



President's Message

I want to start by thanking Governor Rendell, his administration, and the legislature for the record high public library subsidy of \$75.5 million which was included in the 2006-07 Commonwealth budget. This level of funding will have a very positive impact on many libraries, their patrons, and the communities they serve.

My last President's message was written after having just returned from the Trustees/Friends Institute at Grantville. We all knew the Institute had been a huge success and the final numbers have confirmed our initial reaction. The combined attendance at both presentations was 594 (excluding staff and presenters) with 165 Friends – 28% of the total! The 594 in attendance represented over 50% of our public libraries. We will review a report on the evaluation statistics at our Board meeting on August 31. This was a real learning experience for PCBL, so we will use the lessons learned to do an even better job next year. Once again, my sincere thanks to all those involved.



We kicked off our "I Love Libraries" license plate project in June with a state-wide mailing. Your display of this distinctive license plate will let everyone know that you are a proud supporter of your library. The funds raised through this project will be used to enhance our advocacy efforts on your behalf. (See www.pcbllpa.org.)

Every year we present nine awards at our Annual Meeting and Annual Awards Luncheon honoring those individuals and organizations who have made a significant contribution to libraries. This year the luncheon meeting will be held on November 12 at the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh.

Phil Albright, PCBL President



PCBL Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon

Sunday, November 12, 2006
Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

PCBL Board of Directors

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* Executive Committee

THE PCBL LICENSE PLATE PROMOTION IS OFF AND RUNNING!

Show your support for your library and all libraries by purchasing the PCBL sponsored "I Love Libraries" front license plate. Available in a bright yellow background and featuring a red heart to signify love, the plates show everyone in traffic and in parking lots that you are a library advocate. Individual plates are \$10 plus shipping, handling and taxes. Bulk orders receive discounted prices.

Encourage your Friends groups to sell the plates as a fundraiser and to promote library awareness in your area. In Pennsylvania we need to be a visible reminder of library interests.

Ordering information is available at PCBL website, www.pcbllpa.org.



A Time For Thanks

Letter from
Evelyn Minick, PaLA President,
July 6, 2006

Dear Library Friends and Advocates:

As we bask in the knowledge that Pennsylvania State Aid to Public Libraries will rise to \$75.5 million in 2007, let's not forget to thank the folks that made this possible. First of all, thanks to all of you for your positive support and dogged persistence. Thanks to our partners, the Commonwealth Libraries staff who pushed from inside state government to put libraries at the core of the educational enterprise. Thanks to Co-Chairs Debbie Malone and Janice Trapp and all the members of the PaLA Legislative Committee, and thanks to Glenn Miller, PaLA Executive Director, who worked 18 hour days to keep that number in the final version of the budget.

Please take a few minutes to generate thank you notes, cards, emails, and calls to Senators, Representatives, the Governor, and the Secretary of Education. Tell them what this increase means to the residents of your community, how many more storytimes can you provide? How many more books can you buy? How many more hours can you stay open?

A healthy dose of good feeling and appreciation will now make our appeal a little easier next year.



PCBL Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon Sunday, November 12, 2006 Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

Authors Richard and Patricia Easton will speak at the PCBL Awards Luncheon at noon on Sunday, November 12 during the PaLA Conference.

Richard is a Professor of English at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, PA and is a published author and playwright. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Peters Township Library, in western Pennsylvania.

Patricia Easton is the author of seven books and serves as an adjunct professor of writing at University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg and teaches children's literature at W & J College. The Eastons have received many awards for their work and are currently active in presenting writing workshops in schools, libraries, and conferences of various educational associations.

Patricia Owens, Consultant and Mary Sieminski of RPA, Inc., will present a workshop from 2 – 3:15 PM called "The ABCs of Working With a Consultant."



Celebrate Friends of Libraries Week October 22-28, 2006

Friends of Libraries week is a time to celebrate and thank your Friends. Friends of Libraries groups now have their own national week of celebration. Please use the time to actively promote your Friends group in the community and to raise awareness of the Friends' contributions and possibilities. Please recognize your Friends' groups and support them for their contributions to their libraries.

We can't do it without the Friends!

Congratulations To FOLUSA and JanWay, Partners Promoting National Friends of Libraries Week October 22 – 28, 2006

This is an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of libraries in addition to promoting membership and local Friends groups while increasing your visibility. (Check the FOLUSA website at www.folusa.org for more details).

Please share with us how your library Friends group participated. We will be happy to print your activities and pictures of events.

PCBL BOARD MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

New Director, Kathy Kennedy

After 19 years at the Monroeville Library, 13 years as Director, Kathy Kennedy has moved on to be Director of the Citizens Library in Washington, PA. It is the oldest library in southwest Pennsylvania, founded in 1870.



Kathy lived in Philadelphia during her graduate school years at Drexel in the late 1960s when she joined the staff of Carnegie Library and lived in Oakland.

She took the Director position at the Library in New Kensington followed by the Monroeville position, where she has lived since 1976. "It's funny, because I had 13 years as a director here and 13 in New Kensington. I don't know that I have another 13 in me," she says with a laugh. "Well, hopefully, I have 13 more in me, but maybe not as a library director."

