Library withdrawals through an agreement with the City of Rio Rancho & Better World Books. This collaboration has helped struggling libraries & school districts, and it has been another source of revenue for the Friends.

Second Saturday Book Sale volunteers showing off the new credit card system.

This past September the Friends celebrated our 30th anniversary with a dinner & silent auction at Chamisa Hills Country Club. We had a superb time, made some new Friends, & made some money on the wonderful array of silent auction items. We've made some changes in inventory/inventory control at Esther Bone's FriendShop. What a difference it has made to have our book collections look the same at both FriendShops, with the same pricing. The Friends continued our scholarship award for Library staff & paid for several staff to attend work-related meetings. Furthermore, our Books for Babies program has expanded nicely this year, & we are now exploring grant opportunities to bring this program to both local hospitals. The Friends continued the funding of programs at both Libraries & have added some nice incentives for the Summer Reading Program participation. I must mention the wonderful, talented staff members at both Loma Colorado & Esther Bone who plan such marvelous programs. All of this is possible because of the exceptional volunteers within our organization, as well as other organizations such as the Civitans, who regularly help us set up & tear down the monthly book sales. ***I thank you all for your donations of books, money, time & effort—all the things you do that make Rio Rancho a great place to live & our libraries great places to learn!*** 🕮

A record crowd of Friends at the Holiday Luncheon last December.

## New Volunteers with Fresh Ideas Needed!

***Please think:*** Do you have a friend, neighbor or family member who wants or needs to get out of the house? Do you know people who want to do something that doesn't cost anything & is VERY rewarding? Maybe they can trade babysitting with a friend. Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, Inc. is made for them! There are few qualifications—mainly honesty & willingness to learn simple procedures. No experience needed—we will train! FOLRR is an all-volunteer organization, but volunteer work looks good on a resume for employment, too. Have them call us at 892-7323. We will be very happy to return their calls & explain what FOLRR is all about! 🕮

# The FriendShop at Esther Bone Memorial Library

*By Rita Armijo, Board Member*

Have you visited Esther Bone Memorial Library's FriendShop lately? We are very proud of our small shop & work hard to provide a variety of very good quality, gently used paperback & hardback books. Pat Hargrave, Board member Karen Reinhold, & I restock the shelves two or three times each week, so there are always different titles to browse. Kathleen Marr, former Board member & retired children's librarian, & Doug Thomas reorganized the shop to make it easier to find your favorite author. Also, now the quality of the books & the book prices are the same as those at Loma Colorado Main Library's FriendShop. At both locations, our smaller paperbacks are $1.00 each, larger trade paperbacks are $1.50 each, our fiction hardback books are $2.00 each, and nonfiction hardback & paperback books are priced as marked.

Rita in the back room preparing to restock the shelves.

Please come in, sit in a lovely, comfortable chair, browse our fine books, select a few, and pay on the honor system by dropping your payment in the slot in the side door. We are always looking for ways to improve, so if you have any suggestions, please drop them in the same slot.

Remember that your donations of gently used books should be taken to Loma Colorado Main Library to the book hutch shown below.

## Gently Used Book Donations & Book Hutch

We can only accept book donations at our book hutch outside of Loma Colorado Main Library (LCML):

- Drive to the far right of the Library, into the Employee Parking area.
- Place your bagged or boxed donations inside the unpainted wooden donation hutch (shown in this photo ), which is located against the northern wall of LCML .
- If you would like a receipt for tax purposes, please drive to the main lot by the Library's front door, park, enter the library, and go directly to the Friends' Shop.

## The Holiday

Seven delighted door prize winners show off their autographed first-edition books, Friends' cookbooks & t-shirts, Don Wolfe photograph, & gift certificate to O'Hare's Grille & Pub.

Catching up with Friends!

# Amazon.com ~ What a Revenue Booster!

*By Dianne Mayeda, Friends' Treasurer*

Selling gently used books donated by our community is the main source of income for the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, Inc. To maximize our ability to fund Library programs, we sell the more valuable books that are in very good condition on Amazon.com. We are very grateful to Linda Downey, former Board member, for starting the Friends' online account several years ago & training other volunteers to carry on.

Our online book sales on Amazon.com have been hugely successful due to the hard work of many volunteers! Thank you all! First, every Thursday morning the "price & sort" volunteers choose books they think may be valuable enough for listing on the Friends' account. Next, Kathy Lowry, Mary Roskom, Kathleen Marr, former Board member Kim Newell, & several other volunteers research the book values online. Lastly, Bruce Goodman & I list the books for sale on the Friends' account. When a book sells, one of us wraps it & takes it to the post office. Kathleen Marr also listed books for several years before beginning to prepare to move out of state. Kathleen & I spent a year researching & listing a backlog of over 45 boxes of books kept in a rented storage unit. In doing so, we were able to close the storage unit & save the Friends that rental expense. Within the next month, several more volunteers will be trained to list books as well. Since Linda set up our account, the Friends have had over 3,000 books listed!

I would like to share a couple of lovely comments that I recently received from our Amazon.com customers.

📖 "The Friends of the Library are good people indeed. The second book I've purchased from them & the second flawless transaction. Just what I expected. If you want a book & they have it for sale, look nowhere else. Just buy. You'll be glad you did."

📖 "These people are stellar! Prompt, courteous, helpful responses to email requests for information – something that is not at all typical of Amazon Marketplace sellers. Item as described. Pricing very fair. Well packaged. I couldn't be more pleased. Everyone in the Amazon Community should try to live up to their standards. It would be a pleasure & a privilege to buy from them again."

**Editor's note:** ***Words cannot express our thanks to Dianne for her COUNTLESS HOURS & VERY HARD WORK far above & beyond the call!*** 📖

# Luncheon 2012

Just before Mr. Cicola's introduction of the heartwarming video "That's What Friends Are For" prepared by the Library staff.

Superb food — especially the little cheesecake squares which are a Friends' tradition!

**Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, Inc.**
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**Rio Rancho, NM 87174**

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**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, 12–8 P.M.
Friday-Saturday, 9 A.M.–1 P.M.

***Bookfriends***, the Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho's newsletter, is published three or more times a year. Members' comments & contributions are welcome. Please email us at info@FOLRR.org or mail material, including your phone number, to Newsletter Editor, Friends of the Library of Rio Rancho, PO Box 15143, Rio Rancho, NM 87174.

## *Upcoming Events & Dates*

**Visit FOLRR.org or call us at 89-2READ for details.**

## *Annual Membership Meeting & Volunteers Recognition Luncheon*

**Friday, April 5th**
**11:30am to 1:00pm**

***Loma Colorado Main Library Auditorium***

All members are invited & welcomed to enjoy lunch together, hear first-hand about the Friends' achievements over the past year, vote in the election of members to the Board, & perhaps go home with a special door prize!

## *GIANT Book Sales*

***Loma Colorado Main Library Auditorium***

Second Saturday every month!

**Saturday, April 13**
**10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

**May 11, June 8**
**July 13, & Aug 10**