



Among Michigan Friends

INFORMATION • SUPPORT • ADVOCACY

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Winter 2015

www.foml.org

Message from the FOML President: Back to the Basics

Paul Snyder



*Paul Snyder
FOML President*

It is easy to overlook bylaws in the bustle of activity that accompanies the work that Friends groups do. Bylaws are usually created by the founders of a group whose members may have changed several times since the Friends began to function. It may even be the case that you no longer have a member on your Friends Board who was around when your bylaws were written. Some would think that's not a big deal. Bylaws are unexciting and many might think uninviting when there are other, more challenging issues to tackle.

These rules may have been set by their predecessors but Friends groups overlook bylaws at their peril. Bylaws provide the backbone for the operational philosophy of every charity group, including Library Friends. Not only do they outline the limits that govern the group's range of involvement with the library but also should provide the groups focus for what they've publicly declared is their mission.

In workshops, meetings, and networking sessions with Friends groups and library administrators, many times when groups are having difficulties they've failed to follow the guidance their bylaws could provide. Trouble manifests itself in many ways as it can be easy to get lost in the thick of things. Many common problems arise from "bylaw awareness deficiency." Becoming too involved in library operations, interfering with staff duties, investing Friends proceeds in "outside" charities, or becoming more concerned with growing the Friends investments than the Libraries they've pledged to support are some examples.

That is not an all-inclusive list but you get the idea. It can be very easy to find
(continued on page 2)

FOML Makes a Transition

Since its founding, the Friends of Michigan Libraries have relied upon the ability of its officers to provide a center for its business operations. As board officers changed, it was necessary to find new places to conduct FOML business activities. The FOML Board has decided to centralize certain business activities to create an organization that can truly operate throughout the state.

In January, FOML began the process of turning over its office operations and services to The Library Network (TLN), services formerly headquartered at the Kettering University Library and managed by FOML Past-President, Charles Hanson, and his Administrative Specialist, Linda Pierce. This arrangement resulted from a planning process begun in 2014 between the TLN Director, Jim Pletz, and FOML Board President Paul Snyder, with approval by both the FOML Board and the TLN Board. FOML is most appreciative of TLN's collaborative agreement to maintain and provide services to our FOML members.

Henceforth most FOML services will be processed by TLN staff: memberships, financial statements, workshop
(continued on page 2)

What's Inside:



| | |
|---|----|
| In Celebration of Frederick Ruffner | 2 |
| National Library Legislative Day | 3 |
| Harriet Larson | 4 |
| Spring FOML Workshops | 5 |
| Spring FOML Workshop Registration Form | 6 |
| Spring Trustee Alliance Registration Form | 7 |
| Activities From Around the State..... | 8 |
| Cooperative News | 9 |
| Calendar of Upcoming Events | 10 |

President's Message (*cont'd.*)

(continued from page 1)

yourself heading down a tricky path regardless of how well intentioned you are. The FOML Board has two suggestions for you to keep this from happening.

One is to review your bylaws. Bring them out at one of your Friends meetings and make sure your board members are familiar with them and understand how the rules apply. If there are some rules that need to change to keep up with the times, your board has that authority to suggest changes and seek membership approval at your annual meeting.

The second suggestion is that if you find yourself in conflict with fellow board members, your trustees, or the library administration, review your bylaws and mission to make sure the trouble you're experiencing isn't because you're wandering off of your intended path. Bylaws are a good tool. Rededicating your group from time to time to the mission they outline will help you avoid many of the problems that groups get into.

FOML Makes a Transition (*cont'd.*)



(continued from page 1)

registration, etc. The FOML Friends and Trustee Alliance newsletters will continue to be produced and published by staff at the Kettering University Library. The

Library Network is located at 41365 Vincent Court, Novi MI 48375.

Anyone who has a question about FOML or about Friends organizations should contact Paul Snyder, FOML President at paul.snyder@foml.org. For the most current, up-to-date information about the Friends of Michigan Libraries, go to the FOML Friends website (www.foml.org) and the FOML Trustee Alliance website (www.fomltrusteealliance.org).

