

ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER



A National Historic Landmark

WINTER 2008

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign

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Class of '51 Alum Gives Campaign a Big Boost

Makes Family Name Part of Library & Music Hall Legacy

Carnegie High School Class of 1951 alumnus John Leone has made a major gift that puts the campaign significantly closer to reaching its \$1 million challenge grant goal. CEO of Bonney Forge, a company in Mt. Union, PA, Houston, TX and Shanghai, China that manufactures and markets forged steel valves, forged fittings, branch connections and other energy industry products, Leone has never forgotten his roots. His \$57,500 gift pays tribute to the things that shaped his path in life: family, community and our beautiful Library & Music Hall!

Leone's generosity secures naming opportunities



Comfortable new seats coming soon.

in the ACFL&MH. The lobby of the Library will have a plaque in honor of his mother and father, John and Rose Leone. And he is naming five of the Library's beautiful signature windows in honor of his aunts: Aunt Yol (Yolanda); Aunt Ev (Evalina); Aunt El (Elia); Aunt Mimi (Melinda) and Aunt Flora.

"I come from a large and loving Italian family," laughs Leone.

Indeed when told that there weren't five windows all together, Leon didn't hesitate to tie his decision back to his boyhood memories. "Keep the youngest three aunts together. They were the ones

who used to walk me up the hill to the Library."

Three windows in memory of Aunt El, Aunt Ev and Aunt Flora will be in the new multi-purpose



Flora, Ev, Yol, Mimi, Rose "Nunna" Leone (John Leone's mother), El

room (formerly the Library Director's office) that connects with the Children's Room. Aunt Yol and Aunt Mimi's windows will be in the Reference Room.

"John Leone gave this campaign a real kick start with our first challenge grant," says former classmate and campaign co-chair Bill Manby.

"Now he's stepping up to

put us within reach once again. Our hearts are full."

Leone's gift may be beyond the reach of most of the Library & Music Hall's myriad supporters. However, making one's family name part of the Carnegie Carnegie's legacy of service and programming is not. Naming opportunities range from \$100 for Library shelves to \$500 for Music Hall seats all the way up to \$750,000 for the acoustically superb Music Hall. (Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for a full list of naming opportunities or call 412-276-3456, x6.)

Two Enchanted Evenings!



A stunning premiere music performance and a dress-up bingo gala—two events that brought people together for unique entertainment and raised money to bring the ACFL&MH closer to its year-end challenge goal. Read about both events on pages 6 and 7.

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Library Hours

Monday

2 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs.

10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday

Closed

SUMMER HOURS

(July and August)

Monday

2 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs.

10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Friday

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday

Closed

Contacts

Phone:

412-276-3456

ACFL&MH

Executive Director

Maggie Forbes, x6

Library Director

Diane Klinefelter, x17

Children and Youth Services Librarian

Erin Tipping, x8

ACFL&MH Website

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:

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall is beautiful again.

It is beautiful because of the painstaking work being done to restore our historic facility. It is also beautiful because of the remarkable new vibrancy of our programming and services. From Wii bowling to senior movies to Civil War field trips to poetry readings to genealogy workshops to political debates, the Library is busy from morning until night. Children's circulation soared an astonishing 161% last year!

Our Music Hall has emerged as an important regional performance venue. Upcoming performances include jazz legend Joe Negri's *Mass of Hope*, Stage 62's *Alice in Wonderland for Children*, and Duquesne University's fully staged production of Mozart's rarely performed *La Finta Giardiniera*. As we write, Carnegie Performing Art Center young dancers are charming audiences with *The Nutcracker*.

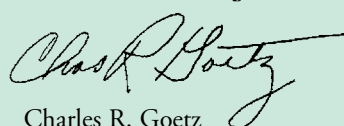
The Library & Music Hall is once more the pride of Carnegie and beyond.

But we are not finished. The full promise of interior improvements—undoing water damage, restoring historic character, making the Library & Music Hall welcoming and user friendly—lies before us.

