



HBFOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020



BARD STREET BOOKSTORE UPDATE

The bookstore has been closed since March 2020 in compliance with city, county, and state safety mandates resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, the immediate future of the bookstore is uncertain because the Hermosa Beach Police Department has requested that the HBFOL vacate its space on Bard Street in light of increasing nationwide safety and security concerns for police and public employees. A committee of HBFOL officers is working with the City of Hermosa Beach and the HBPD to find a workable solution to continue its 61-year-old mission of substantial financial support for the Hermosa Beach Library. The most attractive and realistic of several options under consideration is to move into or adjacent to the Community Center on Pier Avenue. For further information as negotiations progress, a new location is chosen, and the move gets underway, check our website: hbfol.org.

A SHORT HISTORY

When the HBFOL was founded in 1949, its primary source of funding came from membership dues, memorial donations, and gifts from the business community. Eventually, quarterly Saturday morning sales of donated books in front of the library on Pier Avenue became a major source of revenue. These sales attracted many more book donations, and the Friends needed an adequate space to store, display, and sell its bounty, so the FOL negotiated an agreement with the City of Hermosa Beach to occupy one of the vacant spaces on Bard Street behind Stars Antiques (formerly Mrs. Gooch's). Eventually the days and hours of sales operation were expanded; the current Bookstore Manager, Sue DeLaCamp, and a group of volunteers were keeping the store open Mondays from 9 a.m. to noon, Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the third Saturday of every month. Access to Bard Street was available during open hours through the security gates on 11th Place and Pier Avenue. The pandemic ended this schedule,

FOLLOWING THE MONEY

All profits from book sales have always gone to the library, and by extension to the Hermosa Beach community. This considerable help has taken the form of books, DVDs, CDs, magazine and newspaper subscriptions, computers, furniture, funding for children's programs, adult programs, entertainment and crafts supplies for children's reading programs, refreshments for special events, and miscellaneous library supplies. In 2019 the HBFOL gave the library \$10,900, of which \$8,440 was spent and the remainder carried over; the projected funding for 2020 is \$11,280, most of which has remained unspent because of the county-wide public library closure. However, the library remains active during the shutdown through sidewalk pickup service of holds and printing requests. (As a final note, the FOL donated fabric which was used by library staff to sew masks for employees.)

2020 and 2021 HBFOL OFFICERS

The Hermosa Beach Friends of the Library met at the Bard Street Bookstore on January 7, 2020, to elect officers for the current year. The results:

President: Howard Seeb

Vice-President: Dorothy Yost

Secretary: Pat Roberts

Treasurer: George Ceman

We are very sad to report that Howard Seeb passed away on June 11 after a long and difficult battle with cancer. He first served as HBFOL president beginning in 2013 and again from 2016-2020 and was an important liaison for our organization through his community ties and friendships. Most notably, he was an active member and past president of the Kiwanis Club, and he was involved in the ongoing study to relocate or remodel the Hermosa Beach library building.

Since his passing, Vice-President Dorothy Yost has been serving as interim president. In September, Pat Roberts resigned as Secretary and was replaced by Linda Marr, and Robin Lehrer, a longstanding bookstore volunteer, was appointed and confirmed as interim Vice President for the rest of 2020.

2021 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee appointed by Interim President Dorothy Yost has proposed the following slate of officers. Additional nominations are welcome.

President: Open

Vice-President: Robin Lehrer

Secretary: Linda Marr

Treasurer: George Ceman

Bookstore Operations Manager: Sue DeLaCamp

The election will take place at the HBFOL Board meeting on November 18, location to be announced on our website and on a sign which will be posted at the rear entrance of the library near the sidewalk service table.

BOOK DONATIONS

We ask for your understanding while we are unable to have access to the Bard Street location until the week of November 26. If possible, please save your donations of books, DVDs, and CDs until we are open to the public once again. Otherwise, please leave a message at the library (310-379-8475) and a volunteer will contact you about picking up or taking donations to an alternate location. You can also contact us by email: hermosabeachfol@gmail.com.

HOW TO HELP THE HERMOSA BEACH LIBRARY AND THE HBFOL DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME:

1. **Renew your membership for 2021.** Use the enclosed envelope or the coupon at the foot of the page. Dues help defray the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter. They also help to pay for library acquisitions and special events.

2. **Make an additional end-of year gift by using the enclosed envelope.**

Check the mailing label for your current membership status and and renew by mail or in person at the library or bookstore. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE SUPPORT!**

THE HERMOSA BEACH FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, AT 2:30 P.M. TO ELECT OFFICERS FOR 2021. THE LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THE WEBSITE: hbfol.org. ALL CURRENT AND FUTURE INTERESTED MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR HBFOL MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021: YOUR DUES ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL HELP TO PAY FOR PRINTING & MAILING OUR NEWSLETTER. DUES RECEIVED THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020, WILL EXTEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH DECEMBER OF 2021.

FRIEND: \$10, FAMILY: \$25, PATRON: \$50, LIFETIME: \$500

Fill out the enclosed envelope or use this form. Include your check and mail to HBFOL, P.O. Box 515, Hermosa Beach CA 90254. Another option: use the **donate** link on the hbfol.org home page. **We accept PayPal.**

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

E-mail _____ OK to send newsletter via e-mail? _____

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 515,
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

