

Phoenixville Area Time Bank
ANNUAL REPORT
2010



**TIME
BANK**
*a local
community exchange*

Our Mission

Phoenixville Area Time Bank is a non-profit organization that enhances people-to-people support to build a fully inclusive, resilient community through a local service exchange network.

Our Vision

To create a strong, responsive, connected community where, using hours as currency, exchanges of personal talents can fill unmet needs.

PATB Principles

- **Assets** – each individual is an asset; we all have a skill or ability: something to give
- **Redefining Work** – “building community” is also real and valuable work; Time Dollars are a way to recognize and reward that work
- **Reciprocity** – helping works much better as a two-way street; those who receive are encouraged and enabled to give, in return, to another
- **Social Capital** – being together means being stronger; people are joined by their helping actions into a network of support, trust and strength.
- **Respect** – every human being matters; we must respect where people are in the moment, not where we hope they will be at some future point.

A Message From The President

The Phoenixville Area Time Bank has just completed its seventh year! As with marriages (so the saying goes) seven years is a real milestone, and this year we are celebrating by bringing back the founder of Time Banks USA and the inspiration behind our Time Bank, Edgar Cahn, at our Annual Members' Meeting. Back in February 2004, a small but enthusiastic group of community members – Clemens and Claudia Pietzner, Nancy Brown, Andrea Huff, Beth Eagen, Margo Ketchum, and Joel Bartlett – came back the day after Edgar's talk at Camphill Soltane to attend an all-day workshop and learn how we could start a Time Bank.

This past year, our leadership has grown and changed once again. We welcomed Kelly LeMarbe to the Board, we honored and thanked Laura Koetter for her years of service, and we acknowledge Judy Antipin, Fran Coghlan, Shari Graham, and Margo Ketchum for their ongoing work on the Board. As in past years, we continue to look to grow the Board.

In 2010, we tightened our belts, formalized some of our policies and procedures, and acquired Directors and Officers Insurance. These actions, along with our accounting, membership reports, and other measures have served to enhance our status as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in keeping with the requirements of foundations and other funding agencies. Though this may sound dry, I am proud of our leadership efforts to reach a "plateau" – we can continue to be creative in all we do now that we know we "have our house in order."

Our membership has thrived this past year, perhaps not in numbers, but certainly in quality. Exchanges are up about 25% while membership is holding steady around 170 members. We don't like to lose members, so one of our "New Year's Resolutions" for 2011 is to bring in a second Coordinator to foster new members' activities and reach out to all members who put out offers and requests. This "broker" position, so vital in a Time Bank, is normally the role of the primary Coordinator. However, other tasks of managing and promoting the Time Bank are just as important, and there is no way one person, even our intrepid Margo, could do everything as a part time job!

Membership has voiced a strong desire for more social events, so, we welcome Kelly in a new leadership position, "events coordinator," to focus on this. We have decided to hold our annual Dance mainly as a social, and spread the fund-raising efforts out over the year with smaller appeals and projects. Our presence on social media keeps growing, our efforts to help other regional Time Banks are increasing, and our activities are diversifying to include more members. Join the new book club, cooking classes, and parenting group!

We're looking forward to starting our second seven years promoting the "hidden economy," as Edgar calls it. Thanks to all members for your continued support!

Joel Bartlett, PATB President

Greetings from the Coordinator

In the year 2010, the Time Bank made significant progress in reaffirming and strengthening our non-profit mission. Helped by a small grant from the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation's Leadership Academy, we launched the "Helping Fund" program. The goal was to focus on the constituent populations of the elders, convalescents, people with disabilities, and the underemployed.

The Helping Fund engaged members falling into one of those four categories by providing service exchanges, utilizing a structured system of "people helping people" through which their needs were met and their own strengths and talents utilized. Volunteers within the Time Bank monitored the members, assisted in brokering exchanges, and helped them record their hours in the "banking" system (Community Weaver). These exchanges promoted social interaction, lessened the members' dependence on outside social services, and increased their sense of value.

Here is an excerpt from the Helping Fund grant:

"The program will...

