



Among Michigan Friends

INFORMATION • SUPPORT • ADVOCACY

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www.foml.org

Message from the FOML President: A 2016 Wrap-up

Paul Snyder



*Paul Snyder
FOML President*

As we enter the year 2017, few of us could have predicted the historic event that transpired since we last published our FOML Newsletter. Who could have foreseen that the Chicago Cubs would win the World Series? It just goes to show you not to rely too much on what experts predict. What is predictable is that the FOML will work hard to put together useful programs for the coming year. Those events are announced as the planning becomes finalized on our FOML website at foml.org so check it regularly for updates.

The Board and its committees continue working to refine our processes as we expand our reach farther out into the state. Recapping our events for 2016: the FOML/Trustee Alliance Spring Workshops were hosted at the historic Hoyt Library of the Public Libraries of Saginaw in April. October found us at the innovative Kalamazoo Library for our Fall Workshops. Both workshops were well received and we offer our sincere thanks to the host libraries, their Friends groups and Library Administrators and Staff for their hospitality.

Moving up the state the FOML/Michigan Trustee Alliance presented three workshop sessions and staffed a vendor's table at this year's Small and Rural Library Conference on Mackinac Island. It's a huge undertaking by the Library of Michigan where library supporters from all over the state share their best thinking. A big thank you and shout out to our dear

(Continued on page 2)

Support Your Local Library!



National Library Legislative Day is a two-day advocacy event that brings hundreds of librarians, trustees, library supporters, and patrons to Washington, D.C. to meet with their members of Congress and rally support for library issues and policies.

Participants will receive advocacy tips and training, along with important issues briefings prior to their meetings.

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President's message (continued)

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friend Josie Parker Director of the Ann Arbor District Library System, who facilitated our Trustee Alliance Workshops as well as the Workshops offered at Mackinaw.

A Talk About Friends session in Tecumseh hosted by the Woodland Library Cooperative brought several local area groups together. Developed specifically for the MLA, a FOML/Michigan Trustee Alliance workshop session was presented for the second consecutive year at the Michigan Library Association's Annual Conference. And finally, this year, contributions were made to workshops conducted in Rudyard, Okemos, and Onaway, all very productive sessions. The past year saw us conduct activities in all four corners of the mitten and twice in the UP.

We couldn't be more pleased that so many Friends groups are taking advantage of opportunities to get together and inviting the FOML to take part. We look forward to doing more of the same in the year ahead. With the new year, we ask all our Friends to renew their commitment to making community libraries the best they can be for the service of its patrons. We also ask that you continue to remain vigilant to protect libraries and the concept of the free exchange of information in Michigan and all the United States.

Getting Friends To Advocate AND Sell Books

By Libby Post, October 7, 2016

Reprinted with permission from [Library Journal](#), 2016.

Even after they've heard all the talk about the importance of library advocacy and the role a library's Friends group can play, there are still many Friends who just want to sell books.

This is not to say that book sales aren't important. They raise funds so Friends can help underwrite important library programs and services. Actually, book sales are the first rung of library advocacy. They are staged with the subtle message that supporting the Friends means supporting the library, and supporting the library is a good thing.

However, in this day and age, with libraries forced to defend their funding either to the voters every election cycle or local municipal leaders every budget season, it is essential for Friends groups to climb the ladder of library advocacy and see themselves as citizens who stand up for their libraries. For some, this will be a natural transition; for others, it is a total redefinition of what it means to be a Friend.

For those who need to redefine, the first step for trustees or other library leaders who want to help is to bring their Friends group into budget advocacy discussions and talk about why speaking out is so critical. Trustees and leadership should provide their Friends with key points they can use in a variety of settings: "The library is an important community asset." "Our library's return on investment is greater than any other public service." "Did you know that library funding amounts to just 1.5 percent of all the taxes we pay?"

(Continued on page 3)

Getting Friends to Advocate... (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

Once the facts become second nature, standing up and speaking out for the library will be easier. Together with the library's Board of Trustees and director, the Friends will develop concise, values-based, emotional messaging that can become the basis of an advocacy campaign, and will—with apologies to LBJ—grab citizens' hearts, so their commitment and subsequent votes will follow.

