

# ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER



A National Historic Landmark

SUMMER 2010

## The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign

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## Espy Post Opening Captures Worldwide Media Attention

The Capt. Thomas Espy Post No. 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic is a true national treasure. Civil War veterans custom-furnished the ACFL&MH's second floor room to house their records and artifacts and to serve as a meeting place. The room has been documented as perhaps the most intact GAR Post in the nation. Once there were 7,000 posts from Portland, ME to Portland, OR.

The ACFL&MH knew that the restoration and re-opening of the Espy Post was a compelling story.

However, the Library & Music Hall was unprepared for the media response to the February 12 re-opening of the Post. The story literally went around the world!

The *Washington Post* ran a full page story as an "Escapes" feature in its weekend section. Its reporter not only lauded the Espy Post, but described Carnegie as a town whose "picture-perfect Main Street" looks as though it has been

lifted from a model railroad."

The *Washington Post* story was picked up by Bloomberg News and went as least as far as Doha, Qatar on the Arabian Peninsula ("Library Hides Labyrinths of History"). The Associated Press

article was picked up from Philadelphia to Petersburg, VA. And the *Civil War Times* spread the story to enthusiasts throughout the country. Countless blogs and websites chimed in as well.

But for all the luster of national and international attention, it's local

media coverage that has lifted the veil of invisibility from the Espy Post. The *Post-Gazette*, the *Tribune Review*, the *Washington Observer*, the *Almanac* (four articles!), the *Green Tree Times* and Carnegie's own *Signal Item* all wrote eloquent stories. Dave Crawley featured the Post on KDKA's *KD Country* and Tonia Caruso's 12-minute feature for WQED's

See "Espy Post Worldwide," page 8



No longer a room of dusty relics, the Espy Post glows in its restoration.

## Thornburgh Comes Home to Re-open Espy Post

Two and a half feet of snow were no deterrent to the Library & Music Hall's grand re-opening of the Captain Thomas Espy Post No. 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR).

Instead, on February 12, the 201st Anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, more than 100 people braved the elements to attend a reception hosted by former Governor Dick Thornburgh and his wife Ginny.

The Thornburghs, who now reside in Washington, D.C., may have had the most challenging journey to the Library & Music Hall that night. But Governor Thornburgh brushed the weather aside. "I grew up in Carnegie. I know this community and the fiber of its citizenry."

See "Thornburgh Comes Home," page 8



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## Library Hours

**Monday**  
2 p.m.—8 p.m.  
**Tues., Wed., Thurs.**  
11 a.m.—8 p.m.  
**Friday**  
11 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
10 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Sunday** Closed

## SUMMER HOURS

(Memorial Day to Labor Day)

**Monday**  
2 p.m.—8 p.m.  
**Tues., Wed., Thurs.**  
11 a.m.—8 p.m.  
**Friday**  
11 a.m.—5 p.m.  
**Saturday**  
11 a.m.—3 p.m.  
**Sunday** Closed

## Contacts

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412-276-3456

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Maggie Forbes, x6

**Library Director**  
Diane Klinefelter, x5

**Assistant Library Director**  
Erin Tipping, x8

**Director of Rental Operations**  
Lynne Cochran, x.7

**ACFL&MH Website**  
[www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com)

*The official registration and financial information of the Chartiers Valley Partnership may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

# A Message to Library & Music Hall Supporters

Dear Friends,

I have occasion to take stock and look back at all we have accomplished with the campaign to restore this beautiful Library & Music Hall.

Unlike my great friend and Campaign Co-Chair Bill Manby, I did *not* grow up in Carnegie, attend Carnegie High School nor do I have formative memories linked to this fine facility.

I moved to Carnegie a mere 45 years ago. It's been a fine town to call home. But when Bill first brought me to the Library about a dozen years ago, suggesting that saving it would be a great project to get involved with in my retirement, my first thought was, "Dear Lord, is this thing doable?"

The answer has been an emphatic affirmative. Our progress on the restoration of this facility has brought me so much satisfaction. Riding in the elevator that was installed nearly five years ago, driving up the hill to see the windows and terracotta glowing in the sunlight, admiring the Music Hall lobby, sitting in those *wonderful* new seats in the Music Hall, and partaking of the Library & Music Hall's new vibrancy makes my heart soar.

Never more so than on the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth this past February. I listened to Governor Thornburgh talk about the Espy Post on that snowy night, and understood that we have given a gift to America by restoring such an eloquent piece of its history.

