

## FRIENDS FOOTNOTES



*Friends of the DeWitt Public Library  
Board Members:*

*President – Lael Lineberry*

*Vice President - Open*

*Secretary – Sue Cassidy*

*Treasurer – Kathy Eiferle*

*Member-at-Large – Nichole Bjerne*

*Member-at-Large – Emily Fenneuff*

*Library Director &*

*Ex-Officio Member Jennifer Thanasiu*

*Technical/Website – Open*

### MESSAGE FROM FRIENDS PRESIDENT

Mother Nature sure is busy with spring: birds singing, grass greening and brave bulbs spouting. With spring exploding outdoors, kicking off a new year, I am thinking about how the Friends hit the ground running, too. We've come a long way since we were first formed in the summer of 2006. It is fun to hear DeWittians asking when the next murder mystery is, whether this year's Holiday program will be as good as last year's and when the next book sale will be – all traditions that have been established within the last two years! As I step into the Presidents' shoes I am thankful for all the work that went into getting us this far.

I have wonderful news to share with you. We are the proud new renters of a storage room at the DeWitt Township Community Center. Yes, an actual room with heat, light and a door. In the past we have boxed, stored and stacked accumulating donations in a garage-type storage unit. The day before the sale, all boxes were loaded up, hauled to the community center, unloaded and then the books were sorted by category onto tables. A rather frantic undertaking for one evening. Now, we will be able to sort books as they come in. AND with the storage room in the same building as the sale and satellite

library, there is much less hauling. AND, we were able to put up shelves to store the boxes, saving us from sore backs and crushed boxes. AND, the cost was lower than our prior storage. Obviously, an improvement in many ways. I thank the Township officials who helped this happen.

I encourage you to make the Satellite your new donation destination. I'm sure you are going through your bookshelves, gathering up donations, and even reminding your friends to donate (What's that? Did I hear you offer to drop off your friend's donation with yours? You smooth talker...) before May 9th. Now, once you are loaded up, just steer right over to the satellite. That puts your books in the right building, saving the Friends the time and cost of transport. It also makes a bit more space in the hall of the main library. Wasn't that easy?

Just an update on last fall's events: the fall Book Sale was a grand success, bringing in \$1,916. Our used book sales just keep getting bigger and better. The DeWitt's Got Talent Book Fair truly reached out to the community with over 35 volunteers and 15 groups participating. I'm proud that the Friends were able to donate book cases and some books to fill them to the new Courter Family home, coordinated by the DeWitt Community Build.

Before I end this message, I'd like to ask you to think a few moments on why you are a member of the Friends. Is it for the perks at the book sales such as early access? Or a way of sharing your love of books and reading? Perhaps to support your library? Or to hob-knob with other readers? Whatever the reason, I hope you value your membership. It would be fabulous if you could share this opportunity; To ask a friend to become a Friend. Now, think who would you know that would love to be a part of such a great group and invite them to join. Membership applications are available at the library, or you can use the one on the back of this newsletter.

Happy spring to you all.

Sincerely,  
Lael Lineberry

**REMINDER – FRIENDS SPRING BOOK SALE,  
MAY 9<sup>th</sup>**

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR, JENNIFER THANASIU

Esther Baldwin

We are very pleased to welcome our new director, Jennifer Thanasiu, to the DeWitt Public Library. Ms. Thanasiu recently served as the associate director of public service at the Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham.

Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Anderson University and a Master's degree in library science from Wayne State University. She began her career in 1989 as a library page and has worked in several library systems, including working as children's librarian, reference librarian, young adult coordinator, branch manager and associate director.

This author found Jennifer to be very personable, with a lot of enthusiasm for her job, extensive library experience and many great ideas to share with us. With our help, she hopes to help make our library an even better library than it already is.

Jennifer believes that technology is very important for the future of all libraries and looks for future upgrades in the technology department at the library. She also feels that it is important to find different ways to engage people, to get them to participate in programs at the library and to continue from early childhood through the adult years.

