



# Friend to Friend

Newsletter

Number 52  
**Summer  
2010**

**Special points of interest:**

- 14th Book Sale Results
- Friendship Garden Photos
- June 17—HCL Honors FOHCL
- Thank You, Volunteers!!!

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## 14th Annual Book Sale—Like Clockwork

Our 14th Annual Book Sale—April 9-11, 2010, went like clockwork! Almost perfect in every way.

We are slightly ahead of last year in gross sales—so having the sale two weeks earlier than usual didn't seem



to have an adverse affect. And the weather cooperated—sunny and beautiful and not as hot as last year.

After no food last year, Boy Scout Troop 288 from Annandale sold coffee for the early birds, and provided snacks and lunch items both Saturday



and Sunday. Book sale customers appreciated it and the Troop was pleased with their level of sales—saying they covered all expenses with their

Saturday sales. Thanks to Tonie Hockenbury for signing them up.

**RESULTS:** Gross income was approximately \$92,000—the expenses are still coming in.

This year the committee purchased hundreds of boxes—and guarded them with their lives (almost) as we will be able to reuse them next year—reducing box expenses to almost nothing next year. A stat most of you may not know, we packed over 129,000 items into 3,004 boxes!

Thanks to Penny (who now knows more about boxes than she ever dreamed), as well as Lynn and Diane (pictured below from left), among others, we flattened and saved the vast majority of “our” boxes — also like clockwork.

One other expense we decided to incur this year was to rent tent shelters at the book drives and as bus stops at the Armory (see

photo) and the Library for overflow customers. These shelters were welcome protection from the winds and sun, but thankfully not from rain this year. The Link buses ran, again like clockwork, shuttling almost 1,500 people on Saturday and Sunday.



**MORE STATS:** Our counters and cashiers wrote up and collected on almost 4,500 sales slips (about 400 more than last year). At the peak, there were almost 500 cars parked at the Armory and in the overflow spaces at the Headquarters Library.

There is one group of individuals that gets “first shot” at the book sale—before any customers: the Friends invite all the librarians from Hunterdon County Libraries to select items for their collections on

Thursday morning before the book sale begins. This year Headquarters, North County Branch and six community libraries sent their representatives. These items are free to and greatly valued by the libraries. The book sale



ended with 61 educational and other nonprofit organizations gleaning for free from our leftovers. We are proud to offer both of these services to our community.

**PRIVATE SALE:** Sixty tickets @ \$60 were sold this year—providing income of \$3,600 to fund the 2010 “Books for the College Bound” Scholarships to be awarded this year (more on this in the next newsletter).

**NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY:** This was our 12th year at the Armory. National Guardsmen and women and Armorer Matt Davala continue to be tremendous help and great supporters of our book sale. We can’t thank them enough. We especially appreciate their flexibility in allowing us to hold our book sale two weeks early this year so they could hold their deploying ceremonies at the end of April.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Once again this year, we had over 200 volunteers. An average of 42, up from 36 individuals last year, sorted and performed a variety of other duties each week day. The Saturday book drives brought out another loyal group of volunteers, some of whom can’t volunteer on weekdays. Almost 150 people “work” the sale weekend.



**THANK YOUS:** First we wish to thank our community for recycling their treasured books to benefit the Hunterdon Library System (and of course for coming to replenish the holes on their bookshelves). We also thank Shop Rite for their donations; the Raritan Township Police for their help with parking and

traffic management; and the newspapers and township newsletters for their coverage. Thanks also to the County staff and to the Library staff for their support—especially when we realized our book sale was the same weekend as the electronics recycling drop-off. Here again, all went like clockwork.

We thank all our volunteers (some are pictured in this newsletter) who are too numerous to name but to whom we owe the success of our Book Sale.

We commend the Book Sale Committee members for their extraordinary commitment of time and talents. They are: Co-Chairs Hollie Annatone and Bill Newitt. Also Jean Allured, Linda Beck, Helen Brown, Peggy Bryers, Jackie Cady, Dan Dawson, Penny Gallagher, Jan Gibas, Ron Hiles, Tonie Hockenbury, Amy Hollander, Milly Jagel, Joan Morgan, Kay Parker, Mary Ellen Soldavin, Bob Spielberger and Theresa Stoveken.

## Quotes We Like:

**“Seeing you here is a real antidote for winter. It’s like Santa Claus at the end of the Thanksgiving Day Parade. Spring is coming!”**

**Heard while putting up first book drive signs on March 3**

**“It’s the highlight of my year!”**

**Kathleen Letko, Glen Gardner, first book drive**

## Co-Presidents’ Message

It is with a great sense of accomplishment that we begin our last letter to the members of FOHCL. Our second term of office will be up this summer and a new president will be elected in June.

the furnishing and decorating of our special Friends Conference Room (on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of HQ) and the Friendship Gardens, also at HQ, along with many other “gifts” to the library during these years.



The Book Sale is something we continue to be in awe of – the hours that all volunteers are able to spare to foster the love of books in the community and also the increasing number of people that come and shop.

We have been honored to serve for four years. A lot has been accomplished, including



We feel that the love of the library is a county-wide feeling, except maybe with some members of



our Board of Chosen Freeholders.

**Pictured from left: Some of the first daffodils (photo taken 4/5/10), our first peonies and roses (4/24/10) and our iris (5/7/10) all planted last fall.**



We are greatly concerned that the prevailing “save money” trend at the county and state levels will severely derail the library’s place in our community – it is always learning and the arts that take the first cuts. We urge all members of FOHCL to support Mark Titus and the Library Commission in their support of the library for ALL of our sakes.

