

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS AS FRIENDS

2021

friends RRPL

2022

Friends of the Rocky River Public Library



2021 - 2022

ANNUAL REPORT



A Message from Jamie Mason, RRPL Director

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support of the Friends and of the Library in 2021-2022. I am grateful for the support of our Board of Trustees, staff, and of course our patrons as we ramped back up after COVID restrictions.

The Friends celebrated 50 years of their support to our library this fiscal year. The board continued to meet via Zoom as they planned the National Friends of Libraries Week, Holiday Harvest Raffle, Library Staff Worker Appreciation Day event, Kids Membership Day and more.

This Spring marked the return of more in-person activity at the library, with more meeting rooms being used and in-person programming in place. The Friends are now in charge of the Ongoing Book Sale, which had been previously operated by the Women's Committee. We look forward to the continued success of this program as the Friends enters their next fiscal year.

Friends of the RRPL Governing Board 2021 - 2022

President

Sharon Fruchey

Vice President

John Hill

Treasurer

Peggy Cawley

Corresponding Secretary Membership Manager

Brittin Barkley

Recording Secretary

Patty McKenna

Members-at-Large

Kate Leslie
Craig Rimlinger
Stacie Gerrity

Business Membership

Sarah Siebert

Marketing/Media/Newsletter

Julie Drellishak

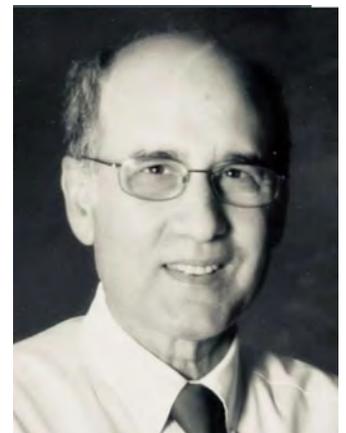
Event Support

Jenny Dieringer

In Memoriam: Leonard H. Abrams 1944 - 2021

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our former Friends of the RRPL President Leonard Abrams. Len was an avid supporter of the library, with a great sense of humor and a keen intellect. He and his wife Martie both served on the board, and always donated wonderful chocolates that they had made to our fundraisers.

Len, you are missed. In your honor, the Friends have purchased "The Soul of America" by Jon Meachum.





A Message from Sharon Fruchey, Friends of the RRPL President

Dear Friends,

Well, we all made it through another year under the COVID CLOUD and still, the Rocky River Public Library managed to enable learning and inspire creativity by connecting people with books, information, ideas and each other.

Our Friends board also continued with its commitment to both our membership and our mission of underwriting library programs such as the upcoming “teen cuisine”, “history talks” and “summer reading” to name a few. (Please note our Friends logo in your “Inside View” for Friends-sponsored programs).

This report expands on how our board has built on the initiatives introduced in the 21/22 fiscal year (FY) and the results of those efforts.

This FY marked the 50th year of the Friends. The most impactful development in our current FY has been the shift in the “Ongoing Book Sale” revenue from the former RRPL Women’s Committee to the Friends of the RRPL. This will significantly enhance the Friends’ ability to support the library moving forward.

Board members Brittin Barkley, Julie Drellishak, Stacie Gerrity, and Peggy Cawley will be leaving their board positions at the end of June. On behalf of our membership, we thank them for their service to the Friends and the sharing of their time and talent. Joining our board for the 2022/2023 FY will be Nate Louis, Roberta Trutko and Noreen Vokic. We look forward to their insights and ideas.

Lastly, I will be ending my term as President at the end of June. It has been my great pleasure to serve our membership and to work with our gifted board.

Summer Reading Kickoff/ Kids’ Membership Day

We finished off our fiscal year by participating in the Summer Reading Kickoff, with Sharon Fruchey, right, in attendance. A week later, we hosted our 6th annual Kids’ Membership Day at Mitchell’s Ice Cream in Rocky River. We celebrated with librarians from the Children’s Department and sign ups for the summer reading program, but more importantly...ICE CREAM!

All in total, we signed up 30 Kids’ memberships, and enjoyed a perfect summer day.



Membership News



By Brittin Barkley
Membership Manager

To recap the 2021/2022 year, Membership would like to shine the spotlight on loyalty. Nearly 40% of Friends members have been part of our mission for at least 5 years! Thank you to these loyal members, dedicated to supporting the Rocky River Public Library. Not far behind this esteemed group are our 2-to-4-year members representing a little more than 35% of total membership. Many in this group joined the Friends during our National Friends of Libraries membership campaign. Thank you for proving that the campaign effort is worthwhile! And last, but certainly not least, a huge welcome and thank you to our new members this year, representing just over a quarter of total membership. This group is the future of the Friends and we are enormously grateful for your support!

