

Friends of the Sullivan County Library

PO Box 485, Dushore, PA 18614

E-mail: Friends.SC.Library@gmail.com

Facebook: Friends of the Sullivan County Library



Quarterly Newsletter

December 2019

Sullivan County Library

206 Center Street, Dushore, PA 18614

Online: Sullivancountylibrary.org

Facebook: [SullivanCountyLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/SullivanCountyLibrary)

T: (570) 928-9352

FAX: (570) 928-8820

From the President's Desk

Hello Friends, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Let me start with a heartfelt thank you this holiday season. Your support and contributions throughout the months have made this our most successful year yet. We are now 345 members strong, we've raised a record \$43,000 this year, and most importantly our Children's and Adult programs have never been stronger.

It seems like yesterday when we put our five-year strategic plan in place, and I'm glad to report that – with your help and participation – we have delivered:

- All the library's computers and software have been refreshed.
- The book inventory was sorted through and brought current.
- We now have comfortable areas for reading and relaxing.
- Our new Adult program is alive and growing.

So thanks again for being a Friend of the Library. There are plenty of opportunities to become involved if you have the time and interest to volunteer. If so, please contact me or Teri Klem.

Which reminds me: as always, I want to thank the many volunteers who have worked to strengthen the Friends throughout the year.

Thank you and God Bless.

John Krakoski, President, Friends of the Sullivan County Library

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Director's Corner

Moving into fall and winter, the Library was busy as always. In October, we participated in the annual Health Fair held at the Sullivan County High School. The library table featured pamphlets and handouts related to health issues. Two baskets – adult and children – of books, healthy foods, etc. were raffled off, and of course there were the free dark chocolates and mints. We also held a children's hands-on activity.

This was the first year that the Library participated in Oktoberfest, holding a book sale and selling potted plants. As a member of the Dushore Area Business Association (DABA), the Library was glad to support all the events happening in town.

For October, the Book Discussion Club read *The Rent Collector* by Cameron Wright. At that meeting the group

picked the titles for the next several months:

January – *Educated*, by Tara Westover, Julia Whelan

February – *The Magdalen Girls*, by V. S. Alexander

March – *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, by John Boyne

The Knit-n-Stitch group continues to meet regularly and has amassed a great collection of lap blankets, winter hats, blankets for pre-mature babies, etc. Stop in the Library to see the variety. They also decorated a tree at the renovated Pealer Hall (the former Fenton clothing store) for Christmas in Dushore. (The Pealer name was resurrected by cur-



Father Thomas Major, pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish, presented a program on iconography to an overflow audience October 2 at St. Francis Hall, Mildred.

rent owner Patty Lane to commemorate the Pealer drugstore that wielded pharmaceuticals and savory concoctions in the building for over half a century.)

In December, the Library held a great holiday event as part of Christmas in Dushore, which included author M. J. McCluskey reading from her latest book, *Grace, Peace, and Noelle*. There were also crafts for the kids. In the vestibule, the Dushore Tuesday Book Club sold Coney Island hot dogs with homemade sauerkraut and chili toppings, along with homemade cookies; they also chanced off two knitted Christmas stockings and a quilt. The Book Club raised more money than they had in a long time. Naturally, the Library held another book sale featuring a great collection of fiction and nonfiction. Woodwork projects were also featured.

There was no Library movie in November, but we showed *The Lion King* (2019) in December. Look for a new round of movies starting February.

Alan Miller, Library Director

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Adult Programs

Some 22 library patrons took a bus trip to Philadelphia to the Barnes Foundation museum in November. There we were blessed to see works by Picasso, Rembrandt, Van Gogh, and many other famous (and not so famous) artists. On the way back, we stopped at the Powerhouse restaurant for a terrific supper. The free Barnes Foundation tour was supported by a grant from Lycoming United Way.

We're planning a spring trip to the Corning Glass Museum in Elmira and the Rockwell Museum.

In late January, Morgan Craft from Muncy Valley, champion shotgun shooter and Olympic competitor, will give a talk. The date and time are



It was a murderous evening at the Eagles Mere Country Club for the "Pasta, Passion, and Pistols" dinner mystery last October. That's Suzie Kaier on the far left who put the whole thing together. And to the right here is some of what they ate while watching the mayhem.



not firm yet, but watch the Library Corner in the Sullivan Review for details. This talk will also be funded by United Way, as are the snack and pizza offerings for the Last Friday Poetry Readers group that meets at Winterland Winery.

**John Silla, Director,
Adult Programs**

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Other News

- Many of you will receive an emailed survey in January asking for feedback on the planning of future Adult programs. This year's programs had wide diversity, and we want to continue with meaningful events, so please complete and forward the survey as directed. It will also be available at the library.
- Also check your email and postal mail in mid January for our annual membership

appeal. Lucky you – the annual membership is still \$5, less than a trip to the movies or a brace of pork chops. In 2019 we saw an increase to 345 members, only 90 fewer than the House of Representatives in Washington. We can catch up to the reps. in 2020, then it's on to adding the Senate in 2021.

- The Friends annual spring tea will be held on the last Sunday in April. Our committee will meet to start planning the tea in January. Anyone interested in helping with this fundraiser can contact Jean Hope at 570-928-9202.

- If you're planning to buy from amazon.com, sign into **smile.amazon.com** and select Friends of the Sullivan County Library (Dushore) as your preferred charity. (Note: There are two Friends of the Sullivan County Library, so be certain to select the one in Dushore, PA.) Use your normal I.D. and password. Prices are the same, but by signing up, **you earn the Friends a donation of 0.5%** of your eligible purchases from Amazon. And remember to change your bookmark so all subsequent purchases will be made from **smile.amazon.com**.