We're not done. We need to convert the old gym into flexible programming space. We need air conditioning. We need to introduce fine lighting in the Library & restore all the intricate plaster in both the Library & Music Hall. We need to do all the interior finish work to make the interior match the beautifully refurbished exterior. We need parking and landscaping.

It seems like a lot. But when you take the measure of how far we have come together, it seems so doable.

I know I can count on you all to get this job done.

Thank you.



Charles R. Goetz  
Campaign Co-Chair

## Brussalis Steps Up as President of the Board

Chris Brussalis, President and CEO of The Hill Group, was elected President of the Board of Trustees of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall (ACFL&MH) in Carnegie, PA. The election was held at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on March 31. Brussalis succeeds Isabel Ford, who recently completed two terms as an ACFL&MH Trustee.

Brussalis has served as President and CEO of The Hill Group, Inc., a national management consulting firm, since 1996. Located in Carnegie, The Hill Group is a premier provider of strategy and management counsel and specializes in strategy, operations, performance and diagnostic measurement, and organizational development.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to assume the leadership of the ACFL&MH Board of Trustees," said Brussalis. "The ACFL&MH is a jewel in our very own backyard. As a regional asset, it serves 36,000 visitors each year with over 20,000 volumes and facilities that include an acoustically superb Music Hall, reception hall and Civil War room. I look forward to aggressively moving ahead with our capital campaign and maximizing the Library's impact in Carnegie and its surrounding communities."

Thomas R. Hileman, CPA and president and founder of the accounting firm Hileman and Associates, was voted onto the board for a three-year



New ACFL&MH Board President,  
Chris Brussalis

See Brussalis, Board, page 3



## 1911 Catalogue: A Key to the Treasure

The members of the Espy Post had a profound understanding of the Civil War as the defining chapter in the nation's history that they wanted to share with future generations. When the Library & Music Hall opened in 1901 the building conveyed a sense of importance, grandeur and permanence. By 1906 the



**“When every veteran of Espy Post has answered his last roll call, we leave for our children and their children, this room full of relics, hoping they may be as proud of them as we are, and that they may see that they are protected and cared for, for all time.” ~Espy Post Catalogue**

veterans had forged an agreement with the Library Commission to custom furnish a second floor room where Post members could meet and house their relics and records.

The Library & Music Hall knows all this because in 1911 the Espy Post produced a catalogue that provided the ACFL&MH an extraordinary blueprint for the restoration of the room. The catalogue includes a picture of all four walls of the post showing exactly what it looked like in 1911. More importantly 176 artifacts are described, some simply, some in great detail.

The ACFL&MH worked with Bernadette Kazmarski to reproduce a faithful facsimile of the catalogue, right down to the textured felt finish cover. Indeed the most discernible difference from the original is the greater clarity of the centerfold

*Brussalis, Board, from page 2*

term at the same meeting. A Certified Public Accountant since 1975, Hileman has been the owner of Hileman and Associates, P.C. since 1992.

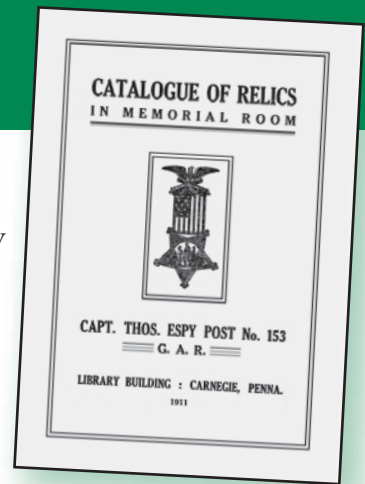
In addition to his accounting expertise, Hileman has served on many non-profit boards, including serving as Treasurer of WYEP-FM for a number of years. Hileman is excited about joining the board at this time. “The ‘Carnegie Carnegie’ is a historical treasure which deserves to be brought back to its original glory and continue to be recognized as the social and

photographs.

“We would have been lost without this catalogue,” says library director Diane Klinefelter. “It establishes provenance and the basis for further research. It also conveys rich, sometimes heart-wrenching stories. The veterans were certainly looking out for us, showing us the way to honor their stated intention from the catalogue’s preface.”

“When every veteran of Espy Post has answered his last roll call, we leave for our children and their children, this room full of relics, hoping they may be as proud of them as we are, and that they may see that they are protected and cared for, for all time,” quote from the catalogue introduction.

