



Friends Newsletter

September 2017

The Friends of the Chester County Library, 450 Exton Square Parkway, Exton, PA 19341
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2017 Friends of the Chester County Library Board of Directors

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Friends Meetings:

The Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of July.

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Chester County Library is held the first Tuesday in December.

Contact us at cclfriends@ccls.org for more information.

Your Contributions Empower Library and Staff

– David Chartier

Welcome to the Fall issue of the Friends of the Chester County newsletter.

In addition to funding some of the physical elements of the library, the Friends also fund initiatives which allow library staff to attend educational and advocacy conferences.

In this newsletter you will see details of these staff visits and how they support the library mission. Over the past year, we have enabled staff to attend many conferences and seminars including:

- The Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference in Pocono Manor, PA
- National Library Legislative Day in Washington D.C.
- Marketing 2017 in Nashville, TN
- American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago, IL
- Points of Light Conference in Seattle, WA
- Transforming Stacks Program at the Free Library of Philadelphia

Staff have also attended webinars on creating a digital media space for teens, using pop culture to create library programs, and building great library programs.

And your contributions continue to support the library's physical needs – watch for the newly painted Book Trucks throughout the library.

As always, thank you for supporting your library - Remember that 100% of your membership and donations stay local – supporting your community!

Fall Book Sale October 13-14-15

Our next Book Sale is scheduled for October 13, 14, and 15, 2017. Books in a variety of subjects - from the sciences to the humanities, fiction, biographies, history, and cook books, as well as music and movie CDs and DVDs - will be available for purchase at bargain prices. A huge selection of children's books will be available in a separate room.



The sale starts on Friday, October 13 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. for members of the Friends of the Chester County Library. All Friday night attendees must have a current membership before they get into line outside the Struble Room. Place-saving using boxes, crates, etc. is not allowed.

Memberships start at \$15 for an individual and \$20 per household and can be purchased in advance by mailing in the membership form (from the mailer or the website) or purchasing a membership at the Library's Main Checkout Desk prior to 4:30 p.m. on Friday night. Memberships can also be purchased on Friday night beginning at 5 p.m. at the membership table.

New: Memberships can now be obtained on-line with PayPal. (Must be done prior to October 12, 2017 to attend Friday night sale.)

The sale is open to the public starting on Saturday, October 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 15 is Bag Sale Day, which takes place from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We supply the bag; you fill it and pay \$10. For less than a whole bag, the books will be sold at half-price. **Show your current Friends membership card and pay only \$7 per bag!**

Only cash or checks can be accepted. For safety, no strollers will be permitted in any of the Book Sale areas and children younger than 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

- All proceeds from the Book Sale benefit the Chester County Library.

Mark your calendars: Future Book Sales dates are April 6-8, 2018 and October 12-14, 2018.



Volunteers Needed to Help with the Book Sale

Volunteers are needed to work as cashiers/cashier assistants, book checkers and directional guides for the Book Sale – on Saturday, October 14 morning (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) or afternoon (noon to 4 p.m.) and/or Sunday, October 15 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Orientation will be provided. (You must be a current Friends member to volunteer.)

To volunteer, call Alex Draper at 215-859-8200 or email her at grahbella@aol.com. When leaving a message, be sure to provide your name, phone number and/or email address, and requested time slot. Thanks!

“The Friends would like to thank the many volunteers who work to make our Book Sales a success. We simply could not do it without you. We would also like to thank Buca di Beppo Italian Restaurant in Main Street Exton, Rino’s Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria in Exton, and Carmine’s Parkside in Chester Springs for their support of both the Spring and Fall book sales. Thanks also to the Lionville Giant for donating the bags for our Sunday sale. We appreciate your support in making the book sales a success!”

Meeting with U.S. elected officials on National Library Legislative Day

By Meghan Lynch, Business Outreach Librarian

I was recently able to attend the National Library Legislative Day (NLLD) event in Washington, DC thanks to a conference grant from the Friends of the Chester County Library. This is a two-day program that begins with a full day of advocacy training, followed by a day of visits to our elected officials in the House of Representatives and the United States Senate.