- 1) Level the playing field economically, as each person's hours are valued the same,
- 2) Maintain the dignity of the asker/receiver who knows s/he can give in return,
- 3) Enable independence through interdependence of members, and
- 4) Reduce isolation, enriching daily life through the warmth of human connection,
- 5) Create a positive outcome through a full cycle of giving and receiving between members, where services are successful because the people being served are involved."

The ultimate result of this program is the strengthening of the social fabric of community. As the number of participants and the number of hours invested increases in 2011, the impact on the community grows. Fully 25% of the Time Bank members take advantage of the Helping Fund program now, and this number is increasing as more members in the Time Bank recognize its value.

We hope in 2011 to redouble our efforts to reach out to special members, both with match-making as well as donations of Time Dollars. Let us know if you would like to become a "Time Bank philanthropist" by donating your hours to the Helping Fund or assisting with this program.

Margo Ketchum, PATB Coordinator

Financial and Operational Results

Despite some economic recovery, 2010 proved to be another challenging year. Like those we provide services to and our community members that support us, the Phoenixville Area Time Bank reviewed its operations and sought ways not just to maintain the status quo, but to do more for our members with fewer financial resources. We made some creative choices, but our decisions worked and we are a stronger organization today because of them.

While total contributions declined to \$9,534 in 2010, membership support continued its positive trend increasing to \$4,133. In 2009, total contributions were \$10,537 with members contributing \$3,832 of that amount.

Recognizing the financial stress facing our community, we streamlined our fundraising efforts and focused on our annual “It’s About Time” dinner dance, which is an important social function as well. Fundraising activities accounted for \$4,556 raised in 2010; however, this was a significant decline from the \$5,739 generated in 2009. However, fundraising related expenses were also focused, totaling \$2,272 in 2010 compared to \$3,637 in 2009.

Operating expenses continue to be managed and were \$1,961 in 2010, whereas in 2009 these totaled \$2,129. While we have seen improvement in our cost containment efforts, many of our fixed costs are beyond our control, including insurance premiums and TimeBanks USA membership fees.

Our largest cost saving effort focused on the Coordinator position. The Phoenixville Area Time Bank has an independent contractor serving as its Coordinator. The scope and nature of this position was painstakingly reviewed and reduced to allow us to strengthen our financial position. This reduced the annual stipend from \$5,760 in 2009 to \$2,880 in 2010. To compensate for this, more members became involved in the day-to-day operations of our organization on a volunteer basis. Part of the stipend has been set aside in a reserve fund, something the Time Bank has not had in quite some time.

In 2011, the Phoenixville Area Time Bank is committed to improve – meeting the needs of its members, providing support to our community, and using our financial support wisely to fulfill our mission.

John Schaeffer, PATB Treasurer

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 (unaudited)

	2010	2009	2008
Assets			
Cash	\$2,188	\$247	\$756
Total Assets	\$2,188	\$247	\$756
Liabilities			
Deferred Stipend (a)	\$0	\$480	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$0	\$480	\$0
Net Assets (Liabilities)	\$2,188	(\$233)	\$756

Consolidated Statement of Activities

December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008 (unaudited)

	2010	2009	2008
Operating Revenues			
Member Support	\$4,133	\$3,832	\$3,515
Donations	\$845	\$966	\$1,300
Fundraising Activities	\$4,556	\$5,739	\$5,507
Total Operating Revenues	\$9,534	\$10,537	\$10,322
Operating Expenses			
Stipend	\$3,360	\$5,280	\$5,760
Operating Expenses	\$1,961	\$2,129	\$1,791
Fundraising Expenses	\$2,272	\$3,637	\$2,294
Total Operating Expenses		\$11,046	\$9,845
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$1,941	(\$509)	\$477

The Membership Committee

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY IN 2010

Members & Exchanges

Despite the continuing pressures of a difficult economy, Phoenixville Area Time Bank continued to grow in 2010, with a 29 person net increase in the number of members for the year. This resulted in a total of 179 members at year end – our biggest number yet! Members come and go as their situations change, but our organization just keeps getting bigger and better year after year! We had an amazing 1,122 exchanges recorded during the year, and the total number of recorded exchanges in hours was an incredible 3,323!

