From our Director

Our grateful thanks to the hundreds of people who responded to our recent appeal letter. Below are the names of donors who made recent, significant gifts:

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Thank You!

Beautiful Book of the Month: The Snowflake: Winter's Secret Beauty by Kenneth Libbrecht. Stunning photographs of snow crystals, early snowflake sketches, and a "field guide" to falling snow make me almost nostalgic for winter.

- Nancy Hammeneke Marshall

Volunteer Spotlight – JoAnn Werthner

For more information/Become a volunteer: 215-885-5180, ext. 11 or abg.mclinc.org/Volunteer.htm

Volunteers pour their heart and soul into the library. In this issue, we highlight JoAnn Werthner. JoAnn was born in the Endless Mountains region of Pennsylvania. She spent the first ten years of her life on her grandfather’s farm, before moving with her family to the ‘big city’ of Towanda, PA. From Towanda High School, she jumped to the really big city, winning a scholarship to Moore College of Art in Philadelphia for a degree in interior design. In addition to working with architects and contractors, JoAnn has a real estate license.

She said she joined the Friends in 1975 because “Libraries have always been an important part of my life.” The library was quite new then. JoAnn remembers being thrilled when the Friends were able to donate $5,000 in a single year to the library, by holding used book sales and standing out on street corners with sashes selling library “tags.”

Over the years, the Friends grew. Occasional book sales became the BookCellar, a used book store open six days a week in the library’s lower level. Election Day bake sales became fixed events. In 1997, JoAnn suggested that the Friends support the purchase of an internet computer for the library. That snowballed into an automation program and renovations completed in 2001. JoAnn was president of the Friends for several years and was recently appointed to the Library Board of Trustees.

JoAnn and husband George have one son, Stephen, who is a teacher in upstate New York.

- Lois Odabas
From the Friends
For all Friends activities call: 215-885-5180, ext. 36 or abg.mclinc.org/aplfnd.htm

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE – Apr 27, all day – Take a moment to buy something delicious!
Bring your baked goods to the Circulation Desk the day before or to the bake sale tables early on Election Day. Share your cakes, cupcakes, muffins, pies, home canned goods, low-fat specialties, etc. Please label goods and note ingredients such as types of nuts, fruit, etc.

PICNIC IN THE PARK/Annual Meeting – Monday, Jun 14, 5:45 p.m., Alverthorpe Park, Fox Chase entrance. Pot Luck Supper! Bring a dish of your favorite food and $1 donation. There will be a short business meeting followed by a social hour and fun! Bring the whole family!

BOOKCELLAR - PRE-OWNED BOOKS, VIDEO & AUDIO TAPES, BOOKMARKS, CDs & DVDs FOR SALE on the lower level of the library! Mon-Fri, noon-4 p.m., Sat, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun – call 215-885-5180, ext. 36 for hours. Donations of all of the above gratefully accepted!

VOLUNTEER AT THE BOOKCELLAR! Looking for a way to support your library? You can donate books, etc. (donations are tax-deductible), sort, price and shelve books, staff sales, or purchase from our wide selection. Volunteers needed to sell books. Call 215-885-5180, ext. 36.

HONOR BOOKS – A donation to The Friends of the Library will add a book to our collection in honor or in memory of your loved one.

LIBRARY BOOK BAGS
LARGE TOTE BAG - $10 - 18”W x 12”H with a 6” bottom gusset
TOM THUMB TOTE - $6 - 13”W x 10”H with a 5” bottom gusset

Thank you!
Items may be purchased through the Friends at the Circulation Desk, Children’s Department or in the Bookcellar. All proceeds benefit Abington Township Public Libraries.

Watch for the Abington Book Cart Drill Team in Glenside’s 4th of July Parade!
Young Adult/Teens at Abington

For more information: Ann Fields, Young Adult Librarian 215-885-5180 ext. 13 or e-mail afields@mclinc.org

JOIN TEEN READING CLUB this summer.
Jun 14 – Aug 20  Read books for prizes and Get Lost @ your library.

GET LOST @ YOUR LIBRARY in a great book! Young Adults – ages 12-18. Join us for snacks and book discussion. Set aside these dates on Tuesdays from 2-3 p.m.: Jun 22, Jul 27 and Aug 10.

JOIN TEEN READING CLUB this summer.
Jun 14 – Aug 20  Read books for prizes and Get Lost @ your library.

Abington READS! Teens and young readers spend an hour each week reading together. Young readers, who have finished kindergarten through 2nd grade, practice their reading skills coached by a junior/senior high school student. Young adults earn service hours awhile they inspire a younger reader and enjoy great children’s books.

