



Friends of PPLD 2025 Annual Report

The Friends celebrated their 70th anniversary throughout 2025. For seven decades, Friends members and volunteers have transformed community generosity in to lasting impact, supporting author visits and cultural programs, enriching adult and children’s literacy, and enhancing the welcoming spaces that make our library a cornerstone of civic life. The culminating event, the “70th Anniversary Friends Tea” in November 2025, celebrated that legacy and recommitment to the Friend’s mission to cultivate belonging, personal growth and strong communities.

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 provide a physical presence at PPLD events supported by the Friends by talking to attendees about the resources available through PPLD and help PPLD staff oversee programs. We held our premier event, the Literary Awards luncheon in June 2025, 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 focus on improving communications via the Friends Website and bi-monthly newsletters, helping 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 2025.

Membership

| | <u>December-24</u> | <u>December-25</u> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Junior Bronze | 11 | All |
| Adult Bronze | 235 | Bronze |
| Family Bronze | 345 | Levels |
| Senior Bronze | 200 | Combined |
| Senior Fam Bronze | 184 | |
| | All Bronze, now household | 587 |
| Silver | 6 | 8 |
| Gold | 1 | 0 |
| Lifetime | 322 | 189* |
| <hr/> | | |
| Total: | 1308 | N/A |

The Friends rolled out a simplified fee structure in 2025. **All memberships are now household memberships**, defined as up to two adults and their dependent children under the age of 18:

- **Bronze** - \$25
- **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.)

Note: *Some Lifetime memberships were gifted by the Foundation. For many, our only contact information was an address and many lifetime members were not active. These members were given an opportunity to express their desire to remain in the system. If they did not choose to remain active, their records were deleted from Membershipworks. Households would number 917 without those deletions.

Membershipworks

Membershipworks implementation has been extremely beneficial. Membership processes are simple and far less time-consuming. It has been a boon for us for the Big Book Sales. Those who wish can completely manage their membership online. We can also accommodate those who prefer paper applications.

Following are a few of the 2025 Friends activities:

Literary Awards: Frank Waters and Golden Quill

The 2025 Literary Awards Luncheon was held on June 7 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotels. Peter Heller was presented the Frank Waters Award, honoring and celebrating an author’s writing achievements and literary excellence. PJ and Patrick Anderson were presented the Golden Quill Award, recognizing regional literary or artistic achievement and exemplary community service through workshops, teaching or artistic events.

BookBrowse

| | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Library logins | 770 | 506 | 315 |
| Remote logins | 2568 | 3667 | 3301 |
| Page Views | 16481 | 21369 | 24212 |

While library logins have decreased over the last two years, remote logins have only decreased marginally and page views increased to a total of 24,212.

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

The Friends continue 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

All of the Branch libraries 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 2025, enabling the Branch Friends to donate \$23,000.00 to sponsor the Summer Adventure Program. More than 18,000 patrons participated.

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

Attachments:

- 1) January 27, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 2) 2025 Friends Financial Report
- 3) 2025 Highlights
- 4) 70 Accomplishments in 70 Years

**Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District
2025 Annual Meeting
January 25, 2025**

The Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) conducted their Annual Meeting on January 25, 2025 at Library 21c. President Rita Jordan called the meeting to order at 10.32 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.

President's Message:

Ms. Jordan announced that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District. The anniversary will be celebrated with activities every quarter of the year. The activities will be announced in the Friends' newsletter.

Ms. Jordan provided an overview of the 2024 accomplishments including: Friends support and presence at PPLD events and programs; 2 Big Book Sales and hosting our premier event the Literary Awards in June. The Friends continue to support and advocate PPLD in serving the diverse needs of the community. There are over 1,300 Friends members who volunteer and provide financial support. The highlights of 2024 are also found on the back page of the 2024 Annual Meeting Report handout.

Business Meeting:

Terry Zarsky moved to approve the 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes. Linda Duval seconded. The motion was approved.

