



# Among Michigan Friends

INFORMATION • SUPPORT • ADVOCACY

Volume 23, Issue 1

Spring 2016

[www.foml.org](http://www.foml.org)

## Message from the FOML President: Looking Toward Spring

*Paul Snyder*



*Paul Snyder  
FOML President*

It's been an exciting few months since our last newsletter. Our Fall Workshop was hosted by our outstanding Friends in Petoskey.

Workshop space was available across the street from the library. Attendance was at capacity and the weather cooperated as members enjoyed the hospitality of this great northern community.

On November 13, we conducted our second "Talk About Friends" meeting at the Chelsea District Library. A relatively recent activity, our "Talk About Friends" sessions last about 2½ hours bringing together a

variety of library friends, staff, administrators, and trustees to talk about all things library and share successes and lessons learned with one another. Our thanks go to the Chelsea Friends and Library Administration for their generous support. The FOML board will be looking to expand these sessions to other parts of the state.

Finally, I want to thank all of you who contacted your representatives urging them to withhold their support from SB 571. This law prohibits libraries and other public entities from spending tax dollars to inform the public about facts effecting a millage proposal within 60 days of the election. Though signed into law, it was put on hold by a federal court injunction. Please keep active with your local and state representatives. It is the best way to help your library.

## Working for Libraries

In addition to their service on the FOML Board, several board members work as advocates for libraries at the national level.

Shirley Bruursema serves on several committees of United for Libraries - the Awards, Leaders Orientation, and Legislation, Intellectual Freedom & Advocacy Committees. She is also active as a presenter at United for Libraries' Nuts 'n' Bolts presentations at Midwinter and Annual Conferences.

Likewise, Charles Hanson is a presenter at these Nuts 'n' Bolts sessions as well as serving on the Leaders Orientation and Legislation Committees while also serving as Liaison to ALA COPE (Committee on Professional Ethics). He has written "A Toolkit for Academic Friends" for the United for Libraries website and is a candidate for Friend-at-Large on the United for Libraries Board of Directors.

Denise Hooks is a leader of one of the Michigan delegations to National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., May 2-3. This year she will be joined by FOML Board members Roger Mendel and Charles Hanson.

### What's Inside:



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# MLA LIBRARIAN of the YEAR

For over 30 years, the MLA Librarian of the Year Award has recognized a librarian's outstanding contributions and accomplishments to the library community over a long period of time. For 2015, the MLA honored FOML board member Denise Hooks as their Librarian of the Year.

Denise says she “really stumbled into librarianship by a stroke of good luck!” with a student assistant job at the Flint Public Library in the Fall of 1971. Then after graduate school at Indiana University, beginning in 1980, Denise served as director of the Mott Community College Library. She moved to her current position at Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative (MMLC) in 2009.



In her role as director of MMLC, Denise has endeavored to build bridges among Michigan's various library service agencies and organizations. Her actions clearly demonstrate her dedication to the power of collaboration. Along with sitting on the board of the Friends of Michigan Libraries, she is the current chair of the Cooperative Directors Association, a past board member of Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS), and has also been very active in MLA. One of the most visible results of Denise's passion for interlibrary cooperation has been the continuing education collaboration that she helped create. The group now includes the Cooperative Directors Association, MLA, MCLS, Library of Michigan, Michigan Academic Libraries Association (MI-ALA) and Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME).

In addition to collaboration, Denise has a passion for library advocacy. Every year, she organizes an annual delegation of librarians and trustees from Michigan to attend ALA Legislative Day in Washington D.C. An organized, knowledgeable and well-spoken advocate, Denise not only stands up for Michigan libraries, she encourages and supports less-experienced advocates in speaking up and being more knowledgeable about the issues affecting libraries statewide and nationally.

Denise is a leader. She brings people together so that they speak with one voice. She has been an example of a fine academic librarian and now as a cooperative director has been a great asset to the public library community. While her cooperative is primarily public libraries, it is one of the few in the state that is a true multi-type library organization. Academic and school libraries play a part in the success of her cooperative.