So too does securing our second \$500,000 conditional grant, even more challenging than the grant you so generously helped us secure four years ago. To receive this grant we must raise \$1 million by December 2008.

We can do it! We will do it if everyone reading this newsletter responds to our call for help. With your continued support we will once again defeat the odds. We count on you to be as generous as you can. Consider a three-year pledge. The full amount of your pledge counts toward the challenge.

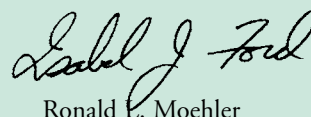
All best wishes for a wonderful holiday season, and we hope to see you at the Carnegie Carnegie soon.



Charles R. Goetz
Campaign Co-Chair



William E. Manby
Campaign Co-Chair



Ronald L. Moehler
President, ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

Beginning at the Beginning: Children's Circulation Soars 161%

Good news about the Library & Music Hall is bountiful of late. No single statistic captures this better than the fact that children's circulation soared a remarkable 161% from August 2007 to August 2008.

Beyond the overall forward momentum described in these pages, the ACFL&MH received a two-year grant from the Grable Foundation intended to upgrade children's services and programs during this time of organizational transition. Erin Tipping, the ACFL&MH's Children and Youth Services Librarian, has



Children and Youth Services Librarian Erin Tipping hosts weekly "Story and Craft Time" for children and parents to hear a story and make a related craft.

proved to be the perfect person for the job

Tipping is committed to engaging toddlers through teens in Library offerings with regular Tuesday and Thursday story hour and craft activities for toddlers and preschoolers, outreach to area schools or an intergenerational art program. Recent teen programming included *Going Green*, *Duct-Tape Wallet Making* and *Cupcake Book Talks*.

More great statistics: the ACFL&MH's 2008 summer reading program involved 126 participants, 70 programs, ten weeks of fun and 37,000 minute of reading!

Collaboration with Opera Workshop Continues

Join us on December 6 at 2:00 p.m. when students from Duquesne University's Opera Workshop come to the Music Hall to perform a free concert. This is the fourth year that the ACFL&MH has worked with the Mary Pappert School of Music and Opera Workshop Director Guenko Guechev to provide a "joyful sound" holiday program. This year's *Songs for the Season* serves up short scenes from the operatic repertoire. The audience is invited for seasonal treats in the Reception Hall following the performance.

"This is preparation for 'the big show,'" according to Executive Director Maggie Forbes. On April 24 at 8:00 p.m.

and April 26 at 2:00 p.m. Duquesne will present a fully staged production of Mozart's first opera, the rarely performed

comic opera *La Finta Giardiniera*. "Our Music Hall was made for those glorious unamplified voices," says Forbes.



Scene from *Die Fledermaus* in the Opera Workshop's 2008 performance.



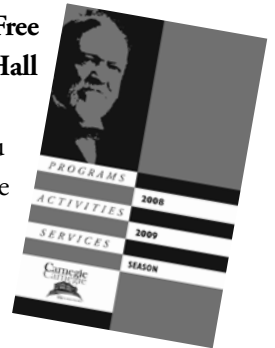
Carnegie's "Poet Laureate"

The ACFL&MH has a great friend and secret asset in Carnegie resident and patron Bernadette Kazmarski. Kazmarski is an artist, graphic designer and community activist whose photos and artwork grace the Carnegie Carnegie's website, Annual Program, invitations and promotional posters and the newsletter you are reading.

She is also an accomplished poet. Kazmarski's third poetry reading and art show *Change of Season* takes place February 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the Reception Hall. Come *hear* her!

Annual Program Book Available!

Need to plan out your next year? Make sure you've got the latest **Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Annual Program Book** nearby so you don't miss any of the shows, programs, events or activities coming up in 2009.



