

2018 SUMMER READING WRAP-UP

Summer Reading Statistics, comparing years:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Programs:	33	27	31	33	38	*40	*40
Total Attendance:	1,082	1,110	1,066	1,119	1,727	1,750	1,783
Average attendance:	33	41	41	34	45	43	44
Total Registrations:	129	261	268	151	228	289	300
Total Books Logged:	3,087	2,672	1,951	736	*minutes	2,383	1,708
*Total Minutes Logged:	0	0	0	36,969	22,516		

* Had to cancel 4 scheduled programs in 2017 due to the lower level library flooding.

* 4 programs cancelled due to **flooding & problems** at the Verona Camp in 2018.



Extended School Year Students
Riverview School District



Summer Reading Grand Finale Party



Shane teaching kids
about electricity



Western PA Center
for the Arts



Pierce, one of our
outreach kids,
having fun



Emily Defino, winner of
our Teen Photo Contest



ESY kids visit
the library



STEAM learning at our 2:00 Tuesdays



Our outreach kids having fun in Verona

The YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh was excited to take the Y to the streets. *Y on the Fly* is a mobile YMCA that brings pop-up summer camp activities, learning and fun to children in underserved neighborhoods. This activity was located at Cribbs Field in Verona.



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FOOL'S FORUM



A Newsletter by and for the Friends of the Oakmont Library

(affectionately known by the acronym "FOOL's")

700 Allegheny River Blvd., Oakmont, PA 15139 • 412-828-9532

VOLUME 25 • SPRING 2019

CHILDREN READING • 4TH OF JULY CRAFT • AMERICAN GIRL • CHILDREN'S AUTHOR • FINANCIAL LITERACY • STEM AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

SO MUCH TO SEE SO MUCH TO DO @your library

PIGGY BANK CRAFT • PROGRAM - VERNER • LUNCH & LEARN CAMP • SUMMER READING • DOLL PARTY • TALK - 10TH STREET SCHOOL

The mission of the Friends of the Oakmont Library, a non-profit organization, is to provide financial assistance to the Oakmont Carnegie Library for outside-the-budget children and young adult programming. Since 1992 the Friends raised over \$110,000 through the annual tax-deductible membership drive and the Friends of the Oakmont Library link on the Oakmont Library website. Since the acronym for the Friends of the Oakmont Library is FOOL, it was decided from the beginning to embrace this identity by using two jesters reading books on our letterhead. This has become a symbol for people who support the Oakmont Carnegie Library, a library serving the children and youth of the Oakmont and Verona communities. How appropriate that we begin our annual membership drive by sending this newsletter near our founding anniversary of April Fool's Day!

To The Friends of the Oakmont Library,

Basic Literacy includes, but is not limited to: reading, comprehension, writing, grammar and spelling. These skills are crucial for active participation in the modern world. Basic Literacy helps individuals navigate the world - from directions to the supermarket to writing a resume for a dream job. Basic Literacy Skills give individuals the foundation on which to build a meaningful and purposeful life.

Did you know that nationwide only 48% of parents read to their preschoolers daily? Thirteen percent of Pennsylvanians lack basic literacy skills such as the ability to read a newspaper or brochure. Children have watched 5,000 hours of TV before they get to kindergarten. Employers rank reading and writing as top deficiencies in new hires. Thirty-eight percent of employers find high school graduates "deficient" in reading comprehension.

Through programming, outreach and programs such as "Books for Babies" supported by the Friends of the Oakmont Library, the Oakmont Library supports emerging literacy beginning with programming for babies.

Beth Mellor

Director Oakmont Carnegie Library

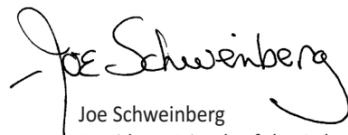
A Message from the President

The mission of the Friends of the Oakmont Library is to raise funds through this newsletter to provide services, equipment, materials, books and programming for children and young adults. These are items that cannot otherwise be purchased through the Library's budget. Prior to each of our board meetings I ask our Youth Services Librarian, Karen, if there is anything that she may need for her programming that would be necessary for its scheduling, or anything else that would enhance an existing or future program. I was just presented with a wish list that would cover the entire 2019 Summer Reading Program. This is something that the Friends of the Oakmont Library pay for each year that includes materials, crafts, other supplies and snacks for the children.

