

Friends of PPLD 2024 Annual Report

During 2024, the Friends continued to fulfill our mission and vision supporting PPLD.

Our mission is:

The Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District supports the Pikes Peak Library District in providing programs and spaces that cultivate belonging, personal growth and strong communities. We achieve this by:

- *Growing and retaining a thriving, diverse membership*
- *Recruiting and leading strong, dedicated volunteers*
- *Providing affordable books for library patrons through our bookstores and book sales*
- *Raising money through book sales, programs, membership and donations*

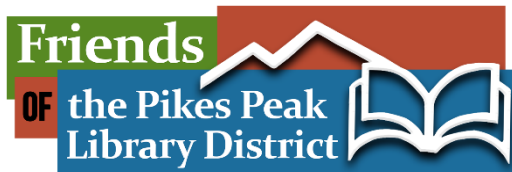
Our vision is:

Expand and enhance the Pikes Peak Library District's ability to positively impact our community.

We provided a physical presence at PPLD events supported by the Friends by talking to attendees about the resources available through PPLD, to helping PPLD staff oversee programs. We held our premier event, the Literary Awards luncheon in June 2024, presenting the Frank Waters and Golden Quill Awards.

It is our on-going goal to serve PPLD through financial support for PPLD programming, Regional and Branch library staff professional development, appreciation and support, as well as providing volunteers for PPLD events. Our regular sources of revenue include the spring and fall Big Book Sales, three Regional Bookstores (21c, East and Penrose), online book sales through Amazon, E-bay, the Friends Web storefront and book sales at the Branch Libraries. We continue to focus on improving communications via the Friends Website and quarterly newsletter. Both have helped to increase membership, volunteers, and community engagement.

The Friends thank Teona Shainidze-Krebs, Chief Librarian and CEO, and all the PPLD staff for their outstanding support in 2024.



Membership

| | <u>December-23</u> | <u>December-24</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Junior Bronze | 8 | 11 |
| Adult Bronze | 211 | 235 |
| Family Bronze | 329 | 345 |
| Senior Bronze | 175 | 200 |
| Senior Fam Bronze | 163 | 184 |
| Ind Silver | 4 | 6 |
| Family Gold | 2 | 1 |
| Lifetime | 324 | 322 |
| | | |
| Total: | 1216 | 1308 |
| Households: | 879 | 952 |

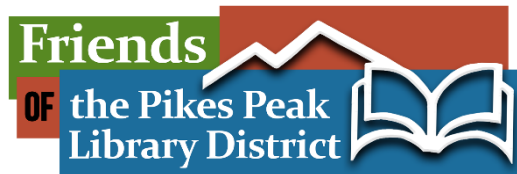
Membership growth has continued to be strong. For years membership bounced around the 900-**member** mark, dipping during Covid. In March of 2024 we crossed 1,000 **households**. We were solidly over 900 households throughout 2024, and in some months exceeded 1,000 **households**.

We have rolled out a simplified fee structure. All memberships going forward are household memberships, defined as up to two adults and their dependent children under the age of 18.

- **Bronze** - \$25 (single or household membership)
- **Silver** - \$200 (includes Bronze benefits plus a \$15 gift certificate for one book sale, plus one admittance to Literary Awards.)
- **Gold** - \$400 (includes Bronze benefits plus a \$25 gift certificate for one book sale, plus two admittances to Literary Awards.)

MembershipWorks

Our membership management system is operational. Members can not only join via the PPLD Friends website, but they can manage their own accounts, make changes to contact information, add family members, and print their own membership cards! This will greatly streamline the membership process, particularly for the Big Book Sales. We can still accept paper memberships if needed.



Following are a few of the 2024 Friends activities:

Literary Awards: Frank Waters and Golden Quill

The 2024 Literary Awards Luncheon was held on June 1 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotels. Mark Lee Gardner was presented the Frank Waters Award, honoring and celebrating an author's writing achievements and literary excellence. Donna Guthrie was presented the Golden Quill Award, recognizing regional literary or artistic achievement and exemplary community service through workshops, teaching or artistic events.

BookBrowse

BookBrowse was rolled out in February 2023. The 2024 year-end stats increased over those of 2023. Logins at the library totaled 506. Remote logins totaled 3,667 with a total of 21,369 page views.

Bookstores at 21c, East, Penrose and Online Book Sale

Friends continues to work on increasing awareness through social media and advertising to inform patrons. Friends seeks creative initiatives for the bookstores and on-line sales to maintain this steady revenue stream.

Branch Library Friends

The Friends were excited to re-establish a presence at the Manitou Springs Branch Library. All of the Branch libraries now have a Friends group that maintains book sale shelves, earning funds that support their individual Branch library programs and activities. Branch Friends had a productive 2024, seeing an increase in book donations and sales than in the past.

A few examples of Branch Friends 2024 activities are:

- *Ute Pass* Friends purchased two charging tables for patrons to charge their laptops and phones while at the library. They sponsored an Ugly Sweater and Cookie Decorating Party.