The catalogues are for sale for \$10 at the Library’s circulation desk, or through the mail for a payment of \$11.50 to cover shipping and handling.



educational asset that it is.”

Hileman has been a resident of Mt. Lebanon for 33 years, and recently relocated his firm from Downtown to the South Hills.

Gary Frantz, a Rosslyn Farms resident and partner at Burstin Burstin & Frantz was elected Vice President, and Karyn Rok, an attorney with a practice in Carnegie, was elected Secretary. Bob Moll was re-elected as Treasurer. Carnegie Councilman Rick D’Loss also joined the board as an ex officio member appointed by the borough.

## Duquesne Wind Symphony Heads Rich Roster of Complementary Programming

When the ACFL&MH re-opened the Espy Post in February three months of rich complementary programming ensued. "Aspects of Lincoln," a rare collection of 100 photographs of Abraham Lincoln covered the walls of the Reception Hall, deeply engaging visitors before or after their visit to the Post. The photographs were loaned to the ACFL&MH by fine art photographer Norman Schumm. "We hated to give them back," says executive director Maggie Forbes, "but fortunately we've developed a great relationship with Norm."

Scott Sandage, Associate Professor of Cultural History at Carnegie Mellon University delivered a fascinating talk in February, provocatively entitled "Lincoln the Loser." And Stage 62 presented a special performance of "An Evening with Mark Twain," drawing record crowds. The ACFL&MH was one of forty sites around the country to receive the nationally touring exhibit "Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Times, A Man for All Times" from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, and the Pittsburgh Poetry Society presented "Voices from the Civil War in Poetry, Stories and Song."

The ACFL&MH held its annual Civil War program on April 10, funded by the Massey Charitable Trust. The program featured library director Diane Klinefelter's talk "Mothers, Marms and Madams," as well as an encampment, drills and a late in the day skirmish courtesy of the 9th PA Reserves. And on April 11, a performance that featured Duquesne University's Wind Symphony and actor David Conrad drew audience members from as far away as California,

Oregon and Utah. The centerpiece of the program was Aaron Copland's beloved *A Lincoln Portrait*, in which Lincoln's oratory is incorporated into the symphonic work.

The Library & Music Hall has a wonderful relationship with Duquesne's Mary Pappert School of Music, though until now only through its Opera Workshop. The Wind Symphony performed three pieces under the baton of luminous guest conductor

H. Robert Reynolds: the Copland piece; "Tunbridge Fair" by Walter Piston; and "Blue Shades" by Frank Ticheli. Wind Symphony director Robert Cameron conducted Sam Hazo, Jr.'s "Their Blossom's Down," with narration by Mr. Conrad.

"What a gorgeous sound!" said Forbes. It was the first

time in her seven years at the ACFL&MH that a full orchestra (a wind symphony is everything *but* the strings) had

taken the stage. "I now know why we call it the *Music Hall*!"

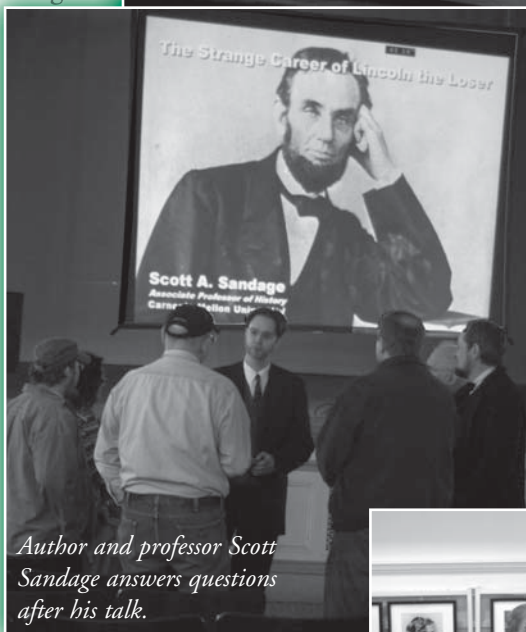
Pittsburgh native and stage, film and television star David

Conrad surprised the audience with an unexpected speech on the importance of libraries (see *Conrad Eloquent*, p. 5), paving the way beautifully for Copland's haunting work. Copland, Conrad and the Wind Symphony drew the audience to its feet, many of them with tears in their eyes.