Volunteer Profile: A Dynamic Duo

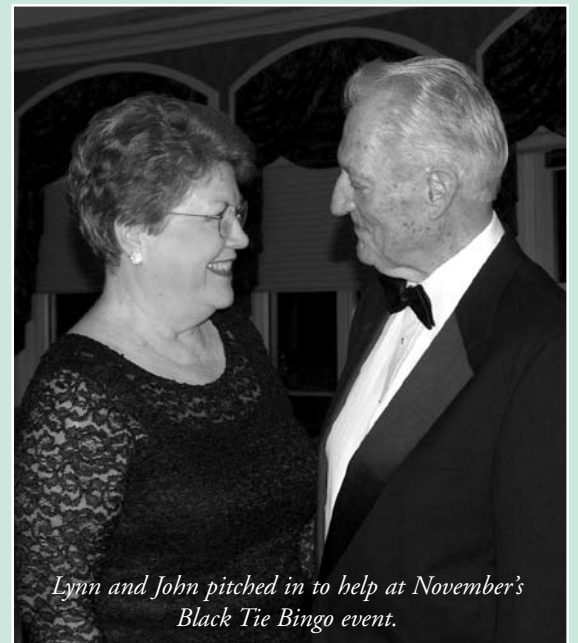
Lynn Pascoe and John Heiner have a thing for the Library & Music Hall. That makes the Library & Music Hall lucky!

"One of the best things about my job is the friends the ACFL&MH makes—for itself and for me," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. "Lynn and John represent the best of that."

From helping Forbes with mailings to gardening on the hottest days to hosting a reception prior to Stage 62's *Urinetown* last summer to brainstorming ideas for programming, promotion and fundraising, Pascoe and Heiner are deeply committed to the Library & Music Hall's transformation. They are also regular attendees at a wide variety of ACFL&MH performances and programs.

Both now retired from long and varied business careers in sales and marketing, they enjoy devoting time to the Carnegie Carnegie and being a part of this vital asset.

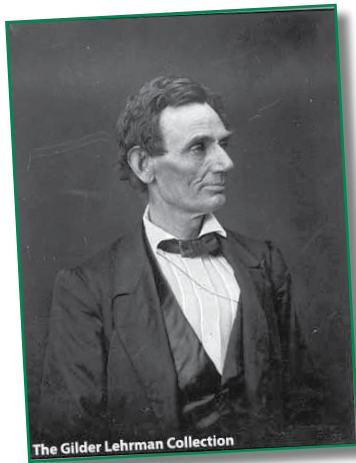
"We encourage others to become active in this very worthwhile endeavor. It's a joy to experience the improvements as they develop," remarks John.



Lynn and John pitched in to help at November's *Black Tie Bingo* event.

Celebrating Lincoln's Bicentennial

ACFL&MH One of 40 Sites in the Country To Receive Major Touring Exhibit on Lincoln



Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time a Man for All Times will be at the Library & Music Hall in April 2010. This major exhibition, organized by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, was developed to commemorate the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth.

The ACFL&MH is receiving the exhibit at the end of its tour, which is perfect timing according to Library Director Diane Klinefelter. "Interest in Lincoln and the Civil War never

goes out of fashion, and April is a month with profound resonance for those interested in the Civil War." That war began and ended in April, and Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865. Being at the end of the tour also gives the Library & Music Hall time to develop a rich roster of complementary programming.

National Park Service Historian Emeritus Comes to Library & Music Hall

2009 marks the bicentennial of the sixteenth and perhaps most admired president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. The ACFL&MH is launching its programming commemorating this milestone with a talk by Edwin Coles Bearss. Mr. Bearss (pronounced "bars") served as Chief Historian for the National Park Service from 1981 to 1994, and is a nationally renowned speaker and tour guide. His passion for the American Civil War, as befits a speaker at the Library, was sparked by reading John Thomason's biography *Jeb Stewart* as a boy.

Mr. Bearss is well known to viewers of the History Channel, where he is often featured as an expert commentator.

