

Celebrating Fifty Years of Friends' Support

In the early 1960's, Whitehall residents, including members of several of the borough's women's clubs, stepped up their advocacy for the creation of a library. At the time, Carnegie Library's bookmobile provided limited service, and the circulation at the borough's stop was the second largest in Allegheny County. Whitehall Borough Council and the Whitehall Century Club, an organization of women living in the Echo Glen/ Country Club Drive area, held numerous discussions which resulted in the creation of the Friends of the Whitehall Library in the fall of 1961.

The Friends were initially charged with raising funds for the purchase of new books in advance of the opening of the library, with the Borough agreeing to provide space and operating funds. Over the next two years, through a door-to-door campaign, the Friends raised \$20,000 (the equivalent of over \$100,000 today) for the library which opened in May of 1963.

Since our founding in 1961, the Friends have proudly supported the Whitehall Public Library's mission as the community resource for education, exploration, enrichment and enjoyment by helping to increase public awareness, encourage donations, and advocate for library funding. The Friends have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Library over the past five decades through the annual membership drive and other fundraising activities.

Fifty Thousand for the Friends' 50th!

In celebration of our 50th anniversary, the Friends proudly announce the Fifty Thousand for the Friends' 50th campaign with the ultimate goal of raising \$50,000 for the Library over the next two years.

The Friends are confident that our neighbors will respond with the same generosity that they did in the early 1960's.

How Much to Give?

The average donation to the Friends' annual campaign is \$30, although donations of any size are always appreciated.

For a donation of \$50 or more, the Library will choose a book or other collection item that can be dedicated to you or marked in honor or in memory of someone you name. During the Fifty Thousand for the 50th campaign, donors who contribute \$50 or more per year (or \$100 or more over the course of the drive) will be members of the **Circle of Friends Society** and be formally recognized at the Library. Donors who give \$250 or more will also be recognized with an engraved leaf on the Library's Giving Tree. Sponsorship levels are Bronze - \$250, Silver - \$500, and Gold - \$1000.

Your gift may be increased if your employer has a matching gift program. Spouse and retiree gifts may also be matched. Check with your employer for details.

Who can be a Friend?

Membership in the Friends of the Whitehall Public Library is open to anyone who values the Whitehall Public Library, by making a donation to the annual membership drive, regardless of residency.



Thank you for your gift.

Your generosity supports resources and activities of the Whitehall Public Library. Please complete and return this form along with your check made payable to: **Friends of the Whitehall Public Library.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount of contribution: \$ _____

____ Yes, I/We donated \$50 or more. Please designate my special bookplate:

In Memory of

In Honor of

Donated by

____ I/We prefer to be listed as anonymous

____ I/We are interested in volunteering for upcoming programs and events.

The Friends of the Whitehall Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. For more information, please consult your tax advisor.



Whitehall Public Library 2010 Highlights:

- Hennen American Library Ratings (HAPLR) ranked Whitehall Public Library as one of the top 25 in Pennsylvania.
- The Library was awarded a \$4,000 Senior Spaces grant and will open its Second Chapter Café in 2011
- The Children's Library received a \$5,000 Family Place grant to become a nationally trademarked Family Place library, focusing on early literacy resources and programs for ages birth to 5 years
- These two separate grants were awarded from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act and administered by Pennsylvania's Office of Commonwealth Libraries. Only six libraries in the state were awarded these grants, and Whitehall Public Library received one of each.
- The Library hosted a School Library Resource program to highlight print and electronic resources available to area teachers and students
- The Library received a Pennsylvania Humanities Council grant to bring a renowned Beatles scholar for a National Library Week presentation in April 2011.

2010 Statistics

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| • Circulation of books and media: (DVDs, CDs, and others) | 151,069 |
| • Number of programs offered: (adults, teens, and children) | 611 |
| • Attendance for all programs: | 9,781 |
| • Average monthly computer log-ons: | 1,705 |
| • User questions including reference, computer, and phone requests: | 23,981 |

The Friends Helped Sponsor:

- The 2010 Summer Reading Program, which increased 100% from 2009, with 543 participants reading 179,592 minutes;
- The Best Seller Collection, duplicate copies of popular titles for visiting patrons to borrow.
- Popular seasonal programs like the Halloween Happening, and a live version of the favorite game CandyLand.

2010-2011

Officers and Directors of the Friends of the Whitehall Public Library

Faustino Dunckhorst — President
Charles Vargo — Vice President
Chris Mooney — Treasurer

Directors:

Linda Book — Barbara Duff
Bryan Engel — Mary Ellen Martin
Robert McKown — Marilyn Pfaff
Charlotte Pilewski — Norbert Pilewski
Janet Schaefer — Joyce Vargo

To learn more, contact the Friends at
Friendsofwhitehall@gmail.com

or

click on the "Friends of the Library" tab
on the Library's home page www.whitehallpubliclibrary.org



Friends of the Whitehall Public Library
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\$50,000
for the Friends' 50th!



A Donation to the
**Friends of the
Whitehall
Public
Library**

is a donation to your community
resource for education, entertainment,
enrichment, and enjoyment!