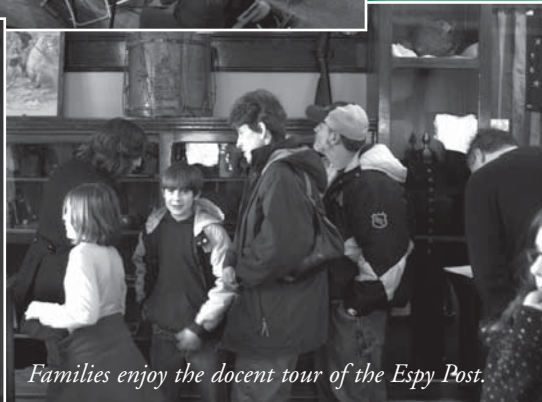
"We are so fortunate that this beautiful facility can accommodate and *attract* such an extraordinary range of programming," says Forbes. The Library & Music Hall set a new standard with this year's Civil War programming, and plans to build on that.



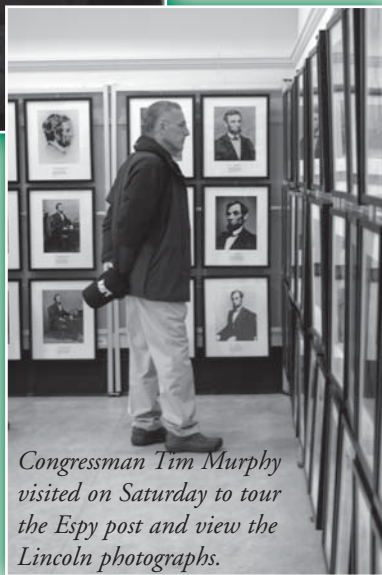
*Duquesne University Wind Symphony with H. Robert Reynolds and David Conrad.*



*Author and professor Scott Sandage answers questions after his talk.*



*Families enjoy the docent tour of the Espy Post.*



*Congressman Tim Murphy visited on Saturday to tour the Espy post and view the Lincoln photographs.*



## Conrad Eloquent on Libraries

In his solo portion of the April 11 concert, David Conrad surprised and captivated his audience when he set aside proposed readings honoring Abraham Lincoln to give a thoughtful, informed and impassioned talk about the importance of libraries.

Conrad referred to a yellow legal pad, giving the impression that these were off the cuff remarks. However, he spoke knowledgeably about Andrew Carnegie as the benefactor of 2,500 libraries, told anecdotes about libraries around the world, and he clearly had done his research on the Andrew Carnegie Free Library.

Conrad knew that Mansfield and Chartiers had merged in 1894 to become Carnegie, and that the leaders of those boroughs had hoped that Mr. Carnegie might build them a steel mill as well as this Library. He spoke of the ACFL&MH as a “gorgeous building” whose resemblance to a concert hall in New York caused him “to do a little bit of a Carnegie Hall double take.”

Conrad admitted to sometime questioning Andrew Carnegie’s gospel of wealth. But “when I stand in a place like

this and when I look around and see a century later what this place means to the citizens of the surrounding area, I think of my fellow Scotsman a little more fondly.”

Conrad, whose mother was a librarian at Carnegie Mellon University, is very aware that libraries are threatened by funding cuts. “Do we save our libraries? Hell yeah we do...hell yeah we do.” The audience erupted into spontaneous applause.

Speaking about the Carnegie Carnegie he said, “This library is about *you*...This building and everything you do to preserve and improve it, you do for yourselves and your loved ones. Every brick pointed, every garden weeded, every book given one of those lovely little memorial plaques...every concert you attend, every class you take, every time you simply wander into the place...All that radiates out of this building called ‘Andrew Carnegie [Free Library]’ and into the town called Carnegie...This place is your heart.”

Conrad concluded by saying the ACFL&MH “was built with the flesh and blood, the bones of your parents, your grandparents, and your great, great grandparents – your people.... This place *is* you. What happens here tells the story again and again of what



**“...the person who enters this library is in the best society the world affords – the good and the great surround him and her and humbly ask...to be allowed to become their servant.”**

**Andrew Carnegie**

Carnegie is: its hope, its works, its dreams. No charge. Free to the People. Long may that story be told.”

Needless to say, David Conrad has a standing invitation to again take the stage at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall...

## Looking for Docents

“Docent” comes from the Latin *docere*: to teach. It is a term commonly used in museums for volunteer educators trained to help visitors understand exhibits and collections. The Library & Music Hall still needs docents for the Espy Post.

