We Thank You!

Last year was an important and successful year for Library fundraising, thanks to all of you!

Your generosity funded . . .

• Many additions to our collection of books for children and adults
• More eBooks, books on CD, and DVDs, and other electronically-formatted materials
• New and free homework services
• Outreach services for homebound patrons, including seniors
• Free Internet access
• Popular weekly Storytimes for children and new family programming
• New and valuable online databases
• A new Teen Space
• Free entertainment and engaging special programs all year long!

Thank you for helping us keep our Carmel Library thriving and serving our community!

Harrison Memorial Library
Carmel-by-the-Sea

Eternal Role of Libraries

Libraries around the world have promoted learning and literacy for some 4,000 years. They have become cornerstones of enlightened communities. As their roles and functions change with rapid technological advances, libraries have become powerful embodiments of community and individual values. Carmel Public Library is no exception.

Throughout history, access to information has been a social, political, and religious factor influencing prosperity and well-being. When libraries began granting access to information to the general public, rather than limiting access only to the elite classes, the world changed quickly. Libraries democratize societies, allowing the masses to decide what may be true, interesting, entertaining, and inspiring. Libraries promote literacy, artistic achievement, professional advancement, and personal enrichment—opportunities available equally to all.

Providing free and open access to richly diverse collections of print resources, as well as to a vast array of film, CDs, DVDs, and digital information, the Carmel Public Library is a stronghold of our community and a marketplace of ideas. Our professional Librarians guide us to accurate and authoritative information. While collections and databases fill the Library’s stacks and computers, our Librarians bring them to life for everyone.

We all recall a Librarian who helped us find something important or memorable—a resource for a school project, a book in an area of personal interest, a job-related inquiry that furthered a career or help that transformed a life.

Carmel Public Library has something for everyone. It’s strongly connected to our community and adapts quickly to the changing technological world. Our Library’s value endures.
Growing up in a weekly newspaper family in a small town in southern Illinois, I became a printer at an early age, sweeping up, putting away leads and slugs, washing presses, and all those “fascinating” chores. As a young teenager, during the Second World War, since all the men were away, I was “promoted” by my dad to the job of linotype operator, in addition to running the small presses. I loved it!

This printer’s background helped me eventually get into my dream occupation—the world of book publishing, where I started by managing book manufacturing and design at Harper’s in the Sixties. At that time, we were still producing books using the age-old, traditional methods and processes. I believed that if Gutenberg had been time-transported to the early nineteen-sixties, he would have easily understood the book-manufacturing process. We had simply upgraded the machinery.

How that changed! In 1967, while still at Harper’s, I produced the first book that was electronically digitally composed, using an RCA video-comp and its cathoderay technology. Bye-bye linotypes. From about that point on: other really dramatic changes in book production. High-speed offset presses; digital pre-press; electronic word processing where everyone was a type-setter, and more. Then in 1989 came the CD-ROM: the first “non-book” book, or the “book on the screen.” The CD-ROM disappeared into the Internet about 1995 and the rate of change became exponential. My last job in my peripatetic publishing career was at Microsoft, where, among other things, we developed the concept and the software and then started to promote the first eBooks. Less than ten years later, the eBook has become a significant part of the publishing world and, as we all know, the Internet has become the prime source for much that is published, starting with encyclopedias and exploding from there.

As I look back over what was truly a paradigm shift in the publishing world, what has fascinated me was how, during all of this turmoil, libraries, always a cornerstone in the world of publishing and reading and dispensing of knowledge, have evolved and grown with the times and have managed to remain as relevant, if not more so, than ever before.

Whatever the dynamic, libraries like our wonderful Harrison Memorial are alive and well. They are doing their job in this changing world. Now our job is simply to make sure we continue to give them the financial resources they need to continue to serve us all—young and old—so superbly.

—Peter Mollman
The Carmel Public Library Foundation’s Annual Arts & Literary Series 2010-2011 brings presentations of talented authors to enlighten the community and to help launch our Annual Campaign.

Authors in our Series are accomplished writers and speakers. Each has personal experience and interesting stories about the role a Library has played in the author’s life. Sharing testimonials of the higher value of Libraries and Librarians, we will hear how their reading and writing careers were furthered by this connection.

We are delighted to offer the following events. Don’t miss these interesting programs!

A $10 suggested contribution is requested at each event. First-come, first-served.

Stay informed of additions or changes to the schedule by calling (831) 624-2811 or visit the website at www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org

Tatjana Soli, *The Lotus Eaters*
Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall
September 7, 7 p.m.

Author! Author! with Phyllis Theroux, *The Journal Writer*
Harrison Memorial Library, Ocean & Lincoln
October 10, 4 p.m.

John Avlon, *Wingnuts*
Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall
February 8, 7 p.m.

Abbas Milani, Director of Iranian Studies, Stanford University, *The Shah*
Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall
March 22, 7 p.m.

Rodes Fishburne, *Going to See the Elephants*
Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall
May 3, 7 p.m.

Amy Stewart, *Wicked Bugs*
Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall
June 7, 7 p.m.

