

Reflections on Joining the Friends in 1991

I joined the Friends in 1991. At that time, our monthly meetings in the old building were modest gatherings, typically attended by just ten to twelve dedicated members. The meetings themselves were quite simple—we didn't have any formal programs or scheduled presentations, just the commitment of a small, passionate group united by a love for our mission.

Despite our small numbers, we found ways to contribute and engage with the community. One of our key activities was the annual book sale, which became something of a tradition. Each year, we would organize the sale at the firehouse located across the street. These book sales were not only an important fundraising effort but also an opportunity to connect with our neighbors and foster a sense of community around our shared interests. We also had our annual basket of Books and a flea market and craft fair which was quite successful

A book discussion group was started with a few people but when we moved to the new building we received a grant from the Pa Humanities Council. We had speakers who attracted many new members, and the group continues to this day.

After we moved to our new building our longtime member, Sharon Triester, planned a bookroom that was built by the

students from the Montco Votech school. Our book sales have been a huge success bringing in funds to purchase items and programs for the library. Over the years our fundraising has grown to include bake sales, used jewelry sales and an annual tea and fashion show. Trips to see shows in New York and Philly have been well attended.

One of our founding members left us a substantial bequest in her will which provides for children's materials and will continue well into the future.

As our membership expanded, so did our ability to make a difference. New faces brought fresh energy and ideas, enabling us to diversify our activities and reach a wider audience. The camaraderie among members is always evident, and together we embrace new opportunities to support the library and enrich our community.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our many fundraising efforts and for new members of our executive board. If you are interested, please see any member of the board.

Looking back, those early days with the Friends were humble, but they laid the foundation for the growth and continued impact of our group.

Our commitment to promoting literacy and supporting the library has remained unwavering throughout the years. We

have witnessed firsthand the positive changes that our collective efforts have made, not only in enhancing library resources but also in strengthening the bonds within our community. The friendships formed and the sense of purpose shared among members continue to inspire us as we look forward to future endeavors.

We want to thank Pam and her staff for all the help that they have given us.