Don’t be intimidated by Latin derivations or museum auras! It is easy and gratifying to be an Espy Post volunteer. Basic requirements are an interest in the Civil War, openness to learning about the Espy Post and its artifacts, and comfortable communication skills. Most visitors to the Espy Post are Civil

War enthusiasts who are very appreciative of its restoration. Give and take conversation is the norm.

Library director Diane Klinefelter provides excellent training, and volunteering two hours a month satisfies the core time commitment. The Espy Post is open Saturdays from 11 to 3. With more docents the ACFL&MH can accommodate special requests to show the Post at other times. The Library & Music Hall can work with your schedule! Contact Diane Klinefelter at [klinefelterd@einetwork.net](mailto:klinefelterd@einetwork.net) or 412-276-3456, x. 5.

Tracing ancestors brings satisfaction to many people, but no one could be more pleased than the staff and trustees of the ACFL&MH. Since the Espy Room re-opened in February, six people have come forward to let us know their ancestors were Civil War veterans and members of our Thomas Espy Post 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic.

James and Tom Hultz are descended directly from Thomas Espy for whom the post is named. Virginia Forsythe Rye and Wanda Forsythe Clay have volunteered as docents in the room to pay homage to their grandfather, George B. Forsythe. Jacob Yeager's great-granddaughters Nancy Hutson and Susan Hutton visited on May 1—the 170th anniversary of Jacob's birthday. And, Donna Chernoff is the great-granddaughter of Jonathan Grinage, one of the three African American Veterans pictured in the 1903 Memorial Day portrait taken on the Library steps.

### **JONATHAN A. GRINAGE**

The passage of the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863 did more than free the slaves, it sanctioned recruitment of blacks as soldiers in the Federal Army. Enlistments were slow until May 1863 when the Bureau of Colored Troops was established and began recruiting in earnest. Jonathan A. Grinage enlisted in Co. C, 8th United States Colored Troops (USCT) on August 14, 1863. Born in Allegheny County, PA, Jonathan was almost 30 years old when he entered the service with a rank of

Sergeant. He mustered out as a 1st Sergeant on November 10, 1865. The 8th saw action at Olustee, Chaffin's Farm, and New Market Heights. The regiment was present at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865 when Lee surrendered.

The 1860 Federal population census shows Jonathan was by trade a blacksmith living in Findley Twp. with his wife, Catherine and three children. After the war, Jonathan returned to the area and joined the Robert G. Shaw Post 206 of the

GAR in May of 1897. On June 19, 1906 his

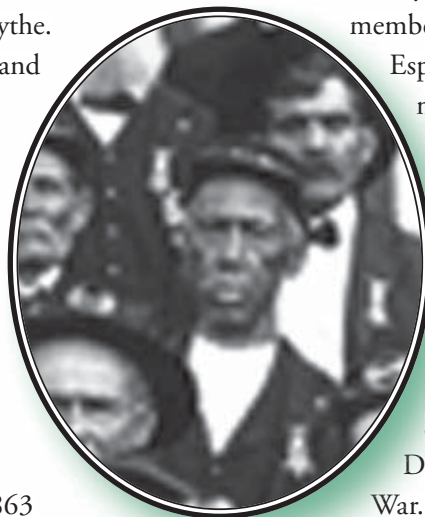
membership was transferred to the Thomas Espy Post 153. Comrade Grinage was a member in good standing until his death on April 30, 1914. He is buried at Chartiers Cemetery.

Within the manuscript collection of the Post is a note written on April 2, 1925 by Mrs. Anna S. Tankard (nee Grinage) from Northampton, MA requesting verification of her father's service so that she could join the

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War. There was a P.S. on the note which said

*"I should like to state that I am the Chaplain of the Wm. L. Baker, Women's Relief Corps, No. 18 Department of Massachusetts."* Clearly Jonathan passed on to his family the pride he felt for his military service to his country.

**by Diane Klinefelter, Library Director**



## Who Are These Men?

One of the most compelling artifacts in the Espy Post is the striking photograph of Civil War veterans posing for a proud Memorial Day picture on the Library steps.

The Espy Post kept meticulous membership records. The Library & Music Hall has the names of veterans who were members of the Post, but so far has only matched three names with the nearly 100 men pictured. (see *Ancestors Identified*, above).