\$125,032 was donated to PPLD in 2024. These funds are used to support PPLD programs and provide staff appreciation. The programs that will be supported in 2025 are: Winter Adult Reading, The Regional History Symposium, Mountain of Authors, Summer Adventure, All Pikes Peaks Reads, and Book Browse. The Friends will also continue to support the local branches and the PPLD staff. Ms. Jordan referenced the financial report in the 2024 Annual Meeting Report handout.

The slate for Election of Directors for two-year terms was presented included: Rita Jordan, Birdie Miller, Sue Gilbert, Wendy Stotts, Terry Zarsky and Vickie Heffner all for a 2-year term. Linda Duval moved to approve the slate. Beverly Diehl seconded. The motion was passed.

Ms. Jordan reported that all of the Branch libraries have a Friends group. Each Branch Friends group supports their library with events that address the unique needs and interests of their library patrons, demographics, respective communities, and staff. Some examples of events sponsored by Branch friends are - Ute Pass Friends purchased two charging tables for patrons to charge their laptops and phones while at the library; and sponsored an Ugly Sweater and Cookie Decorating Party. 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. 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 2024 is Sheila Flowers, Ms. Flowers is a dedicated volunteer at 21c and with the Big Book sales.

Tammy Sayles, Chief Public Services Officer and Deputy Chief Librarian, thanked the Friends for their continued support. In 2024, Tammy shared that PPLD had a circulation goal of 3 million copies. This goal was achieved by November of 2024. PPLD has released a new website. A new Integrated Library System (ILS) which is the backbone of the library's online system will be implemented during 2025. There are several upcoming events: Regional History and Genealogy is hosting an event on February 1st – “When East was East;” the Manitou Springs Library is reopening on February 7th; and the new library card contest has over 400 entries. Tammy thanked the Friends for their continued support of PPLD programs and staff.

Ms. Jordan announced that the Friends annual Literary Awards will be held on June 7, 2025 at the Doubletree Hotel. The Frank Waters Award honoree for 2025 is Peter Heller. The Golden Quill honorees for 2025 are PJ Anderson and Patrick Anderson. Additional information will be sent to members and is available on the Friends website.

Ms. Jordan introduced the 2024 Golden Quill Award winner and keynote speaker, Donna Guthrie .