Mr. Bearss will be here on Monday February 9. (Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809 in Kentucky.) His 7:00 p.m. talk will be in the Music Hall, followed by a reception. Members of the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves will be on hand to give tours of the Captain Thomas Espy Post. Tickets are \$10 and may be obtained at the Library or by calling 412-276-3456, x2.

Annual Civil War Event Set for April 4



Clear your calendars now for the ACFL&MH's annual Civil War programming scheduled for April 4. Programming is still in the developmental stages, but will include a Civil War Exposition, re-enactments on the grounds, tours of the Espy Post and historical talks. The day's programming will culminate with an 8:00 concert featuring the Acoustic Shadows of the Blue and Gray. Programming is made possible through a grant from the Massey Charitable Trust.

One of Carnegie's Own Civil War Veterans

As the number of Civil War veterans of the Espy Post began to dwindle, thoughts turned to how they would protect their collection and preserve the memory of what they fought for. The Grand Army of the Republic was only



open to veterans of the Civil War, so its future existence was uncertain at best. William H.H. Lea was one of three members appointed by the Commander of the Espy Post to meet with the Library committee in February 1906 about securing space in the library to house the Post meeting room and its contents.

Mr. Lea was born January 18, 1845 in Scott Township. He enlisted December 7, 1861 and was mustered into Batt'y I, 112th Pennsylvania Volunteers (2nd Heavy Artillery). He was promoted from Corporal to Sergeant in August, 1864; 1st Sergeant in October, 1864; and, 2nd Lieutenant in May, 1865. This unit was recruited from Franklin, Allegheny and Monroe counties and saw action in the Battle of the Wilderness and the siege of Petersburg. Lea married around 1872 and became a Post Master. He was living in Carnegie on Main Street and had three sons and a daughter at the time of the 1900 Census.

Many of the artifacts in the room were procured by William H.H. Lea. However, one of the most priceless artifacts in the Espy Room is the



Commander's gavel. The gavel was acquired by Mr. Lea at Gettysburg in June 1904. The embedded bullet is from Devil's Den; the wood is from a felled tree in the location of Spangler's Springs.

William applied for membership and was mustered into the Espy Post on January 22, 1880. At the time of his application he was living in Mansfield, and was a clerk by occupation.

Highlights of What's Happening at the ACFL&MH

All ACFL&MH programs are subject to change. Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for the most up-to-date information and details.

Children's and Family Programming

Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 3, 6:30 PM–8:00 PM

Holiday Movie Night

Wednesday, December 10, 6:00 PM**

VITA Tax Assistance Registration Begins

Friday, January 2, 2009, must schedule appointment.

Fairy Tale Festival

Saturday, January 31, 11:00 AM.**

Celebrate Black History Month

Wednesday February 11, 6:00 PM**

Change of Season, Poetry Reading and Art Exhibit

Thursday, February 19, 7:00 PM

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Party

Monday March 2, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Annual Civil War Weekend

Saturday April 4, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

All day programming, free and open to the public. Concert by Acoustic Shadows of the Blue and Gray at 8:00 PM, \$10.00.

Autism—The Musical

Monday April 6, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Easter Egg Hunt

Wednesday April 8, 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM**

Earth Day

Wednesday April 22, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Cinco de Mayo

Tuesday, May 5, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM**

Summer Reading

Monday June 1, Friday July 31, 2009

**Please contact the Library to register, 412-276-3456 x2.

Music Hall

The Nutcracker

December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 8:00 PM Friday and Saturday, 2:00 PM Sunday. Contact: www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or call 412-279-8887.

Mass of Hope

Saturday, December 20, 8:00 PM

See page 12 for details.

Salute to Lincoln

Monday, February 9, 2009, 7:00 PM

See page 4 for details.

Alice in Wonderland

Friday, February 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 7:30 PM

Contact www.stage62.com or 412-429-6262.

The Magic Boots Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

Saturday February 21, 1:30 PM

Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble with special guest the 3 Rivers Mandolin Consort. Contact: 412-977-2010.