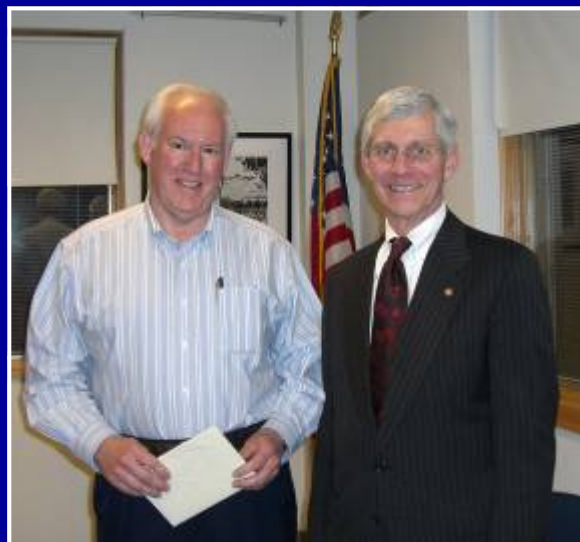
The new job will be a step up, as she also will be the administrator of the Washington County Library System and the Washington District Director for the state library center.

Kathy has been a dedicated member of the Board of Directors of PCBL for several years and this year will chair the PCBL Annual Luncheon to be held on November 12, 2006 at the Hilton Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA. Congratulations Kathy!

Special Recognition for Dr. Dennis Leeper

After receiving the Easttown Library & Information Center's Volunteer of the Year Award 2006, Dr. Dennis P. Leeper was again honored on May 3, 2006 when he was presented with two citations: one from the Senate of Pennsylvania sponsored by Senator Edwin B. Erickson and another from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives sponsored by Representative Robert J. Flick. In addition, a Letter of Commendation was issued from United States Senator Arlen Specter.

Quoting from the citations: "Dr. Leeper has held several offices on the Easttown Library & Information Center's Library Board of Trustees for twenty-five years, and has served on the Easttown Library Foundation Board since its inception in 1997. He also serves on the Chester County Library System Advisory Council and has actively participated as an officer in Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries for many years." Further, the citation reads: "Dr. Leeper received the Trustee of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Library Association in 1992. That same year, he was invited to tea with First Lady Barbara Bush at the White House due to his volunteerism for library advocacy groups. Dr. Leeper has served as Master of Ceremonies for the first annual Legislative Breakfast for the Chester County Library system and was active in the Pennsylvania Center for the Book." Dr. Leeper is presently Vice President of Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries. Congratulations, Dr. Leeper. Well done, good and faithful servant.



Dr. Dennis P. Leeper and Senator Edwin B. Erickson

CREATIVE LIBRARY EVENTS

POWER PIG



Power Pig is the son of Wilbur Pig of Charlotte's Web fame. As a young piglet, he was filled with words of knowledge that gave him unlimited access to all the wonders of the world. As he grew older, his power of achievement increased. He recognized the source of this power – the library! He, then, vowed to use all his super powers to advocate for and to promote and protect libraries. Power Pig is truly a library champion for today, for tomorrow, and for you, the library user. Power Pig, Power Libraries, the Smartest Card™! Up, Up and Away!

Power Pig is a part of the James V. Brown Library's "Capital Fund Campaign for a New Children's Wing." Part of the campaign is a community-wide One Book, One Read of Charlotte's Web and a Big Pig Parade of colorful pigs, donated by local companies. JanWay Company of Cogan Station was the first of these companies that received, designed and donated one of these pigs.

Local individuals who contributed to the birth of Power Pig were Artist Marguerite Bierman, Don Messner of M&M Sheet Metal Specialists, Roger Hubbard of Kickin' Glass Rides, Ltd., and Dave Geise of The Sign Shop.

Power Pig's name is reflective of the Power Library™ in Pennsylvania that offers a wide compendium of electronic resources to all participating libraries. Power Library is accessible online through all Pennsylvania libraries with one's library card.

BOOK DROP

Wissahickon Valley Public Library's Friends group in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, is remarkable in its steady, professional, dedicated and successful fundraising efforts. WVPL Friends has raised over \$200,000 for library purchases of computers, CDs, DVDs, display racks and to provide children's programming. Their most recent contribution is this convenient Audio/Visual 'Book Drop'.

The group works every week year-round and holds two 5-day giant book sales (starting with 10,000 titles!) and holds one very successful A-V sale each year. Before the sales, WVPL Friends first sort and select collectible and first edition books which they in turn sell to book dealers for a better dollar return. One of the benefits of joining the WVPL Friends group is that members are entitled to enter the book sale a day early before the sale is open to the public. The Friends stock a 'silent salesman' display that makes hundreds of dollars; plus they have other fundraising programs such as canvas bookbags.

The Friends donated this new equipment to make it more convenient for children and adults to return their materials. Patrons can come by any time, night or day, and just drop in their CDs, DVDs, videos or audiobooks. Visit the library and check their catalog at www.wvpl.org.

