

# Views

The Newsletter of the  
**Friends of the Van Pelt Library**  
Michigan Tech University  
1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931  
*March 2007 Volume 12, Number 1*

## ***Friends Annual Book Sale April 12+13 2007***

Mark your calendars: the popular Friends of the Van Pelt Library Book Sale will once again take place this spring. The main sale will be Friday April 13 from 10:00 until 4:00pm, while the Members-only Pre-Sale will be the day before, Thursday April 12 from 5-7pm. The sale will take place in the Ballroom of the Memorial Union Building on MTU's campus, and memberships will be available at the door, \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families, and \$10 for students and seniors.

As usual, the sale is only possible because of the hard work of the Friends and our co-sponsoring student groups, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and the Society of Intellectual Sisters. We also gratefully acknowledge the help of MTU's Facilities Management Department, who help move the books to and from storage, and the MTU Recycling Group, who help us properly dispose of dated and damaged items.

Book donations are still actively being sought for the sale. Is it time for some early spring cleaning? Do you need more room on your shelves? Is your office closing in on you? Donate your books to the FVPL Book Sale. Book donations may be dropped in the collection box in the entry of the Van Pelt Library or at the Circulation Desk. The Friends accept books on any subject, software, CDs, DVDs and videos. We do not accept Readers Digest Condensed, vinyl records, or magazines, since these do not sell well and are very cumbersome to move and store. Email Dana Richter (dlrichter@mtu.edu) to arrange for pick-up of donations. See you there!

## ***Collections Projects Considered for Funding by Friends***

For Library Friends, fundraising is the hard part, spending to support the Van Pelt Library is the fun part! This spring the Friends are considering a list of collections requests that have come in from librarians and Library patrons. Under consideration are the following requests from across campus: the Persephone series "By-about-for" Women (\$700); funds to purchase books requested by patrons through interlibrary loan (\$1,500-\$3,000); the revised edition of the Handbook of Physiology (\$1,545); selections from the list of 20 Notable Michigan Books (\$500); the New Catholic Encyclopedia (\$1,625); the Colour Atlas of Ectomycorrhizae (\$424); the complete run of the Iron River Reporter (\$3,520); and the complete run of the Mining Journal (Marquette) (\$32,000).

The Friends always welcome suggestions for projects that will improve the Van Pelt Library either through acquisitions, programs, or infrastructure. Suggestions may be emailed to [dee@mtu.edu](mailto:dee@mtu.edu).

## ***MTU Archives Announces Research Travel Awards***

Submitted by Erik Nordberg, MTU Archivist

The MTU Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2007 Research Travel Award program. The

program provides support for travel, food, and lodging to carry out research using the collections of the MTU Archives. The Friends of the Van Pelt Library provides financial support for the travel award program.

The Archives received a broad field of submissions for the eighth year of offering the Travel Award and were able to provide support for three of this year's applicants. Three visiting scholars will receive a check from the Friends of the Van Pelt Library following a public presentation of their research as part of the Archival Speakers Series. All of the grant recipients have plans to publish their research in academic journals in the near future, and the Travel Grant funding may lead to the publication of book-length manuscripts as well.

*Paul Lubotina*, adjunct professor at Northern Michigan University, is researching the history of Serbians in Michigan. He comes to the Archives in June to explore the role of Serbs in the Copper Country and to investigate whether Serbian immigrants might have been misclassified based on their country of origin rather than ethnic affiliation.

*Kathryn Remlinger*, associate professor at Grand Valley State University, continues her research into language and life in the Keweenaw Peninsula. She will examine how Copper Country residents used language to construct ethnic and local identities, and what linguistic features characterize particular identities. A July presentation is planned.

*Peter Simons*, PhD candidate at the University of Chicago, challenges assumptions of the Midwest as a socially isolated region in the mid-20th century. He visits the Archives in August to learn how the Copper Country's immigrant population and the mining companies' ties to world markets influenced Upper Midwest internationalism during World War II.

This is the eighth cycle for the MTU Archives Travel Award Program. Previous awards have supported research into boosterism on the Gogebic iron range, the representation and control of underground spaces through the use of mining company maps, and the role that fraternal orders have played in Lake Superior mining communities,

to name just a few. This year's awards committee consisted of four individuals: Kim Hoagland from the MTU Social Sciences Department, Terry Reynolds of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, and Erik Nordberg and Julie Blair, representing the MTU Archives. For further information about the awards program or about the collections of the MTU Archives, call 906-487-2505.

## *Winter Carnival Hot-Chocolate Give-away Brings Visitors to Library*

For several years the Friends have provided a warm stopping point for MTU Winter Carnival visitors, and this year the event grew in size and impact. Friends volunteers staffed a small book sale and gave away gallons of hot chocolate and dozens of home-baked cookies.

The response from Carnival visitors was extremely positive. Families stopped in and cleared the sale racks of children's books. With book sales and donations, the Friends garnered \$302.28 for the Library. The new Library furniture and entry area was a comfortable venue for a Carnival break.

Many thanks to the volunteers that made this event such a success!

We invite you to  
visit us on the web:

[www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm](http://www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm)

## *Art Sponsored by Friends Brightens and Enlightens*

The Friends Library Art Committee has been hard at work building a collection of Upper Peninsula Art for the Van Pelt Library. Members Patricia Van Pelt, Karen Hubbard, Dana Richter, Dick Rupley and Phyllis Johnson have met numerous times, visiting local galleries and artists as they made their selections for the Library. Five pieces have been purchased to date including *Mother Tree (Fallujah)* by Joyce Koskenmaki. Information about the Library art has been gathered into a binder by Patricia Van Pelt; this binder is available at the Library reference desk.

## *Friends Blankets Available!*

The beautiful MTU blanket is available once again from the Friends of the Van Pelt Library (<http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/blanket.htm>). The 4 ft by 5 ft cotton blanket in blue and white features historic buildings from the Michigan Tech campus (design shown at right) and sells for \$65 plus tax and shipping. Email [treynold@mtu.edu](mailto:treynold@mtu.edu) to order your blanket. All proceeds benefit the Van Pelt Library.

### **Board of Directors (2006-2007) Friends of the Van Pelt Library**

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