"The Carmel Public Library showed me how to fly from Peter Pan’s London, to Australia, the home of my parakeet, Cheerful. As an adult, I was inspired to dream big by John Steinbeck. No matter your age, the Library and its uniquely thoughtful Librarians will provide you with wonder, adventure and magic."

—Marie Mutsuki Mockett, author *Picking Bones From Ash*. Maria participated in last year’s Art & Literary Series.
Welcome to the offices of CPLF, Mrs. Seeburger. You’re no stranger to Harrison Library. In fact you’re well known by staff and patrons as one of the Library’s favorite book lovers. How did that come about?

Well, it all came about when I moved to Carmel in 1965. I had lived in the desert for years where I began a family. We had no library, but we did have a bookmobile. I was grateful for that. However, as soon as I moved into town I was stunned and delighted to discover a real, a wonderful library, and from then on I seemed always to be walking through the door to find new adventures in reading.

Do you have special interests—fiction, nonfiction? Do you follow certain writers?

I love to read and I read novels, historical novels, memoirs, books on actual history and even escapist, light fiction. I have a few favorite writers: Ivan Doig, Simon Winchester, and Barbara Kingsolver.

We wonder if Carmel Library is your primary source for reading. Do you buy books?

I buy very few books. That’s why I’m at the Library so often. There is so very much there. I can’t wait to finish a book and walk to the Library for some new experience. I may have a certain book in mind. If the staff doesn’t have it on the shelf, they’ll put it on “hold” for me. What a luxury!

Through the years raising your children, did you read to them? Surely you must have introduced them to libraries. What impact did that have on their lives and yours, for that matter?

Of course I read to my children and grandchildren. They came often to the Library. And I must tell you how proud I am of one of my daughters: she was always an avid reader, so much so that she did postgraduate work and earned a degree in Library Sciences.

This is an age of transition in the culture of books and reading. We now are experiencing the dramatic impact of eBooks, electronic devices which seem to have become overnight successes. Have you ventured into that arena?

I’m fully aware of the existence of these new readers, but I prefer books, real books. I like holding them, turning the pages—they are objects of beauty to me. Even so, I have learned to use the computerized card catalogue. I take some pride in that.

We understand you keep a list of all the books you’ve read. We’re amazed. Can you confirm this? (At this point Mrs. Seeburger places a well worn folder on the table. There are over one hundred hand written pages, lists starting in 1961, noted with title, date, and comments—mostly positive. The total books read? Eight thousand). You’re a wonder!

No, I’m a reader!
Mrs. Seeburger, you are one of the most supportive of all the Donors to the Carmel Public Library Foundation, the fundraising arm of Harrison Library. What can you say to others about the need for support for our local Library?

I support many charities, but none mean more to me than our Carmel Library. This is a precious treasure. It’s, to me, the heartbeat of the village. The center of learning and knowledge. Books, reading keep me alive, keep me thinking—and, at my age, books are my travels.

Your commitment to your Carmel Library and, by extension, your community, is extraordinary. And your generosity over so many years is commendable. Please know how much you are appreciated.

Thank you!

We won’t keep you any longer. The Library is open and waiting for you. What will it be today? Fiction, nonfiction or just a stroll through the stacks?

I’m going to pick up a book that’s on hold for me.

---

Reaching Out to Teens

When you imagine the typical Library patron, do you see babies and toddlers with parents, retirees, and job seekers? What about teenagers who typically make up about 25 percent of Library users today?

Carmel Public Library is reaching out to young adults in our community with special services, dedicated collections, and even a space for teens to call their own. The Library can be a powerful partner in developing young adults by instilling good learning habits and healthy recreation in an engaging environment that appeals to their interests.

The new Teen Space, located in the basement of Harrison Memorial Library, is a place where teens can meet after school with friends, do homework in a cozy environment, read for relaxation, and access computers. The Librarians are nearby to guide them to resources, but there’s enough alone space to foster independence. It’s a safe haven for young people who seek self-sufficiency, but still need support and structure.

“My daughter has been an avid Library user since she was a toddler,” says Virginia, mother of three girls, the eldest, Claire, 16 years old, a 10th grader. “When her reading skills matured to young adult novels and just about everything else, moving from the Children’s Library at Park Branch to Harrison Memorial Library down the road was a poignant right-of-passage. Now our family routine includes trips to both Libraries. Claire goes off by herself and we meet up at the end. She also comes by herself after school and, then my husband picks her up after work.”

Library usage enhances a student’s educational performance, particularly important for a teenager preparing for college. While the Library is used for specific purposes like research and homework, simply strolling among the bookshelves can be equally as purposeful and fun. Self-directed learning is critical to foster imagination and independent thinking. The intellectually-stimulating ambience of the Library encourages new perspectives and dialogues among peers.

Encourage your teenagers to use the Library regularly for recreation and school work. It’s free, safe, healthy, and fun.
Raising Readers Who Read For Life

Trips to the Children’s Library buzz with activity. All year long, kids attend Storytimes with authors and performers, which foster imagination and creativity. Libraries help children learn to read and they get kids started early as infants and toddlers, raising readers for life.