Swan Lake

Friday March 27, 28, 29, 8:00 PM

Contact: www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or call 412-279-8887.

Peter Pan

Friday April 17, 8:00 PM

Contact: www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com or call 412-279-8887.

La Finta Giardiniera

Friday April 24, 8:00 PM

Contact: Guenko Guechev, 412-396-6076, www.duq.edu.

Noises Off

Friday May 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 8:00 PM

Contact: 412-429-6262 or www.stage62.com.

Weekly and Monthly Programming

Children and Youth

Contact Erin Tipping for details.

Babies and Books

10:30–11:00 a.m., Tuesdays. Ages two and under.

Story and Craft Time

10:30–11:00 a.m., Thursdays.

For pre-schoolers through young primary, with an adult.

Teaser Tuesdays

4:00 p.m., every other Tuesday.

Family Tales Time

7:00–8:00 p.m., every other Thursday.

Teen Scene

3:30–4:30 p.m., third Wednesday of every month.

Adults and Seniors

Contact Diane Klinefelter for details.

PALS (People Able to Lend Support) Book Club

1:00 p.m., third Wednesday of every month.

Movies for the Senior Set

2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m., third Wednesday September to May

Wii Bowling for Seniors

10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m., first and third Fridays of every month.
Registration required.

Two Enchan

SPONSORS

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The Craig Goodworth Miller Group
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Dr. Michael & Rose Kutsenkow
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MEDIA SPONSOR

Comcast

Special Thanks to Scott Burkett, Informing Design, Bernadette Kazmarski and Nancy Pace and Stage 62.

EVENT STEERING COMMITTEE

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Dolores Smith Barber
Cheryl Chotiner
Joan Britten
Clare Goetz
Jennifer Highfield
Berenice and John Hooton
Rose Kutsenkow
Barbara Johnston
Lynn Pascoe
Karyn Ashley Rok
Marlene Smith Pendleton

Library all decked out for after concert reception. ▶

Daphne Dazzles



Oh what a beautiful evening! We think Mr. Hammerstein would excuse the paraphrase of one of his more famous lyrics in describing contralto Daphne Alderson's October 10 tribute performance, *Songs that Oscar Taught Me*.

This particular enchanted evening was a world premiere commissioned by the ACFL&MH. It came together perfectly with Ms. Alderson's gorgeous voice; an eclectic array of

Hammerstein songs (written not only with Richard Rodgers, but also with Jerome Kern and Kurt Weill); fabulous arrangements by Douglas Levine and accompaniment by a terrific band. Alderson's affection and appreciation for Oscar Hammerstein, II – and for the Music Hall – permeated her warm and engaging commentary.

Daphne went off mike to sing her encore piece, Hammerstein and Kern's *All the Things You Are*, mesmerizing the audience while showcasing the Music Hall's superb acoustics.

Members of the band – George Elliott on bass; P.J. Gatch, percussion; Douglas Levine, piano and John Marcinizyn, guitar – elicited considerable praise in their own right.

Guests enjoyed an elegant after-performance reception that was deliciously catered and artfully presented by Michael Lench.

The annual benefit raised \$47,000 and drew an audience of more than 200 from throughout Allegheny County.



Daphne sings encore to Man of the Evening Oscar Hammerstein, II. P.J. Hatch percussion and George Elliott on bass.



Daphne chats with guest under the approving gaze of Andrew Carnegie.



Campaign Co-Chair Bill Manby with Daphne.



Diane Klinefelter, center, gives guests a glimpse of Espy Post. l-r Clare and Charlie Goetz (he's Campaign Co-Chair); Marlene Smith Pendleton and Jim Trotter.

ted Evenings

...Followed by a Bang Up Black Tie Bingo!

