

CORNELIUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Script - 18 Oct 2003

RON : Good Afternoon! My name is Ron McCallum and this is Mike Mlynski. As members of the Cornelius Public Library Board, we want to welcome you to a celebration of 90 years of Library service in Cornelius. I would remind you about The Friends of Cornelius Library raffle that will support the Library. I would like to begin by introducing Mayor Steve Heinrich to read a proclamation.

STEVE : Proclamation

RON : I would like to introduce City Councilor Scott Rice who is the Council's liaison to the library. He will recognize organizations that have made this event possible.

SCOTT : Thank You

RON : We would like to give some organizations an opportunity to tell you about their activities and plans for the future. Throughout this Program, Mike will provide you with interesting facts and quotes about the past, present and future of the Cornelius Public Library.

MIKE : **Jan. 1915** - Mrs. Dornsite was the first Cornelius Public Librarian, hired at \$10 a month.
August 1927 - Dorothy Cochran was hired to catalog books at 20 Cents an hour.
May 1931 - Library reduces hours of service and librarian's salary. Is reduced from \$20 a month, pre-depression, back to \$10 a month.

RON : Introduce Cornelius Civic Club Rep.
Shirley Stanley - current president

SHIRLEY : Speech - Our Past

MIKE : **January 1941** -Books are destroyed, that were checked out by families that were quarantined due to Scarlet Fever.

December 1955 -A card "filing system" was discussed for the first time, and implemented shortly thereafter.

Margaret Mumford (former library board member) - Recalls the time that it was decided to cull the library collection to reflect one of quality not quantity. An expert from Salem was requested and spent time in the stacks. The recommendation was to remove three - fourths of the books! Instead of removing the books, the Library Board voted to keep the collection intact - "it was better to have books on the shelves!"

RON : Introduce Friends of the Cornelius Library rep.
Catherine Wildt - current president

CATHERINE : Speech - Our Present

MIKE : **Did you know** that Cornelius Library was one of the first to provide Cultural passes?

Summer 1957 - The Summer Reading program is implemented for the first time; 18 children complete the required number of Books.

Summer 2003 - The Summer Reading program has 386 children sign up and read!

RON : Introduce Cornelius Community Center Foundation Rep.
Mary Kline - Board Member & Secretary

MARY : Speech - Our Future

MIKE : The Cornelius Public Library has a rich tradition of providing library service to the community. It became part of the Washington County Cooperative Library Services in 1976 as one of the founding members. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2002, we have over 19,200 books and 9 internet stations, all housed in a 2,500 sq. ft.

5.5 full-time equivalents

facility. We are open 46 hours a week with 3 full time and one part time trained staffers that serve a current population of over 11,400. Sounds great, right!? Cornelius Library does one of the best jobs anywhere with the least amount of resources and we should be proud of our effort, but in all honesty, we can do even better! We have one of the best City Council commitments and with that kind of support we can do much more! To just meet the minimum State Library Standards of service we would need to be open 55 hours a week with a staff of 5.7 and provide over 34,000 books and 5 internet stations housed in a 8,676 sq.ft. facility!! A move to this level of service would be a landmark for this growing community and the people who call this home.

* tell Ron
RON : Just a few more Thanks! I would like to introduce our harpist - she is a librarian! Linda Minor! Please take a look at the ~~time-~~line/displays, enjoy the food and entertainment. I would like to Thank the Cornelius Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Cornelius Library, the Children's Museum, and the Rice Northwest museum of Rocks and Minerals for providing prizes for the raffle. Tickets are still for sale and there will be a drawing shortly. Thank you for your support! Thank you for coming!

THANK YOU !



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**CITY OF CORNELIUS
PROCLAMATION
CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF LIBRARY SERVICE
OCTOBER 2003**

Whereas, public libraries are an American tradition; and

Whereas, we are proud of our Public Library; and

Whereas, we appreciate the great history, the strong present and the promising future of the Cornelius Public Library; and

Whereas, we are celebrating 90 years of library service in Cornelius; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Steve Heinrich, Mayor of the City of Cornelius, Oregon, with the full support of the City Council do hereby proclaim the month of October 2003 as:

LIBRARY SERVICE MONTH

and recognize and appreciate the efforts of all the past and present library staff, patrons and supporters in the life of the Cornelius Public Library. The City of Cornelius further encourages all citizens to extend their commitment to the Cornelius Public Library by supporting it with their time and energy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Cornelius, Oregon to be affixed this 6th day of October 2003.

Mayor Steve Heinrich

Councilor Scott Rice

Councilor John Groth

Councilor Alfredo Solares-Vega

Councilor Amy Scheckla-Cox

Cornelius Public Library Celebrates 90 Years of Service!



The Friends of the Cornelius Public Library Book Sale

Thursday, October 2, 9am – 8pm
Cornelius City Council Chambers
(1310 N. Adair St.)