Please visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) to see if you recognize any of the pictured veterans from family photographs. Then check all the links on the Manuscript Collection page to see if you find your relatives' names. Please contact Library director Diane Klinefelter with your discovery at 412-276-3456, x. 5.





## Comcast Foundation Grant Adds Math to Summer Programming

The Library is branching out into programming that focuses on math-readiness for pre-schoolers. Funded by a generous grant from Comcast Foundation, *Math 4 U* is an inter-generational, school-readiness program that helps 4-6 year-old children develop math skills, reduces “math phobia,” and introduces the library as a place for fun and learning. *Math 4 U* activities engage children in number recognition, simple addition and subtraction, color and shape recognition, matching, identifying patterns and spatial relations. The activities are designed to be age appropriate, challenging and fun.

*Math 4 U* runs from July 7 to August 11 every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Space is very limited.

Traditional summer reading programming is still very much on the agenda at the Library. *Make a Splash* this summer at the

library! Kids “babies -12” can register at the Library or online at [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com). This program invites everyone to keep reading and keep having fun in the Library all summer long. Visit our website or pick up a calendar in the Library for more information. Some activities for this summer include Lego®

Explosion, water balloons, gardening, and more.

Teens and adults are invited to *Make Waves* this summer at the Library. Teens can register to participate in Teen Time every Monday at 1 p.m. The Library will be open to all *registered teens*

*only!* Teens can get on the computers, play the Wii, or participate in crafts or other activities. Adults and teens are challenged to read 10 different books



this summer. Those who complete the challenge will be entered into a raffle for gift certificates and other prizes. For more information visit the Library or our website.

## Black Tie Bingo Back By Popular Demand!

One of Dana Craig's first promises upon stepping up as the Honorary Chair of the Chartiers Valley Partnership's campaign to restore the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall was that there would be another “Black Tie Bingo” benefit.

Craig wears two hats as he is also a trustee of the Library & Music Hall. “I guess the Carnegie Carnegie has me coming and going,” he laughs. Dana and his wife Susan will again chair the glittery event. The Craigs inaugurated this event in November 2008 as a major push to meet that year's million dollar challenge. The 2008 event generated \$50,000 as part of the campaign's spectacular sprint to the finish.

This year's event, sponsored by the Craig-Goodworth Group at Merrill Lynch, is scheduled for Saturday, November 6. “Black Tie Bingo” will again take place at the Club at Nevillewood. Details are being worked out, but the

2008 event was such a success that Craig just wants to fine tune.

While the big draw may be the \$5,000 top prize and an assortment of other wonderful prizes, the event is just plain fun. Indeed the only complaints Craig heard were that people wanted more time to do justice to the fabulous “roving feast” served by Nevillewood Chef Bill Brown, and that the event sold out.

“Not bad problems to have—delicious food, great prizes and terrific, generous people having such a fabulous time that we

have to turn people away. That's why Susan and I are doing this again.”

Proceeds from this year's event will support Library & Music Hall operations, critically needed in the face of State funding cuts. Tickets to the event are \$150 (\$100 is tax-deductible). For tickets or information visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) or call 412-276-3456, x. 6.





*Honored guests and board and capital campaign members listen to former governor Thornburgh speak. From right: Ginny Thornburgh; Isabel Ford, ACFL&MH Board past president; Ted Ford, her twin; Denise and Bill Brown, whose generosity made the Espy Post restoration possible; Dana Craig, Capital Campaign Honorary Chair; Maggie Forbes, ACFL&MH Executive Director.*

Thornburgh spoke fondly of attending the long-demolished Carnegie High School at the foot of the hill, asking guests how many remembered “Case Foster’s ‘Carnegie News’ stand? The movie theaters – the Dixie, the Carnegie, the Liberty and

the Grand? Quinn’s Market? Smith’s, Bell’s and Means’ drug stores? Struzka’s Hardware and Mackey’s Dry Goods? The brewery along Chartiers Creek and its distinctive early morning fragrance?”

He quickly moved on to the national

significance of the evening, saying he was “proud to join in paying tribute to one of our greatest Americans. Today marks the 201st observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, the true savior of our Union.” The ACFL&MH certainly honored the 16th president of the United States. One hundred photographs of Lincoln, courtesy of fine art photographer Norman Schumm, covered the walls of the Reception Hall.