Jennifer has been associated with libraries most of her life. Beginning as a child she frequently visited her local library to fill summer vacation days. To help fund her college education, she worked in the library through the College's work study program and began learning the basics of a library, never even thinking that a librarian would be her career choice. Later in her career she worked at various libraries in states as diverse in population and geographic areas as New Mexico and Georgia. Along the way she gained great experiences working with a variety of people, in a variety of places, with diverse groups of people.

During Jennifer's early years, her father bought her what would become her favorite book at a Friends of the Library book sale in Cleveland, Ohio ... *Sneetches and Other Stories*, by Dr. Seuss. She says that this book taught her about diversity, the lessons we learn from it and how it affects us all.

We, the Friends of the Library, feel very fortunate to have Jennifer Thanasiu as our Director. We welcome her to the library and to the community.

No entertainment is as cheap as reading, nor any pleasure so lasting.

...Lady Mary Wortley Montague

## MESSAGE FROM LIBRARY DIRECTOR

As many of you know, a .95 mill proposal to build and operate a new library was placed on the August 5, 2008 primary election ballot. Unfortunately, it was defeated by 240 votes. While the DeWitt Public Library Board of Trustees intends to bring another proposal before the citizens in the future, they do not have specific plans to do so at this time. The Library Board would like to wait until the current economic situation improves.

In the meantime, the residents of DeWitt deserve an excellent public library, and with the help of the DeWitt Friends of Libraries, we will continue to deliver the best possible library services within our current library building and operating millage.

With that being said, there are several new and exciting things happening at the library that I would like to share with you. Over the next few months, the library will be getting a facelift. Because we will be in our current building for an indefinite amount of time, we feel it's time to make some necessary improvements. Portions of the library's carpet, which had begun to show significant wear, were recently replaced. In addition, the library will be receiving some additional shelving for books as well as new CD bins for our compact disc music collection.

Please come in and see our "new and improved" space. We look forward to your support and welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Thanasiu, Library Director

## A GRATEFUL "THANK YOU" TO THE 2008 BOARD

Lael Lineberry

2008 was our second year and was a year of many firsts; the first murder mystery dinner (a huge success), the first DeWitt's Got Talent (truly a community event), the first new building millage (and we were close) and the introduction of Club Tubs (a great resource). Thank you so much to the board members who shepherded us through this year. Many of them were pioneer members, serving a second year. Their time and effort have paid off in a successful and vibrant Friends group. Our thanks to:

Kathy Eiferle – President

Kristine Reigler – Vice President

Sarah Gustafson – Treasurer

Sue Cassidy – Secretary

Newsletter – Melissa Potter

Technical – Gail Prado

Members at large – Nicole Bjorn and Lael Lineberry

## GRATEFUL “THANK YOU” – Continued

I hope that you will share your thanks with these tireless workers.

Many of these volunteers return to us this year, some in new posts as you can see from the board member list. However, not all offices have been filled. Please consider volunteering as a board member (open offices are indicated) or committee chair. It is the efforts of many that keep us strong.

### GET DIRTY AT THE LIBRARY

Attention Green Thumbs: Our library gardens and grounds could use a bit of TLC to keep them looking good. The library's lawn service will cover mowing and other basics. The Friends are funding some minor landscaping costs but there is a big need for volunteers. We'd love experienced green thumbs to help with any of the following:

- A spring spruce-up (a bit of pruning, clean-up and laying down of mulch. Drive a pick-up? We'd love to hear from you!)
- The pretty stuff (planting new flowers and plants among the existing perennials).
- Weekly up keep (watch for plants that could use some help, tidy garbage, a bit of extra water where needed. Can volunteer for as many weeks as you'd like)

Willing? Contact [DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net](mailto:DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net). We'll schedule based on volunteer availability.

#### Help!

We're building our archive of newsletters and we are missing a few. If you have one of the newsletters below (print or electronic) please bring it to the library.

2008 – Summer or Fall

2007 – Spring or Summer.

### MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

We welcome all our old and new Friends of the DeWitt Public Library. We thank you all for your generous support and assistance. With Friends like you, we are better equipped to serve our library and its patrons. Help comes in all forms; we'd love people to help in whatever way they can. For the pancake breakfast, that means Friends can "volunteer" by coming to eat. For the used book sale, Friends can help by coming and buying books. Please encourage your friends to join and to volunteer. With everyone's help, we can make it an even better Library!

