



NEWS

WINTER 2014

from the FRIENDS

The Friends of the Otsego County Library are dedicated to enhancing the collections and services of the Otsego County Library by providing sustained financial support as well as educational and cultural opportunities for its members and the community.

Exciting things are up with the FRIENDS. I will touch on all of our new programs, but first I want to thank the FRIENDS board and members for being active, interested, supportive and helping us grow. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month in the Community Room at the Library. Everyone is invited. We usually have between 8 and 10 members. Our meetings last one hour. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 1st at noon. ~*Sandy Allison, President*

REGIONAL MEETING WITH FRIENDS

The FRIENDS of our library hosted a meeting with other FRIENDS. We invited 17 representatives from the FRIENDS of Presque Isle-Onaway, Cheboygan, Charlevoix, Crawford, Roscommon, and Topinabee. We discussed staff recognition, volunteer recognition, membership, newsletters and events. It was an interesting and informative meeting with ideas being exchanged and everyone agreed that it was fun and they would like to participate in a meeting annually. It was suggested that the meeting continue to be held at our Library because we are centrally located and off of I-75.

OTSEGO COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUND

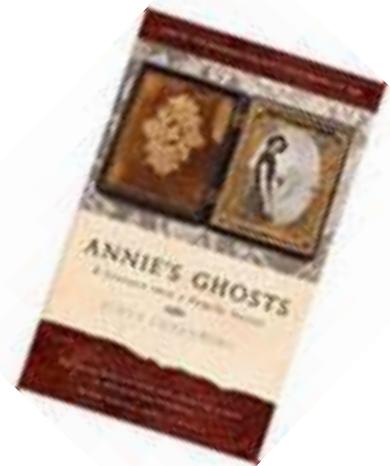
The FRIENDS recently donated \$20,000.00 to the Library Agency Fund at the Otsego County Community Foundation (OCCF). The Library Board of Trustees can use this money for any need the Library has or might have. Sandy Allison attended the Library Board meeting to announce the donation and ask that the FRIENDS be informed how and when the money would be spent. A few days later, OCCF informed the Library Director that an anonymous donor had matched the FRIENDS donation! A second anonymous donor has given \$1500.00, for total of \$41,500.00. We are very thankful for these gifts. Our library has grown substantially in the last 25 years with more patrons served, more reading material, more computers, more staff and more programs. It is time to think about adding space. Learn more about the Library Fund at otsegofoundation.org.

2014 COMMUNITY READ

Our Library has selected ***Annie's Ghosts: A Journey Into a Family Secret*** by Detroit native Steve Luxenberg. The book is part memoir, part history and part detective story. Readers will learn about Steve's grandparents and mother, Beth, who had always made clear she had grown up an only child. When his mother passes away, Steve stumbles across the secret of his mother's sister, Annie, who had been housed for a number of years in Eloise, a mental institution in Wayne County, Michigan.

Luxenberg's search for the truth takes him to imperial Russia, Depression-era Detroit, through the Holocaust in Ukraine and the Philippine war zone and back to hospitals where Annie and many others were lost to memory. The book was also selected as the 2013-2014 Great Michigan Read by the Michigan Humanities Council and has been read by thousands of people across the state. Copies of the book are available for loan now at the Library.

The Library has put together a series of events and activities related to the Community Read, including a presentation and signing by author Steve Luxenberg on Monday, April 7 at 6:30 at the Gaylord City Hall. The program is sponsored by the FRIENDS, with partner Saturn Booksellers offering books for sale both in the store and at the event. A portion of the proceeds will go to the FRIENDS for future programming.



Become a Friend of the Library

Just \$5 per family

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Alternate Address Dates: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I have enclosed my \$5 membership fee. New _____ Renewal _____

I have enclosed an additional donation of _____ to support library services and programs.

