

Friends of the Manchester Library Board of Directors for 2026

President - Dave Denniston

The great-grandson of one of Manchester's founders, Dave was born in West Seattle. After a short, two-year, stay in Portland, his family moved back to Seattle. He attended Arbor Height's Grade School, Denny Jr. High and graduated from Chief Sealth High School. Luckily, Dave met Linda, the love of his life in 1963 and they went steady until they married in 1967. They were together until her passing in 2013. They were blessed with three wonderful daughters: Leslie, Tanya and Jennifer. Tanya passed away in 2021. Dave has lived in Burien, West Seattle, Enumclaw, Newport, Couer d'Alene and Manchester. He currently lives in Manchester, in the waterfront home his grandfather, Samuel Denniston built for his grandmother Rose Lanser prior to their marriage. Dave worked 40 years for the Federal government before retiring. He was active in junior football in Federal Way and Enumclaw, coaching and as a board member. He feels blessed that his family roots have kept him in contact with Manchester for 75 years. He enjoys E-Biking, kayaking, and walking -- plus quality time with his two side-kick dogs: Winston and Kona. Dave is the maestro of the July 4th waterfront fireworks show.

Vice President - Penny Johnson

Having lived on the Key Peninsula since 2004, it was a short move for Penny Johnson, to the lovely village of Manchester in June 2021. Since retiring as a medical legal nurse consultant, Penny has worked with her partner Rich van Engers in the fascinating world of pet products manufacturing with a focus on product design, marketing and branding. With a passion for gardening and a love for animals, Penny, Rich and their Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Ringo Star, feel lucky to be a part of this unique community.

Secretary - John K. Winslow

John has been an officer with the Friends of the Manchester Library since 2003. He held a number of engineering management positions with Kenworth Truck Company during the course of his 38 year career. John has been a board member of the Northwest Section of the Society of Automotive Engineers for over 51 years and has been the Section chairman, secretary, and held multiple other offices; he currently serves as section secretary. John holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Washington and received his Professional Engineers license in 1976, which he carried until his retirement. He also served six years in the US Navy Reserve as an aviation electronics technician. For the last 24 years, John has lead a social group of about 25 retired Kenworth engineering colleagues who are always looking for some new walking/hiking destination where they can enjoy each other's company and swap stories..

Treasurer - Theresa McBride

Theresa was born and raised "semi-locally" in the Issaquah area (now Sammamish). She received her BS in Chemistry from the University of Washington in 2002 followed by a Thesis Master's in Chemistry in 2004. Theresa has worked as a chemist at the Environmental Protection Agency's local Manchester Laboratory for over 15 years (4 years as a contractor before being hired as a federal employee). She moved to Manchester in

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2010 and married Tony Morris in 2013. Theresa is an avid reader and also tries to make time for gardening and birdwatching.

Director #1 - Dennis O'Connell

Dennis and his wife Janet became high school sweethearts in Southern California, and after marriage and three children, began looking for a different environment to raise a family. They moved to Manchester in 1993 and have been here ever since. Dennis earned his bachelor's degree at night and spent his days working right here in Manchester. He recently retired from Manchester Water District after 28 years. Now that their kids have kids of their own, Dennis and Janet can focus on her horses, his motorcycles, and their four granddaughters. The FOML are involved in so much more than just the library and working with this great group of people is truly a pleasure.

Director #2 - Barbara Peterson

Dr. Barb was born and raised in Southern California and then travelled and lived around the world with her sailor husband. She has been a resident of Port Orchard since 1978 when her late husband retired from the US Navy. Six of her seven children have graduated from South Kitsap High; as have a number of her grandchildren. She has served in a wide variety of Human Services positions over the last 60 years including 21 years as a volunteer guardian ad litem with the Kitsap County Juvenile Court working with dependent children. In June of 2022 she retired from Tacoma Community College after 30 years as a professor in Human Services Professional Program.

Barb has earned an ATA degree from TCC as a Human Services Professional as well as an AAS in Arts and Sciences, a BA from Western Washington University in Human Services Management, a MS degree from Chapman University in Organizational Leadership, and a Doctorate from California Southern University in Clinical Psychology. Barb has also volunteered in several community libraries and served as Librarian for her church library. She also serves on the Board for two charitable organizations focusing on providing educational scholarships.

Director #3 - Chuck Williams

Chuck was born in Ohio the 9th of 11 kids. His family moved to California in 1958 and upon completion of high school he served in the US Army from 1960-63. He met and married his wife, Marilyn, in 1966 and they had 4 children. They moved from California to Sammamish, Washington in 1985. In 2002 they purchased a home in Manchester. After spending 3 years of weekends "remodeling" the home, they made the move across the water to Manchester in 2005. Chuck has a BS degree from Cal State University, Los Angeles in Civil/Structural Engineering and graduate studies from Cal State University, Long Beach in Mechanical Engineering. Chuck is a licensed Civil and Structural Engineer in Alaska, California and Washington. He is currently owner of CWA Consultants PS, a structural engineering design and code consulting firm that provides design services for projects throughout the Western US. The company is based in Manchester where he continues to work his typical 12 hour days. He enjoys his family, traveling the US with his wife, sister and brother-in-law and playing with his five "active" granddaughters. He is an avid walker.