

# April 2000 Volume 1, Issue 1

## Friends of the Library Gear Up

Friends of the Otsego County Library (OCL) is stepping up its activity. Beginning with the celebration of National Library Week in April, look for the Friends group to become increasingly active in supporting and promoting our local library. (See upcoming events.)

While OCL, like many libraries, has had a Friends group for some time, the group has been fairly inactive in recent years. But as communities grow and the need for library services expands, Friends play a vital and important role in supporting the library and enhancing its services.

Recognizing the need - and the fun potential - to re-energize the Friends group, former OCL board member

## Director's Corner

*Maureen Derenzy*

I love what I do for a living. I love books and reading, I love connecting people with information they need, I love helping people to learn new technology, and I love the looks on children's faces when they get their first library card.

I love libraries. And so do thousands of people across the country who join Friends of the Library groups in their local communities.

There are countless ways that a Friend can become involved at our library, no matter what your interest or schedule.

The enthusiasm and energy generated in recent weeks by the Friends of the Otsego County Library has been incredible. I'm excited about the possibilities and what we can

bonus, has resulted in more money to benefit the library than the annual event did. So, stop by our local library any time you're in the mood to buy or donate used books.

**Michigan Compiled Laws now available on-line.** Anyone investigating legal questions or issues will find MCL a valuable resource regarding Michigan's laws. The Library will host a public workshop to assist users in early May. Contact the library for more information.

## Upcoming Events

OCL friends are invited to assist with these programs and more. Call the library at 732-5841 for more information.

**April 10 - 15  
Open House and  
Treasure Hunt**

In celebration of National Library Week, OCL will host a week

Janice Lampert stepped down from her board role to act as a catalyst in reactivating the OCL Friends. She is joined by a handful of community volunteers interested in developing the Friends to its fullest potential, including Linda Distel, Mary Fox, Jane Ide, Dar Mongeau, Sandra Quaal and Maureen Derenzy (Library Director). In the words of Janice Lampert, "our Friends group should be to the library what a kick stand and a tire pump are to a bicycle ... important to lend support and pump up the staff for a smoother ride." More formally, the purpose of the OCL Friends is fourfold:

1. promote & publicize library resources and needs
2. support and enhance the library services
3. recruit & maintain Friends as volunteers
4. raise funds to improve OCL

achieve together.  
Thanks, Friends!

## **Did You Know...? Fun Facts about Otsego County Library**

### **Suffer from insomnia?**

You can access many Otsego County Library resources 24-hours a day via modem. Just go to the library's web site at [www.otsego.lib.mi.us](http://www.otsego.lib.mi.us).

You can check book availability, reserve a book that is checked out, look up due dates, even renew your library books. And you'll find lots of other interesting resources and information, too.

**Beyond Books.** OCL's collection includes nearly 60,000 items, and not all of them books. The library also offers **music CDs**, featuring current hits and classic favorites of all types including pop, rock, country-western, jazz, classical, show tunes, new age, and more. OCL also boasts a collection of more than **700 videos**, with

long open house & self-guided treasure hunt designed to raise awareness of library programs & services.

### **June - August Summer Reading Program**

This popular program is aimed at encouraging extra-curricular reading among youth ages 3 - 12.

### **November 13 - 18 Children's Book Week**

Stay tuned for event details.

### **April 6 - 8, 2001 1st Annual Flower and Garden Show**

Tentative dates for a one-of-a-kind community event and fundraiser organized by the FRIENDS of the Otsego County Library.

### **FRIENDS Steering Committee**

### **1st Wednesday Each Month**

**11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Any of our FRIENDS are welcome to attend the monthly Steering Committee meetings to get a glimpse of current activities and help to shape future efforts.

**Ongoing During**

<p>resources.  A library can never have too many Friends - consider becoming a Friend today!  <b>FRIENDS</b> of the OCL is an enthusiastic group of individuals who support our library by contributing their funds, time &amp; creativity. Join our <b>FRIENDS</b> and meet other community-minded people while working on projects that enrich our library. Call the library at 732-5841 for membership information.</p>	<p>fun and educational movie choices for both children and adults. OCL's <b>magazine</b> selection includes separate sections for children, teens and adults, with something for everyone from sports buffs to hobby enthusiasts, gourmet cooks to investment managers, and everyone in between. And the library's <b>books on tape</b> include fiction and non-fiction titles as well as children's books. They're great listening in the car, and a good way to entertain grandchildren or other young visitors. <b>Always a used book sale.</b> Once upon a time, the <b>FRIENDS</b> of the OCL sponsored an annual used book sale at the library. But as storage space became limited, the once a year event was replaced by a perpetual used book sale inside the library. This has eliminated the storage problem, and as an added</p>	<p><b>Library Hours Used Book Sale</b>  Used books can be purchased at bargain prices anytime during business hours. (Used book donations welcome too.) All proceeds benefit the <b>FRIENDS</b> of the OCL.</p>
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For more information about **FRIENDS** contact Rose Gleason at 731-4718.

[HOME](#)

◆ 2001 Friends of the Otsego County Library