In Celebration of Frederick Ruffner



Grey House Publishing would like to acknowledge the passing of the founder of Gale Research, Fred, who passed away on August 12, 2014.

A reference pioneer and library champion, Frederick Ruffner launched the *Encyclopedia of Associations* in the 1950s and his company grew to become one of the largest reference publishers in America. His contributions to the field of reference publishing and the library community as a whole are too numerous to count. And all of us who rode the free Gale/ALA buses in the late June heat are forever grateful. He will be missed.



*Frederick Ruffner
August 26, 1926 -
August 12, 2014*

National Library Legislative Day

- Advocacy is attending your state legislative day and meeting with your state representatives and executive branch officers to talk about the value of libraries and to promote library funding. (Hint: Fill your car up with trustees, Friends, family members, or, better still, the representatives' or officers' family members.)
- Advocacy is signing up for state and federal "legislative alerts" sent via text or email and keeping up with District Dispatch — the ALA Washington Office's terrific, easily understood blog about what's happening in Washington that's vital to libraries — and encouraging every library patron, trustee, and Friend to do so too.
- Advocacy is contacting your state representatives or members of Congress right away when the call comes to deliver an urgent and specific message about an issue or piece of legislation. Visit, call, email, tweet — whatever you're comfortable with is good, just act!

— Courtney L. Young, ALA President



Why Friends Should Care About LSTA

What is LSTA and why should you care? Here are some key facts describing LSTA on the Institute of Museum and Library Services website: In 1996 Congress shifted LSCA (the Library Services and Construction Act, enacted in 1962 by the U.S. Congress, provided federal assistance to libraries in the United States for the purpose of improving or implementing library services or undertaking construction projects) to the Library Services and Technology Act (or LSTA) as Subchapter II of the Museum and Library Services Act, ending federal funding for library construction and replacing it with a focus on new information technologies.

The Grants to States program is the largest source of federal funding support for library services in the U.S. Using a population based formula, more than \$150 million is distributed among the State Library Administrative Agencies (SLAAs) every year. The Library of Michigan distributes funds in support of Michigan libraries. SLAAs may use the funds to support statewide initiatives and services, and they may also distribute the funds through competitive subawards to, or cooperative agreements with, public, academic, research, school, or special libraries or consortia (for-profit and federal libraries are not eligible).

Grants to States funds have been used to meet the needs of children, parents, teenagers, adult learners, senior citizens, the unemployed, and the business community. One of the program's statutory priorities is to address underserved communities and persons having difficulty using a library. The program also meets the needs of the current and future library workforce. Friends can find more information about Michigan LSTA funding at www.michigan.gov/lsta.

In other words, LSTA funds could be helping your library's service population in many ways! And this is the year that Congress must reauthorize LSTA funding. It's critical that Friends speak to their elected leaders urging them to continue support for LSTA funding. Without LSTA funds your library may be unable to continue services supported by those funds.

Harriet Larson: Celebration of a Life



Harriet Larson
July 22, 1924 -
January 10, 2014



*Paul Snyder,
FOML President,
presenting tribute.*

On Sunday, October 12, 2014, several members of the FOML Board joined friends and staff at the Livonia Civic Center Library to pay a final tribute to Harriet Larson. Harriet was a founding member of the Friends of Michigan Libraries. For many years the FOML was based in her home library at the Livonia Civic Center.

Timed so that her out-of-state family members could be present, the Livonia Civic Center provided their auditorium for the event. Gathering in the auditorium several presentations were made by library friends, civic leaders, family members and the FOML.

Representing the FOML President, Paul Snyder took the podium to speak of Harriet's life and contributions to her community and the FOML. Briefly mentioning Harriet's many personal and professional accomplishments, he spoke of her perseverance and strength of character as she patiently provided her leadership to the organizations to which she dedicated her life.