Ms. Jordan thanked everyone for coming and encouraged attendees to join the Friends. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

~~~~~

## 2025 Financial Summary

2025 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 eBay and the Friends Online Storefront; we held “Big” Book Sales in March and October; the Literary Awards was held in June. The Branch Friends continue to thrive and provide financial support for the local branch libraries. For a complete review of our financials, see the 2025/2024 Balance Sheet that follows this summary.

We contributed \$167,362 to PPLD in 2025 which is a \$42,960 increase over 2024 (we contributed \$124,402 in 2024). 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, Summer Adventure
- 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, ILS implementation, and other events throughout the year.
- PPLD Foundation first annual Pickleball Tournament.
- Specific Branch Library needs, staff support and appreciation.

We look forward to a great 2026.

*Prepared and submitted by Susan Gilbert, Treasurer, January, 2026*

*Disclaimer: Financial Report is subject to audit*

5:48 PM  
 01/11/26  
 Cash Basis

Friends of PPLD  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of December 31, 2025

|                                         | Dec 31, 25 | Dec 31, 24        | \$ Change          | % Change       |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                           |            |                   |                    |                |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                   |            |                   |                    |                |
| <b>Checking/Savings</b>                 |            |                   |                    |                |
| <b>1000 · Bank Ent Branch 829</b>       |            |                   |                    |                |
| 1005 · Cheyenne Mtn Ent                 |            | 31,241.15         | -31,241.15         | -100.0%        |
| 1010 · Fountain Ent                     |            | 7,629.24          | -7,629.24          | -100.0%        |
| 1015 · High Prairie Ent                 |            | 20,428.23         | -20,428.23         | -100.0%        |
| 1020 · Ruth Holley Ent                  |            | 4,396.37          | -4,396.37          | -100.0%        |
| 1025 · Old Colorado City Ent            |            | 6,979.50          | -6,979.50          | -100.0%        |
| 1030 · Rockrimmon Ent                   |            | 12,797.26         | -12,797.26         | -100.0%        |
| 1035 · Sand Creek Ent                   |            | 11,446.01         | -11,446.01         | -100.0%        |
| 1040 · Monument Ent                     |            | 14,508.44         | -14,508.44         | -100.0%        |
| 1041 · Palmer Lake ENT                  |            | 539.70            | -539.70            | -100.0%        |
| 1045 · Ute Pass Ent                     |            | 5,058.40          | -5,058.40          | -100.0%        |
| 1050 · Manitou Ent                      |            | 10,360.64         | -10,360.64         | -100.0%        |
| 1061 · Calhan Ent                       |            | 2,679.84          | -2,679.84          | -100.0%        |
| 1000 · Bank Ent Branch 829 - Other      |            | 1,278.73          | -1,278.73          | -100.0%        |
| <b>Total 1000 · Bank Ent Branch 829</b> |            | <b>129,343.51</b> | <b>-129,343.51</b> | <b>-100.0%</b> |
| <b>1001 · ENT Checking - Branch 896</b> |            |                   |                    |                |
| 10051 · Cheyenne Mtn                    | 19,816.39  |                   | 19,816.39          | 100.0%         |
| 10101 · Fountain                        | 8,375.04   |                   | 8,375.04           | 100.0%         |
| 10151 · High Prairie                    | 11,034.66  |                   | 11,034.66          | 100.0%         |
| 10201 · Ruth Holley                     | 3,348.74   |                   | 3,348.74           | 100.0%         |
| 10251 · Old Colorado City               | 5,375.83   |                   | 5,375.83           | 100.0%         |
| 10301 · Rockrimmon                      | 1,976.72   |                   | 1,976.72           | 100.0%         |
| 10351 · Sand Creek                      | 11,534.22  |                   | 11,534.22          | 100.0%         |
| 10401 · Monument                        | 8,304.26   |                   | 8,304.26           | 100.0%         |
| 10411 · Palmer Lake                     | 294.82     |                   | 294.82             | 100.0%         |
| 10451 · Ute Pass                        | 2,954.81   |                   | 2,954.81           | 100.0%         |
| 10501 · Manitou                         | 10,233.46  |                   | 10,233.46          | 100.0%         |
| 10601 · Unknown                         | 31.49      |                   | 31.49              | 100.0%         |
| 10611 · Calhan                          | 3,355.44   |                   | 3,355.44           | 100.0%         |

5:48 PM  
01/11/26  
Cash Basis

Friends of PPLD  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2025

|                                               | Dec 31, 25        | Dec 31, 24        | \$ Change         | % Change     |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1001 · ENT Checking - Branch 896 - Ot...      | 1,653.00          |                   | 1,653.00          | 100.0%       |