In her acceptance speech, Denise said, “Without the incredibly supportive group of MMLC library directors and Board Members that I have the pleasure and sincere honor serving, my job would not be nearly as gratifying. They are actively involved in all that we do at MMLC and together we have done some very good things over the past 6 years. We have a lot more on the horizon to accomplish . . . and, while we will most certainly always face funding challenges and legislative hurdles, we are tenacious in our efforts to raise our voices as leaders and advocates to protect our libraries and their importance in our communities.”

It's clear from her actions and accomplishments that Denise enjoys serving the Michigan library community and in turn inspires enthusiasm for libraries in those around her.

*Selections of this article were re-printed from the [MLA website](#), along with quotes from Denise Hooks' acceptance speech.*

# 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, past ALA President



## MLA Conference Program

The Friends of Michigan Libraries offered a session at the MLA's 2015 Annual Conference at the Novi Expo Center. President Paul Snyder and Past President Charles Hanson teamed up to present, "When Friends Aren't Friendly," expanding on a United for Libraries' Fact Sheet which addresses the same topic.

After establishing the value of friends groups to local libraries, there was an exploration of how fragile relationships can be between friends, administrators, trustees and staff as they all work to provide service to their patrons.

"Good communication is a vital tool for all involved," Hanson said. "When people haven't established a process to talk to one another on a regular basis, difficulties are compounded when problems arise. We usually find that teams that have established good communications are able to work out issues when they come up."

"Another hot-spot is when leaders from either side change," cautioned Snyder. "When a new director or Friend's president first starts, there is an eagerness to initiate new ideas and establish themselves. If institutional momentum, the direction the organization was headed before the leadership change, is ignored, the adjustment period can be very rough."

The session was well-attended, suggesting that future sessions may be in the offing.

# Little, Free and Literary!

On a gorgeous autumn day, the [Friends of Chelsea District Library](#) who are members of the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce had a ribbon cutting for two new Little Free Libraries planted in two of the city's parks. The October 22, 2015, event included members of the Friends; Chelsea District Library staff; the Chamber of Commerce; Paul Snyder, President of FOML; and a representative of the Chelsea Rotary Club, which also supported the libraries' funding.

The Pierce Park location and the Timbertown location both offer selections of books for children and adults. Visitors are invited to "take a book, leave a book" or simply borrow it for the duration of their visit to the park. In addition to the community donations, the Friends add new titles, monitor the supply of books and maintain the quality of the service to the community with regular checks all year round.

This popular and practical trend is growing, with the increasing participation of many library Friends groups, big and small. There are plenty of ways to fundraise for these projects. Talk with other fellow Friends groups for help with ideas and tips. A wealth of information is available on the internet, but my favorite resource is *The Little Free Library Book: Take A Book-Return A Book* by Margret Aldrich, 2015, Coffee House Press. Beautifully and delightfully illustrated, the appendix also includes construction plans. Make sure that your library has a copy in the collection, and inspire others to join the movement!

*~ by Jennifer Kundak, FOML Board Member*



*Pictured from left to right: Bruce Merrilat, member of Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce Directors; Jerry Wilczynski, Chelsea District Library Board of Trustees President and Chelsea Rotary Club member; Marie Brooks, Friends of Chelsea District Library (FCDL) board; Amythyst Romero, Chelsea Chamber of Commerce staff; Sue Whitmarsh, FCDL past President; Gary Munce, FCDL President; Jennifer Kundak, FCDL board and FOML board; Keegan Sulecki, CDL librarian; Bob Pierce, Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director.*

*Photo credit: Paul Snyder*



# Upcoming Spring FOML Workshops

## Hoyt Main Public Library

*505 Janes Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48607  
(989) 755-0904*



*Photo credit: James Howe ©*

*[www.jameshowephoto.com](http://www.jameshowephoto.com) ©*

### **“Knowledge is Power: Managing Your Friends Group for Optimal Service ”**

*Thursday, April 14, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*With Special Guest Speaker Gail Madziar, MLA Executive Director*

SYNOPSIS: What are the key ingredients that make the best recipe for a successful Friends group? Success depends on knowledge and information and those who are willing to apply this knowledge to managing the many functions involved in Friends’ activities. How knowledgeable are your Friends?