Harriet's contributions were key to the development and expansion of the Friends of the Livonia Public Library and the Detroit Book and Author Society. With her involvement in so many fledgling groups it is appropriate that the FOML Board of Directors voted to name its grant program for new and revitalized groups the Harriet Larson Founders Award. From the FOML, a plaque in her honor was presented for display at the Livonia Civic Center Library. A dedication to Harriet can be seen on our [FOML website](#).



*Harriet Larson's
daughter, Lori
Rariden, presents
a tribute to her
mother.*



*Memorial tributes for
Harriet Larson.*

Forthcoming Spring FOML Workshops

Rochester Hills Public Library

*500 Olde Towne Road
Rochester, Michigan 48307
(248) 656-2900*



“Community Engagement: How Friends Can Promote the Value of Your Library” *Thursday, April 23, 2015, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

SYNOPSIS: Friends can play a vital role as advocates for the library and its services. What are some of the strategies that Friends can undertake to promote and increase the value of the library? How can Friends work with the director, library staff, and trustees to carry out cooperative and collaborative activities which make the library a center of community engagement?

“Strategic Thinking, Strategic Planning: How Trustees Can Plan for Success” *Friday, April 24, 2015*

SYNOPSIS: Why is planning a critical step in the trustees’ governance of the library? Certainly no one plans to fail, but without a plan and without strategic thinking, your library may not be on the right path to success. What makes planning a strategic step for success? And how do trustees navigate the planning process?

Registration information is available in this newsletter and on the FOML website: www.foml.org



FOML Workshop/Fred Ruffner Symposium Registration
Thursday, April 23, 2015, 8:30 to 3:00
Rochester Hills Public Library
500 Olde Towne Road
Rochester, MI 48307
(248) 656-2900

Registration deadline is Friday, April 10, 2015 ~ No refunds after April 17, 2015

“Community Engagement:

*How Friends Can Promote
the Value of Your Library”*

FOML Members _____ x \$20 = \$ _____

non-members _____ x \$30 = \$ _____

Not a FOML member? Sign up at our [membership page!](#)

TOTAL \$ _____

Contact name

Contact email

Contact Phone #

Library affiliation

Name(s) of those attending workshop:

Dietary issues? (diabetic, vegetarian, etc.)

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

What issues would you like to discuss during “Table Talks”? (Use the back of this form if necessary.)

| |
|-------|
| _____ |
| _____ |
| _____ |

Please make check out to “*Friends Of Michigan Libraries*” and mail with registration form to:

*The Library Network
c/o Judith Kozakowski
41365 Vincent Court
Novi, MI 48375*

Questions or concerns: email to LPierce1@kettering.edu or call Linda at (810) 762-9840.
You will also find more information about FOML, membership and the workshops at www.foml.org

***If you also want to attend the workshop for Library Trustees on Friday, April 24th, 2015, please check this box.
Fill out and include the Trustee Alliance Workshop Registration form. You may subtract a \$10 discount per person.***

☐



FOML Trustee Alliance Workshop Registration

Friday, April 24, 2015

Rochester Hills Public Library

500 Olde Towne Road

Rochester, MI 48307

(248) 656-2900

Registration deadline is Friday, April 10, 2015 ~ No refunds after April 17, 2015

| | # Attending | Fee | Total |
|---|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| “Strategic Thinking, Strategic Planning: | | | |
| How Trustees Can Plan for Success” | | | |
| With special guest speaker Sarah Ann Long | | | |
| FOML Members | _____ | x \$20 = | \$ _____ |
| non-members | _____ | x \$30 = | \$ _____ |
| | | TOTAL | \$ _____ |

Contact name

Contact email

Contact Phone #

Library affiliation

Name(s) of those attending workshop:

Any dietary issues? (diabetic, vegetarian, etc.)

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
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| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

What issues would you like to discuss during “Table Talks”? (Use the back of this form if necessary.)

| |
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| _____ |

Please send registration form and check made out to: **Friends of Michigan Libraries**

Not a FOML Trustee Alliance member?
Sign up on our [membership page](#)!