QUIET ADVOCATES

Perhaps it's not voters Friends need to convince but local municipal leaders who make funding decisions. After our organization, Communication Services, worked with the Friends of the Irondequoit Public Library (IPL) outside of Rochester, NY, the library's Friends became advocates extraordinaire—in a quiet way. They got bright yellow T-shirts made that simply said, "I'm a Friend of the Irondequoit Public Library." Then they sat together, up front, at every town board meeting. Sometimes they addressed the board, other times they just sat. They were there as a block of yellow graphically screaming support for IPL. The town board knew the Friends and the library were concerned and watching.

The library's funding was stabilized and eventually, after a number of attempts, IPL's two old branches were replaced with a new building on the town's municipal campus. What started with a quiet Friends presence eventually gave town leaders the impetus they needed to protect the library's funding and build a new state-of-the-art library, now a proud symbol of the community.

FRIENDS SAVE THE DAY

Let's go back to the hearts of voters. Imagine a group of 70- and 80-year-old Jewish women—many of whom either worked at the library or in Mt. Vernon's school district—coalescing with a number of professional women of color as well as dedicated library staffers who worked on the effort during their off hours. This was the Friends of the Mt. Vernon Public Library, NY.

In 2014, they came together to save the library, literally. Mt. Vernon is a city divided by railroad tracks. The people who live north of the tracks are middle-class homeowners. South of the tracks are renters and working poor. Mt. Vernon is populated with 100 different cultural groups and has a 14 percent poverty rate. The library is on the south side of the tracks.

In short, the library was going to lose its funding unless the public approved a \$4.35 million budget—the first time the voters were asked for funding. Needless to say, these dynamic Friends took their responsibility as advocates quite seriously. They spearheaded one of the most successful campaigns I've ever seen. The Friends, who just used to organize book sales, worked with the library board to become a powerhouse that built support for the library, phone-banked for voter identification, did public presentations, and shepherded a successful effort to save a beautiful Carnegie facility in a community that needed its library.

Friends becoming advocates is about library boards giving them the information and support they need to change how they think of themselves. Friends can still sell books—but if they believe that every book sold is an opportunity to advocate about the importance of the library, they'll be speaking in front of municipal leaders and running successful campaigns in no time. After all, if the Friends don't stand up for the library, who will?

Libby Post is President/CEO of Communication Services and serves on the American Library Association's Library Advocacy Committee.

FOML Committees Report

2016 was another year of great accomplishments for the Friends of Michigan Libraries (FOML), thanks to the hard work of its committees. Unlike some government agencies that have numerous committees that seem to spend hours in discussion without any significant outcomes, FOML committees were real working committees that accomplished a great deal.

The Archives Committee, for example, collected historical material relating to the history of FOML activities and events and placed those materials in acid-free folders for eventual deposit at the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library. The Workshop Planning Committee planned 4 workshops for Friends and Trustees at two locations: the Hoyt Library in Saginaw in April 2016 and the Kalamazoo Public Library in October 2016.

Many FOML Board members, but especially members of the FOML Advocacy Committee, worked with legislators in Lansing to engage them in a dialogue about the value of libraries to local Michigan communities and the importance of funding (especially State Aid) for the financial success of libraries.

The Membership Committee, together with the Public Relations Committee, carried out a strong membership renewal and new-member campaign that provided a strong base of support from renewing and new members. These committees will continue to work together in 2017 to “get the word out” about the value of FOML to Michigan Friends and Trustees.

The Social Media Team and Website Advisory Committee helped our FOML webmaster develop up-to-date websites for the Friends and the Trustee Alliance. The website is a critical function in FOML services to its members, and our websites are robust and compatible with many devices for ease of access and quick response for information about Friends and Trustees.

The Grants Committee carried out a review of grant applications for the Harriet Larson Founders Grant and the Outstanding Friends of the Library awards. FOML is pleased to offer these awards annually to acknowledge the service of Michigan Friends.

All committee work was accomplished by an outstanding FOML Board, volunteers committed to helping Michigan Friends and Trustees. Board members attend monthly (conference call) meetings and ensure that FOML policies and procedures are carried out on schedule and with board input.

Thanks to the FOML Board and its members who served on many hardworking FOML committees in 2016!

Stay Connected with the FOML Listserv!