Thornburgh then turned his attention to the evening’s main event. He spoke of the historic significance of the GAR as the nation’s first deeply influential veterans’ organization. He spoke of the particular history of the Espy Post, which received its charter in 1879. He acknowledged ACFL&MH staff and volunteers for their vision, dedication and perseverance, and benefactors Bill and Denise Brown for their generosity in funding the Post’s restoration. And he confirmed the Espy Post standing as a true national treasure, a rarity that “reopen[s] this window into America’s historic past.”

#### *Espy Post Worldwide, from page 1*

On *Q Magazine* incorporated footage of the Post prior to restoration, providing a powerful “before and after.” Visit the “Civil War Room” page on our website, [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com), to watch or read these features and articles.

And visitors are coming from around the country—from California, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Massachusetts, New Mexico, South Carolina and of course, Washington D.C. And hundreds of people from Allegheny and Washington Counties who had no idea such an important Civil War site is so close by. Historical societies and other community groups have arranged for special tours for their organizations.

The Espy Post is becoming a destination. Indeed, the Post is on its way to being nationally *recognized* as the genuine treasure that it is. “When that happens,” conjectures executive director Maggie Forbes, “the well-being of the Library & Music Hall and its Civil War room will be all but assured. The Espy Post is putting the Carnegie Carnegie—and Carnegie—on the proverbial map.”

#### *Cornetti, from page 12*

treasure to have such a jewel in Pittsburgh!” Cornetti added that she looks forward to enjoying all the renovations made in the last five years.

The 8:00 p.m. performance will be followed by a reception throughout the ACFL&MH facility.

Ms. Cornetti will be joined by her long-time accompanist



*Prince Charles congratulates Marianne Cornetti on her Covent Garden debut as Amneris in Aida.*

Mark Trawka, chorus master at the Pittsburgh Opera. Tickets are \$125 for reserved seats in the orchestra or \$75 for open historic seating in the balcony. Proceeds benefit the campaign to restore the Library & Music Hall.

Visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) for tickets and information or call 412-276-3456, x. 6.



## Twenty Years at the Music Hall

2010-2011 marks Stage 62's 20th season at the Music Hall! Stage 62 (founded in 1962) hardly coasted up to this milestone. Rather, it added three special performances to its usual roster of four productions—that included November's blockbuster *Titanic*.

*Senior Moments* delighted audiences for just one weekend. It was the first performance in the Music Hall's new seats, following the ACFL&MH's *All Judy, All Heart* benefit debut.

In February, Stage 62 presented *An Evening with Mark Twain* to complement the Espy Post opening. Despite two feet of snow

the one-night-only performance played to a packed house.

Then in June, On Again Off Again Theater Project (four seasoned Stage 62 players and their keyboardist) presented the off beat *[title of show]* in the yet to be improved basement gym. "62 showed us that the new Studio will be perfect for smaller, edgier shows," says executive director Maggie Forbes.

*City of Angels* closes out the season, July 22-25, 29-31, August 1. This Tony winner for Best Musical, Best Book (written by Larry Gelbart of *M\*A\*S\*H* fame) and Best Original Score may be the funniest musical comedy ever!

A special benefit performance of *City of Angels* on Thursday, July 29 (followed by a film-noir themed after-party) will launch Season 20.

*The Mystery of Edwin Drood*

(November 5-7, 12-14, 19 & 20)

*Blues Clues: Most Spectacular Place*

(February 11-13, 18-20)

*Leading Ladies* (May 13-15-20-22)

*The Full Monty* (July 21-24, 28-31)

For tickets or information visit [www.stage62.com](http://www.stage62.com) or call 412-429-6262.

Visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) for the most up to date schedule of ACFL&MH programs and performances or pick up the 2010-2011 Annual Program at the Library & Music Hall's booth at Carnegie's Arts and Heritage Festival.



Stage 62 takes a bow at the end of last season's *Titanic*.

## They're Back!!!

### Savoyards Return

The Pittsburgh Savoyards are returning to the Music Hall in October with a performance that couples a Gilbert & Sullivan favorite with a one-act Puccini opera. The double bill performance will feature Gilbert & Sullivan's beloved one-act operetta *Trial by Jury* and Puccini's only comic opera, *Gianni Schicci*.

A long time resident company at the Music Hall, the Savoyards are returning to Carnegie for their 72nd season.