Public Reception

Saturday, October 18 from 3 – 5 pm
Cornelius Public Library
Refreshments and live music will be provided
Speakers will share information
About the library's past, present and future

Children's Celebration

Saturday, October 25 from 10 am – 12 noon
Cornelius Public Library
Refreshments and entertainment
will be provided

Spanish Language Family Story Times

Every Monday at 7pm

English Language Preschool Story Times

Every Friday at 10am

Historical Displays

Available for viewing in the Library and in the
Civic Center hallway throughout October

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support

Cornelius Civic Club • Friends of the Cornelius Public Library • Cornelius Community Center Foundation
Cornelius City Council • Cornelius Public Library Board • Volunteers and Staff of the Cornelius Public Library

These activities made possible by the generosity of the following sponsors

Friends of the Cornelius Public Library • Cornelius Civic Club • Cornelius Booster Club • Forest Grove News-Times

Children's Party

Our local Insurance Agents: Bunny Girt - State Farm Insurance • Jeannine Murrell - Farmers Insurance

THANK YOU !

SCOTT : We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support :

- Cornelius City Council
- Cornelius Public Library Board
- Cornelius Community Center Foundation
- Volunteers & Staff of the Cornelius Public library

The 90th celebration is made possible by the generosity of the following sponsors :

- Friends of the Cornelius Library
- Cornelius Civic Club
- Cornelius Booster Club
- The News-Times

The Children's Party on the 25th of Oct. is sponsored by local insurance agents :

- Bunny Girt, State Farm Insurance
- Jeannine Murrell, Farmers Insurance

Today's celebration is sponsored through generous anonymous donations and are greatly appreciated!

Shirley

The CORNELIUS CIVIC CLUB Report

Two Ladies of Cornelius decided that housework, churning butter and doing laundry, along with all the chores was certainly no way to broaden their minds and they needed to read more. Since a shortage of money prevented them from buying all the books they would like to read, they decided to start a library. This was April 8, 1913. In October, with more women expressing a desire to have more to read, they started the first public library in Cornelius.

They set up the library upstairs in Bunning Hall Jan. 21, 1921 and they decided to have refreshments and entertainment to raise money to decorate the library. After expenses of 38 cents - 23 cents for stove oil and 15 cents for invitations, they raised \$36.30. This was used for decorations including \$2.10 for curtains. The rods were donated and one of the husbands donated his time to put them up. The two ladies that went to Hillsboro to buy the material for the curtains turned in a bill for 10 cents for car fare.

Where the original books they checked out came from ,there doesn't seem to be a record of, but it is recorded that they would check out an average of 600 books a month. I wonder how many chores got left undone.

Dues for club were 50 cents a year and could be paid semi-annually. They weren't raised to \$1 until 1946. Dues today in the Cornelius Civic Club is only \$10 a year, so it's still a bargain.

The Club also subscribed to a magazine for the library (though they didn't say which one) for a year. Total subscription cost was \$1. They also voted April 2, 1917 to have the Club paper a part of the Library.

In November of 1922 a donor gave \$51.57 (though we don't know who it was) and the club voted to add \$8.43 so the library could receive \$60. This was to be used by Mrs. Wilcox to buy books and supplies needed to keep the library modern.

Naturally the library had to be cleaned from time to time and so a man was hired to do this. (All the ladies were busy reading.) He charged 50 cents a month but when the ladies bought him a vacuum cleaner he said he had to have a \$1 as the machine was so heavy to push.

This club through out the years has been involved in lots of civic affairs from school lunches to current events but the first concern has always been the library. A name plaque is placed in the library for each of the members that pass on, as a tribute to their contribution to not only the library and the school libraries but civic concerns as well.

Catherine

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The FRIENDS of the CORNELIUS PUBLIC LIBRARY Report

Today's Friends group was formed in 1996 when our then Librarian John Greiner (he had another little job on the side - City Manager) called Donna Bash and asked if she would do some calling and start up a Friends group. That's how half a dozen ladies met over tea and coffee in what is now the Library Director's office. After a few meetings, we decided that we really needed to get our 501(c)3 status back (a previous Friends group had disbanded and let it lapse). Then we could ask our community for help! After several false starts, (bless Priscilla who took over that job!) We got the ball rolling! We had to convince the state that we were independent of the library. We put together a mission statement and we resurrected the old bylaws and updated them and finally, we decided on our major focus - children's programs and materials. This process helped define who we were and after persevering for more than a year, we had our status signed and sealed. We were a non-profit!

As a result, we now raise funds thru grants, semi-annual book sales and generous donations from businesses in our community. We are now funding weekly story-times in English on Friday mornings and Spanish on Monday evenings. We help pay for some of the entertainers for the children's summer reading program and we put on the annual Watermelon Feed and Seed spitting contest at the end of the summer. And we are able to assist the Library director in meeting other library needs. In the past, we also bought some of the cultural passes.

I think the activity that most illustrates our growth is the Book Sales. We started with setting up a couple of tables in the entrance to City Hall (we were asked to leave that area because we were too rowdy!), hawking bags of romance books on the steps of the library to people coming to the FireHouse breakfast (a big hit!) and storing untidy boxes of books in the Ladies' bath room. We now have a wonderful locked cupboard in the Ladies' bathroom for storing books - however, we've outgrown it and are looking for more space! We have 2 scheduled book sales a year the same day and time in May and Oct. so people can anticipate them. We are grateful to have permanent digs in the Cornelius City Council Chambers for these sales and to have the support of our city in accommodating us! And we are very thankful for the support of the community in our fund-raising efforts. They help us make the children's programs we support possible. We had a grand Oct. book sale - our best ever! We look forward to helping in the continuing support of our library, its staff, the patrons and community.