Recently, I was told that the Library is almost out of the "Books for Babies" kits which the FOOL's have supplied in the past. Of all the purchases that our membership provides, I feel most proud of this program. When I'm at the Library and I see a parent with children checking out multiple books, I wonder if they once took home one of our free kits.

As our Library Director Beth mentions in her message, statistics nationwide state less than half of parents read to their preschoolers daily. It is during these years that scientists believe the greatest amount of brain growth occurs. It is here when not only the development of the child's reading skills and ability occurs but more importantly, instilling a lifelong love of reading and learning. The child learns to read with no pressure from a classroom situation that will be years away and at the child's own pace. By reading to their babies and becoming regular library users themselves, parents help their babies develop language skills and start them on the path to success in reading and learning. "Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." Emilie Buchwald, Author and Publisher

"Books for Babies" is one of the many programs made possible through the financial support of your membership through the Friends of the Oakmont Library. If you are a member, I thank you for your past and continued support. If not a member, please consider helping us maintain the continued quality of the children and young adult programming at the Oakmont Carnegie Library.



Joe Schweinberg
President, Friends of the Oakmont Library
Serving the Verona and Oakmont communities

According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the word **retirement** (n.) means "withdrawal from one's position or occupation or from active working life." For some people, retirement is the time when alarm clocks are turned off, early morning commutes to work are over and they look forward to relaxing in a rocking chair. But I know a group of 8 women who do not fit this picture of retirement. They are known as the Tuesday Table Ladies.



These ladies meet for dinner every Tuesday night. One evening, Muriel did not show up. As they wondered where their friend was, and what had happened to her, the phrase "Where's Muriel?" was repeatedly heard until she finally appeared and explained the delay. In their relief, someone mentioned that "this sounds like a mystery novel." And so, an idea was born and these 8 friends began the challenge of writing *Where's Laura?*

Many have wondered how eight people could collaborate to write a novel and still remain friends. The secret lies in the ground rules they established:

1. All the authors have equal partnership in this project; none has any ownership of words, characters, or ideas.
2. This means there should be no hurt feelings when one's magnificent prose is edited or deleted.
3. This collaboration will stop only when it ceases to be fun."

Finally, since there would not be room to list all their names on the spine of the book, it was necessary to choose a penname. The result was **Octavia** (from the word octave-8) and because they all lived at Longwood, **Long** was adopted as a last name.



After the ground rules were set, the ideas began to flow. Each had a part in defining the characters and developing the plot. They wanted to show what life is like in a retirement community and so that would be the setting of their mystery. Over a three year period, *Where's Laura?* was written and published. After many accolades and requests for a second book, it was decided that another book must be written and *Winter Comes* was published in 2018.



The Tuesday Table Ladies are **Dorothy Armistead, Doreen Boyce, Nancy Courtney, Anne Ducanis, Constance Fischer, Margaret Groninger, Jane Reimers, and Muriel Weeks**. They came together with a variety of backgrounds before their retirement; the group includes three college professors, a music teacher, an executive secretary at J&L Steel, and administrators in social service, school and mental health systems. Several of the group had previously written books or papers, but none had ever written fiction. It was a learning experience for all.

The Tuesday Table Ladies have shown that living in a retirement center can be great fun but you make it what it is. They encourage their readers to keep moving, and do something with that time of their life, whether it's quilting, or painting, or even writing a book. All proceeds from the sale of the books go to the Longwood Benevolent Care Fund for the assistance of residents with financial needs. The fund is administered by the Presbyterian Senior Care Foundation

Pittsburgh Icon Fred Rogers agrees with these energetic and entertaining women. He once stated "Often when you think you're at the end of something, you're at the beginning of something else."

