

Funds for the Library

The Scranton Library Friends Inc. (a 501(c)3 organization) operates exclusively to assist the Scranton Memorial Library (a separate 501(c)3) in meeting the educational and literary needs of its users. Our Library is an unusual entity both in the way it is organized and in its sources of funding.

I believe most of us think of our Library as a “Town” facility, but the Library is governed by a Board of Trustees who serve without remuneration. The Town usually funds 85% of its budget, leaving an elusive 15% to be secured in other ways. Hence, the existence of the Friends.

Thanks to our members and their on-going work to raise funds, in January the Friends were able to donate \$15,000 to the Library to provide for programming and other needs. Directors of the Friends receive no pay nor do its multitude of “workers” who lift, sort and sell “endless” but wonderful donated books. Others organize events, bake and cook refreshments, move furniture and other required “miracles” and squeeze in time for just about anything that needs doing.

But we could never fill the gap on our own. Other generous and kind people are right with us providing financial donations and volunteer help for our Library. All this activity rewards each participant in unique and personal ways.

I want to commend all who take part in keeping our library viable, especially taxpayers. You are Madison, a community where life and learning thrive. Thank you all.

Joan O'Neill
Fundraising, SLF