Early literacy begins as a baby – hearing words, touching, even tasting books. Book cuddling fosters healthy brain development and strong parent-child bonding. There’s nothing like getting cozy with a toddler curled up with a book! And when kids get older, reading together can be a way to stay connected around something interesting.

“We listen to books on CD while we are driving or eating breakfast together on Saturday mornings,” shares Michael, father of two young boys, James and Sam, and baby sister Anne. “It’s gotten to the point that the kids are crazy about listening to them. We can’t get in the car without one of them piping out ‘turn on the story, dad!’”

The Library offers families and children so much! Make weekly visits a part of your family routine!

---

Homework HelpNow! New at the Library!

Do you or a student in your family need help with homework? How about a writing lab to help you write better term papers and reports? Or maybe you need a little extra help understanding a math concept. You can even get help with your Spanish homework! The Library has subscribed to a great new online tutoring service called HelpNow! All you need is your Library card. To get started, go to www.hm-lib.org; click on the HelpNow link and receive one-on-one online help from an expert tutor (available from 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm).
Welcome New Board Directors

Cheryl Carter, writing and literary consultant, already has been invaluable to CPLF in her capacity on the Art & Literary committee. Cheryl’s love of all that is “book” is evident in her active participation on various literary, art, and school boards.

Judy Cunningham, former President of the Friends of Harrison Memorial Library, joins us this year on our Board of Directors. Judy’s passion for the Library has been demonstrated for many years through her generous gifts of time and expertise.

Don Dinsmore, long-time investment advisor to the Carmel Public Library Foundation Finance committee, is delighted to join the Board. His experience as a successful portfolio manager will be the perfect complement to the Board in these economic times.

Michelle Rench, Head of All Saints’ Episcopal Day School in Carmel, brings to the Foundation an important connection to families and children in our community. Her experience and expertise as an early childhood and adolescent educator will be a tremendous asset to the Library!

THE NOT SO SECRET LIFE OF US ALL

Yes, we all have our secrets. Even in this age of tell-all bios, spilling our guts on daytime TV, blogging our most intimate thoughts on the Net, there are still some things—not many—we keep to ourselves. They’re our secrets and we’re not going to blab ‘em, not to anyone.

Most of us have been around long enough to have read about folks with some surprising secrets: secret drinkers, secret gamblers—you get the point.

But I’m talking about people who love books on some rather arcane subjects or, let’s say, unusual genres not in the mainstream. Downright intriguing, these guilty pleasures.

How about the big bruise who checks into a motel every Thursday, not with a date, but with a shopping bag filled with romance novels: “He stopped her mouth with a kiss.” Dynamite!

Then there’s the homemaker mother, right out of “Leave it to Beaver,” who has just been elected president of the local PTA, who stashes picture mags of “Wrestlers of the Western World” in an unused bread box. Innocent, absolutely. But curious at the same time.

Even though a guy I know, a cowboy wrangler friend of mine, would deny it, I found a beautifully bound set of Remembrances of Things Past on his bookshelf next to the complete works of Zane Grey, Louis L’Amour, and Larry McMurtry. Very surprising I’d have to say. But then some would argue there’s a lot of Proust in Zane Grey. Anyway I intend to keep his secret. Well, up until now.

Then there are those who are all over the map when it comes to reading—the eclectic bunch. Their bookshelves hold what you might characterize as in-your-face-secrets. Let’s see, over here is a copy of The Greek Way; next to that is a pristine bio of Lana Turner; sidling up to Lana is The Origin of the Species, which is propped up by a 1983 edition of Nascar—The Book. Hard to pin these readers’ tastes down, let alone guess what’s on their night stands.

I suppose it’s only fair for you to ask what my own reading habits are, my own well kept secret, until now. I’ve never done this so I ask for your understanding.

I’m a reader of fiction and nonfiction. I read book reviews and I talk books with other serious readers. But I have had a secret for many years and that is my puerile passion for true crime. I buy these by the half dozen. And the more salacious the title, the faster my heart beats. A couple of titles come to mind: A Slice of Death, His Wife Didn’t Stand a Chance, Murder was a Piece of Cake, Kill Him Before He Kills Her. The one problem I have at the checkout counter is that I’m fearful of other customers seeing what I’m buying. So I clutch the small volumes to my breast. When I reach the cashier, I chuckle and say I’ve a friend who’s addicted to this trash. But the clerk knows better—he remembers me from last week and the week before that. He knows, too, that I always ask for a bag.

Secrets are just that—secret. But what fun it is to discover what lies hidden about our friends. And how very unsurprising. “You think you have a secret? Wait till you hear mine!”

—TOM PARKS
Serving our community with free programs and resources

www.carmelpubliclibraryfoundation.org

The Foundation’s Mission is to provide vital funds for Harrison Memorial Library that will ensure free library service in perpetuity. Every book, CD, DVD, all of the services, resources, equipment, and programs are funded by charitable dollars!

rooted in Carmel’s history.... ....growing towards the future