

FRIENDS' FEEDBACK

AUTHOR: Carole Nail EDITOR: Flory Nye-Clement

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I know I'm a few months late with those sentiments, but, better late than never! It's been a completely crazy last few months! As I'm sure you are already aware, there have been organizational changes in the Friends due to the retirements of long-term board members. While we sadly bid farewell to Nancy Mahoney, Mary Eichbauer, and Ron Arrants, we happily welcome new board members Ellen Barrett and Amber Kelly. I will continue to serve as President of the Friends and will assume new duties as Book Sale Co-Coordinator along with Ellen Barrett.

RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS



NANCY MAHONEY - CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Nancy, a life-long Benician, served for five years as Volunteer Coordinator for the Benicia Public Library in a position sponsored by the Friends. She then joined the Friends Board as Vice President, and in 2018 assumed the board position of Corresponding Secretary, from which she retired in October 2022.

Over the years as a book sale volunteer, Nancy has sorted/shelved in the Cookbooks, Gardening, Hobbies and Crafts, Large Print books, and Westerns sections. The joy of books keeps Nancy dedicated to the Friends and although she has retired from the Friends Board, she will continue to support the Friends whenever possible.

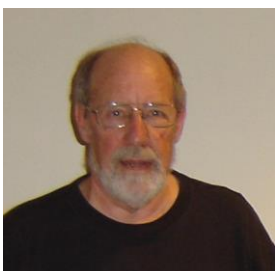
MARY EICHBAUER - PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mary joined the Friends Board in 1996, and has held the positions of Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and Parliamentarian, the position from which she retired in October 2022.

In her retirement, Mary will continue to be involved in Benicia's poetry community as Editor-in-Chief for Benicia Literary Arts. She also co-teaches online poetry classes and participates in peer critique groups for memoirs and poetry.



In 2020, Mary published a book of poetry with Random Lane Press, and is currently working on a second book and a memoir. Mary also loves to travel and plans visits to France and Sicily this summer.



RON ARRANTS – BOOK SALE COORDINATOR

If there is one word to describe Ron, it's dedicated! As the Friends Book Sales Coordinator from 1996 to 2022, Ron led the volunteer effort to transform community-donated books, vinyls, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, and more into sales totaling \$1,257,878. This money was donated to the library to be used to support programs and purchase materials that it might not otherwise have been able to afford. In 2010, an alcove within the library was set aside where Ron created the Friends' Bookstore. In recognition of

Ron's service, the library renamed the area "Ron's Book Nook."

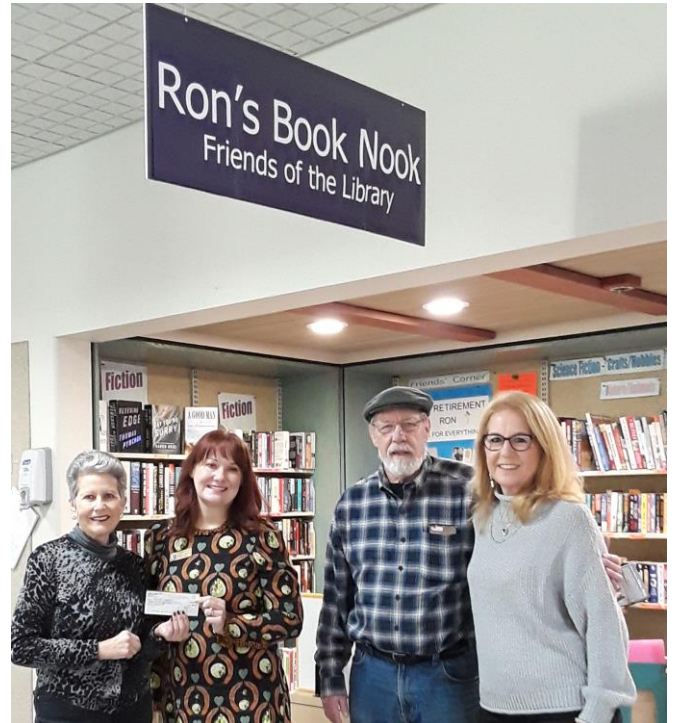
RON ARRANTS (continued). In 2013, Benicia's City Council recognized Ron's efforts by naming him Benicia's Volunteer of the Year; and on January 17, 2023, he was presented with an official proclamation recognizing his dedication to the library.

While Ron's retirement as Book Sale Coordinator means you won't be seeing him at every book sale, he will still be supporting the Friends by sorting and shelving books in the Premium Books section and cashiering at the occasional sale.

FRIENDS' DONATION TO THE LIBRARY

At the January 2023 board meeting, the Friends Board approved the second contribution to the Benicia Library for FY 22-23 in the amount of \$25,000! Retired Book Sale Coordinator Ron Arrants, along with Carole Nail and Ellen Barrett, newly assigned Book Sale Co-ordinators, presented the check on behalf of the board to Library Director Jennifer Baker.

Thank you for your continued support through donations, new and renewed memberships, and book sale purchases. As you know, Friends' contributions fund both library programs and materials.



(l to r) Carole Nail, Jennifer Baker, Ron Arrants, Ellen Barrett

NEW BOARD MEMBER

ELLEN BARRETT – CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, BOOK SALE CO-COORDINATOR

Ellen joined the Friends board in October 2022 as Corresponding Secretary, and assumed the duties of Book Sale Co-Coordinator in January 2023. Ellen also maintains the True Crime and Computer sections for the book sales. Nothing like jumping in with both feet!