We hope all members are inspired by the Friends contribution to the library and will spread Friends awareness with their friends. When we come together and support what we value we can accomplish great things!

Please use friendsrpl@gmail.com to let us know how we can best represent you!

Business Membership



By Sarah Siebert
Business Membership

This year the Friends of the Rocky River Public Library celebrates 50 years of serving library patrons with rich programming and facilities investments that serve children, teens, families, and seniors in the community. Since 1971 the Friends have made hundreds of activities possible including the Tween Cooking Club, Film screenings, and Take it and Make it Crafts. Most recently, the Friends purchased an all-in-one, hands-on food education program called the Charlie Cart, which includes a mobile kitchen with cooking equipment and a teaching curriculum that will expand the library's culinary education offerings to Rocky River residents and library patrons.

As we look back and celebrate our accomplishments, we are grateful for the continuing support of Rocky River's business community which has made many of these investments possible through its commitment to the Friends and our many important initiatives. We are thrilled for our ever-expanding roster of Corporate Sponsors, whose generous financial contributions make valuable library programming possible! Our sponsors this year include River Dental Arts, Dr. Emily Zeisler, World Group LLC, Deb and Dave Furry, Northern Title Agency, Aileen FitzGerald & Elizabeth Gleim, Fitzgerald Team Howard Hanna, Charles P. Canepa, D.D.S., M.S., and Corrigan Krause CPAs and Consultants.

Treasurer Update

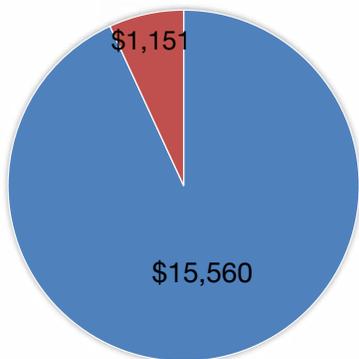


By Peggy Cawley
Membership Manager

The Friends of the RRPL has been productive financially despite the pandemic. Our membership income and corporate sponsors have increased over this time last year. Through the efforts of the former Women's Committee, we now report Book Sale Income, \$5,789 in the last 10 months.

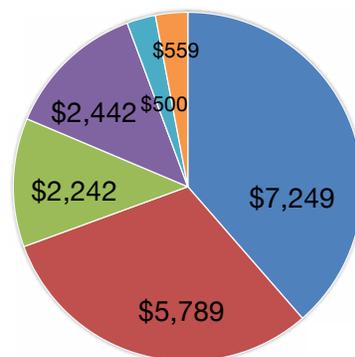
As a result of our efforts and the generosity of the community, we made a record high contribution to the library of \$15,560 in January. We anticipate an even higher contribution next year.

Expenses



■ Library Donation ■ Operating Expenses

Revenue



■ Membership Income ■ Book Sale
■ Corporate Sponsors ■ Other Donations
■ Grant Income ■ Fundraising Income

Event Support



By Jenny Dieringer
Event Support

The Friends helped celebrate National Library Week Staff Appreciation Day on April 5th. We provided prepackaged items to Library Staff, including healthy snacks. The Friends also spruced up the front lawn and lobby of the library with "Thank You" yard signs and posters. Notes of gratitude were written by Friends Board members and distributed to each of the Library Departments. The staff was grateful for all our efforts and support!

Marketing and Media Outreach



By Julie Drellishak
Marketing and Media Outreach

2021/2022 was an exciting year for the Friends of the Rocky River Public Library in respect to Marketing, as we celebrated our 50th year of fundraising! Despite the fact that COVID precluded us from hosting in-person events for half the year, we were still able to put on some engaging programs that helped raise monies.

We kicked off the FY with National Friends of Libraries Week in October. The membership drive was buoyed by support from local businesses, driving and engaging our membership. We launched The Holiday Harvest Raffle the middle of November, which involved raffling off cookbooks each week for four weeks and the chance to enter to win a grand prize from Lake Road Market. The event was near and dear to our hearts as we raised funds the prior year with the purchase of a Charlie Cart for our library in order to help provide culinary programming. Finally, we hosted our annual Kids Membership Day in June on site at Mitchell's Ice Cream.

We gained visibility and traction through our growing online presence on social media. Our Facebook page increased to 539 followers, with a reach of 6,218 impressions across 56 posts this year. Our Instagram page also grew to 102 followers, with 7,330 impressions across 56 posts.

