

<p>President's Update Greetings Library Fans! The Friends of the Otsego County Library (FOCL) is making a difference! With the creation of an annual event in April to celebrate National Library Week and upcoming in November to celebrate Children's Book Week, we have started some great traditions for our community. By assisting the staff we heighten awareness of our library and its services, and encourage the residents of Otsego County to READ. LEARN. GROW!! (OCL's new slogan). Our recent activities have included: • April's Open House: "Discover your library's treasures" ... a wonderful pirate map-style tour through all areas of our library and its services. • Assist Summer Reading Program 2000 "Cosmic Connections" ... a fun "out of this world" twist to summer reading with related crafts and projects, including an</p>	<p>Fundraising Plans Blossom <i>Sandra Quaal</i> Winter is still around the corner, yet we're already looking forward to next spring's Flower & Garden Show. Sponsored by the FOCL, exciting plans are underway for this first annual event to be held next April in conjunction with National Library month. (Tentative dates are Friday, April 27 - Sun, Apr. 29.) The event will showcase businesses and non-profit organizations featuring, products, services, and/or information related to lawn or garden interests. Special seminars will also be held throughout the show. Proceeds will be earmarked for library programs such as guest author presentations or other library/community enrichment efforts. Enthusiastic sub-committees are now forming to organize and promote the event. We're out to have fun while benefiting the library through this once-a-year fundraising initiative. Anyone interested in having</p>	<p>The campaign is going on in collaboration with area schools throughout the month of October, with voting and special programming occurring at OCL during the week of Oct. 30 - Nov. 7. Book marks will be distributed with the names of winning authors during Children's Book Week (Nov. 23 - 18). FOCL will also mark the week with a kids' book exchange on Nov. 15. Featured authors are listed on voting ballots available at the OCL. You can help in one or more of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • donate books by featured authors and or/other children's books • transform cardboard boxes into voting ballots • visit local schools to promote the campaign • assist in decorating the library (Oct. 29 beginning at 1:00 pm.) • tabulate campaign results
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end of program Carnival celebration.

Ë Assist County Fair Library Information Booth, publicizing library services.

Ë Lucinda acrylic BOOK PIN sales... an ongoing fundraiser for FOCL...

promotes library exposure and makes excellent gifts for fellow book lovers, sold exclusively at OCL. "Check it out" at the front desk if you haven't seen them yet!

Thanks to all who volunteered to help at these events! You are marvelous!

UPCOMING events are described throughout this newsletter. There has been much planning for November's "Books Get My Vote" Children's Book Week celebration, and plans are well underway for April's FIRST EVER Otsego County Spring and Flower Garden Show. BIG THANKS to all those who are presently on these committees... They are going to be terrific for OCL and a lot of fun too! If you haven't gotten involved yet but would like to, go for it! Just call one of the committee chairs

an exhibit or helping out in some other way, please contact me at 731-1470.

Thanks, Friends!

Membership Grows

Since April, the number of FOCL members has expanded steadily to a current total of 79 individual or family members. It's great to have so many people interested in supporting the Library as a Friend. Our next challenge is to reach those Friends who are willing to take an occasionally more active role.

Many of you completed a volunteer interest sheet ... thank you! While we recorded interests that you checked, we have not had the capacity to follow up. Hopefully our soon to be established Membership Committee will help to address this. Meanwhile, however, we urge you to identify an area where you're willing to become involved. You'll find volunteer sign-up sheets posted on the Friends bulletin board at OCL. Check there, but don't stop there. If you have a particular knack or interest, speak up. A handful of

- assist with the book exchange on Nov. 15

For more information, contact Mary Fox, Committee Chair, at 732-8485 or Marge Long, OCL Children's Librarian, at 732-5841.

Upcoming Events

Have fun! Get involved! Call the contact people identified below for more information. It's a great way to meet Friends while contributing to worthwhile efforts.

November 13 - 18

Children's Book Week

Activities slated throughout October. (See related article)

November 15

Kids' Book Exchange

Contact Mary Fox at 732-8485.

April, 2001 FOCL Flower & Garden Show

This even has been cancelled!

Contact Sandra Quaal at 731-1470.

Friends Steering Committee

1st Wednesday Each Month

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

FRIENDS are invited to attend monthly Steering

and find out what you can do to help. Every little bit contributes to the success of the event and it is a great way to connect with YOUR library and learn more about what it has to offer!

PROCEEDS from all our fundraisers go toward further enhancing OCL, whether it's purchasing an item on the library's wish list or bringing an author ... the possibilities are endless. So far, our purchases include a portable table-top display board, as well as a TV/VCR player and camcorder ... these will assist in enhancing OCL programs and services in the community.

There is a lot of potential with our FRIENDS group. We are growing and ready to appoint/elect officers in the near future. Secretary is most needed now to record minutes that can be posted on our FRIENDS board at the library. Call me if interested ... 732-7906. Meetings 1st Wed. of each month 11:30 - 12:30 ... you can bring your lunch!

Encourage someone

active Friends is good, but a bushel is better!

Volunteers Needed FOR...

- Kid's Book Exchange (Nov. 15)
- Radio book reviews
- Spring Garden Show
- FOCL Newsletter
- Public Relations or Membership Committees
- Board Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President

Contact Janice Lampert, 732-7906, if you are willing to help!

"Books Get My Vote" Campaign Underway

In recognition of National Children's Book Week later this fall, FOCL is sponsoring a "Books Get My Vote" campaign. The goal is to expose pre-school through 8th grade kids to select authors and encourage them to vote for their favorite.

Committee meetings. It's a great place to find opportunities to get involved. Contact Janice Lampert at 732-7906 or just show up for the meeting.

Ongoing Used Book Sale - Pin Sale

Used books can be purchased or donated anytime during business hours. Lucinda book pins are also available at all times at the front desk.

Both efforts raise funds for FOCL, and assistance is always welcome. Contact Barb Rock at 732-3416 for book sales or Jane Ide at 983-4230 to help with pin sales.

**Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Beginning October 23,
2000**

Page Turners Book Club

Join other enthusiasts at the OCL and share your love of reading. (For the first meeting, participants will discuss various book experiences and determine future reading selections)

you know to "be a friend" and be an advocate for a lifetime of learning. READ. LEARN. GROW. - <i>Janice Lampert, FOCL Chair</i>		
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For more information about FRIENDS contact Rose Gleason at 731-4718.

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