Fill out the form at <http://inform.palnet.info/mailman/listinfo/foml>. Reply to the invite email. Add this link to your address book - 'foml@inform.palnet.info' - for posting messages to the listserv in the future. Through this listserv your Friends can share information with other Michigan Friends about your activities, events, and other news. Special thanks to PALnet for hosting the FOML listserv.

Meet Clare Membiela

As the new Library Law Consultant at the Library of Michigan, Clare Membiela will be helping public libraries understand and manage legal issues that impact library services. She comes to the Library of Michigan from the Western Michigan University Cooley Law School Libraries where she had been the Associate Director for Library and Instructional Support. Clare came to Michigan from Miami, Florida in 2003, with her husband Dan, and her children Maddie and Collin.

In Miami, she worked at the University of Miami Law Library as the Head of Reference Services. She has a Master's in Library Science (M.L.S.) from Southern Connecticut State University, a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the University of Miami, and almost 30 years of law library experience. Her favorite things are helping people access the law, researching legislative histories, comics, costuming and all things textiles. She is excited about, and looking forward to helping, public libraries by connecting them to the legal information they need. You might meet her at one of the upcoming FOML Workshops. Clare lives in Haslett with her family, including her furry "child," a calico named Molly.

Help for New Friends Groups

In honor of Harriet Larson, a founding member of the Friends of Michigan Libraries, FOML awards up to two \$400 grants annually. They are designed to help new or rejuvenating Friends groups in their efforts to support, enhance and showcase their local library. The FOML Grants Committee looks at the following priorities when reviewing applications:

1. A new Friends group is being officially formed;
2. A Friends group that is being rejuvenated, with a higher priority given to a group with a longer period of inactivity;
3. An existing Friends group has a proposal for increasing membership, increasing community awareness, or a proposal for a novel approach to advocating for their library in the community.

Applications for the "Harriet Larson Founders Grant" must be postmarked by March 31st and will be considered at the following FOML Board meeting.

The grant form has been designed for you to complete within Adobe Reader on your computer and you can find it [here](#) or on FOML's website at www.foml.org. **Please note: you cannot save information on the application. Be sure to print two copies, one for your records and one to be mailed to the address below.**

Please send your application to:

FOML - Grants Committee
c/o Dr. Charles D. Hanson
Kettering University Library
1700 University Ave.
Flint, MI 48504

All applicants should be aware that the purchase or rental of equipment (such as audio-visual equipment or kitchen appliances) needed to implement the activities or events associated with this grant are not considered valid expenditures.

Michigan Library Cooperative News

By Roger Mendel, Director
Northland Library Cooperative



The Cooperative Libraries in Michigan have been busy working to enhance services offered to the residents of Michigan via their member public libraries. The Cooperatives recently presented a report to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees detailing activities the State's Cooperatives have been involved in during the last quarter of 2016. Following is a brief summary of their activities in a number of categories.

Advocacy: Several of the Cooperatives have launched initiatives to assist in getting the message to legislators (State and Federal) on the importance and relevance of libraries. Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative, Woodlands Library Cooperative have assembled teams to be part of the Michigan delegation that will travel to Washington D.C. to participate in American Library Association's Legislative Day. Northland's Director, Roger Mendel will also participate in this year's event.

Continuing Education: Cooperatives have a commitment to provide continuing education opportunities for staff at member libraries. Superiorland Library Cooperative in northern Michigan launched a new program entitled "Lunch Bunch". The program will be offered monthly via interactive video. Upcoming sessions include customer service, intellectual freedom, using the Great Lakes Digital Library and topics related to finance and human resources. Woodlands has scheduled Ben Bizzle for a day-long program on promoting the library and its services. Mid-Michigan Library League has scheduled a Records Management for Public Libraries workshop for February 10. Suburban Library Cooperative hosted two half-day Zing Train customer Service workshops and in January will host a library security webinar.

Services: All the Cooperatives periodically review their services to member libraries. A number of the Cooperatives have been involved in adding new services as well as reviewing current services for relevance and/or improvement. The Library Network reviewed five vendor responses to the "Request for Proposal" to upgrade the Integrated Library System. Northland has a committee looking at services for the coming year in light of the new libraries added to the Cooperative. White Pine is looking at providing Zinio for all their members. Suburban Library Cooperative purchased a Newsbank subscription of local newspapers for its members.

