

## Winter 2007

From your President ~

### ALMOST TWO BILLION SERVED



More than a decade after some experts predicted that a pervasive Internet would mean the demise of the nation's library systems, exactly the opposite has happened.

The latest national statistics show a 61% increase in visits to public libraries in the United States between 1994 and 2004. In fiscal year 2004, 1.8 billion public library visitors checked out more than 2 billion items.

Members of the Friends take pride in our association with this "growth industry" known as the public library. We celebrate the vibrancy and popularity of our own neighborhood library. Right here at our branch an increasing number of children imagine and learn at the library. At the same time, library users of every age find a wealth of knowledge and entertainment. And right here, our library meaningfully addresses the information divide by assuring free Internet access to all.

We look to the day when a new and much larger Mission Hills-Hillcrest branch library is built at Washington and Front Streets. Meanwhile, our small building is showing its age (has our carpet served two billion feet?), but there is a way for the community to help.

The Friends are leading an effort to make the present library building as inviting and comfortable as possible until our new library is opened. To that end, we are raising funds to replace the carpet and cheer up the paint and furniture in our building. We invite the community to join this effort—by attending our fund-raising events, patronizing our monthly book sales, by joining the Friends, or with a direct financial contribution to our non-profit organization. Let's work together to strengthen our local stake in a great and still-growing American institution: the public library.

---Nancy Carol Carter

Thanks to Suzanne Gray <http://suzannegray.com/webfeet.htm> for use of above image.



The Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library  
present

*Cowboy vs Samurai*

**Sunday, December 9th at 2 P.M.**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theater at 930 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
**San Diego CA 92101**

**"Proceeds Will Be Used To Refurbish Library"**

*In this savagely funny re-telling of Edmond Rostand's Cyrano de Bergerac, English teacher Travis Park is the only Korean American living in the small town of Breakneck, Wyoming. When beautiful Veronica Lee arrives, she stirs up questions about love and race, and Travis must choose ... but who's who in this struggle between cowboy and samurai?*

The Friends of the Mission Hills/Hillcrest library are hosting a fundraiser for the library at the Mo`olelo production at the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theater. Join us for a show as well as post-show discussion "Behind the Scenes: The Process of Producing A Play" with the director of the show, along with wine and cheese.

**Tickets: \$30 each.**  
**To book tickets, pay by cash or check at:**  
**Mission Hills Library, 925 W. Washington St.,**  
**San Diego, CA 92103-1895**

### Thank You

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I want to thank each and every one of you who attended my talk on October 25th. It was a week wracked by anxiety, fear, high adrenaline, and for some, loss. San Diegans had much on their minds, so I truly appreciated those who made it to my presentation. Your attention, questions, and enthusiasm made the 800-mile trip worthwhile. I look forward to reconnecting with all of you some time in the future.

Meanwhile, enjoy many mysteries!

Sincerely,  
Morgan Hunt "Meet the Author", October 2007

### Holiday hours



#### December

Monday, 12/24/07 9:30 - 5:30  
 Tuesday, 12/25/07 through Tuesday, 1/1/08 CLOSED

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE**  
**AVAILABLE FOR \$40.00**

Friends always welcome your used book donations

**Hooray for US**

2007 membership statistics

| Category             | \$    | #     | Total   |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| Senior               | \$3   | 10    | \$30    |       |
| Individual           | \$5   | 11    | \$55    |       |
| Family               | \$10  | 30    | \$300   |       |
|                      | \$20  | \$20  | 1       | \$20  |
| Sponsor              | \$25  | 53    | \$1,325 |       |
|                      | \$35  | \$35  | 2       | \$70  |
|                      | \$45  | \$45  | 1       | \$45  |
|                      | \$50  | \$50  | 3       | \$150 |
| Contributor/Business | \$100 | 10    | \$1,000 |       |
|                      | \$200 | \$200 | 2       | \$400 |
| Life                 | \$250 | 3     | \$750   |       |
| Benefactor           | \$500 | 2     | \$1,000 |       |

We are 128 members who have, together, paid \$5145 this year to be a "Friend of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library"; our membership is year-to-year and we count on our community for support.

Your membership, at any level, is a statement of your commitment to our community branch library; it is tangible evidence that you value our branch library.

Members receive the Branch Buzz and may receive invitations by post card or email to Friends functions.

Here is a list of library activities and needs paid for by the Friends during the past year:

- Family programs
- Children's programs
- Arts & crafts supplies
- Matching Library Materials Fund
- Essay Contest Award Ceremonies
- Summer Reading Program incentives
- Sparkletts drinking water for patrons
- Printing & supplies for program flyers
- Library processing supplies

**THANKS!**



**Ginny Ollis, Paula Keenan, Celese Dunn,  
 Meghan Bach, Julie Ruyle.  
 1621 W. Lewis St., 92103 619-297-9910**

*For subsidizing this issue of the Newsletter*

**One Thoughtful Decision**

It only takes one thoughtful decision to enrich the lives of many people. Children, adults, teenagers, the elderly - everyone in our neighborhood will benefit.

It's not magic, nor does it take much time. How can YOU help to bring this about? **MAKE A GENEROUS DONATION TO THE FRIENDS OF MISSION HILLS-HILLCREST LIBRARY.**

Your Thoughtfulness May Also Make Good Financial Sense

There are many ways to give and your thoughtfulness in making a charitable donation often can provide beneficial reductions of federal and state tax obligations. The following suggestions are informational only. The Friends urge you to discuss your specific circumstances and thoughts about a charitable donation with your professional financial and tax advisors. \*\*\*

- A gift of stocks and bonds can easily be accomplished. Highly appreciated securities often can result in a more substantial gift than you might have envisioned by:
  - significantly reducing out-of-pocket costs; and
  - eliminating all capital gains tax for the transfer of the securities.
- IRA accounts can be donated using a unique charitable opportunity that may very well disappear after this year. Before December 31, 2007, individuals who are at least 70.5 years of age may avoid taxation normally paid on IRA distributions by transferring an IRA account directly to a charitable organization. Under this special Congressional legislation:
  - the distribution and gift can be up to \$100,000;
  - there is no tax on the distribution;
  - the donation from the account counts toward your annual required IRA distributions; and
  - married couples with separate IRA accounts may make separate donations, each up to \$100,000.
- Cash gifts are, of course, always welcome. Checks may be made out to *Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library (or FMH-HL)* and delivered or mailed to the Friends at the Mission Hills Library, 925 W. Washington St., San Diego, CA 92103.

With a gift of any kind, the Friends invite you to make that one thoughtful decision. Please join in our charitable mission of library support and community enhancement.

\*\*\*This invitation to support the charitable work of the Friends should not be construed as professional financial advice and is not offered as expert tax advice.

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**Our 1<sup>st</sup> annual membership drive was VERY successful—  
 Thanks to you!**

**Our final month's winner won a \$100 gift certificate to  
COYOTE CAFÉ In Old Town**

**Become a FRIEND in 2008!**

Watch this space Spring 2008 for more opportunities to win fun stuff. See website <http://www.library92103.org/> for membership categories & send payment to the Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest library **BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR** to be entered **TWICE** in the first drawing of 2008.

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 820 E St, San Diego, CA 92101  
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**Friends of the Mission Hills-Hillcrest Library**  
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