

April 2007
A Letter from your President ~

"Love the one you're with."
 Folk singer and pragmatist, Stephen Stills

A Tale of Two Libraries: *Future* and *Present*

In the future, a new Mission Hills-Hillcrest public library branch will be constructed at the corner of Washington and Front Streets. Excitement about the new building was generated last year when our Friends group convened two public meetings to elicit community input into the design process. After that, there was a vacuum of information.

What happened? Library planning was halted for months while city code compliance issues were resolved. Now, the architects are again moving forward on the design of our new library. In the *future* our neighborhood branch library will be almost four times larger and offer many amenities, including a community room for meetings and events.

While planning for this *future* library is vitally important, a construction date for our new branch is very uncertain due to the city's financial woes. For that reason, the Library Friends group is keeping one foot firmly in the present.

At present, we enjoy a lively and vibrant branch library with a caring staff and dedicated Friends. Among its many services, our branch offers programs involving hundreds of children, hosts adult reading groups and a "meet the authors" series, provides community access computers, and makes available all the books, CDs, DVDs, and cassettes that can be shelved in the facility.

All these community library services flow from a small building that is showing its age and the heavy wear and tear of a busy public space.

The Friends group has decided to liven up the interior and the landscaping of the library--to make our **present** library as inviting and serviceable as possible. Initially I was skeptical. Is an investment in our old building worthwhile? Then I realized that our neighborhood children will move through several grade levels before the new building is a reality. Improvements to the existing building will be enjoyed by our children and every user of the library--not for months, but for years.

Right now, at **present**, we can breathe new life into the building we have. I invite you to join the Friends in this project and in our many other library support activities.

Nancy Carol Carter
 President, MH-H Friends of the Library

Branch Library Schedule:

Monday & Wednesday....12:30pm – 8:00pm
 Tuesday & Thursday....9:30am – 5:30pm
 Friday 12:30pm – 5:30pm; Saturday 9:30am – 2:30pm

Every Tuesday morning during the school year....Preschool Story Time 10:30am
First Thursday of each month..... Friends of the MH-H Library meeting 6:30pm
First Thursday of each month..... Mission Hills Book Discussion Group 10:00am
Every 2nd and 3rd Wednesday of the month during the school year....PJ Story Time 6:00pm
Third Saturday of each month.....Friends Book Sale 9:30am - 12:30pm
Fourth Wednesday of each month..... Mission Hills Mystery Book Discussion Group 6:30pm
May 28thlibrary closed

Membership/Renewal Application

Annual (Spring 07–Spring 08) FMH-HBL member dues (please circle)
 Sponsor \$25 Contributor/Business \$100
 Family \$10 Patron \$200
 Individual \$5 Life Member \$250
 Senior \$3 Benefactor \$500

Friends of the Library is a legitimate 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization
Your donation may be tax deductible

Name

Address City Zip

(Home) Phone Number (Work) Phone Number

Email address (will not be disclosed to outside parties)

May we include your name on lists of branch library supporters in our newsletter? _____

**4th Annual
 Green Eggs & Ham Breakfast
 @ Mission Hills-Hillcrest Branch Library**

In celebration of Dr. Seuss' 104th birthday, a preschool class from Fleur de Lis and a kindergarten class from St. Vincent de Paul school were invited to the Library for a reading of *Green Eggs and Ham* and to enjoy a real green eggs and ham breakfast, cooked and served by the library staff. More than 50 children and 15 parents/teachers participated in the program. Everyone had a grand time!



Photo, L-R:
 Parent Abel Kaase; Student Lauren Kaase; Teacher Kathy Browne



Celebrate National Library Week!!

April 15th through the 21st is National Library Week – a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries, librarians and library workers in schools, campuses and communities nationwide – and the perfect time for the Mission Hills, Hillcrest, Old Town, Bankers Hill, Park West and Middletown communities to come together @ your library.

Free Coffee and Pastry!!

The Mission Hills-Hillcrest Branch Library is celebrating National Library Week by offering free coffee and pastries to our patrons during our regularly scheduled morning hours. This is your opportunity to check out a new movie, read the newspaper or a magazine, send an email message, enjoy story time with your preschooler, or find a bestseller to read while sipping coffee and nibbling on a pastry.

Everyday, libraries in cities and towns, colleges and universities, and schools and businesses help transform their communities. At the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Branch Library, people from throughout our service area can come together for community meetings, lectures, and programs; to do research; to find homework help; to discuss a book; and to borrow library material.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April.



*The Friends collect used cell phones and ink jet cartridges to raise money. Also, we always need good used books
PLEASE bring your donations to the library.*

Remember!

April 19th Friends Program –
 Johnnierenee Nelson, poetry reading 7:00pm

E-Newsletter Coming

Do the Friends have your email address? We are improving how we do business. Due to the rising costs of printing and mailing our "Branch Buzz" we will soon transition to emailing our newsletter "bcc" email (bcc means the email distribution line will not display any personal email address.)

This will allow us the opportunity to send the "Branch Buzz" more often than in the past.

Please renew or become a member TODAY and give us your email address—we will not disclose it to anyone but will use it only for limited Library communications.

Extra copies will, as before, be available at the Library.

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A** JOIN or RENEW your membership in the Friends of the MH-HBL during this first Annual Spring Membership Drive and win a chance for the opportunity drawing!

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S** Join/renew in the months of April, May or June to have your name entered for that month's raffle prize!

See application for membership categories and mail it and your payment to the Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest library today to be entered into the April Drawing.

!!! 1st month's winner to be chosen on 1 May, 2007

Friends of the San Diego Public Library
 820 E St, San Diego, CA 92101
 A California Tax Exempt Corporation for the

Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library

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