*Registration information is available in this newsletter and on the FOML website: [www.foml.org](http://www.foml.org)*

### **“Knowledge is Power: What Trustees Need to Know about Library Governance ”**

*Friday, April 15, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*With Special Guest Speaker Josie Parker, Director of the Ann Arbor District Library*

SYNOPSIS: What are the key ingredients that make up the recipe for successful library governance? What knowledge and information should every trustee have to ensure that the library community being served is getting the best return on investment? How knowledgeable are your trustees?

*Registration information is available in this newsletter and on the Trustee Alliance website:  
[www.fomltrusteealliance.org](http://www.fomltrusteealliance.org)*



**FOML Spring Workshop and  
Fred Ruffner Symposium Registration**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2016, 8:30 to 3:00**  
*Hoyt Public Library*  
505 Janes Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 755-0904

***Seating is limited - register early!***

**Registration deadline is Friday, April 1, 2016 ~ No refunds after April 8, 2016**

|                                                                                         | # Attending        | Fee      | Sub-Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| <b><i>“Knowledge Is Power: Managing Your<br/>Friends Group for Optimal Service”</i></b> |                    |          |           |
| <i>With special guest speaker Gail Madziar</i>                                          | 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:**

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

Questions or concerns: email [judith.kozakowski@foml.org](mailto: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](http://www.foml.org)



## FOML Trustee Alliance Workshop Registration

Friday, April 15, 2016

*Hoyt Main Library*

505 Janes Avenue

Saginaw, MI 48607

(989) 755-0904

***Seating is limited - Register early!***

**Registration deadline is Friday, April 1, 2016 ~ No refunds after April 8, 2016**

|                                                | # Attending        | Fee          | Total           |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>“Knowledge is Power: What Trustees</b>      | FOML Members _____ | x \$20 =     | \$ _____        |
| <b>Need to Know about Library Governance”</b>  | non-members _____  | x \$30 =     | \$ _____        |
| <i>With special guest speaker Josie Parker</i> |                    | <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$ _____</b> |

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**

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

FOML - % The Library Network  
ATTN: Judith Kozakowski  
41365 Vincent Court  
Novi, MI 48375

Questions or concerns: email to [judith.kozakowski@foml.org](mailto: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](http://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*

[Friends of the Alden District Library](#) planned a winery tour at Torch Lake Cellars on November 8<sup>th</sup> for tastings and a walk in the vineyard. There was a minimal charge for six pours. Sounds like a delightful way to socialize with fellow Friends!

[Friends of the Clinton Macomb Public Library](#) have announced the annual Design-A-Bookmark contest, April 1-30 this year. All young artists in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to design an original bookmark featuring the theme “Libraries Transform” to help celebrate National Library Week, April 10-16. Entry forms are available at CMPL locations and on the website, beginning April 1 with the form returned to any CMPL location by April 30. One winner will be chosen from each grade, and each will receive a bookstore gift card. Plus their designs will be reproduced and distributed in the library.

[Friends of the Flat River Community Library](#) planned a Winter Used Book & Cookie Sale and Silent Auction, November 13 and 14, 2015. Each silent auction item was specially selected. All proceeds collected benefit the library.

[Friends of Hackley Public Library](#) (Muskegon) planned the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Bling Thing in mid-February. This popular event offers donated jewelry, accessories, and all things “bling”. A Friday early sales Kick-Off party required a donation at the door, so attendees can enjoy wine, chocolate and a first chance on all items. Saturday sale admission is free, including coffee and hot chocolate provided by Biggby Coffee. And for a small fee, a variety of DIY jewelry projects can be created with the help of skilled staff.

Friends of the [Otsego County Library](#) generously purchased t-shirts that say “READING.....It is the best,” for the Teen Advisory Board. The shirt is a custom design by teen Anna Burt. The library offers a wide range of teen programming to make them feel welcome.

Friends of the [Plymouth District Library](#) recently provided a generous donation to the library to upgrade the sound and video systems in the large meeting rooms. New speakers and monitors were installed in rooms on the main floor. These upgrades will allow groups using the rooms to present content from their laptops and hand-held devices to the wall-mounted monitors. This equipment will be extremely well used by over 20,000 people who use the meeting rooms each year.