The Library Network
c/o Judith Kozakowski
41365 Vincenti Court
Novi, MI 48375

Questions or concerns: email to lpiercel@kettering.edu or call Linda Pierce at (810) 762-9840
You will also find more information about the FOML Trustee Alliance, membership and the workshop at
www.fomltrusteealliance.org



This project is funded (in part) with a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services administered by the Library of Michigan.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

Friends Activities From Around the State

By Jennifer Kundak

[Friends of Ann Arbor District Library](#) moved its Book Shop to the first floor of the Downtown Library. Located in the corner where the Teen Room was, now volunteers and patrons will have windows and sunshine! Additionally, four large weekend sales per year will be held in the lower level of the library's former book shop space and the Multi-Purpose Room. More info at www.faadl.org.

[Friends of Chelsea District Library](#) proudly held a Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours on October 15 at the library. As recent members, this event served as an effective community outreach tool, with a large number of attendees who enjoyed learning more about FCDL, savored tasty refreshments, and networked with a broad range of community members. In recognition of this successful event and others, FCDL received an honorable mention for their National Friends of Libraries Week campaign in October 2014, from United for Libraries. This accomplishment reflects the countless hours of voluntary work that goes into supporting one of Chelsea's greatest assets.



The [Flat River Friends](#) are now among growing numbers of others with their own Facebook page. Some quick research reveals plenty of other Friends groups who have also joined the social media trend: Ann Arbor, Berkley, Calumet, Chelsea, Fremont, Interlochen, Royal Oak, Manchester, Pinckney, Kalkaska County Library, Ypsilanti, Escanaba, Canton and Lincoln Park are some examples. How does your Friends organization use FB as outreach? What are your successes and creative cyber experiences? Please mutually "Like" fellow groups so we may all learn more together!

[Friends of Manchester Area Library](#) have helped to start two "Little Free Libraries" in the fall of 2014. One is located in front of a local preschool, the other is at Linda's Diner, located on highway M-52.

[Friends of St. Clair Shores Public Library](#) will commemorate the occasion of the library's 80th anniversary in 2015, with their "Buy a Chair" program to purchase 100 new chairs for the meeting room. The program aims to raise \$8,000 to replace the 20-year-old chairs, most in total disrepair. Participants can choose from four levels, \$10 to \$100, for their financial contribution. One lucky person will also receive a lifetime Friends membership.

It's always a joy to hear from **your** Friends group, and we want to help highlight some of the novel, fun, and effective activities that show how important your role is for the support of your library. So make it a habit to send all **newsletters** and/or information to: newsletters@foml.org. Our appreciation and gratitude for the opportunity to share your stories!

Michigan Library Cooperative News

Denise Hooks, Director

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

As the new President of the Michigan Library Cooperative Directors Association, I was tasked with submitting the report to the Library of Michigan for their Board of Trustees January meeting. As I received submissions from around the state, it became clear that this group is very focused on serving our member public, academic, school and special libraries. Many of us are in the process of revising our strategic plans and that is not an easy task. We must pay attention to services that we currently provide and look to the future to predict the services that our members will need and want. We must be flexible and nimble enough to be aware of the trends and embrace the changes that libraries need to adopt to remain valid and valued in our communities. Not only do we collaborate within the cooperative group, but also with our "Collaborating Partners" at the state level including the Library of Michigan, Midwest Collaborative for Library Services and the Michigan Library Association.

Our November 2015 workshop is in the planning stages and will cover topics related to school, academic, and public library partnerships. Other initiatives that we offer statewide are: MiLibraryCard borrowing agreements; statewide discounts; continuing education; programming opportunities; advising/consulting; and Trustee training. In addition, cooperatives provide services based on local need such as: Integrated Library Systems; delivery systems; mini-grants for technology upgrades or travel to ALA's National Library Legislative Day; group purchases; statistical information; and special interest groups on library topics. Your Cooperative is very busy working for your library and for you!