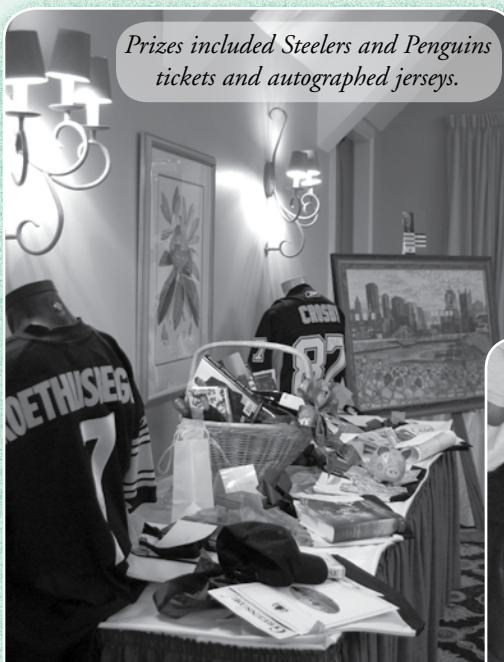
On November 8, Library & Music Hall friends new and old flocked to The Club at Nevillewood for Black Tie, Bubbly & Bingo. Co-chaired by ACFL&MH trustee Dana Craig and his wife Susan, the event proved just how much fun high stakes bingo can be.

The evening began with a sumptuous feast prepared by Nevillewood Chef Bill Brown. People are still talking about the sea scallops, rare lamb and ahi tuna served in martini glasses! Campaign Blue Ribbon Committee member Anthony Sinatra and his wife Beth Tarasi generously sponsored the evening, while the Presto Volunteer Fire Department expertly called the Bingo games.

Games one through nine were all good fun and conviviality, though lucky winners went home with some terrific prizes (Penguins tickets with a signed Sidney Crosby jersey, a very, very big basket of wine, a substantial gift certificate from Louis Anthony Jewelers). But the chatter stopped for the calling of "cover all" game ten: the \$10,000 prize! Lucky winner, generous winner Mary Ann Maksa – who came with ACFL&MH trustee Sue Demko – stuck with the plan she and Sue came in with. "If one of us wins, we'll split the prize and give \$1,000 to the Library!"

Thank you Mary Ann and Sue, Dana and Susan, Tony and Beth, great committee members and the many new friends and neighbors who helped get the campaign \$48,000 closer to reaching its \$1 million goal.

Prizes included Steelers and Penguins tickets and autographed jerseys.



Committee members Fran and Sue Prezioso having a good time.



Three generations of Bingo players: Carol Hoag with daughter Genevieve Ogrodnik and mother Steffie Barent.



ACFL&MH trustee Dana Craig with big winner Mary Ann Maksa, Maggie Forbes and fellow trustee Sue Demko.



Event sponsors Beth Tarasi with husband Anthony Sinatra are intent on their Bingo.

PRESENTING SPONSORS
Anthony Sinatra & Beth Tarasi Sinatra

EVENT STEERING COMMITTEE
Dana & Susan Craig, Co-Chairs
Charles & Clare Goetz
David & Cindy Hewit
Fran & Susie Prezioso
Ron & Evelyn Simmons
Anthony Sinatra & Beth Tarasi
Bill & Ellen Thomeier
Maureen Valentine

*Special Thanks to the Club at Nevillewood
and the Presto Volunteer Fire
Department*

Back Stage Improvements Delight Cast and Crew

Most visitors to the Library & Music Hall won't get to see it first hand, but one of the most dramatic upgrades to the ACFL&MH facility has just been completed. The Music Hall is now enhanced by new dressing rooms and other support spaces that bring the venue to a whole new level of operations.

Stage 62 was the first group to use the dressing rooms with its recent production of *Oliver!* Gina Fleitman, Stage Manager for that show and long time member of the company, is enthusiastic.

"The gorgeous new dressing rooms and green room delight the cast and crew. It's great to see how many cast members proudly bring their friends and family down after the show to tour the space and point out the new amenities. It's especially fun when alumni from previous productions come down to take in the improvements. The look on their faces is absolutely priceless when they see the pristine hallways, endless array of mirrors with ample dressing space, and private bath and showers. I know exactly what they're thinking. It's a stunning transformation from the ...errr...'quaint,' aging space they knew before."