A small group of committed people can make a difference and change the world.  
... Margaret Mead

### JOIN US FOR THE UPCOMING BOOK SALE!

Who:	Open to anyone Special pre-shop open only to Friends
What:	Sale of gently used materials Books (including hardback, paperback, children's, non-fiction) Movies Recorded books (books on tape) Gaming system games (for wii, X-box, PlayStation, Gameboy, computer) Other electronic media Board games Comic books Especially, Children's books and DVDs But not Text books Encyclopedias
Where:	DeWitt Township Community Center 14101 Brook Road, Lansing MI
When:	Saturday, May 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 AM – 4 PM (probable hours) Special early shopping for Friends: 9:30 AM 3 – 4 PM get a bag for 2 bucks
Why:	You get space for new books. The books get to be re-read and re-enjoyed. The Friends get material for our largest fundraiser – and our funds work hard to support and enhance the Library and its services and programs!
How Much:	Paperbacks 50 cents Hardcover \$1 Specialty books may be more

Friends members get special privileges! Friends who volunteer for sorting or setup have a special opportunity for early shopping. Only Friends members have the privilege of entering at 9:00 am on Saturday for the first pick!

We are especially looking for DVDs and children's books, love, mysteries and children's books. Please, no textbooks, print encyclopedias or magazines.

#### Donate - Donate early - Donate at the Satellite!

Help us throw a more organized sale by donating early so many of your books can be sorted into sale categories early. Early preparation saves last minute chaos.

## BOOK SALE – Continued

Our new storage room means we are doing things a bit differently this time: Help us save the cost of transporting books from the main library to storage by bringing your donations directly to the satellite. Donations will also be accepted at the main library. Please call ahead to make arrangements before bringing in a large donation.

### Volunteer!

**Sort:** Volunteers will sort donations into categories such as mysteries, cookbooks and children’s books. Spend a few hours sorting and chatting with your Friends. Opportunities to sort include:

Tues., April 28: 10 AM to noon, 1 – 3 PM, or 6 – 8 PM  
Thurs., April 30: 10 AM to noon, 1 – 3 PM, or 6 – 8 PM  
Sat., May 2: 10 AM to noon, or 1 – 3 PM

**Setup and final sorting:** Friday, May 8, many shifts between Noon and 9 pm.

**Sale:** Sat., May 9, many shifts between 9 am and 4 pm.

**Teardown:** Saturday, May 9, between 4 and 6 pm.

For more information on donating or volunteering, call the library at 669-3156 or email us at [DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net](mailto:DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net).

### Shop

Join us and support the Friends with your purchases.

Check out the t-shirts and books for sale in the Friends Foyer at the main library.

### WANTED: VOLUNTEERS

No pay, but greatly appreciated.

Volunteers, nominations and suggestions being accepted now.

We need you! If you are interested, please send an e-mail to [DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net](mailto:DeWittLibraryFriends@verizon.net)

### BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

**Vice President (executive board)** – runs meetings the President is unable to attend. May also be an officer.

**Members at Large (executive board)** – attend board meetings, offer experience and ideas. Votes on board business. We would like a variety of members at large to represent the variety in our community and help us

be the best stewards of the Friends funds. May also be an officer.

**Technical** – maintains Friends’ website. May also create presence on Twitter, Face Book, Friendster, MySpace...

**Membership** – welcomes new members. Keeps membership list accurate. May pursue opportunities to invite new members.

**Volunteer Coordinator** – maintains volunteer sign-ups for Friends events.

**Program Development** – works with Library to support or develop programs for the Friends. May organize treats or prizes for Library programs sponsored by the Friends.

**Fundraising** – oversees fundraiser chairs (murder mystery, used book sales, Friends Foyer, pancake breakfast). May also develop and run fundraisers.

**Library Promotion and Advocacy** – also puts together Friends participation in community events such as the Ox Roast.

**Publicity** - lets newspapers and other media know of our programs and events.

**Archivist** – keeps souvenirs, pictures and publicity of major club events. Takes or gathers a photographs to summarize our activities. Some examples of what is kept – program from murder mystery, flyers, and newspaper articles on Friends activities. Essentially a scrapbook, but content is more important than presentation.