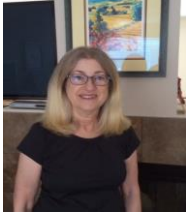


Before volunteering for Friends, Ellen had a 38-year career with Kaiser Permanente, and as a Registered Dietitian had the opportunity to work at six Northern California Kaiser Hospitals. The last two were in Vallejo and Vacaville, where she worked as a Quality Director accountable for regulatory compliance of both hospitals.

After she retired in 2021, Ellen's love of books drew her to seek out volunteer opportunities with the Friends! As she says, "What better place is there for a reader than being surrounded by books?"

When Ellen is not at the library, she can be found quilting, volunteering with the local Food Bank, traveling, and spending time with her family, husband John and their dog Fiona.

ADDITIONAL CHANGES – FRIENDS’ FEEDBACK



Gwen Glick



Carole Nail



Flory Nye-Clement



Sophie

While we certainly want to continue sharing Friends’ successes and opportunities with our membership, the Board has decided to publish newsletters on an ad hoc basis whenever we have relevant information to share. In addition, we will use NextDoor and The Friends of the Benicia Library Facebook page whenever possible.

Flory Nye-Clement will continue as Newsletter Editor as needed. Gwen Glick will assume the position of Volunteer Coordinator, and can be reached at friendsofbenicialibrary@gmail.com. Sophie will continue to help where needed.

Feel free to email the Board at friendsofbenicialibrary@gmail.com, or drop us a line at P.O. Box 1866, Benicia, CA 94510, if you have any questions.

DONATION SATURDAYS

Thank you to all of the library supporters who have donated thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles during our donation events. We continue to rely on your generosity to replenish our stock of materials for our sales.

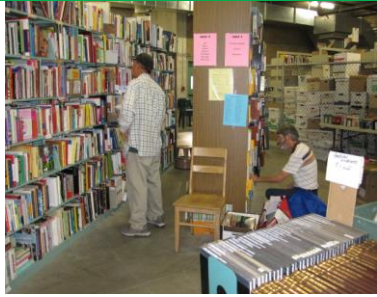
DONATION SATURDAYS: FIRST & THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

MARCH 4; MARCH 18; APRIL 1; APRIL 15; MAY 6; MAY 20; JUNE 3; JUNE 17





UPCOMING BOOK SALES: Thursdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm.; Saturdays 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

- **March:** Thursday 3/9/23 Members-Only
Saturday 3/11/23
- **April:** Thursday 4/6/23 Members-Only
Saturday 4/8/23
- **May:** Thursday 5/11/23 Members-Only
Saturday 5/13/23 **BAG SALE BAG SALE BAG SALE**




Proceeds from 2022 Book Sales

October:	\$ 3,242
November:	\$ 5,985
December:	\$ 3,565
Total YE 2022: \$ 53,630	

Proceeds from 2023 Book Sales

January:	\$ 4,311
February:	\$ 4,484
Total YTD 2023: \$ 8,795	



HOORAH FOR FRIENDS VOLUNTEERS! WE'RE NOTHING WITHOUT YOU!

Book Sorters

Ron Arrants, Ellen Barrett, Sally Baumer, Brita Bautin, Ron Beffa, Judi Boyle, Virginia Cady, Gay Calhoun-Bixby, Dana Carrigan, Sara Casey, Sheila Clyatt, Lisa Coop, Diane Dooley, Michelle Douglas, Virginia Fontaine, Gwen Glick, Marlene Grindling, Meg Grumio, Janet Hankin, Denise and John Hasler, Karen Hatzigeorgiou, Pat Holcomb, Barb Holthius, June Knickerbocker-MacDonald, Euly Legro, Leslie Lessenger, Denise Lichty, Barbara Lizarraga, Tia McCormick, Carole Nail, Susan Neuhaus, Mike Radesky, Lorraine Remer, Dona Rose, Sue Sendek, Julie Shelton, Sally Widenmann, Colleen Williams, Lee and Mary Wines, Tina Wynn, Marty Young.

Book Sale Cashiers

Ron Arrants, Ellen Barrett, Annette Batchelor, Brita Bautin, Judi Boyle, Gay Calhoun-Bixby, Heidi Casebolt, Diane Choquette, Sheila Clyatt, Bob Cowan, Barry Cunningham, Tom Dirks, Gina Dokko, Diane Dooley, Elaine Eger, Gwen, Glick, Janet Hankin, Carol Hazenfield, Pat Holcomb, Judy Johnson, Euly Legro, Leslie Lessenger, Susan MacDonald, Carole Nail, Susan Neuhaus, Sheila Pallota, Tiffany Peal, Mike Radesky, Jan Radesky, Jim Spillane, Sally Widenmann, Tina Wynn.

Donation Saturdays

Ron Arrants, Ellen Barrett, James Casey, Sara Casey, John Chiappetta, Bob Cowan, Yolanda DeVore, Virginia Fontaine, Karen Hatzigeorgiou, Judy Johnson, Susan MacDonald, Mike Martinez, Carole Nail, Sheila Pallotta, Jan Radesky, Mike Radesky, Sally Widenmann, Tina Wynn, Marty Young.

Membership

Gay Calhoun-Bixby

Keep up to date on DONATION SATURDAYS and book sales by reading our postings on NextDoor, and by liking the Friends of the Benicia Library Facebook page.