Quaint is kind! Until now, performers had to use cramped,

damp, utterly inappropriate cellar space never intended for theatrical purposes. The new spaces are not luxurious, but they are commodious and designed to support performers and their performances.

"Performers give our audiences so much pleasure," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. "It makes us proud to be able to treat them graciously in return."

From a practical standpoint, the improvements make the Music Hall a much more attractive venue for a variety of performance groups. Indeed, dressing rooms equipped with showers and toilets meet Actors' Equity requirements. More bookings generate critically needed earned revenue, attracting new audiences to the Music Hall *and* to Carnegie while advancing the Library & Music Hall's mission.

It's a stunning transformation from the ...errr...'quaint,' aging space they knew before.

Upgrades to the Music Hall support space bring it into compliance with ADA and code requirements. The space is fully sprinkled and has major improvement to the HVAC system (though air conditioning is in the "yet to come column"). A performance utility room, complete with a washer, dryer and utility tub, critically

needed ACFL&MH storage space, and well-lit, wider corridors round out this phase of work.

Work in the Music Hall "undercroft" was made possible with funding from the Allegheny Foundation, the Allegheny Regional Asset District, the Buncher Family Foundation, an anonymous donor and hundreds of gifts from individual donors and businesses.



Share Your Memories!

The following, excerpted from a letter from Loretta Sienicki Szfranski, will become part of the Memories page on our website. Please send us your stories. The ACFL&MH should be part of capturing Carnegie's many-faceted narratives.

"We are so very pleased with the success of the restoration of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall. The ongoing scheduled activities present an exciting resurgence of local interest in preserving this landmark.

"Next to the family homestead on Kennedy Street, the Library is our remaining cherished memory of growing up in Carnegie.

"Carnegie High School is long gone where I and most of my brothers and sisters graduated. St. Luke High School where Len graduated in 1951 is also history and long demolished. The Immaculate Conception Church on Jane Street, now Mansfield Blvd., where we were married is no longer there. The new Immaculate Conception was closed and sold many years now.

"So it is pleasing to come home and visit the Library still standing and in excellent repair. It is marvelous that so much continues to go on behind its old and sturdy wall."



Loretta and Len Szfranski at their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Honorary and Memorial Contributions

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall gratefully acknowledges the following honorary and memorial contributions, which help support the campaign to restore, revitalize and renovate the historic facility.

IN MEMORY OF

Sean Coyne

Michael & Andrea Mosites
Robert & Martha Oakley
Peggy Rutkauskas
Ruth Rutkauskas

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Zora Phillips

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Peggy Rutkauskas
Ruth Rutkauskas
Twyman Family

Mary Pregnar

Bernadette Kazmarski

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Dolores Smith Barber

Sydelle Kessler

James G. & Patricia M. James

The Children of Jim & Pat James

Patricia Prattis Jennings

Pearl McNall, MD

Marion Karbowski's Birthday

James R. McManus

Joe Negri

Judge & Mrs. Ruggero J. Aldisert

Stage 62

The casts, crews & membership
of Stage 62

Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall's Campaign Contributors

*The Chartiers Valley Partnership and the ACFL&MH gratefully acknowledge the many individuals, businesses and organizations who have made gifts to the campaign since **June 30, 2008**. This list is complete as of **November 21, 2008**. Names with * indicated more than one gift in this time period. For the full list of donors since the campaign's official November 2003 launch please visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com.*

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We Need Your Stories

Like the stories from Loretta Sienicki Szafranski on page 8, and John Leone on page 1, every donation comes with a story. In fact, everyone who has ever visited the Library & Music Hall has their story of coming here. Please send us your stories or ones told to you by relatives and friends. On page 11, read about George Watkinson and why his family members made their memorial donations in his name.