Abington Reads
Young Adults, ages 12-17: REQUIRED TRAINING SESSION: Thu, Jun 17, 6–8 pm.
Reading Sessions:
Mondays @ 6-7 p.m. Thursdays @ 10-11 a.m.
Mondays @ 7-8 p.m. Thursdays @ 11-noon

WITH ART AND JOURNALING - Young Adults – ages 13–18.

Join Diana Trout (artist and journaling enthusiast) for creative journaling. Use art, poetry and writing to put your thoughts on paper. Bring your own journal or notebook, other supplies provided.

Every Wednesday in July at 6:30 p.m. – July 7, 14, 21, 28.
Registration begins: June 14, 2004 at the Information Desk or call 215-885-5180 ext. 13.

Calendar of Events for Adults

For more information: 215-885-5180, ext. 15 or abg.mclinc.org/calendar.htm

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES – Meets every first Thursday at 1 p.m.
Apr 1 – Coffee Trader by David Liss.
Jun 3 – Family Resemblance by Tanya Maria Barrientos.

RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL SEMINAR - 7 p.m. in the Shorday Room.
Apr 7 – The Poetry of Emily Dickinson. Registration is a must! Packets are available in the Library Office.

OLD YORK ROAD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - Meets every second Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Apr 13 – 9th annual dinner meeting at Williamson Restaurant in Horsham. Reservations required.
May 11 – Tim Coyne will prepare us for our field trip to the Philadelphia National Archives on May 15.
Jun 8 – Jefferson Moak, Districts, Townships and Boroughs of Philadelphia.

WORLD WAR II LECTURE SERIES - Meets every third Tuesday at 3 and 7 p.m.
Apr 20 – Lt. Craig Shields, an 8th Airforce pilot and POW from Abington. "Shot Down Over Europe – 1944."
Jun 15 – Lt. Joseph Barrett, "Life as a POW in Oflag 64."

WIN WITH ARISTOTLE! – 10-11 a.m. in the Shorday Room Burton Klein will show us how to win life’s arguments through Aristotle. Sep 9, 23, Oct 14, 28 and Nov 11.
From Roslyn Branch Library
For more information: 215-886-9818 or abg.mclinc.org/aplros.htm

SPRING STORY TIMES: Apr 19-Jun 7 Mondays 1:30-2 p.m. for ages 3-6.
    Thursdays 10:30-11 a.m. for ages 2-3.

BOOK DISCUSSION for children ages 8 and up. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Registration is required. Apr 12 - Loser by Jerry Spinelli  May 10 - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis

FREE FAMILY CONCERT - Celebrate National Library Week (April 18-24) with talented singer, guitarist and preschool teacher Erin Flynn Apr 19 at 7 p.m., for ages 3 and up.

PAJAMA PARTIES: Apr 26, May 17, 24, Jun 7 from 6:30-7 p.m. Mondays for ages 3-6.

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM: May 21 at 1 p.m. Gardens by Design. Call or stop by to register.

RAGGEDY ANN will be visiting the Roslyn Branch on Fri Jun 25 at 2 p.m. courtesy of Barnes & Noble Booksellers. Program is for ages 2-7.

ROSelyn READS: Begins in June and runs through Aug. Dates to be announced.

FAMILY FUN DAYS: Jul 7, 14, 21 and 28, Aug 4 and 18 at 10 a.m. for ages 3 and up.

SUMMER STORY TIMES: Begin Jul 6 and run through Aug 19.
    Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 3-6 and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. for ages 2-3.

SPECIAL PROGRAM Jul 26 for ages 3 and up. 6:30-7:15 p.m.

From the Children’s Department

DROP-IN STORY TIMES FOR ALL AGES - No advance registration required. Every Tuesday at 11 a.m. through May 25. Informal story times are led by members of the Jenkintown Kiwanis Club in cooperation with the Children’s Department staff. Come discover new stories and enjoy old favorites. Parents/caregivers must attend with their children.

APRIL FOOL’S DAY CELEBRATION – Apr 1, 7 p.m. for ages 6-10. Listen to funny stories...Play goofy games...Wear a crazy hat or outfit and win a prize! Registration begins Mar 22.

FAMILY READING LOGS are due Fri, Apr 9. Please turn in your log to receive a free book.

SPRING STORY TIMES for children ages 2-6 will continue through the week of April 12. No registration required. Please call for specific dates and times.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - Celebrate National Library Week (April 18-24) with talented singer, guitarist and preschool teacher Erin Flynn on Apr 22 at 7 p.m. Registration begins Mon, Apr 12.

