

Bernardsville Library Association – Annual Report 2005

When the Bernardsville Library converted from subscription to public library years ago, the Bernardsville Library Association (BLA) became the fundraising arm or the Friends of the Library. It is BLA tradition to cover the costs for children's programs completely from our annual fund drive, to support programs, and purchase books, CDs, DVDs, maps, and other media that keep the collection current and give it a breadth that the municipal budget does not allow. Here is a sampling of what your contributions paid for this year:

- MP3 players for patrons to listen to downloadable audiobooks;
- Safe Space for Kids project;
- Seniors' Day brunch and a program on Mozart;
- Refurbishing the Community Room;
- All children's programming including the popular summer reading program, *Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales*;
- Cutting edge access to digital resources & information;
- Additional copies of popular bestsellers;
- English-As-A-Second-Language program.

Thanks to donations to the Annual Fund Drive, the BLA has also been able to provide program, collection and technological additions to the library that take the facility from its small town municipal characterization to a first order information resource. The addition of wireless access in the library and the expanded "at home" databases, eBooks, and audiobooks have made the library a 24/7 resource.

Going forward, the BLA will continue its support of the Library. For each of the last three years, we have been spending \$80,000, far in excess of our annual fund drive receipts. The needs of the new building have warranted the reduction of our reserves which are now almost depleted. Going forward, we are looking at how we can maintain this level of support. The BLA counts on our dedicated contributors listed below. Thank you to all who helped make Bernardsville Public library the best in New Jersey.

Volunteers

Library volunteers give countless hours of service to the library. Volunteers assist with children's programs and craft projects, staff the Local History Room, provide income tax assistance at the library, arrange for and hang art displays, provide the English-As-A-Second-Language programs and some computer classes, run the bridge group, and process, cover, repair and re-shelve books and other materials. The Bernardsville Garden Club maintains and restocks the library's outdoor plantings and provides weekly indoor floral arrangements. We thank everyone who volunteered in 2005.

Officers, Directors and Meetings

Bimonthly meetings of the Directors of the Bernardsville Library Association are open to all members of the Association. Remaining 2006 meetings are on September 13 and November 8, 2006 (the Annual Meeting) at 7:00 pm at the library. The current board is:

Lorette Cheswick, Pres.	Fran Fischer	Jeff Kinkley	Janet Murnick	Tom Shea
John Deibert	Barbara Hyzer	Roni Larini	Jay Parsons, Treas.	Maud Thiebaud, Sect.
Madelyn English	Estrid Jones	Fran Matson	Nancy Pierson, Sect.	William Wilkie
Elizabeth Faulkner, VP	Jos Kadam	Theo Mulgrum	Maureen Robinson	

Fund Drive

The Association's 2005 Annual Fund Drive ran from October 1, 2005 and brought in generous contributions of more than \$30,000. Many, many thanks to all of you, listed below, who contributed to the Association or directly to the library. Many thanks also to all of you who helped prepare or tally the results of the borough-wide mailing, including members of Girl Scout Troop 312. Recent donors include:

AAUW	Paul & Michael Bourdus	Dorothy & David Clair	Joseph Michael Doherty
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Grosvenor & Elizabeth Blair	Percy Chubb III	Catherine Dickinson	Irene Fullan
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Jr. Woman's Club of B'ville	John & Mary McCrossan	Malinee & Sithiporn Sastrasinh	Johanna & Spencer Wissinger
C.P.P. & Mary Kaffke	Brian McGrath	Robert & Ethel Sawyer	Robert & Andrea Wolff
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Chuchu & Jeffrey Kinkley	Olivia & Michael Mrak	William & Andrea Skerratt	Zazzarino
Kiwanis Club of Bernardsville	Theo & David Mulgrum	Arthur Snyder	

Further Information: If you would like to become active in the Association, email us at bla@bernardsvillelibrary.org or call Lorette Cheswick at 766-3831. If you would like to volunteer time to the library, call Karen Yannetta at 766-0118. If we missed the name of a donor, it was an unintentional mistake; please let us know.