Nearly half the number of exchanges and hours exchanged (475 exchanges and 1595 hours) were again concentrated in Community Activities, which includes the Help our Time Bank!, Community Service, Work for Social Change, Fundraising, and Special Projects exchange categories.

Otherwise, the most common exchange categories were:

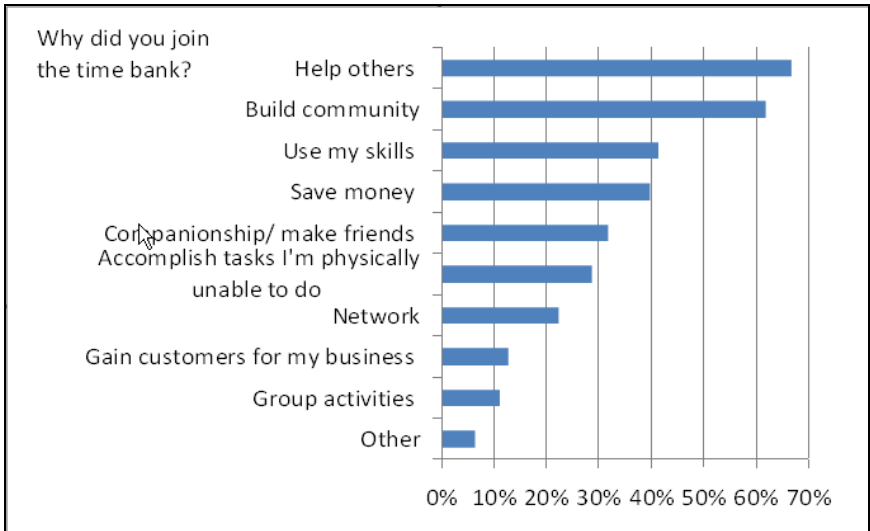
Help at Home	92 exchanges and 217 hours
including Cooking/Sewing, Housekeeping, Child Care, and Respite	
Transportation	57 exchanges and 179 hours
including Medical, Local, Train/Bus/Airport, Errands/Shopping, and Worship	
Business Services	123 exchanges and 188 hours
including Clerical, Computer Support, Marketing, and Research	
Home Repair	60 exchanges and 124 hours
including Garden/Yard Work, Plumbing, Carpentry, and Miscellaneous	
Wellness	49 exchanges and 105 hours
including Counseling, Yoga/Meditation, Diet/Nutrition, Fitness/Exercise, and Complementary Therapies	
Pet Care	46 exchanges and 156 hours

Even more exchanges were made in the Arts/Crafts, Photo/Video, Companionship, and Dining Out categories, just to name a few. Of our 1122 exchanges, 489 were in response to member requests while only 125 were in response to member offers. Surprisingly, the remaining 508 exchanges (311 excluding Community Activities) were made without an ad even being posted!

Carla Schaeffer, for the Membership Committee

Member Survey

In the summer of 2010 several members of the PATB decided to try and find better ways to meet the needs of our members. As we discussed this we realized that first we needed input from our members to determine how well our mission was being fulfilled and what needs were not being met. We formed a committee and decided to obtain input through a brief survey. In the survey we learned that nearly two thirds of us joined the time bank to "help others", "build community" and or "use my skills." And nearly three quarters of respondents said that the time bank met these expectations. There are multiple initiatives in the works based on the results of the survey and additional information gathered in other communications with time bank members.



At least two thirds of respondents joined the PATB to “help others,” “build community,” or “use my skills.”

Lisa Tull, PATB Member

Social Activities

Time Bank members were busy again in 2010, with not only exchanges keeping them occupied, but also several fun social events to choose from. Our Time Bank members do still love their potluck events!

