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MARCH 2011

Library *Letter*

FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Donna's Dispatch

[dis-patch (dīs-päch) n. an official report (usually sent in haste)]

Membership is what makes an organization strong—and in many cases it still falls under the 80/20 rule. 20% of the members do 80% of the work. Thankfully, the Friends don't fall into that category. We have generalists and specialist. People that do just about any thing and others that only like one specific task (like working at the book sale or making cookies for an event).

Either way, most of the friends join the organization for the pure love of books—whether they succumbed to the “Wednesday is Members Only” rule at the book sale or

joined during an event. Passion or reading or love of the library environment is the bond that we all share.

April is the month of our membership drive and I ask each of you to take the time to renew your memberships and therefore, renew your friendships with the library. We appreciate all you do whether your involvement is big or small.

Thank you.
Donna Machon

Hmmm....What Shall I Read Next?

NoveList Plus is your answer

If you are struggling to figure out what to read next, or want to keep reading the genre of material you have just finished, be sure to take advantage of the online resource called NoveList Plus. Available as a link from the resource tab on the Medford Library web site (www.sws-wis.com/medfordpublic_library/links.html), NoveList provides recommended reading as part of our library service.

The format of the site is easy to understand and a “how to use” tab (shown in purple on the upper right hand side) easily breaks down the process for those not as willing to jump right in. Easier than searching through Amazon, the recommendations are based upon an independent review and only include those books in the Wisconsin Valley Library Service System. So, go ahead, discover what books you may have been missing!



EVENTS PLANNING CALENDAR 2011

March

Membership Meeting
Monday, March 28

Bike Tour Presentation
Saturday, March 12
Lg Conf. Room, 11 – ?

April

Membership Meeting
Monday, April 25

Membership Drive

Book Sale
Wed – Sat, April 13 - 16

May

Membership Meeting
Monday, May 23

Annual Meeting
Election of Officers &
Committee Chairpersons

Weeding / Watering Plants at
Library

June

Weeding / Watering Plants at
Library

July

Garden Tour
Possible Date: July 9th

Weeding / Watering Plants at
Library

August

Planning/Organizational
Meeting
Monday, August 29

Up and Coming Events

Bike Tour, Book Sale, Membership Drive and Garden Tour

Bike Tour: Ward and Jacky Budweg are world weary travelers, but not in the traditional sense—they have toured various countries and climes on their bicycles! The FOL are pleased to be able to offer a presentation of the two cyclists describing their adventures on Saturday, March 12 in the large conference room starting at 11 a.m.

Called “Living the Dream”, their presentation will show and describe their adventure through 6 continents, 46 countries and over 33,500 miles. Whether you are a biking enthusiast or not, their journey will inspire and amaze.



Book Sale: The book sale is coming up! April 13 – 16. Time to clear out those cupboards and closets for salable items for the sale. As always, the exclusive membership sale will be on Wednesday with the public able to purchase Thursday through Saturday. This spring’s sale is already forecasted to be a larger one with the sale items already taking up extra room in the library. We will need extra help sorting and displaying on Wednesday morning and to clean up on Saturday. Also, encourage potential FOL members to stop by and sign up to become a member...we can always use more Friends!

Membership Drive: April is the annual membership drive for the FOL. If you have an annual membership, we have enclosed your form with the newsletter to fill out. A goal of 10 NEW members has also been set. Help us secure this goal by mentioning this worthy group to a friend or associate. We’d love to welcome them to the group.

With just over 125 members, the FOL has a rich assortment of talented people who provide a valuable resource to our local library. To ensure that the membership maintains its vibrancy and frankly, doesn’t burn out, the group needs to bring in fresh ideas and people to manage the responsibilities and opportunities the FOL provides. Please encourage new membership or try a new challenge by volunteering to help out at an event or fundraiser. We love our Friends!



Garden Tour: A garden tour is being tentatively planned for this summer or early fall season. The exciting news is that the program is getting a jolt of energy from a local vendor who is willing to not only plan but also help sponsor the event. Likely dates are being determined (July 9th?) as well as possible locations (three gardens are known so far).

A goal of at least 100 – 150 tickets to be sold is driving the planning and management of the event. So, we are gearing up for success. If you have any knowledge of possible gardens of interest, please contact Judy Meyer.

FOL Investments

The book sale and other fundraising events put on by the FOL help provide needed or helpful resources for the Medford Library. Two such investments were made at the end of 2010: cleaning the chairs and for software.

The software purchase was for "PC cop" which cost just over \$4,000. This software regulates the patron's computer use and users at the library alleviating work for the staff and allowing for a more fair disbursement of time allotted on the machines. "With more people using the computers, we needed to manage that valuable asset in a fair and equitable way," stated Ann Harris, Library Director.

The second and less costly investment was \$500 for cleaning the chairs. "After getting new carpeting, you notice that the chairs don't quite look as fresh," commented Ann. "Getting a good cleaning will go a long way in maintaining the value of the furniture and keeping the library clean and inviting."

Christmas Tour Update



(l. to r.) Brett and Susan Sawdey, Jodi and Dan Drost, Jeff Miller, Marlene Pollock, Beth and Mike Baker.

Just over 270 people attended the Christmas Tour of Homes. "We were VERY pleased with the turnout and the weather," the tour co-chair Sharon Beilfuss noted. The only comment for improvement was that the library should have been open all day to the end of the tour instead of after 3. Over all, a tidy profit of over \$2,400 was achieved.

A WORD BETWEEN FRIENDS

1. uxorious \ (uk-SOR-ee-us; ug-ZOR-) \ adjective
2. daedal \ (DEE-duhl) \ adjective B.
3. farouche \ (fa-ROOSH) \ adjective C.
4. caliginous \ (kuh-LIJ-uh-nuhs) \ adjective

- ID, 2 C, 3.B, 4.A*
- A. Misty; dim; dark.
 - B. Sullenly unsociable or shy.
 - C. Skillful; artistic; ingenious.
 - D. Excessively fond of or submissive to a wife.



This newsletter was printed through the courtesy of Weather Shield Windows & Doors. We thank them for their generosity.



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Ex-Officio Members:

Ann Harris, Library Director, 748-1161 or 748-2505

CLEANING UPDATE ON DISPLAY SHELVES

The display shelves are cleaned by our wonderful volunteers on a monthly basis.

This arduous group is changing the dates when they are gathering for this event to the first Monday of the month instead of the first Tuesday. They still meet at 9:00ish.

This is a casual group that would welcome new workers. Whether you can stay for 15 minutes or for an hour, all help is appreciated. Please, come if you can.

Month by Month

At one of the FOL meetings, it was voted that a monthly donation of \$100 will be given to the library to purchase books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles or any other material. The objective of the donation would be two-fold. Firstly, it would promote the FOL organization more prominently to those visitors to the library. Secondly, it would fund seasonal or needed materials the library would require or desire anyway.

In today's economy, having updated career resources at the library are important. The December collection helped provide publications for those who may be expanding their horizons. January is all about resolutions, so the FOL purchase encompassed DVDs and books on getting or being healthy and fit—it is just up to the reader to maintain the motivation!

February may be about love, but love of what? Favorite writers, history, scandals and queens were ensembled for the month as part of our monthly donation.



Friends of the Medford Public Library

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Lifetime