

For the last thirty years, The Friends have endeavored to fulfill the Founders' program and to assist the public library in any way they could. They provided volunteers for time consuming projects such as an inventory of the library or the renewal of library cards. They campaigned when the need arose, presenting and defending the library position at public meetings during the protracted efforts to enlarge the facilities, either by erecting a new library at Sunset Center, adding an annex to the original building on Lincoln street, or by transforming a former bank for the purpose.

And for the last thirty years, they have provided money for books, and sometimes for needed but decidedly unspectacular items such as metal shelves for the basement, extra telephones or a security system. When the Wells Fargo Bank was being converted into a library branch in 1980, the Friends had \$25,000 at hand to build cabinets in the foyer and equip the activity room of the Children's Department.

But more than providing extra funds, the Friends have always considered that their main purpose was to keep the library in the minds and hearts of the Carmel residents. They kept in touch with the public through their very popular book sale, their literary teas with appealing personalities, and the publication of a quarterly newsletter filled with articles about the library and books in general.

The non-profit Association now counts about 570 members. As time goes by, new members join or replace the old-timers, but all remain exactly what Janet Gaash and her twelve pioneers had meant them to be - the library's friends.

Photo-- Janet Gaash in 1985



From the Pen of a President.

Eleven of the sixteen books written by former President Jimmy Carter can be found in the Carmel Public Library. They are:

- An Outdoor Journal: Adventures and Reflexions 799 CAR
- The Blood of Abraham 956.04 CAR
- Always a Reckoning and Other Poems 811.54 CAR
- An Hour Before Daylight. Memoirs Of A Rural Boyhood. (Blog.)
- Christmas In Plains (Large Print)
- The Virtues of Aging 305.20 CAR
- Turning Point: a Candidate, A State and a Nation Come Of Age. 973.926
- Keepingt Faith. Memoirs Of A President 973.926 CAR
- Everything To Gain. Making the Most Of the Rest Of Your Life 158.1 CAR
- Living Faith. 248.4 CAR
- Sources Of Strength. Meditations On Scripture For A Living Faith. 248.4