During the day of advocacy training, the attendees of NLLD were reminded that elected officials are never going to want to appear anti-literacy or perceived as unsupportive of education, but sometimes we need to strengthen our message by finding the place where our interests overlap. When you have the opportunity to be interacting with elected officials or community stakeholders, we learned to research the issues near and dear to them, and craft an advocacy message to demonstrate how the library supports the causes they care about, whether it be education, job growth, or spending the taxpayer's money in the most responsible way. One of the key messages is that for every dollar invested in Pennsylvania libraries, \$5.50 worth of services is returned to Pennsylvania taxpayers.

We were encouraged to share our library advocacy message using a narrative arc. Facts and figures are important, but a story carries greater emotional impact. We were also encouraged to economize our message, keeping the core message that you want them to remember in the forefront as you craft your library story.

The second day of the event allowed me to take what I had learned about advocacy and put it into practice. I met with representatives from the office of Patrick Meehan, Ryan Costello (who serves the library's district), and Senator Pat Toomey. The Pennsylvania delegation also met with Senator Casey's representative.

At each meeting I distributed copies of the 2016 Chester County Library System Annual Report, and spoke about the importance of maintaining federal library funding, in addition to other issues. I was able to share stories about working with entrepreneurs and job seekers in my role as Business Outreach Librarian in order to demonstrate that we are meeting an important need for members of our community. I was sure to thank our elected officials (through their representatives) for their support of our library in the past and to state that I hope that it continues well into the future.

National Library Legislative Day is open to any library supporter. If you ever have the opportunity to attend, I would encourage you to do so. The advocacy training was informative and relevant and the meetings with our elected officials gave me the opportunity to speak up for something I consider vitally important, the future of libraries.



Ask your friends to become Friends

Please talk to your friends about the many benefits of the Chester County Library (books, DVDs, CDs, eBooks, tax forms, educational programs, reference materials, research support and so much more) and ask your friends to join our Friends organization. An extra membership application form is included with this newsletter.

Friends Grants for the Pennsylvania Library Annual Conference (PaLA) Keep Chester County Library In Step with the World

Thomas Berman: With the support of the Friends of the Chester County Library, I was able to attend the PaLA Annual Conference. The highlight of the conference was the sessions in which I was able to gain information and knowledge that I can apply to further the System and County Strategic Plans.

I attended the “Office of Commonwealth Libraries Town Hall Meeting,” which focused on statewide projects and initiatives, and a workshop entitled “Going Forward: Financial Literacy and Pennsylvania” which presented ideas on how libraries could help to promote financial literacy to their customers.

I also attended sessions on providing legal information to patrons without giving legal advice and other sessions where libraries from across Pennsylvania were showcasing their projects and initiatives. In between sessions, I visited the vendor area and investigated new products, such as electronic databases, which can benefit the library system.



Anna Marie Black: Thanks to a Friends Grant, I attended the Annual PaLA Conference. In a double-session workshop “Supporting Socio-Emotional Development of Young Children, I learned of the considerable research describing infant brain development, including research indicating that the better the brain architecture is developed as a child, the better chance for support of life-long learning; behavior, and health.

Caring relationships enhance brain architecture, especially from infant/parent interaction & infant/caregiver interaction, and toxic stress in early years can derail healthy social and emotional development. The workshop information underscored how crucial it is to encourage that development in infants and also toddlers—and how proper intervention can make a difference. As a Youth Services librarian, this means that my

work and my behavior working with young children can affect their emotional and social growth. By offering developmentally-appropriate story time programs, I can encourage and enhance positive relationships between parent/caregivers and the infant or toddler.

Sara Lim Harden: I attended the PaLA conference with Friends support, and am very proud to say that CCL has a lot to offer to our patrons. With the programs and community engagement team’s efforts, we are to be recognized as Gold Star PA Forward Library! The sessions I enjoyed the most were:

- **TechniGals:** How to Get Girls & Librarians Excited About STE(A)M in the Library.
- **Pop Culture Programming @ Your Library** – about reaching out to the community for pop partnerships.
- **Just Forgetfulness? Or Is it?** – a session is about the Alzheimer’s with some tips to handle the disease.
- **Creating Great Programs for Millennials:** including tips on programs and use of social media.

It was good to step outside of my comfort zone to see what others are doing out in the library field, and apply the lessons to the Chester County library.



Recent Friends Purchases

- Painting of Book Trucks



- Replacement Microfilm Machine
- Replacement Projector
- Storage Bins for Digital Media Lab