



# *NEWS from the FRIENDS*

**SPRING 2015**

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.



As I sit here in the sun writing this newsletter, I am hoping that when you receive this, the sun will still be shining and Spring will definitely be on the way.

As you may or may not know, the FRIENDS meet in the conference room at the library on the first Tuesday of the month at noon. We are a pretty informal bunch, but what we do is pretty important. Often times, we listen to a report from Cathy Campbell, Youth Services Librarian or Laura Mastenbrook, Teen Coordinator. We have an open meeting policy, and anyone who is a FRIEND is invited to attend. Maureen, our Library Director, gives a report on what is happening in the library and the expenditures needed to be voted on by the FRIENDS. Did you know that the FRIENDS provide funding for many different programs? Our budget this year has set aside \$1,000 for the Battle of the Books, \$500 for the Summer Reading Program, \$600 for Teen programs, and \$600 for Tween programs. We also have set aside \$1,000 for the Hot Reads/Cold Nights program, and \$500 for the Books for Babies program. Many times the library will require a new piece of equipment or funding for a new program. These expenditures have to be voted on. Now I know many of you are wondering where this money comes from. Well, of course, your \$5.00 membership helps, and many of you add to that by giving a donation to the FRIENDS, but our main source of income is selling books. The FRIENDS have a book sale going on all the time with prices as low as 25 cents. Some books are much more valuable (\$10.00 and more), and we have a volunteer who takes care of our on-line sales. Last year, we made a total \$7,500.00 from used book sales. We also have a little shop with bookmarks, note cards and Alpine Haus Chocolate Bars for sale.

We would be very happy to see more of our FRIENDS attend our meetings. If there ever is a change of date, an email is sent out to you. A big thank you to our members for their membership and their donations.

H a p p y S p r i n g !

*Sandy Allison, President of the FRIENDS*

## LET THE FINAL BATTLE BEGIN!

Battle of the Books is a team reading program, in which children in grades 4-6 all read the same 10 books and compete in a quiz bowl type competition to determine who represents Otsego County at the regional competition in Houghton Lake. In February, all team members and their parents had the opportunity to interact with Liesl Shurtliff, author of one of the featured books, in a Skype and pizza party at the library. On Saturday, March 7th, six local teams went head to head in a tight elimination battle that was decided by tie-breaker questions and sudden death! Two teams—Heros of the Pages and Insatiable Readers— tied for 1st place and the Rockin' Readers 2.0 earned 3rd place. Otsego County Library placed 3rd at the Final Battle on March 14th. Battle of the Books is made possible with funding from the FRIENDS and the Youth services staff at the library sends a big "Thank You" for supporting reading!

## HOT READS FOR COLD NIGHTS

With a hint of Spring finally in the air, this popular adult winter reading program wrapped up on March 7. This year, readers submitted 847 entry forms. 90 Lucky winners received fun themed prizes including mugs, ice scrapers, hooded shirts, calendars, magnets, notebooks and gift certificates to local restaurants. The coldest week in February resulted in the highest number of entries. 96 People were entered into the grand prize drawing. Congratulations to Dot Robinson, Vanderbilt (1st prize), Jo Ann Idolski, Gaylord (2nd prize) and Janine Proux, Gaylord (3rd prize)! This is the fifth year that the FRIENDS have sponsored Hot Reads for Cold Nights, and library patrons now look forward to the fun.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

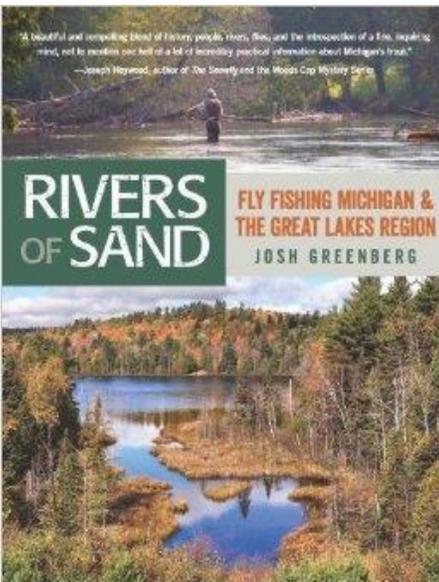
## UPCOMING ADULT PROGRAMS

### *ICE CAVES OF LEELANAU—March 25*

Last winter's phenomenal ice formations along Lake Michigan brought droves of visitors to Leelanau County to experience the beauty of this frozen landscape. On Wednesday, March 25th at 6:30 pm, the Otsego County Library invites FRIENDS and community members to enjoy a presentation with photographer Ken Scott, author of Ice Caves of Leelanau: a visual exploration. The program is free, but space is limited so please pick up a reserved seating ticket at the library before the event. The presentation will include a video, photographic images and a short question/answer period. A display of Scott's ice cave images is now available for viewing during regular library hours.



### *RIVERS OF SAND—April 14*



Otsego County Library was selected to participate in the 2015 Michigan Notable Books Author Tour! On Tuesday, April 14th at 6:30 pm, the Library will host Josh Greenberg, author of Rivers of Sand: fly fishing Michigan and the Great Lakes region. Josh is owner of the Gates Au Sable Lodge, writes a popular on-line fishing report, and has contributed to several well-known fishing magazines. Michigan Notable Books is an annual program that selects the best of books set in Michigan or written by a Michigan author. The program is supported by the Michigan Humanities Council, the Library of Michigan Foundation, Meijer, and the Michigan Center for the book. Whether you fish or not, this program will give you an appreciation for the rivers that flow from the headwaters in Otsego County.

- **May**—Garden Series with Alpine Master Gardeners— every Tuesday at 6 pm

#### *Summer Celebration of Great Books:*

- **June 10**—*Outlander*, with a program on Scotland & the Highland Games
- **July 7**—*Gone With the Wind*, featuring a *Gone With the Wind* collectibles exhibit and program by expert, Kathleen Marcaccio
- **August 12**—*A Night to Remember*, with a program on the Titanic by David Kaplan.

## 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

## U CREATE

U-Create, a free creative arts program that is held the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September—May at the Otsego County Library, is currently seeking donations for its upcoming 2015/2016 programs. We are in need of:

- Gently used, clean 100% wool sweaters in any color or pattern
- Skeins or balls of yarn
- Buttons



Do you have an artistic talent or art hobby? We are looking for guest instructors for upcoming 2015/2016 programs. Please contact: U Create Coordinator, Deb Johnston, at the library or call the library at 989-732-5841 for program information.

### FRIENDS of Otsego County Library

- Sandy Allison, President
- Marilyn Rairigh, Membership Vice-President
- Frank Rock, Treasurer

Otsego County Library  
700 S. Otsego Avenue  
Gaylord, MI 49735  
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