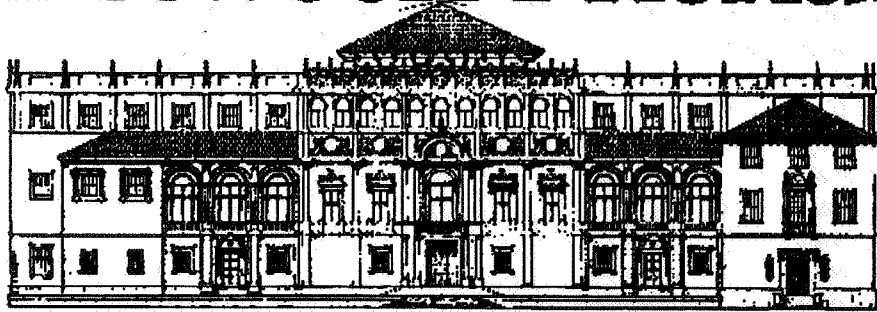


Between Friends



Volume IV, No. 4

Mar./Apr., 1991

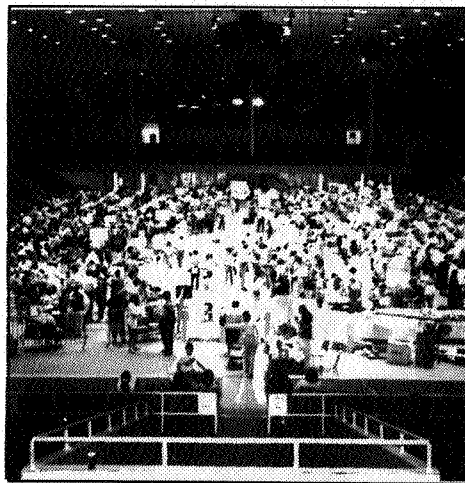
News about Friends of the Houston Public Library

Lucky 13th Annual Bargain Booksale April 19 - 21

By Donald M. Gray

One of the highlights of springtime for many Friends of the Houston Public Library is the wonderful Bargain Book Sale. Our 13th annual sale will be held April 19, 20 & 21 at the Houston Coliseum, corner of Walker and Bagby. A Preview Sale from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, April 19, offers you first choice of all the books and is free to Friends of the Houston Public Library. An admission charge of \$15 for individuals, \$30 for families, or \$10 for senior citizens is convertible to membership at no additional cost. The General Sale, 9:00 - 5:00 Saturday, April 20, and noon - 4:00 Sunday, April 21, is free to the public. A highlight of the event is the auction of rare books, encyclopedias, reference works, art books and sets on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. All proceeds from the sale benefit the Houston Public Library system.

Thirteen years ago the Friends offered the first "Buck-a-Book Sale," mostly HPL discards. The sale was an intimate affair, held for several years on the plaza in front of the Central Library, which provided a wonderfully warm and family-like informal setting. We loved it. Yet outdoor events in Houston are a gamble, and on two consecutive years our sales were washed out by heavy rain and with great loss of books. We moved indoors at Albert Thomas Convention Center in 1986 for the three years before that facility was closed by the



Hundreds of Houstonians find treasures. . .

City, and since then we have been at the Sam Houston Coliseum.

Over the years the sale has grown. Enormously! From the few thousand books in 1979 we offer more than 50,000 today. People often ask where our sale books come from. The majority continue to be discards from Central and the 33 Branch Libraries. HPL purchases a great many copies of popular books and best sellers as they are published, then discards some as demand slackens to make room for others. References and non-fiction books may be superseded by more up-to-date material, and some books simply languish on the shelves, unread. All books are checked to

Bargain Booksale

Friday, April 19

Preview 4:30 - 9:00 pm

Admission: Individuals \$15

Families \$30

Senior Citizens \$10

(above convertible to membership)

(Friends of Library, Free)

Saturday, April 20

General Sale 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Special sets auction 11:00 am

(No admission charge)

Sunday, April 21

General Sale noon - 4:00 pm

(No admission charge)

see if they are needed at another HPL location before discard, but there simply is not enough space available to keep them all.

Some books of excellent quality are donated by bookstores, publishers, distributors, or other commercial sources. This year we have contributions of brand new books, currently on dealers shelves at \$35, \$50, \$75 and more, offered to you at a low fraction of that amount.

Other books are gifts from individuals or estates, and include many beautiful art and travel books and some fine older books. This is the source of most of the rare books and first editions offered in the auction.

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