| <b>Total 1001 · ENT Checking - Branch 896</b> | 88,288.88         |                   | 88,288.88         | 100.0%       |
| 1075 · District Operating - 10                | 34,931.96         | 18,211.16         | 16,720.80         | 91.8%        |
| 1080 · Ent Savings Branch                     | 147.33            | 147.22            | 0.11              | 0.1%         |
| 1085 · Ent Savings District-S00               | 45,805.13         | 60,676.94         | -14,871.81        | -24.5%       |
| 1087 · District Reserve Fund 2 Year CD        |                   | 43,144.54         | -43,144.54        | -100.0%      |
| 1088 · District Reserve Fund 5 mth CD         | 60,726.34         |                   | 60,726.34         | 100.0%       |
| 1090 · eBay                                   | 3,603.90          | 3,564.60          | 39.30             | 1.1%         |
| 1095 · Paypal MED (DG7Q)                      | 264.11            |                   | 264.11            | 100.0%       |
| <b>Total Checking/Savings</b>                 | 233,767.65        | 255,087.97        | -21,320.32        | -8.4%        |
| <b>Other Current Assets</b>                   |                   |                   |                   |              |
| 1200 · Misc A/R                               | 986.40            | 986.40            |                   |              |
| 1300 · Inventory                              | 71,347.30         | 71,347.30         |                   |              |
| 1450 · Deposits In Transit                    | 4,495.26          | 3,659.41          | 835.85            | 22.8%        |
| <b>Total Other Current Assets</b>             | 76,828.96         | 75,993.11         | 835.85            | 1.1%         |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                   | 310,596.61        | 331,081.08        | -20,484.47        | -6.2%        |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                           |                   |                   |                   |              |
| 1500 · Furniture & Equipment                  | 4,769.26          | 4,769.26          |                   |              |
| 1600 · Accumulated Depreciation               | -4,461.92         | -4,461.92         |                   |              |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                     | 307.34            | 307.34            |                   |              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                           | <b>310,903.95</b> | <b>331,388.42</b> | <b>-20,484.47</b> | <b>-6.2%</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>               |                   |                   |                   |              |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                            |                   |                   |                   |              |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                    |                   |                   |                   |              |
| <b>Credit Cards</b>                           |                   |                   |                   |              |

5:48 PM  
 01/11/26  
 Cash Basis

Friends of PPLD  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of December 31, 2025

|                                        | Dec 31, 25        | Dec 31, 24        | \$ Change         | % Change      |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 2050 · ENT Visa CC District 10         | 717.56            | 245.65            | 471.91            | 192.1%        |
| <b>Total Credit Cards</b>              | <b>717.56</b>     | <b>245.65</b>     | <b>471.91</b>     | <b>192.1%</b> |
| <b>Other Current Liabilities</b>       |                   |                   |                   |               |
| 2075 · Sales Tax Payable               | 883.56            | 907.65            | -24.09            | -2.7%         |
| 2100 · Misc. Accounts Payable          | 986.40            | 986.40            |                   |               |
| <b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b> | <b>1,869.96</b>   | <b>1,894.05</b>   | <b>-24.09</b>     | <b>-1.3%</b>  |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>       | <b>2,587.52</b>   | <b>2,139.70</b>   | <b>447.82</b>     | <b>20.9%</b>  |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>               | <b>2,587.52</b>   | <b>2,139.70</b>   | <b>447.82</b>     | <b>20.9%</b>  |
| <b>Equity</b>                          |                   |                   |                   |               |
| 3010 · Unrestricted                    | 274,153.95        | 274,153.95        |                   |               |
| 3020 · Retained Earnings               | 55,610.40         | 54,553.45         | 1,056.95          | 1.9%          |
| Net Income                             | -21,447.92        | 541.32            | -21,989.24        | -4,062.2%     |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                    | <b>308,316.43</b> | <b>329,248.72</b> | <b>-20,932.29</b> | <b>-6.4%</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>  | <b>310,903.95</b> | <b>331,388.42</b> | <b>-20,484.47</b> | <b>-6.2%</b>  |

