

Newsletter

November 2019

Financial Report

Mary Keidel, Treasurer

The two main sources of revenue for the Friends of the Hudson Library are book sales at our Book Store and membership dues and donations. As of 10/31/19, book sales have generated over \$28,200 and membership dues and donations brought in over \$3,600, for a total of \$31,800. Compared to our financial report last year at the same time, our revenue in 2019 has increased 14%. By expanding the number of hours our Book Store is open and offering additional books for purchase online, we believe we have increased revenue substantially.

Our financial goal is to support the library with the majority of funds available. From January through October this year, we have donated \$27,500. We work closely with the Executive Director of the library to identify areas where support is needed. This year our donations have included:

- Adult Programming
- Summer Reading Program
- Children/Teen Materials
- Large Print Books
- Brewster Café Support

We want to increase our support of the library in the coming years and are most appreciative of the donations we receive from our community and our dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly toward this goal.

Communicator

Friends of the Hudson Library



MESSAGE FROM THE FRIENDS' PRESIDENT

Where Does the Year Go? From Lynn L. Remly

Fall already past, and winter on the horizon. Where does the year go?

As 2019 fades away, we have a chance to evaluate our work, and we can say once again that the Friends enjoyed a prosperous year, for which we are grateful.

First, we are proud that we now include 50 volunteers in our ranks, dedicated and hard-working men and women who make our 5 weekly book sales such a success. Though few people see the behind-the-scenes efforts of our volunteers, these loyal workers regularly contribute an average of 300 hours, the equivalent of over 7 full weeks of work, each month.

We are also thankful for the community's support in the form of steady book donations as well as purchases. Patrons of the book sales often comment on the quality and variety of the books on our shelves, as well as the attractive display they form.

Because of the volunteers' efforts in sorting and selling donated books, the Friends will contribute over \$30,000 to the Hudson Library and Historical Society by year's end, a sum that will allow the Library to offer more books and materials and more of the programs that are so popular with patrons in Hudson and beyond.

Membership/ Publicity

Denise D. Gibson, Chair

This active committee of four individuals meets regularly to identify monthly displays for books sales, publicize special sales in the Bookstore, submit articles for the *Hub-Times*, maintain the email address, Facebook account and website for the organization and oversee an annual membership drive. The committee is expanding its database to include email addresses of members and interested patrons in the Bookstore. The goal in 2020 is to increase membership and electronic communication.

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The intake from our monthly book sales has exceeded that of 2018, as detailed in the Treasurer's Report. Further, to buttress the in-store sales, we have expanded our on-line sales efforts through Amazon, to the point that we have added about \$500 each month to our regular tally. We expect that on-line sales will form an ever-larger contribution to our intake as time goes on, all to the benefit of the Library and its patrons.

We hope to increase our membership in 2020, and to that end, we have formed a Membership/Publicity Committee to direct our outreach efforts. We will continue to make ourselves better known to the Hudson community through articles in the *Hub-Times* and notices on social media, in the hope that people in the area will support us by becoming members.

Overall, 2019 was an excellent year, and we all hope for even better results next year.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Beverly Dorson, Chair

2019 has been a great year for volunteering at the Friends Bookstore. We have gained 10 new volunteers with only a few leaving this year. Some volunteers come from as far away as Strongsville and as near as Stow. It is always wonderful to meet people that are inspired to volunteer. With their enthusiasm, love of books and organizational skills, they prepare book displays that are better stocked and more accessible. Most of our volunteers are retired and some are snow birds. We accommodate our volunteers' schedules and appreciate the time they give us.

Many new ideas are the result of some of our newer volunteers. We also appreciate the efforts of the Membership and Publicity Committee who have added signage and published bios of individuals and groups of volunteers. We have a Facebook page as well as a web page incorporated into the Hudson Library's web page, created and maintained by a member of this committee, where you can learn of upcoming sales, seasonal items for sale and some fun facts about reading.

Of course, we are constantly amazed at the quality and quantity of our community's donations. Please keep the donation bin full so we can continue in our mission to supplement the budget of our outstanding five-star Library and Historical Society. When you visit our Bookstore, be sure to check out the chalk board listing information on our volunteer hours and monies donated to the library.

Watch for our upcoming Holiday Sale on Tuesday December 3, from 9:30 am-5 pm, with a bag sale the last two hours of the sale when you can pick up holiday books at an even greater discount. Along with this early Holiday Sale, we will have another all-day sale on Saturday, December 7. Both sales offer a great opportunity to find gifts for anyone on your list.

Even with our current group of dedicated volunteers, we can always use more help sorting the donations that come into the Bookstore, assisting with sales during the Bookstore hours, or volunteering on special projects for the Friends. Please contact us by email, friends@hudson.lib.oh.us, to sign up or stop into the Friends Bookstore and let us know how you would like to get involved. We'd love to have you join us!