POETRY WORKSHOP & OPEN MIKE NIGHT – Apr 29, 6:30–8 p.m. for ages 8-11. Children will attend an introductory session independently from 6:30–7. Families will then join group at 7 for the open mike portion of program. Registration begins Mon, Apr 19.

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY FOR AGES 3-5 - May 5, 7 p.m. Join us for stories, snacks and sleepy time fun. Children are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to cuddle. No advance registration is required.

The Children’s Department is collecting long, paper tubes for summer programs (tubes like the ones from wrapping paper). We will need about 30. If you have any to spare, please bring them to the Children’s Department, Lower Level.
Adult Literacy

For more information: please contact Marlyn Cohen 215-885-5183

Family Literacy A program for 3- to 5-year-olds and their parents and/or caregivers. The next 8-week cycle will run Mar 19, 26, Apr 2, 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 10–11:30 a.m. Fridays.

Apr 19 - 7 p.m. Tutor Support Meeting. Language Experience Method and newspapers for ESL (English as a Second Language) and ABE (Adult Basic Education) students. What is language experience?

May 12 - 7 p.m. Tutor Support Meeting. Learning Disability. What is dyslexia? Can it be overcome? Book review of Overcoming Dyslexia by Dr. Sally Shaywitz, a new compendium of latest research on the subject. Continuing education credit offered.

Jun 9 – 7:30 p.m. Tutor/Student Reception. Certificate of achievement for students, dedication of encyclopedia set given to library in honor of literacy volunteers and special awards to 5-year+ volunteers. Students and literacy volunteers invited along with family and friends.

- Marlyn Cohen

NoveList from POWER Libraries

For more information: Information/Reference 215-885-5180 ext. 13

The Commonwealth Libraries have provided several online databases for use at home or in the library. These databases include sites about science, art, photography and literature, as well as sources for full texts of magazine articles.

It is a whole new world out there on the computer. One of our favorites for the fiction reader is called NoveList. This nifty site helps when you have read an author or a title and want another one like it.

For instance, if you have read Dan Brown’s The Da Vinci Code and you like the thriller aspect of the novel, NoveList will suggest these authors: Daniel Silva, John Case or Michael Crichton.

For those who are interested in the role of women in the early church era, which is another topic in Brown’s book, NoveList suggests authors like Barbara Wood and Margaret George.

Also available on the site are helps for book discussions, and for finding that special book when you know the plot but not the title or author.

Come to the Information Desk and ask us to help you get started with this gateway to good reading.

- Karen Byrne
Staff Spotlight – Celia Frankford, Head, Roslyn Branch

Celia Frankford wears many hats in her job as the Roslyn Branch librarian – most recently a shamrock-rimmed bowler for a St. Patrick’s Day party and the Cat in the Hat’s floppy topper for a Dr. Seuss celebration.

“I like the variety,” Celia says of her many duties, which she has juggled skillfully since joining the library staff in 1999.

Helping patrons, answering reference questions, ordering books, reading to children, visiting schools and day care centers, hiring entertainers, delivering books to the homebound – it’s all in a day’s work.

Celia aims for variety in her programs, too. In 2003 she planned 146 programs, including school visits, which reached 3,465 people. Magicians, musicians, jugglers, a police dog (and his officer), local politicians, poets and authors – all have visited Roslyn Library to educate or entertain, oftentimes both.

Celia earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Temple in 1975. She later earned a master’s in special education, and worked seven years in Cheltenham schools as a learning disabilities teacher. Her master’s in library science comes from Drexel, and she is also certified as a public school librarian. She worked at the Chestnut Hill College library for several years before coming to Roslyn.

The branch has seen changes since Celia’s arrival – new lighting, new paint, new carpeting, new shelving – but the friendly atmosphere has remained the same.

“It’s a place where people feel comfortable coming in just to read the paper, to have a chat with the staff,” Celia says.

Whether it’s organizing a poetry contest, a book discussion, or a library version of the “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?” game, Celia always looks for new ways to involve the next generation with books – and the library.

“My goal is to make it a busy, vibrant, thriving library – and to have fun,” Celia says.

Celia and her husband, Hal, have three sons. In her free time, she enjoys walking (on the treadmill if the weather doesn’t cooperate) and traveling. All the Frankfords are Broadway musical fans. Celia’s favorite? “Les Miserables,” which she has seen three times.

– Cathy Kress