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Performing in front of Stage 62's set for Oliver, the NewLanders sang of the history of people and industry in Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. Their performance includes a slideshow of images from the Westmoreland Museum of Art's exhibit Born of Fire. They were also joined by local singer-songwriter Mike Stout who performed his commissioned song, "Happy Birthday, Pittsburgh", which "compressed 10,000 years of Pittsburgh's history into about seven verses."

In Memory of George E. Watkinson

George E. Watkinson was born in Kirwin Heights in 1922. The son of a first-generation American coal miner and an English immigrant nurse, he was always told that education would dictate his fate in this country. He spent hours and hours reading in the Andrew Carnegie Free Library, and indeed those books did alter his life. He skipped several grades and eventually received a scholarship to Duquesne University as a music major.

George spent most of his professional life in the Monongahela (later "Ringgold") Area School District, first as a K-12 instrumental instructor and band director, later as an elementary school principal, then as Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education.

But he never forgot the afternoons and weekends he spent in this library. Diagnosed with terminal cancer in the spring of 2008, he decided one day to revisit the favorite places of his youth, and he asked his wife and youngest daughter to accompany him. He was delighted that day to see the restoration of the ACFL&MH and its acoustically perfect performance hall. When he passed away on September 9, 2008 at the age of 86, his family instantly decided that given his memories and his lifelong dedication to educating young people, the Library & Music Hall would be the perfect recipient of any memorial gifts.

Remembering the Library & Music Hall in Your Will

There are several types of bequests you may wish to consider:

Specific Bequest: You bequeath dollar amount of specific assets to the ACFL&MH, such as stock, real estates or personal property.

Residuary Bequest: The ACFL&MH is bequeathed the remainder or a percentage of your estate after specific bequests, debts, taxes and expenses have been paid.

Contingent Bequest: A bequest to the ACFL&MH takes place only if beneficiaries named in your Will pre-decease you or something unexpected happens.

We would be happy to talk with you and answer any questions you or your attorney might have. Please contact Maggie Forbes at 412-276-3456, x6.

Coming soon: www.carnegiecarnegie.com will feature a striking new look and a more user friendly format to better showcase our beautiful facility and keep you abreast of ACFL&MH's fabulous programming.

Joe Negri, Bach Choir and Stage 62 Come Together for Mass of Hope

Don't miss the holiday concert of the season! The ACFL&MH is presenting Joe Negri's *Mass of Hope* on Saturday, December 20. Members of the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh and Stage 62 will be joining Negri and his quartet in this beautiful ensemble piece.

Negri performed at the Music Hall last April, drawing a deeply appreciative audience. He gave ACFL&MH Executive Director Maggie Forbes a CD of his jazz mass after the concert.

"I took it home, listened to it four times in a row, and knew I wanted to do it here," says Forbes. "Fortunately, Joe agreed that the Music Hall is an ideal setting for his mass."

The eclectic work requires top notch musicianship. Thomas Douglas, director of the Bach Choir is serving as Musical Director for the program and doubling as the male cantor. Mezzo soprano Becki Toth, well known to Carnegie Carnegie audiences for her many standout roles with Stage 62, is the



The Music Hall hosted Joe Negri in April, 2008.

female cantor.

"I am so glad that Thomas was open to members of Stage 62 – 'oh those glorious Stage 62 voices' – joining the Bach Choir for this concert," says Forbes.

Negri's mass was originally commissioned by the Diocese of Pittsburgh in the early 80's. "They wanted something original and more sophisticated than a folk mass for a teachers' convocation," remembers Joe. He describes the piece as nascent, not fully developed, but too good to abandon. It kicked around in his head for a few years. "The commission didn't come to fruition until 1996."

Tickets to Negri's *Mass of Hope* are \$25, and may be purchased at the Library, on line at www.carnegiecarnegie.com or by calling 412-276-3456, x6. The 8:00 p.m. concert will be followed by an informal reception. The performance is made possible through a generous grant from The Pittsburgh Foundation.