### Committees and Programs

General committee help and head honchos

Used Book Sale	Farmer’s Market	Murder Mystery Event
Friends Foyer	Movies in the Park	Murder Mystery Play
Friends Gear	Ox Roast	Murder Mystery Dinner
Pancake Breakfast	Club Tubs	Murder Mystery Auction

### FRIENDS MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2009

Meetings are generally held at 6:30 on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Woodruff room at the Library. Specifically the 2009 schedule would be:

- ❖ May 6
- ❖ June 3
- ❖ July 1
- ❖ August 5
- ❖ September 2
- ❖ October 7
- ❖ November 4
- ❖ December 2
- ❖ January 6, 2010

All meetings are open to Friends and the general public.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH NEWS

Beth Revers, Youth Services Librarian Carrie Frazer, Youth Services Assistant

**BE CREATIVE – THIS SUMMER** Summer is coming fast, and for the library that means Summer Reading. Be Creative @ your library is the theme this summer. Bring your kids to the library for some creative fun. We are always looking for donations for prizes, or even leads on who to ask. Contact us by calling 669-3156 and asking for Beth or Carrie, or e-mailing Beth at [bcrevers@aol.com](mailto:bcrevers@aol.com) and put DeWitt Library in the subject line.

### A PROGRAM FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



#### Michigan Smart Art Presents Creativity through Critters

Join teaching artist Steveanna  
Roose on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at

7:00 p.m., as she sparks imaginations while exploring Michigan's animals through art. Discover creativity through critters as she blends visual art, storytelling, origami and creative movement in this inter-act-live program. This is a wonderful program for the family. Sponsored by the Friends of the DeWitt Public Library!

### MORE ART

This year we are also looking to create some art with recyclables. Donations of the following items (clean please) can be dropped off at the library, and will help us "be creative" and green!

- Plastic bottle caps up to 3" across
- Metal bottle caps or can pull tabs
- Colorful plastic containers, or covers
- #6 clear plastic
- Hardware: screws, bolts, washers or other.
- Coated wire
- Left over tiles, broken or whole, or broken china.
- Clear glass containers, vases or jars that are small, and of interesting shapes.

### TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for a few good teens. If you are going into 6th grade next year or older, consider volunteering to help out at the library this summer. Stop at the desk and fill out a Volunteer form, we will contact you and schedule you to help with all the fun and busyness at the library this summer.

### LEGO DONATIONS NEEDED

Donations of Legos are being sought for a Lego Build Day at the library this summer. They can be dropped off at any time. We are also interested in the loan of LEGOs for that day.

*Thanks to the Friends of the  
DeWitt Public Library we will be  
bringing the Acting Up Theater  
Company to the Library on  
Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. to  
present:*

*Be c-READ-ative!*



What if you were paid ten million dollars and all you had to do was point a picture? That's what the famous artiste Pate' Brushe' has been assigned to do, but unfortunately he has lost all of his creativity, imagination and inspiration so he has spent the last 6 months playing Guitar Hero instead of painting. But today is the day the museum is expecting the painting to be done, so Pate' is then visited by some friends who help him to "BE CREATIVE". His visitors are as follows:

Acting Up Theatre Company has gained a reputation across the state for its educational and uplifting theatrical performances. They travel all over the state and book over 70 shows each summer; this is their tenth anniversary of performing in Michigan Libraries. The show will be filled with Acting Up staples such as comedy, pop culture references, colorful costumes, audience participation, and plenty of references to the importance of reading.

*Dynamic, action-filled!*

This presentation is a wonderful family event, with interaction for the kids, and humor and fun for the adults. Don't miss it!

(Promotional pictures are available at:

<http://www.actingup.biz/read09/read09.html>)

### SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY!

We are looking for some wonderful creative people out there who would like to share their creativity with our kids and teens this summer.

What do you do that's creative? Cook, knit, sew, paint, make wire creations, dance, sing, play an instrument, tie flies? The possibilities are endless. If you would be willing to share your creativity this summer, please contact us. TIA!