Friends of Michigan Libraries (FOML) Board of Directors

President: Paul Snyder, Northville District Library

Vice-President: Linda Sickles, Orion Township Public Library

Secretary: Ann Ingles, Petoskey District Library

Treasurer: Sandra Brown Gellis, Flushing Area Library

Director/Archivist: Jim Doyle, Livonia Civic Center Library

Director/Past President: Charles Hanson, Kettering University Library
and United for Libraries Representative

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Director: Claudia Diaz, Albion College

Director: Charlaine Ezell, The Extra Edge

Director: Gerald Furi, Farmington Community Library (Ret.)

Director: Shelley Gach-Droz, Huntington Woods Public Library

Director: Denise Hooks, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Director/Newsletter Assistant: Jennifer Kundak, Chelsea District Library

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Director: Michael Mok, Grosse Pointe Public Library

Director: Patricia Orr, Livonia Civic Center Library

Director: Avery Weaver, Emery-Pratt

Trustee Alliance Representative: Shirley A. Bruursema, Kent District Library

Trustee Alliance Representative: Sheila Brice, Baldwin Public Library

Advisor: Kelly Pepin, Escanaba Public Library

Advisor: Lee Ann Messimer, Escanaba Public Library

Advisor: Betty Newton, Livonia Civic Center Library

Advisor: Cindy Lou Poquette, Indian River Public Library

Advisor: Daniel Stock, Robert J. Parks Library

Advisor: Shannon White, Library of Michigan

Emeritus: Marcia Barker, Canton Public Library

Emeritus: Annie Brewer, Whitefoord Press

Emeritus: JoAnn Gavey, Fenton Public Library

Emeritus: Sandra Novacek

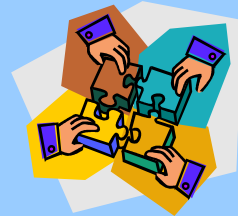
Emeritus: Carol Perrin, Helena Twp. Library

Emeritus: Tim Richards, Mardigian Library, U of M-Dearborn

Emeritus: Debbie Straub, Cascade Branch, Kent District Library

Graphic Layout: Bethany Kozel-Emmendorfer, Kettering University Library

Administrative Specialist: Linda Pierce, Kettering University Library



Among Michigan Friends

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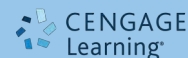
Administrative questions and editorial contributions may be directed to Charles Hanson, Kettering University Library, at: chanson@kettering.edu



Friends of Michigan Libraries

c/o Linda Pierce
Kettering University Library
1700 University Ave.
Flint, MI 48504-9974

FOML thanks...



Gale Cengage Learning

for their generous grant.

We appreciate your ongoing support
of Michigan Friends!

FOML members are reminded to check the FOML website (www.foml.org) for the latest postings about Michigan (and other) library news and for FOML activities and events. On the website you will also find information about grants, the Trustee Alliance, contact information, and photo galleries. You can help build this website by sending us a photo of your library for inclusion on the website.

FOML MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of Michigan Libraries (FOML) is to support Friends working on behalf of Michigan libraries, to serve as an information resource for Friends groups, and to be advocates for libraries at the state level.

With a Little Help from our Friends

FOML is pleased to have so many Friends in the publishing world who have donated either money or supplies to help FOML carry out its services to Michigan Friends.

For example, FOML has received financial contributions from Omnigraphics and Gale Cengage Learning. Others have supplied materials for our workshops: bags from Scholastic, pens from Doris Taylor (representing Quality Publishers), pens and note pads from Emery Pratt. Thanks to all who contribute! To quote from a Beatles song, we “get by with a little help from our Friends.”



Mark Your Calendar!

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Friday, April 24, 2015

June 25-30, 2015

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Spring Workshop and Fred Ruffner Symposium,
Rochester Hills Public Library

FOML Trustee Alliance Workshop,
Rochester Hills Public Library

ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco

NOTE: FOML Board meetings are conference call meetings and are held the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Any FOML member who wishes to participate in these meetings should send an email to the FOML President requesting conference call information.