2019 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Anonymous	Irana Davis	Eleanor M. Hitchak	Andrew & Deanna Mlynarczyk	Bob & Jan Shoop
Barbara L. Alcorn	Donna E. DeTurck	Loren Holt	Jerry & Dorothy R. Morrone	Steve & Dot Shreve
Marilyn Alexander	Mary G. DiDiano	Marguerite D. Iole	Judy & John Murray	Rhoda F. Sikov
The Swann- Ambrose Family	Anthony M. DiGioia	Paula Jesion	Dorothy A. Nixon	Bob & Joan Stewart
Sam & Dixie Anderson	Thomas E. Dinnin	Bob & Mary Keefer	Barbara Ann Nolte	Emily & Nate Stimmel
Anne B. Angerman	Mary - Isabel Doak	Biane Kidwell	Steven A. Obenreder	Zulema Zattoni & Dr. Abraham Sudilovsky
Jan & Jim Beiber	Paula Doelfel	Mary Lou Kissane	Thomas J. O'Brien	Lawrence E Sullivan
Patricia V. Black	Wallace D Edsall	Ralph Klug	Kenneth E. Opal	Jim & Karen Sweetland
Frank & Cathy Bonaroti	Minda & Myra Fall	Carol B. Knapp	Warren & Rena Ostlund	Alex Ciocca & Pat Thibault
The Louis Bosser Family	Frederick R. Favo	Mark & Ginny Koenig	Janet E. Parkins	Sally Vasko
Brigitte Bouchat	Dr. H. F. Flynn	Barb & Kevin Koszka	Bryan Pepper	Gladys B. Vayda
Kathleen Bowser	Jane W. Foster	Stanley & Mary Jane Luczak	Joanne & Bob Phillips	Mrs. Patricia A. Walsh
August Brancati	Frank & Janet Genovese	David Lyle	Rena Mae Poppish	David Watters
Gail Braunger	Robert & Sandra Gentilcore	Louise B. Lytle	William P. Pottinger	William & Laura Wengert
Joanne and Dave Brownlee	Barbara A. Giarrusso	The Machen Family	Vince & Dolly Provenza	Pete & Myrna Wetmore
Barbara Burgman	Mark & Ida Gleeson	Arlene M. Malky	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Purtell	Lawrence & Fran White
Carol & Dan Burton	Lucy Gregory	Chris & Sue Martin	Leslie & Robert Rametta	Larry & Mary Whitney
Marina Caffas	Dr. Terry Griffin	Merrill & Maria McCrady	Dale & Joan Remai	Richard A. & Nancy Lee Williams
Richard Capozzi	Robert & Joan Gundersen	Bob & Diane McCutcheon	Deborah Robinson	Marian Williams
Laverne M. Cichon	Dave & Maureen Hanekamp	Ralph & Mary McIntyre	Paul & Barbara Rocchini	Beth Williams
LaVerne T. Claus	Mary F. Hanna	Mary Lou McLaughlin	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Rocke	Jerome & Evie Wrzosek
Patrick & Frances Connolly	Quintin Hartwig	Thomas & Anne Medsger	Carole L. Roney	Margo K. Xidis
Maggie Conte	Janice M. Harvanek	Annamae Beardshall & Thomas Mettrick	August Savio	John & Rita Young
Mary M. Contestabile	Paul R. Herrle	Jack & Shannon Meyers	Frances J. Saxon	
Carolyn Czapor	Mrs. Dorothy Highberger	Dulcie & Ralph Milcic	Dick & Joan Schneider	
Barbara Davis	Candace & Scott Hill		Joseph C. Schweinberg	

We have made every effort to present the list of donors as accurately and completely as possible. If any errors have occurred, we apologize most sincerely.

Books for Babies are kits containing appropriate reading materials for parents and baby. Each packet includes the following items, assembled in an attractive plastic bag:



- **Babies Love Books** guide for grown-ups, a delightful full-color, and multicultural booklet about how you can read to your children anytime, anyplace.
- **Books for Babies** full-color brochure with reading tips.
- **Baby's First Book**, an attractive board book selected specifically for babies. Title may vary and is subject to change.
- A **bookmark** with tips on reading to babies.
- **Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer**, a brochure from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
- **Baby's First Library Card** to be taken to your library to exchange for the real thing.

The Friends of the Oakmont Library (FOOL's) are proud to sponsor these kits. They are available at the Oakmont Carnegie Library free of charge.

Christmas Party Time at the Library

The invitation was out and parents and children arrived. They were ready to begin the fun activities for the holiday season. Books, crafts and of course, snacks were available. Each child had the opportunity to take home the items they created. It was a joy seeing parents and children working together. It was a great activity for all.