Friends can find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheRockyRiverPublicLibrary>. We can also be discovered on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/rplfriends/>.

National Friends of Libraries Week
October 17-23, 2021

Sign up to be a Friend of the Rocky River Public Library anytime during the month of October 2021 and receive the following:

| MEMBERSHIP LEVEL | AMOUNT | WHAT YOU RECEIVE (Available for pickup at Our Book Booth 1-30) |
|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| Kids | \$8 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, Library Bookmark and Pinset, and 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book |
| Individual Adult | \$10 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, 1 Book Book Bookmark, and 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book |
| Family | \$15 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, 1 Book Book Bookmark, 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book, and 1 Free Adult Coffee Shopping Coupon for a Free Adult Coffee |
| Sponsor | \$25 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, 1 Book Book Bookmark, 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book, 1 Drop Coupon for \$5 OFF 1 Bag, One Our Wash Coupon, and 1 Free Adult Coffee Shopping Coupon for a Free Adult Coffee |
| Patron | \$50 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, 1 Book Book Bookmark, 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book, 1 Drop Coupon for \$5 OFF 1 Bag, One Our Wash Coupon, 1 Free Adult Coffee Shopping Coupon for a Free Adult Coffee, 1 Free \$25.00 Our Bag, and 1 Free for a Chapter or Win a \$100 Gift Card from Lake Road Market* |
| Honored Donor | \$100 | *1 Member's Ice Cream Free Scoop Certificate, 1 Book Book Bookmark, 1 Signature Book Coupon for a Free Book, 1 Drop Coupon for \$5 OFF 1 Bag, One Our Wash Coupon, 1 Free Adult Coffee Shopping Coupon for a Free Adult Coffee, 1 Free \$50.00 Our Bag, and 1 Free for a Chapter or Win a \$200 Gift Card from Lake Road Market* |

BONUS WAYS TO SUPPORT THE FRIENDS

Pay online through the Friends' Square website

You can also pick up a form at the library or visit our page on the RRPL website

Holiday Harvest Raffle

Entries on sale, starting November 15th!

November 28th, December 5th, December 12th, December 19th Drawings

Each week we will choose a winner at random for a set of two signed Half Baked Harvest cookbooks.

December 20th Grand Prize Drawing: All entrants, including any cookbook winners from prior weeks, will be eligible for the grand prize drawing for a \$150 Gift Card from Lake Road Market.*

Buy your entries online through the Friends' Square website: <https://friends.rocky-river-public-library.org>

Buy your entries online through the Friends' Square website

RRPL

ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

FRIENDS KIDS' MEMBERSHIP DAY

Thursday, June 16th
11 am to 2 pm

Mitchell's Ice Cream
19700 Detroit Road - Rocky River

\$5 Get you a membership, a bookmark and pencil, and Mitchell's Scoop Certificate!

Available for cash and coinless payments: Cash, check, or Square payment method accepted. Return anytime for a free scoop or enjoy your scoop and enjoy loved one from a great year!

Summer Reading Activities with RRPL Children's Librarians - Sign up for Summer Reading

THANK YOU

2021 - 2022 Friends of the RRPL Corporate Sponsors

River Dental Arts, Dr. Emily Zeisler

World Group LLC

Deb and Dave Furry, Northern Title Agency

Aileen FitzGerald and Elizabeth Gleim, FitzGerald Team Howard Hanna

Corrigan Krause CPAs and Consultants

Charles P. Canepa, D.D.S, M.S.

THANK YOU

to our 2021 National Friends of Libraries Week Sponsors



Rego's

Lake Road Market



THANK YOU

Friends of the RRPL Individual Donors

Tim Rossiter/ Progressive Insurance

The Fruchey Family Fund

Fidelity Investment Fund / Anonymous Gift

Bernard and Marion Buckner

Anne Demanelis

Genevieve Zarnick Family Fund

Key Bank Foundation

Your Support at Work: The Charlie Cart

We introduced the Charlie Cart, purchased by the Friends last year, as part of the RRPL's "Ice Cream in a Bag" event in June 2022. Look for the Charlie Cart to be used in future culinary programming offerings! All Friends sponsored events can be found highlighted with our logo next to the event name in the Inside View magazine.



Support the Friends of the Rocky River Public Library

friends RRPL
Friends of the Rocky River Public Library

RRPL

ONGOING

BOOK SALE

Hardcover books & audiobooks \$1
Other items \$.50

read, recycle, repeat

Sign up to be a Friend!

Visit our Square site by using your phone camera to scan our QR code



You can also pick up a form at the library or visit our page on the RRPL website!

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