[Friends of the St. Clair Shores Public Library](#) are sponsoring a new Youth Services Department program beginning January 2016, called “1,000 Books Before Kindergarten.” It is free for children from birth through the start of 5 year old Kindergarten. Parents, grandparents and caregivers may come to the library and register children. Each child will receive a journal to record each book read, with instructions. For every 100 books read, the child receives a small prize and their progress noted in the Youth Services Room. Upon reading 1,000 books, they earn a free Friends tote bag and book. It’s a great way to promote and support early literacy skills and a love of reading.

We always love hearing from **you**! Please plan to send your Friends newsletters and/or information to us any time of the year: [newsletters@foml.org](mailto:newsletters@foml.org). Let’s share and learn together.





# Michigan Library Cooperative News

Denise Hooks, Director

Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative



As always, Michigan Library Cooperatives are working to provide myriad services for our members. A recent report to the Library of Michigan Board included a host of sponsored initiatives and events. Detroit Public Library Cooperative is in its 150<sup>th</sup> year of celebration and has published a wonderful look at the past century and a half of dedication to patrons. Several co-ops including Lakeland and Suburban are in the process of rewriting strategic plans that will provide direction for the next 3-5 years. Mideastern has booked over 500 programs for libraries across Michigan and is rolling out a 3D printer project for members. Mid-Michigan has offered library service expansion and event mini-grants as well as providing maker space programming support. Superiorland has hit the ground running with a new director and is assisting members with expanding Internet access through E-Rate funding. The Library Network hosted the Black Belt Librarian at a workshop attended by 220 people. White Pine is supporting the State Aid annual report process and has completed several Board training orientations. Woodlands is studying numerous literacy programs to make comparisons that members can use to determine sustainability and ways to secure funding. Serving the libraries of Michigan is an incredibly rewarding job!

## 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/  
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**Director/Newsletter Editor:** Mary Beall, Southfield Public Library  
**Director:** Allison Arnold, St. Clair County Library System  
**Director:** Trish Burns, Bay County Library System  
**Director:** Claudia Diaz, Albion College  
**Director:** Gerald Furi, Farmington Community Library (Ret.)  
**Director:** Shelley Gach-Droz, Huntington Woods Public Library  
**Director-in-waiting:** Darnell Gundy-Reed, Muskegon Area District Library  
**Director:** Denise Hooks, Mideastern Michigan Library Cooperative  
**Director/Newsletter & Workshop Asst:** Jennifer Kundak, Chelsea Dist. Library  
**Director:** Roger Mendel, Northland Library Cooperative  
**Director:** Michael Mok, Grosse Pointe Public Library  
**Director:** Patricia Orr, Livonia Civic Center Library  
**Director:** Avery Weaver, Emery-Pratt  
**Director:** Trudi Werner, Kettering University Library  
  
**Trustee Alliance Representative:** Shirley A. Bruursema, Kent District Library  
**Trustee Alliance Representative:** Sheila Brice, Baldwin Public Library  
  
**Advisor:** Lee Ann Messimer, Escanaba Public Library  
**Advisor:** Betty Newton, Livonia Civic Center Library  
**Advisor:** Kelly Pepin, Escanaba Public Library  
**Advisor:** Cindy Lou Poquette, Indian River Public Library  
**Advisor:** Daniel Stock, Robert J. Parks 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*

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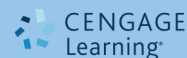
FOML would like to  
thank Gale Cengage  
Learning for its support  
of this newsletter.

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



**Friends of Michigan Libraries**  
% The Library Network  
Attn: Judith Kozakowski  
41365 Vincenti 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](http://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 2, 2016

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Friday, April 15, 2016

June 23-28, 2016

Fall of 2016

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Board Meeting

FOML Spring Workshop and Fred Ruffner Symposium,  
Hoyt Main Public Library, Saginaw

FOML Spring Trustee Alliance Workshop,  
Hoyt Main Public Library, Saginaw

ALA Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida

FOML & Trustee Alliance Fall Workshops, southwest MI

**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](mailto:president@foml.org)) requesting conference call information.