## 2025 Highlights

- \* Friends celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout the year, culminating with a celebratory tea on November 8, 2025. During the tea, Friends celebrated at least 70 things accomplished in the 70 years, recognized the continuing lifetime members, and awarded prizes.
- \* The Big Book Sales brought in record total sales for both Spring and Fall 2025 sales.
- \* PPLD Branch Friends groups donated \$23,000 to sponsor the Summer Adventure Reading Program. More than 18,000 patrons participated.
- \* Friends donated more than \$65,000 to PPLD programs for the year.
- \* Friends' volunteers gave more than 15,480.5 hours of service to the board of directors, events, branches, sales, and programs for Friends and the library district.
- \* Friends donated the Frank Waters and library district's first East library scrapbooks, newsletter collection, records, and other historic materials to PPLD Local History.
- \* Friends awarded two literary prizes: the Frank Waters Award for Excellence to Peter Heller and the Golden Quill to PJ and Patrick Anderson. Each received an honorarium.
- \* Friends implemented a new membership program, which provides ease, web integration, and electronic management from the Friends' website.
- \* The Board of Directors participated in a non-profit board training for successful goal setting and efficiency.
- \* Friends supported the PPLD Foundation's pickleball fundraiser.

***Since 2000, Friends financial support for PPLD totals \$1,898,381!***

## *70 Accomplishments in 70 Years*

1. Founded Friends in 1955
2. Sponsored annual summer reading and Children's Book Week
3. Held "Rush to the Rockies" program
4. Held lecture for "Pornography, the Law, and the Library"
5. Held Lectures for "A Square Look at Beatniks"
6. Incorporated in 1968
7. Helped to build the new Penrose Library
8. In 1972, the first of our now-famous book sales earned \$500
9. Donated \$500 for 16 mm camera and sewing machine for puppets
10. Donated 53 art prints for circulation
11. Gave a miniature poodle to retiring librarian Marion Reid
12. Spearheaded mill levy campaign increase in 1977
13. Celebrated mill levy success in 1978
14. Auctioned 250 Myron Wood prints raising \$300 for local history
15. "Past as Prologue" event featured Frank Waters and Lowell Thomas
16. Donated Micrographic lab to local history
17. Donated Teletype for the Deaf, speaker system and 2 YA computers
18. In 1982, organized and funded special election for new library
19. Donated \$10,000 to upgrade Maggie's Place computer catalog
20. In 1986, spearheaded another mill increase
21. Celebrated East Library opening with historian David McCullough
22. Bid farewell during reception for director Ken Dowlin
23. Donated \$12,000 for Video Center equipment at ELIC
24. Commissioned H. Raymond painting "Once Upon a Memory"
25. Donated \$1,00 to Colorado Center for the Book
26. Funded publication of Dammi La Mano by Bambi Venetucci
27. Fostered Friends' bookstores at each library branch
28. Established Carla Berney Computer Literacy Lab for Right to Read students
29. Donated \$3,000 to renovate the Outdoor Reading Garden at Penrose Library
30. Donated \$10,000 towards bond issue to improve Penrose Library Parking lot
31. Hosted Spell-a-bration
32. Designed certificates for Gift Memberships
33. Provided a \$300 grant to Ute Pas Branch for original art
34. Held Betty Field Memorial Mystery Writing Contest grades 6-12 for 28 years
35. Donated Books for Native Americans
36. Helped sponsor Latina Voices for 14 years
37. Sponsored Baby's First Book Project
38. Funded Gutenberg Bible Page purchase
39. Funded Great Pikes Peak Cowboy Poetry Gatherings
40. Sponsored three Writers Conferences

41. Hosted Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration for many years
42. Years of staff luncheons and appreciation
43. Sponsored Branch Music Concerts
44. Supported Annual All Pikes Peak Reads
45. Sponsored Regional History Symposia
46. Contributed to Symposia publications
47. Published 6 books of local history
48. Supported Food Service Training program
49. Sponsored staff attendance at ALA and PLA conferences
50. Tuition gift funds for staff
51. Raffled a 1946 Indian Chief motorcycle to benefit the Carnegie Library remodel
52. Established the Frank Waters Award in 1993
53. Established the Golden Quill Award
54. Friends Extraordinaire given to Jim and Mary Ciletti
55. Initiated Meet the Author Events
56. Mountain of Authors annual support
57. Established quarterly newsletter to membership
58. Established and maintained a free-standing website
59. Instituted webstore online book sales
60. Lifetime Achievement Award given to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Shivers
61. Hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> Myron Wood Photography auction, raising \$8,234 for ELIC meeting room
62. Best Friend Award to Peggy Shivers
63. Best Friend Award to Jim and Mary Ciletti
64. Established additional membership levels
65. Celebrated the PPLD staff and Friends volunteers at "Sip-n-Shop" event
66. Purchased 29 photochromes by William Henry Jackson for \$2,000
67. Purchased *Book Browse* for all library cardholders
68. Hosted holiday Festival of Books with children's book authors
69. Bought a new book return for Old Colorado City branch's 90th anniversary
70. Provided \$7500 for the sculpture "Secret Garden" honoring director Bernie Margolis

**And Many More!**