The Foundation seeks to increase and enhance the quality of services, programs, and community events offered, while advocating for private and public support of the Library. In FY2008, the Foundation:

• Hosted a community fundraiser and presentation with Central Asia Institute, sponsored by the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.
• Dedicated the Staff Sgt. Travis Atkins memorial bench and grove on November 15 with Governor Brian Schweitzer.
• Continued the popular Exploring the Arts monthly series.
• Hosted Artist Receptions in the Atrium Gallery and exhibited sculptures by Dr. Daryl Paulson throughout the Library.
• Sponsored children’s, young adult, and adult programs, including the Spanish Language Outreach program.
• Planted boulevard trees and hung flower baskets along Main Street.
• Partnered with the Museum of the Rockies to publicize their Explore Yellowstone! recycled wildlife.
• Said goodbye to long-time board members, Chris Melh (president) and Debby Bangs, welcomed four new directors, and a new self-check-out machine.
• Co-sponsored an adult lecture series with Montana Outdoor Science School.
• Sponsored the Gallatin Earth Celebration community breakfast.

Friends of the Library

The Friends is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the financial and community support of our Library and its users. The Friends enrich the experience of Library patrons by purchasing gifts such as computers, books and materials, and state-of-the-art equipment; sponsoring activities and programs; and providing volunteer services.

- To celebrate the Library’s first “birthday,” the Friends commissioned a local glass artist, Richard Parrish to create a hanging sculpture that now hangs above the circulation desk.
- Patrons enjoy bistro chairs and tables for the front entry, outdoor benches, and a new self-check-out machine.
- Friends facilitated the donation of the Community Food Co-op’s bike rack, new Library signage, and $5,000 for additions to the audio/video materials.
- Friends supported ongoing Library programs, such as children’s programs, book groups for adults and kids, Third Sundays at Three music series, and other special events.
- The Friends publish and distribute Check It Out, the Library’s free monthly newsletter.

The Friends of the Library

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR**

- Landscaping began in July 2007, which included the Library grounds, a pedestrian trail from Main Street to Peets Hill, two bridge crossings, and the construction of a parking lot at Peets Hill. The landscaping was done by DLM Contracting and Sweet Pea Landscaping, with donations by Travis and Keri Baar, Gallatin Gardner’s Club, and Gallatin Empire Garden Club.
- An anonymous donor paid off the Library’s debt of $880,000 in July 2007. This generous gift allows the Library to focus on offering more services and programs to community. The gift was given as a tribute to Wendy Bay Lewis, former Development Director of the Library Foundation.
- The Library won an EcoStar Award, given by the EPA and MSU Extension’s Pollution Prevention Program, for being the first LEED certified public building in Montana.
- First year anniversary celebration was held on Sunday, November 18 with music, presentation by the Friends of the Library, continues to meet at the library each month.
- Spanish and English language classes were held by volunteer Jose Reinaldo Serrano.
- “Journey of Hope” photographs and stories about Greg Mortenson’s work through the Central Asia Institute in Afghanistan and Pakistan were presented to a packed crowd in November.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration was held Sunday, January 20 with music, speakers, and refreshments.
- Library Book Club met the first Wednesday of each month to discuss a selection of current and classic books.
- The spring display, “The Colors of Us: Celebrating Diversity in Our Community,” featured photos of people who have moved to Bozeman from all over the world.
- A Library Health Fair for baby boomers was held in April, which brought together health professionals from throughout our community to share information and resources with the public.
- “Learning at the Library” classes were offered in the spring in the Computer Lab.
- The first Sweet Pea Art Show & Exhibit in the new building was held August 2-31.
- Christmas Stroll events, including hay rides, music, and cookie decorating, were held at the Library to celebrate the annual event on Saturday, December 1.
- New online databases were added: Heritage Quest, Ancestry Library, and Newsbank.

**SERVING CHILDREN & TEENS**

- The 2007 summer reading program was “Get a Clue!” Kids loved finding the mystery photos and guessing the mystery book (a discarded book shredded) each week. The summer concluded with a month of Creative Workshops sponsored by the Library Foundation.
- Newbery-winning authors Linda Sue Park and Christopher Paul Curtis both visited our Library in the fall of 2007, thanks to funding by the Library Foundation.
- A Baby Fair held in September was hosted by Gallatin/Park County School Readiness Team.
- Teen Read Week in October invited teens to volunteer at the Library.
- Christmas Stroll activities and Secret Gift Shop helped kick off the 2007 holiday season.
- Music Lingua offered two preschool programs, in German and French, in the Children’s Room during the winter. Spanish and English bilingual storytimes were held one Sunday afternoon each month beginning February.
- The Library held two “Chill-Out” study breaks for high school students during finals in the spring and fall.
- Kids’ Book Group met one Thursday afternoon each month to talk about favorite children’s novels.
- The Library participated in Screen Free Week April 21-27 with special programs all week and a Celebration Sleepover at the Library in May for families who went a week without TV or computer games.

**SERVING ADULTS**

- Former Library Director Peg Hileman died in November at the age of 88, and a memorial service was held at the Library for all her friends and colleagues.
- Al Kesselheim left the Library Board after 12 years, leaving a legacy as a strong supporter and articulate spokesperson.
- Montana’s Department of Environmental Quality allocated $1.68 million from the CALA Orphan Share Fund towards the reclamation of the Library grounds.
- “Borderlands,” a speaker series to facilitate discussion about the issue of Mexican and Latino migration to Montana, began September 2007.
- Great Decisions, a foreign policy discussion group sponsored by Montana Center for International Visitors and Friends of the Library, continues to meet at the Library each month.
- Spanish and English language classes were held by volunteer Jose Reinaldo Serrano.
- “Journey of Hope” photographs and stories about Greg Mortenson’s work in Montana.
- The Library Board received the National Library Foundation’s Quality Allocated $1.68 million from the CALA Orphan Share Fund towards the reclamation of the Library grounds.
- The Library participated in Screen Free Week April 21-27 with special programs all week and a Celebration Sleepover at the Library in May for families who went a week without TV or computer games.

**The Bozeman Public Library...offering free, open, and equal access to information for the people of Gallatin County**