"We're delighted," says executive director Maggie Forbes. An avowed Gilbert & Sullivan fan, Forbes thinks the Music Hall is a perfect match for Gilbert & Sullivan operettas. "Obviously, our acoustics beautifully showcase

unamplified singers, and Savoyards fans will certainly appreciate our wonderful new seats!"

Long time *Post-Gazette* theater critic Chris Rawson agreed in his 2009 review of *Iolanthe* that the Music Hall's acoustics and historic character complement the Gilbert & Sullivan troupe. Referring to the Savoyards' many homes in his 40 years of reviewing their performances Rawson wrote, "I think the Music Hall, on a hill above downtown Carnegie, suits them best...."

*Trial by Jury/Gianni Schicci* will be performed October

7-10 and 14-17, Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sundays at 2:00. For tickets and information visit [www.pittsburghsavoyards.org](http://www.pittsburghsavoyards.org).



Pittsburgh Savoyards perform *Ruddigore* in 2006.

# Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall's Campaign Contributors

For the full list of campaign donors visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com).

*The Chartiers Valley Partnership and the ACFL&MH gratefully acknowledge the many individuals, businesses and organizations who have made gifts to the campaign since December 1, 2009. This list is complete as of June 5, 2010. Please visit [www.carnegiecarnegie.com](http://www.carnegiecarnegie.com) for the full list of donors since the campaign's official November 2003 launch.*

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**Edith J. Forbes, Mother's Day 2010**

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## Limited Seating Still Available!

The hundreds of brass plaques adorning the Music Hall's beautiful new seats add panache to the venue. More importantly, the plaques and accompanying website stories keep families connected to the Library & Music Hall and to the community for ever. The center section of the orchestra has sold out, and the audience right and left sections are filling in fast. Seats may be named for \$500. Contact Maggie Forbes at [forbes.mj@gmail.com](mailto:forbes.mj@gmail.com) or 412-276-3456, x. 6.

The ACFL&MH plans to get its "Every Name Tells a Story" directory of names and stories on the website this fall. Please send us your story if you haven't already. Here's an example of the story behind the name on Seat 102 in Row C.

### WILLIAM MORRISON PARRISH

*William Morrison Parrish (1897-1964), better known to all as Bill, was a developer of Rosslyn Farms, as was his father before him. He married Isabel Hosack in 1923 and they had three daughters.*

*He taught us tennis and horseback riding and entertained us with his recitation of Robert Service poems and by singing The Preacher and the Bear while playing the banjo. A very great guy fondly remembered by his daughter Sally Parrish Ford.*



## “La Cornetti” Returns for October Benefit

Internationally acclaimed mezzo-soprano Marianne Cornetti is returning to the Music Hall for the ACFL&MH’s annual benefit on October 2.

Ms. Cornetti first performed here for the 2005 benefit. The Library & Music Hall is beholden to Ms. Cornetti for more than rapturous musical memories. The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* named Ms. Cornetti’s concert “one of the top-ten classical performances of the year.”

“All the credit for that accolade belongs to Marianne and her magnificent artistry,” says executive director Maggie Forbes, “but the Music Hall’s superb acoustics and lovely historic character contributed to the ranking.”

A native of Cabot in Butler County, Cornetti is a vocal performance graduate of Duquesne University. (Her 2005 concert began the ACFL&MH’s rich relationship with Duquesne’s Mary Pappert School of Music.) She pursued graduate training at the Cincinatti Conservatory of Music, the Manhattan School of Music and at EPACASO in Italy.



*Marianne Cornetti*

Cornetti captured attention for more than her vocal powers when she filled in as a last minute substitute for an ailing singer in the Pittsburgh Opera’s *Aida* in 2008. She arrived from Amsterdam at 3:00 p.m. and was ready for an 8:00 p.m. curtain. The *Post-Gazette*’s Andrew Druckenbrod was so impressed by her total performance that he suggested the opera might be renamed Amneris in honor of Cornetti’s role.

Recognized as one of the world’s leading Verdi mezzos, Cornetti’s career is largely European-based. She has performed on the world’s great stages: the Metropolitan; La Scala; Vienna’s Opernhaus and Covent Garden among them.

But she does not forget her Western Pennsylvania roots and is full of praise for the Music Hall. “The Carnegie Carnegie reminds me of a typical little European theatre, perfect in size and acoustics so that the singer never feels the need to push the voice, but instead can bring all of the colors, dynamics and nuances to the music that the composer intended. It is a