In February, we held a sequel to our very successful “**All Time Bank Evening Out**” with several potluck dinners, each with a different theme for the night, occurring simultaneously at members’ homes throughout the area. Themes for 2010 included Italian Food & Michael Jackson Tribute; Fondue: Not Just Cheese; Game Night for 20/30 Somethings; and a Scrabble Tournament.

In April we met at the Phoenixville YMCA for our **Annual Members Meeting**, with reports from our Treasurer and Committees, a presentation from Lynn Hartmann of the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, questions and answers, and time to socialize.



May brought us again to Time Bank member **Jack Miller’s** extraordinary Japanese garden in Collegeville. We were fortunate once again to have lovely day, and the member turnout was great for the **wine & cheese potluck and garden tour**. We’re looking forward to visiting Jack and his lovely garden again May 7, 2011 so save the date!

In August, we gathered under the trees at **Maysie's Farm** in Glenmoore for our **Annual Summer Potluck Picnic**. Located on seven acres, Maysie's is based on local, sustainably-produced food and a commitment to ecological living. It features organic agriculture, farmland preservation, and Community Supported Agriculture, and is the home of Time Bank member Annmarie Cantrell and her husband Sam.

October not only brought us the cooler weather, but also the **It's About Time Halloween Party and Silent Auction**, the proceeds of which benefitted our Time Bank. This year's event was held at the Franklin Commons in Phoenixville and featured live music by The National Bird, food by Annmarie Cantrell of Cucina Verde Catering, and Studio Photographs by Charles Bartholomew. Silent auction items were donated not only by our members, but also individuals and business in our local community, and our newest Board Member Kelly LeMarbe organized a *spectacular* Gift Basket Raffle that will undoubtedly be a highlight of our future time bank events.

Kelly also opened her home to the Time Bank in December by hosting our **Holiday Wine and Cheese Potluck**, during which members were free to tour Kelly's home which was decorated for the holidays with no less than fifteen Christmas trees!

In addition to our special events listed above, we continued our tradition of meeting the **First Sunday of the Month** from 4pm to 5:30pm for an informal **Time Bank Social**, regularly held at the Artisan's Café in Phoenixville. We did mix things up a bit in June, when we changed the location to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Pottstown, and in September we met at Wolfgang Books in Phoenixville.

Time Bank social activities are coordinated by the Membership Committee, which is also responsible for new member orientations, ongoing member care, dues collection, and newsletters. Current committee members are Margo Ketchum, Laura Koetter, Carla Schaeffer, Lucille Balukian, and Kelly LeMarbe, with Lisa Tull, and Emma Peabody joining us recently. Kelly has officially agreed to take on the role of our Time Bank Events Coordinator, so keep a lookout for more new and interesting events in 2011 and beyond!

Kelly LeMarbe, Events Coordinator

PR & Marketing

2010 was a good year for the PATB PR Committee. We had better participation in events like the Phoenixville Farmer's Market and a good core team that showed up for meetings and other initiatives leading up to the Halloween themed "It's About Time" Annual Dance and Silent Auction. Social media was an important aspect of our PR outreach efforts, with Dan Klein taking a lead on this. Other members assisted with artwork and logos, logistical planning for the dance, and preparing press releases and write-ups geared toward drumming up interest from our members. PATB member Melody Bowers brought new energy to our PATB blog this year, which has now been transforming it into a bi-monthly e-newsletter.

We continue to attend the Greater Phoenixville Chamber of Commerce to monitor the pulse of the business community. Watch for our brochures at the Chamber, the Phoenixville Library, and other venues around town.

Judy Antipin, for the PR/Marketing Committee

Current Officers

President Joel Bartlett
Vice-President Judy Antipan
Secretary Fran Coghlan
Treasurer John Schaeffer

Board Members

Judy Antipin	Margo Ketchum
Joel Bartlett	Laura Koetter
Fran Coghlan	Kelly LeMarbe
Shari Graham	Emma Peabody

Coordinator Margo Ketchum

Committee Contacts

Operations Margo Ketchum / John Schaeffer
Membership Kelly LeMarbe & Carla Schaeffer
PR/Marketing Judy Antipin
Fund Raising/Development Joel Bartlett



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