Administrative: In addition to the services and program management the cooperatives as with any agency also has administrative tasks which keep the "wheels" of cooperatives moving. Every cooperative has an annual audit which must be done. Many of the cooperatives publish a newsletter to keep members informed on cooperative activities, member library events and snapshots of library activities around the country. Some of the cooperatives choose to keep members informed by periodic updates on information. Many of the Directors also assist their member libraries in human resource development, board training sessions and handling myriad questions related to serving the public.

The eleven Cooperatives in Michigan continue to assist in connecting the local library to the Library of Michigan and other statewide library agencies with the ultimate goal of enhancing information resources for the residents of Michigan.

Upcoming Spring FOML Workshops

Bloomfield Township Public Library

1099 Lone Pine Road

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302

(248) 642-5800 for library information



“Good To Great: Becoming High-Achieving Friends ”

Thursday, March 23, 2017, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

With Keynote Speaker: Randy Riley, State Librarian, Library of Michigan

SYNOPSIS: There’s a saying that applies to all our work as Friends of the Library, “Good, better, best; never let it rest; ‘til your good is better, and your better best.” What actions and activities stand out in great Friends groups? What practices might improve your Friends activities and make your group “the best Friends” in your community library?

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

“Good To Great: Becoming High-Achieving Trustees”

Friday, March 24, 2017, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

With Special Presenter: Larry Neal, Director of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library

SYNOPSIS: There’s a saying that might apply to all the work of library trustees: “Good, better, best; never let it rest; ‘til your good is better and your better best.” What key roles do you play in the governance of the library? How can you improve your skills to make your library “the best” and become a high-achiever trustee as well?

Registration information is available in this newsletter and on the Trustee Alliance website: www.fomltrusteealliance.org



**FOML Spring Workshop and
Fred Ruffner Symposium Registration**
Thursday, March 23, 2017, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Bloomfield Township Public Library
 1099 Lone Pine Road
 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
 (248) 642-5800 for library information

Registration deadline is Friday, March 10, 2017 ~ No refunds after March 17, 2017

	# Attending	Fee		Sub-Total
<i>“Good to Great:</i>				
<i>Becoming High-Achieving Friends”</i>				
<i>With keynote speaker Randy Riley, State Librarian</i>	FOML Members	_____	x \$20 =	\$ _____
	non-members	_____	x \$30 =	\$ _____
			TOTAL	\$ _____

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

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:

FOML - ^c/_o The Library Network
 ATTN: Judith Kozakowski
 41365 Vincenti Court
 Novi, MI 48375

Questions or concerns: email judith.kozakowski@foml.org or call Judith at (248) 536-3100, extension 103.
 You will also find more information about FOML, membership and the workshops at www.foml.org



FOML Trustee Alliance Workshop Registration

Friday, March 24, 2017 ~ 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Bloomfield Township Public Library

1099 Lone Pine Road

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

(248) 642-5800

Registration deadline is Friday, March 10, 2017 ~ No refunds after March 17, 2017

	# Attending	Fee	Total
"Good To Great:			
<i>Becoming High-Achieving Trustees"</i>			
<i>With special guest speaker Larry Neal</i>			
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)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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

FOML - % The Library Network

ATTN: Judith Kozakowski

41365 Vincent Court

Novi, MI 48375

Not a Trustee Alliance member?

Sign up on our [membership page](#)!

Questions or concerns: email to judith.kozakowski@foml.org or call Judith at (248) 536-3100, ext 103.

You can also register online, find more information about the FOML Trustee Alliance, and membership at www.fomltrusteealliance.org



This project is supported in part by the Library of Michigan with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

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
Chelsea District Library*

[FRIENDS OF THE ALDEN DISTRICT LIBRARY](#) are seeking 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students who would like to try their hand at writing. They are sponsoring a Short Story Contest and are offering three prize money awards for each grade level. Entries accepted January 25-February 12. More details available at the library or online, aldenlib.info.

[FRIENDS OF THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY](#) sponsored and volunteered for a very festive and joyful Holiday Open House on Saturday December 10, 2016. With “Something for Everyone”, the day included refreshments, crafts, visit with Santa, meeting Santa’s reindeer, Vintage Strings Musical performance, and Echoes of Praise Hand Bell Choir. The Youth Services librarians also provided winter stories and songs.