Mail checks payable to Friends of the Library. Return or mail to 700 S. Otsego, Gaylord MI 49735

Please contact me when volunteers are needed: yes _____ no _____

FRIENDS WEB PAGE (Check It Out)

A few months ago, the FRIENDS were looking for a volunteer to help us with the FRIENDS web page as part of the Otsego County Library website. Carolyn Monarch stepped forward and she made this possible. Our newsletter will be a feature and you can also see programs we fund and any new information about the Friends. The web page also features information about the library. Just type www.otsegocountylibrary.org and click on the Friends link. Thank you, Carolyn, for your work on this important project.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our October FRIENDS membership drive was very successful. 56 renewing members, 44 new members, and 17 volunteers were added. The FRIENDS made a total of \$1,381.00 dollars in membership fees and donations. Five winners of various prizes were both excited and thankful to win. A membership table was set up from October 20-26 at the Library to promote FRIENDS week. 150 Chocolate bars were purchased from the Alpine Chocolate Haus and handed out with each membership. Thank you to all who helped with the membership drive.

We couldn't have done it without you.

BUDGET

President Sandy Allison, Treasurer Frank Rock and Library Director Maureen Derenzy met in January to discuss our 2014 budget. Book sale revenues were \$6,974.00 in 2013. We have allotted \$3,000.00 for **election expenditures**. **The Library's millage election** will be held on August 5 and it will be a renewal. Our



budget also includes expenses for Battle of the Books (pictured above), Summer Reading Program, Teen Programs, Tween Programs, Hot Reads for Cold Nights, Home Delivery, Books for Babies in conjunction with Zonta, newsletter, postage, dues for the Friends of Michigan Libraries, staff and volunteer recognition and sponsoring the Community Read author event.

SHOP AT THE LIBRARY

The FRIENDS have a showcase to the left of the checkout desk with some one-of-a-kind gift items. We have handmade note cards, handmade cloth covers for books and Alpine Chocolate Haus chocolate bars. Watch as we add more items. Proceeds benefit FRIENDS of the Library

Library Hours

Main Library, Gaylord
700 S. Otsego Avenue
(989) 732-5841

Mon, Tues, Wed 9 - 8
Thurs, Fri 9 - 5
Sat 9 - 1
Sun 1 - 5

Johannesburg Branch
10900 East M-32
Johannesburg, MI 49751
(989) 732-3928

Mon, Wed 2 - 6
Tues 9 - 1
Thurs, Fri 1 - 5

Vanderbilt Branch
8170 Mill Street
Vanderbilt, MI 49795
(989) 983-3600

Mon 3 - 7
Tues, Wed, Thurs 1 - 5
Fri 9 - 1

Calendar

Apr. Meeting - 4/1/2014

National Volunteer Week

Volunteer Luncheon

May Meeting - 5/6/2014

June Meeting - 6/3/2014

Summer Reading Program

Jul. Meeting - 7/1/2014

Aug. Meeting - 8/5/2014

Sept. Meeting - 9/2/2014

Newsletter

Oct. Meeting - 10/7/2014

Membership Drive

Nov. Meeting - 11/4/2014

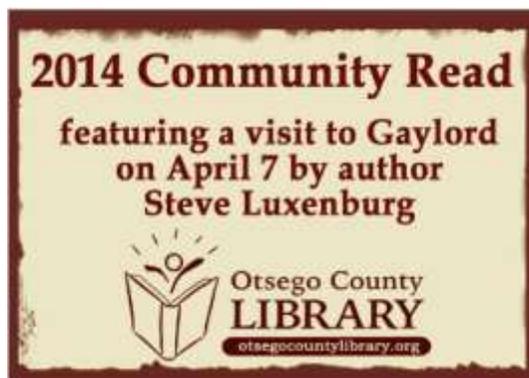
Children's Michigan Read

Show Your Card

Dec. Meeting - 12/2/2014

All meetings are held in the
Library Meeting Room at noon.

SAVE THE DATE



Program kicks off on March 19th!
For a complete schedule of events
stop by the library or visit
www.otsegocountylibrary.org

Read all about it on Page 2

FRIENDS of Otsego County Library

Sandy Allison, President

Marilyn Rairigh, Membership Vice Pres.

Frank Rock, Treasurer

Otsego County Library
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