Article submitted by Sue Burdick, Community Outreach/Marketing, WVPL, Blue Bell, PA.



Returning CDs and DVDs in the new WVPL Audio/Visual Return Box.

Welcome! New PCBL Board Members

Mary Claghorn

We welcome Mary Claghorn who has been a Board member of the Wissahickon Valley Public Library for the past thirteen years. Mary has served in various positions on the Board including Secretary, Vice President and President. She currently serves as Chair of the Personnel Committee. Ms. Claghorn volunteers throughout her local community. Some of her past volunteer activities include:

- Past - President of two area Elementary Schools and the Middle School Parents Association
- Past – President of the Chestnut Hill Academy Parents Association
- Member of the Wissahickon School Board

Current

- Temple University – Ambler Campus Arboretum Board – Secretary
- Wissahickon Valley Watershed - Board Member
- Ambler Area YMCA Board of Managers – Vice-Chairman and Annual Support Chair
- Ambler Theater Board Member

Mary and her husband Fred have lived in Gwynedd Valley for 29 years. They have 4 children and 2 grandchildren. Ms. Claghorn works full-time at a local sporting goods store as the Manager of their Team and Corporate Customizing Department.



Al Kamper

Mr. Kamper was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and attended Duquesne University (BA, 1964) and then received his MLS from the University of Pittsburgh in 1965. Mr. Kamper has three children, two of whom are married. He spent his entire career at the Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh (CLP), starting there as a page in 1959. After receiving his degree, he spent two years in the Science and Technology Department as a Librarian. He was appointed the Head of the Book Order Office in 1967 and then Coordinator of Technical Services in 1972. He served as the District Consultant for the last 18 years until he retired in 2004, after 45 years with CLP.

He learned to love libraries, especially public libraries. His years as District Consultant were especially rewarding because he was given the opportunity to work with other libraries and help them in many ways, as an advisor, consultant, and Friend. He also became heavily involved in the Pennsylvania Library Association during this period and worked closely with Commonwealth Libraries on many of their projects.

He received a Certificate of Merit from PaLA in 1995 and their Distinguished Service Award in 2000. Now that he is retired, he would like to continue his involvement with libraries as a citizen and therefore would like to serve as a member of the PCBL Board. This will give him the opportunity to continue working for the betterment of libraries throughout Pennsylvania. He feels strongly that libraries need a strong base of citizens to support their work and advocate for their improvement.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Editorial Committee

Marcy Abrams
Kathy Kennedy
Dennis P. Leeper
Jane Noel
Dorothea Shoemaker
Heidi Sproat

Newsletter articles in Microsoft Word Format may be sent to:

MAIL TO:
PCBL NEWSLETTER
C/O Marcy Abrams
P.O. Box 412
Broomall, PA 19008

OR

EMAIL TO:

dottieshoemaker@aol.com
marcy_abrams@juno.com

Questions: Call Dottie 610-644-6402

The PCBL Connection newsletter connects our readers from across the state. Do you have an idea that worked well for your group? Why not share it so others can benefit from your great ideas. Do you have a particular success story to share? Announce it to all your friends in PCBL!



Requirements To Enjoy The Benefits Of A 501(c)(3) Designation Through PCBL

- Available to any Friends group
- Complete application form affiliating your group with PCBL
- Agree to submit an annual financial statement to PCBL
- Send in your application with the \$70 fee
- PCBL submits a consolidated return to the IRS
- For more information, see the Tax Exemption page at www.pcbupa.org

Please Visit Our Friend's Group!

Name: _____

Library: _____

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Email: _____

Day & Time of Meeting _____

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or email us at pcb2002@yahoo.com

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Mail check payable to: PCBL, PO Box 752, Camp Hill, PA 17001

* All memberships are based on a calendar year.

** Application required.

Applications available online at <http://www.pcbupa.org/Membership.htm> or by phone at 1-800-870-3858.

IMPORTANT !! Please check your newsletter label for the expiration date of your membership.
After your name is a number (06); **your membership will expire in December of the year (2006).**

SAVE THE DATE!

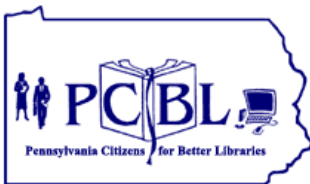
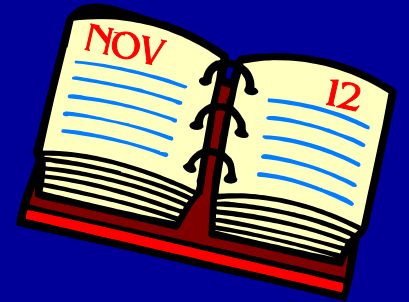
PCBL 27th Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation

November 12, 2006
Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA

Annual Meeting 11:00 AM
Luncheon 12:00 Noon

Guest Speakers:
Authors Richard and Patricia Easton

For more information
See www.pcblpa.org or Phone 1-800-870-3858.



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