[FRIENDS OF THE ESCANABA](#) and [GLADSTONE PUBLIC LIBRARIES](#) have worked together with United Way to bring several Little Free Libraries to neighborhoods in their communities. Each box has the logos of the United Way and both the Escanaba and Gladstone Friends on them, along with information about how to use them. The idea is to reach out to folks who may not be able to get to the library or simply want to trade books. Each box will be looked after by volunteer stewards.

[FRIENDS OF LOUIT DISTRICT LIBRARY](#) are sponsoring Cabin Fever Reliever, January 2 through March 31. Participants who read or listen to ten books during this time will receive a salad-to-go lunch set courtesy of the Friends. Adult readers can register and pick up a reading log at the library during normal business hours. Visit www.loutitlibrary.org for more details.

[FRIENDS OF THE ROSCOMMON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY](#) announced “It’s a Mystery” Quilt Challenge 2017. In partnership with the library, mystery book themed quilts will be displayed and judged by mid-May. A small entry fee is payable to RADL with the application form. For more information, contact the library or email caseysmom107@gmail.com.

[FRIENDS OF THE ST. CLAIR SHORES PUBLIC LIBRARY](#), like many other Friends groups, are often asked where the money goes from book sales and membership fees. They have listed purchases for their library such as Overdrive for the e-Reader, Film License renewal, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program, Little Free Libraries (4), subscription renewals, wireless printing capability, Youth Services and Adult Services Summer Reading programs and more. Plus similar to other Friends organizations, they have a Facebook page that everyone is invited to “Like”!

We are always eager to hear from you! Please send your Friends newsletters and/or information to us any time of the year: newsletters@foml.org. And keep on updating your Facebook page, “like” other library and Friends pages to expand networking, ideas and fun!



Your FOML Board of Directors

President: Paul Snyder, Northville District Library

Vice-President: Allison Arnold, St. Clair County Library System

Secretary: Patricia Orr, Livonia Civic Center Library

Treasurer: Sandra Brown Gellis, Flushing Area Library

Director-in-waiting: Kate Pohjola Andrade

Director/Newsletter Editor: Mary Beall, Southfield Public Library

Director: Trish Burns, Bay County Library System

Director: Claudia Diaz, Albion College

Director/Archivist: Jim Doyle, Livonia Civic Center Library

Director: Gerald Furi, Farmington Community Library (Retired)

Director: Shelley Gach-Droz, Huntington Woods Public Library

Director: Darnell Gundy-Reed, Muskegon Area District Library

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

Director/Newsletter Assistant + Workshop Assistant:
Jennifer Kundak, Chelsea District Library

Director: Roger Mendel, Northland Library Cooperative

Director: Michael Mok, Grosse Pointe Public Library

Director: Linda Sickles, Orion Township Public Library

Director: Avery Weaver, Emery-Pratt

Director: Trudi Werner, Kettering University Library

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

Trustee Alliance Representative-in-waiting: Elizabeth Miller

Advisor: Denise Hooks, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative

Advisor: Ann Ingles, Petoskey District Library

Advisor: Lee Ann Messimer, Escanaba Public Library

Advisor: Betty Newton, Livonia Civic Center Library

Advisor: Cindy Lou Poquette, Indian River Public Library

Advisor: Shannon White, Library of Michigan

Membership/Workshop Coordinator: Judith Kozakowski,
The Library Network



Graphic Layout: Linda Pierce, Kettering University Library



Among Michigan Friends

is published
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as part of
membership in the
Friends of Michigan
Libraries.

FOML would like to
thank Gale Cengage
Learning for its support
of this newsletter.

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

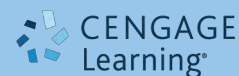


Friends of Michigan Libraries

% The Library Network
Attn: Judith Kozakowski
41365 Vincent Court
Novi, MI 48375

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, February 2

Wednesday, March 1

Thursday, March 23

Friday, March 24

Wednesday, April 5

April 9 - 15

June 22 - 27

Fall of 2017

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Spring Friends Workshop and Fred Ruffner Symposium,

Bloomfield Township Public Library

FOML Fall Trustee Alliance Workshop,

Bloomfield Township Public Library

FOML Board Meeting

National Library Week - "Libraries Transform"

ALA Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois

FOML & Trustee Alliance Fall Workshops,

To be held in the Grand Rapids area

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 should email the [FOML President](mailto:president@foml.org) (president@foml.org) requesting conference call information.