- *Tri-Lakes* Friends supported the community celebration of opening the first ADA playground in Monument.
- *Ruth Holley* Friends funded gaming chairs for the teen area.
- *High Prairie* Friends hosted a 13th birthday party for the library and purchased a wooden log maze for the library's backyard.
- *Cheyenne Mountain* Friends funded and helped with Culture Fest.

Attachments:

- 1) January 27, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 2) 2024 Friends Financial Report
- 3) 2024 Accomplishments

Rita A. Jordan, President
Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District

FRIENDS OF THE PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2024

The Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) conducted their Annual Meeting on January 27, 2024 at Library 21c. President Rita Jordan called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

Welcome:

Ms. Jordan welcomed everyone and introduced the Board members, Directors Emeriti, and PPLD staff. Ms. Jordan recognized and thanked Beth Crumrine, Volunteer and Book Sale Coordinator for all the work she does for the Friends. Peggy Shivers, the 2023 Friends “Best Friend” award recipient was recognized.

President’s Message:

Ms. Jordan provided an overview of the 2023 accomplishments including: Friends support and presence at PPLD events and programs; 2 Big Book Sales and hosting 2 premier events – Literary Awards and Latina Voices. The Friends continue to support and advocate PPLD in serving the diverse needs of the community. There are over 1,200 Friends members who volunteer and provide financial support. The highlights of 2023 are also found on the back page of the 2023 Annual Meeting Report handout.

Business Meeting:

Linda Duval moved to approve the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes. Linda LaFrenierre seconded. The motion was approved.

\$113, 432 was donated to PPLD in 2023. These funds are used to support PPLD programs and provide staff appreciation. Ms. Jordan referenced the financial report in the 2023 Annual Meeting Report handout.

The slate for Election of Directors for two-year terms was presented. The slate included: AnnEliz Harford, Beverly Diehl, Erika Graham and Beth Austin. Linda Duval moved to approve the slate. Terry Zarsky seconded. The motion was passed.

Ms. Jordan reported that the Friends Branches continue to provide excellent support to PPLD in 2023. Ruth Holley Friends started again in 2023. Manitou Springs Friends will start again in 2024. Some examples of events sponsored by our branch friends are - Ute Pass Friends purchased vendor space at the Chipita Park Arts and Crafts Fair to sell books, they also provided funds for the children’s Halloween pumpkin decorating program and the annual Gingerbread House Decorating Party. Rockrimmon Friends purchased

several easels to be used for various art workshops and for the Community Art Display in October. Sand Creek Friends surprised the staff with a Chocolate Attack of Valentine Appreciation.

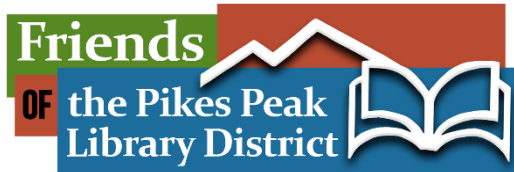
Ms. Jordan recognized the dedicated Friends volunteers who support many areas including, the 2 big book sales, 3 regional bookstores, Branch book sales, online book sale prep and PPLD events. The Friends Volunteer of the Year award for 2023 is DeeAnn Brown. Ms. Brown has been the chair of the Ute Pass Friends for 8 years.

Tammy Sayles, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian, thanked the Friends for their continued support. Ms. Sayles reported that the 2024 budget has been approved and Penrose Library will be temporarily closed for safety and security repairs.

The Literary Awards will be held on June 1, 2024 at the Doubletree Hotel. The Golden Quill honoree for 2024 is Donna Guthrie. The Frank Waters Award honoree for 2024 is Mark Lee Gardner.

Linda Duval, Friends Director Emerita and Program Committee Co-Chair introduced the 2023 Golden Quill Award winner and keynote speaker, Barbara Nickless.

Ms. Jordan thanked everyone for coming and encouraged attendees to join the Friends. The meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.



**2025 ANNUAL MEETING – January 25, 2025
2024 Financial Summary**

2024 was a great year for the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District – our bookstores all did very well; we expanded our online book sales through Amazon, eBay, and the Friends Online Storefront; we held “Big” Book Sales in March and October; the Literary Awards was held in June; and the annual Sip N Shop volunteer and staff thank you was held in December. The Branch Friends continue to thrive and provide financial support for the local branch libraries. For a complete review of our financials, see the 2024/2023 Balance Sheet that follows this summary.

We contributed \$125,032 to PPLD in 2024 which was a \$11,600 increase over 2023 (we contributed \$113,432 in 2023). Our contributions helped to support the following programs and events sponsored by PPLD:

- Programs: Winter Adult Reading, Regional History Symposium, Mountain of Authors, All Pikes Peak Reads
- PPLD new bookmobile
- BookBrowse – online free resource provided by the Friends for PPLD cardholders that provides read-alike lists, book reviews, list of books by genre and theme, articles and interviews, book club resources and much, much more.
- Staff recognition and support during Summer Adventure, PPD Annual Training and Development Conference, ILS RFP process, and other events throughout the year.
- Specific Branch Library needs, staff support and appreciation.

We look forward to a great 2025.