We thank all of you for your support.

*Mary Ellen and Jean*

# News

**N**EXT GATHERING: HCL honors FOHCL Book Sale Volunteers: Join us as we celebrate the success of our 14th Book Sale, honor our scholarship winners and hold elections for our President and Treasurer on Thursday, June 17 at the Hunterdon County Library Meeting Room (Route 12) at 7 PM. Refreshments will be served and in case you've been missing your fellow sorters and lifters, they'll be there too.

**MEMBER NEWS:** Congratulations to Amy Hollander on her new position as

Executive Director of the Red Mill Museum Village.

Quoted: Carol Girgus of Lebanon who said her least favorite spring cleaning chore is getting rid of the coal dust from the coal stove in her fireplace.



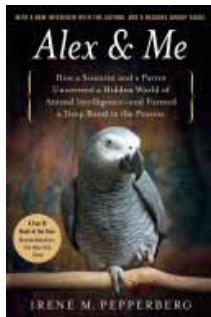
**Pictured right: Early birds on Saturday line up at 6:07 a.m.—before most of the volunteers arrive at the Armory. (That's except, of course, for**

**Tonie, who's already inside preparing food for the volunteers. Thank you, Tonie!)**

## The Friends Book Discussion Club

**I**t's summer time and the reading's easy! Come join the FOHCL Book Club! We meet every month to discuss the title and enjoy great conversation with book lovers like you.

We've got a great line-up this season: June – *The Woods* by Harlan



Coben; July – *Alex and Me* by Irene Pepperberg; August – *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

Please check the website for the complete list of books, meeting dates, locations and links to other sites like

“One Book New Jersey.”

If you have any further questions or would like to join the FOHCL Book Club, please contact me at 908.996.0054 or via email at [rking100@yahoo.com](mailto:rking100@yahoo.com).

We look forward to meeting you!

*Renée Alliegro*

**How to find the Friends web page: Go to the library website: <http://www.hclibrary.us> Choose the Friends link, then choose the book club link.**

## Contacts & Important Dates

**Hunterdon County Library (HQ)**  
Flemington, NJ – (908) 788-1444

**North County Branch Library (NC)**  
Clinton, NJ – (908) 730-6262

**South County Branch Library (SC)**  
Ringoos, NJ – (908) 782-3564

**Member Community Libraries are:**

**Bunnvale**—(908) 638-8884

**Frenchtown**—(908) 996-4788

**High Bridge**—(908) 638-8231

**Holland Alexandria**—

(908) 995-4767

**Readington**—(908) 534-4421

**Tewksbury**—(908) 439-3761

**Three Bridges**—(908) 782-2908

### Important Dates - 2010

June 17—HCL hosts reception to celebrate FOHCL book sale volunteers—7 PM (HQ)

### Officers and Committees

Co-Presidents: Mary Ellen Soldavin and Jean Allured

Vice President: Hollie Annatone

Secretary: Peggy Bryers

Treasurer: Penny Gallagher

*We are always looking for new committee members. Feel free to contact any of the following individuals (all telephone numbers are 908 area codes).*

**Book Sale:** Bill Newitt 806-6616, Hollie Annatone 806-8016 and Mary Ellen Soldavin 996-4512

**Book Scholarship:** Joan Wolsiefer 782-5975

### Community Library Liaisons:

Stephanie Baggaley 782-6878 and Helen Brown 735-8166

**Computer Records:** Hollie Annatone 806-8016 and Jeannie Raffin 806-6445

**Membership:** Jeannie Raffin 806-6445

**Outreach:** Peggy Bryers 782-6204

**Programs:** Milly Jagel 236-6473

**Publicity:** Jean Allured 735-7811



**Friends of the Hunterdon  
County Library**

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**Summer 2010  
Newsletter**

**The Friends Know  
How to Move Books!**

## Director's Message

We've been getting a lot of questions from our Friends lately about the funding situation for libraries in New Jersey and specifically here in Hunterdon County.

Governor Chris Christie is proposing to cut \$10.4 million from the NJ State Library's budget. This would amount to a 74% cut in statewide library services.

All NJ libraries would get a 50% cut in per capita state aid. This would reduce Hunterdon County Library's state aid to \$41,440 (from \$82,880).

Access to all electronic databases supplied by the State Library would cease. These databases provide access to information and full-text magazine articles for homework assignments, job searching, general interest, and consumer information. Databases that would no longer be provided include EbscoHost, RefUSA, Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, Informe and Custom Newspapers.

Statewide interlibrary loan and delivery of library materials would cease on June 30, 2010. This service currently provides HCL with the ability to borrow materials from other libraries in New Jersey through a state-funded courier service. If this system is eliminated, HCL patrons would have to pay a fee to cover the cost of any interlibrary loans.

It is also anticipated that the Talking Book and Braille Center in Trenton would be eliminated on June 30, 2012.

Pleased stay tuned for any further developments. We will make every effort to keep you as informed as possible about any changes to our services.

On a lighter note, I want to thank you all for your hard work and dedication to making this year's Book Sale a huge success. You are truly awesome friends!

*Mark Titus*

### *More Quotes We Like:*

***Leonard Lance,  
Hunterdon County's  
Congressman in the  
U.S. House of Representatives said in the  
Hunterdon County Democrat: "When I have  
time to relax, I like to ...  
read American History."***

***Gregory Winter, 2010  
Private Sale attendee,  
with his registration  
application: "A low #  
would be most divine :)  
Thanks for doing this  
whole book sale every  
year. You guys are in-  
credible!" (He got num-  
ber 10 of 60.)***