Prepared and submitted by Susan Gilbert, Treasurer, January 2025

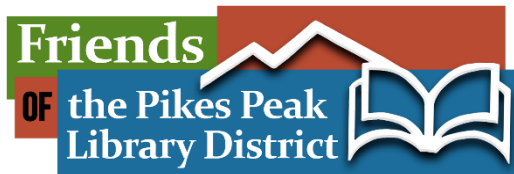
Disclaimer: Financial Report is subject to audit

Friends of the PPLD

Balance Sheet

| | Dec. 31, 2024 | Dec. 31, 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets | | |
| Checking/Savings | | |
| Bank Ent Branch | | |
| Cheyenne Mtn Ent | 30,611 | 32,159 |
| Fountain Ent | 7,629 | 7,062 |
| High Prairie Ent | 20,428 | 16,346 |
| Ruth Holley Ent | 4,396 | 4,037 |
| Old Colorado City Ent | 6,980 | 7,069 |
| Rockrimmon Ent | 12,797 | 11,014 |
| Sand Creek Ent | 12,022 | 11,031 |
| Tri-Lakes Ent | 14,548 | 12,829 |
| Ute Pass Ent | 5,058 | 5,714 |
| Manitou Ent | 10,361 | 11,236 |
| Unknown Ent | 1,017 | 112 |
| Calhan | 2,680 | 2,486 |
| Bank Ent Branch - Other | -314 | 674 |
| Total Bank Ent Branch | <hr/> 128,214 | <hr/> 121,768 |
| District Operating - 10 | 21,528 | 45,599 |
| Ent Savings Branch | 147 | 147 |
| Ent Savings District | 60,677 | 50,637 |
| District Operating Reserve Fund | | |
| 2 Yr CD(effective 01.01.23) | 43,145 | 41,381 |
| eBay (PayPal) | 3,565 | 493 |
| PayPal MED | 0 | 15 |
| Total Checking/Savings | <hr/> 257,274 | <hr/> 260,040 |
| Other Current Assets | | |
| Inventory | 71,347 | 71,347 |
| Undeposited Sales | 343 | 350 |
| Total Other Current Assets | <hr/> 71,690 | <hr/> 71,697 |
| Total Current Assets | <hr/> 328,965 | <hr/> 331,738 |

| | Dec. 31, 2024 | Dec. 31, 2023 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | | |
| Furniture & Equipment | 4,769 | 4,769 |
| Accumulated Depreciation | -4,462 | -4,382 |
| Total Fixed Assets | <u>307</u> | <u>387</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 329,272 | 332,125 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Credit Cards | | |
| ENT Visa Credit Card District | 221 | 940 |
| Other Current Liabilities | | |
| Sales Tax Payable | 908 | 704 |
| Payroll Liabilities | | |
| Colorado | 0 | 419 |
| Federal | 0 | 435 |
| Medicare | 0 | 143 |
| Social Security | 0 | 613 |
| Total Payroll Liabilities | <u>0</u> | <u>1,610</u> |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | <u>908</u> | <u>2,314</u> |
| Total Current Liabilities | 1,129 | 3,254 |
| Total Liabilities | 1,129 | 3,254 |
| Equity | | |
| Unrestricted Net | 274,154 | 274,154 |
| Retained Earnings | 54,053 | 28,957 |
| Net Income | -63.91 | 25,760 |
| Total Equity | <u>328,143</u> | <u>328,871</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 329,272 | 332,125 |



Accomplishments 2024

1. The Branches and District Friends groups donated \$125,032 to PPLD in 2024!
2. Support was given for:
 - A. Program support for All Pikes Peak Reads, Winter Adult Reading, Regional History Symposium and Mountain of Authors.
 - B. BookBrowse - online magazine and website that provides book reviews, author interviews, book previews and reading guides. Available to the public via both the Friends of PPLD website and the PPLD website.
 - C. Contribution towards a new Bookmobile
 - D. Staff Recognition and Support for District and Branch libraries
3. Over 150 people attended the 2024 Annual Literary Awards. The Frank Waters Award of \$2,000 was presented to Mark Lee Gardner and the Golden Quill literature prize of \$1,000 was awarded to Donna Guthrie. Friends recognized Mary and Jim Ciletti as Best Friends 2024.
4. Friends continue to maintain an active and informative website which serves to communicate goals and events within the organization and to the entire community. We are also implementing a new membership database in early 2025.
5. Friends held the third annual Sip N' Shop reception to thank and show support for the PPLD staff and Friends volunteers. Over 70 people attended the event. Part of that support involved organizing reward events for game winners in 2025.
6. Friends held two, one Big and one even Bigger, Book Sales to involve the community in its purposes and fund raising.
7. Friends participated in National Library week and in the National Friends of the Library week with drawings and prizes.
8. Friends partnered with the Fine Arts Center for a Family Art Experience, meeting and enjoying the projects of 50 children and adults.
9. Friends recognized Deeann Brown as the Friends 2023 Volunteer of the Year.

10. The Friends Bylaws and Memorandum of Understanding with PPLD were updated.
11. The Friends adopted a new official logo to more effectively enhance their presence in the digital landscape.
12. Friends held monthly Board of Directors meetings and quarterly Branch Friends meetings to coordinate and communicate projects and events.