

Views

The Newsletter of the
Friends of the Van Pelt Library
Michigan Tech University
1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931
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Friends Annual Meeting Features talk on Mars

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library will be held Tuesday, October 21, 2003 from 4:30-5:30pm in the University Archives, located on the third floor of the Van Pelt Library. The speaker will be MTU Physics Professor Robert Nemiroff, who will talk about Mars and his new book, "The Universe: 365 Days," which features a picture-a-day from space. The talk is open to the public.

The Annual Meeting is a time for board elections. Several current board members are standing for re-election to the board. Retiring from the board after several years of active service is Peck Cho; stepping down as Econo Foods Chair is Udaya Kalluri. Many thanks to them for their enthusiastic and much appreciated service to the Friends.

The current slate of board candidates appears below. Others interested in running for a position on the board may nominate themselves at the meeting.

June Hawthorne
George Love
Dana Richter
Bette Mongold
Dick Rupley

In addition, the board is putting forward the following slate of officer candidates:

Dee Vincent, Chairman
Don Durfee, Vice Chairman
Terry Reynolds, Treasurer
Amy Hughes, Secretary

Homemade refreshments will be served at the Annual Meeting, and nonmembers are welcome.

Groundbreaking for New Library Addition held in May

Groundbreaking for the Center for Integrated Learning and Information Technology was held May 9, 2003. Construction on the John and LuAnn Opie library addition part of the Center project began July 9. The hole has been dug, the foundation for the addition is almost complete, and work has begun on the walls. It will be a race against time to get the walls up and the roof on before the snow begins!

All library materials, staff and services were removed from the ground floor of the current building in June. The government documents and maps are temporarily located in Hancock Hardware. "Deconstruction" of the ground floor has been completed and renovation of the space has begun. The addition and the ground floor should both be complete by July 1, 2004. At that time, or perhaps a little earlier, the collections in the current building and those offsite will be housed in compact shelving on the ground floor and in stacks on the third floor of the addition, and all library staff and services will be housed temporarily in the addition. Renovation of the current building is scheduled for completion January 15, 2005.

Pictures of the construction and updates to the schedule appear on the library's website at www.lib.mtu.edu.

The 2004 Book Sale is a Go!

Despite the construction upheaval at the Van Pelt Library, the 2004 Friends Book Sale will take place as usual in April 2004. Book donations are actively being sought for the sale. The Friends accept books on any subject, software, CDs, DVDs and videos for the sale. 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.

The Friends always need help to process book donations and to get ready for the sale. Anyone who is interested in helping with book sorting and pricing is asked to please contact Friends chairman Dee Vincent (dee@mtu.edu). We will put you to work right away!

The prospects for a 2005 sale are not quite so bright, since the construction plans for the Library renovation call for all of the current collection to move to the Opie addition next year, and space will be even tighter than it is currently. We will keep you posted on the prospects for a 2005 sale here and on the web at www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/announce.htm.

Friends' Support Award-Winning Research

submitted by Erik Nordberg, University Archivist

Each year, the FVPL provides financial support to the MTU Archives Research Travel Award program. These grants assist out-of-town researchers to visit Houghton and carry out research in the Library's extensive regional history archives.

One of our 2002 grant recipients, University of Chicago graduate student Aaron Shapiro, used the money to continue his research into the development of U.P. tourism in the 1940s and 1950s. From his research, Shapiro submitted an article to the Michigan Historical Review, a peer-reviewed regional history journal. His article was selected as the winner of their 2002 "Graduate Student Essay" award and was published in the Spring 2003 issue of the Review. The piece was the first in the issue, was highlighted with the number's cover illustration and included a footnote on the opening page with specific credit to the Friends of the Van Pelt Library for its support of his work.

Both of our 2003 award recipients gave public lectures at the MTU Archives as part of their

research visit. Back in April, Stephen LeDuc, a master's graduate from Penn State, presented on his research into the changing ethnic workforce at the Calumet & Hecla Copper Company. LeDuc, who has recently entered the doctoral program at Washington State University, also presented information from his research visit at the June annual meeting of the Mining History Association in Colorado. In July, our second award recipient, Dr. Katherine Benton-Cohen, presented a talk on her research into links between Michigan copper mining and subsequent mining in the area around Bisbee, Arizona. Dr. Benton-Cohen has just been appointed assistant professor of history at Louisiana State University. Both researchers publicly thanked FVPL for its support.

A call for applications for the 2004 MTU Archives Research Travel Award Program will be announced later this fall.

Friends Donation for "On-Demand Acquisitions Initiative" Much Appreciated

Last year the FVPL gave the Library \$1,500 for the "On-Demand Acquisitions Initiative." This program, proposed by Acquisitions Librarian Ellen Seidel and her staff, allows the Library to purchase books that are requested by patrons. The Library supports an active interlibrary loan system, but there are times when the librarians judge that it would be better to purchase the book rather than borrow it. The regular acquisitions budget is spent according to a complex formula that supports the research and teaching activities of all academic departments, so there was a need for new funds to support on-demand acquisitions.

Last year the Friends gave \$1500 for this purpose, and it was all spent within 2 months. The books purchased are guaranteed to be of interest to (at least!) the patron who requested them, and currently two-thirds of the on-demand books are checked out.

Due to the success of the program, Seidel has requested \$3,000 from the Friends to support this

initiative this year, and this request was approved by the board at their October 2, 2003 meeting.

Econo Foods Receipts

Time to collect your receipts from Econo to benefit the Van Pelt Library at MTU. Through its *Computers for Kids* program Econo Foods donates to the Friends 1% of the sum of all Econo receipts collected. These funds are used to pay for computer systems in the Library. In 2000 the Friends of the Van Pelt Library collected Econo receipts that totaled \$30,361.11. As a result, Econo Foods donated 1% of that total, or \$303.61, to the Friends. In 2001 through the *Computers for Kids* program the Friends received \$431.76 and in 2002 \$520.02. Many thanks to those who participated last year, and a big "keep it up" to all collecting receipts for 2003.

Want to help? Please collect your receipts from Econo Foods and send them to us or drop them in the collection box at the circulation desk of the Library. Econo will accept only receipts dated Sept. 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. Please send your receipts by intercampus mail to either Dee Vincent (IT) or Faith Morrison (Chemical Engineering). Want to help more? Put out a collection box in your area and encourage your coworkers to bring in their receipts for our Library. There are drop boxes in the chemical engineering office (203 Chem Sci), the chemistry office (607 Chem Sci), at the Library circulation desk, in the coffee room on the 2nd floor of the admin building, and in the basement of the EERC. Every little bit helps.

Thank you Econo Foods! Thanks to everyone who is collecting receipts for the Friends.

Blankets and Note Cards Available

As always, Friends blankets and note cards are available for sale. Check out the designs on the web at the following addresses:
www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/note_cards.html
www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/blanket.htm
We'll ship them anywhere if you have a visa/master

card. To order your MTU blanket (100% cotton; \$65 plus tax/shipping) or Keweenaw historical note cards (\$12 plus tax/shipping per set of 12) contact Terry Reynolds, (906-487-2113, treynold@mtu.edu) or visit the web pages above. We're considering a new design for a gold and black version of the blanket. The new design will feature the Opie addition to the Van Pelt Library. We'll keep you posted; meanwhile, get the current version while supplies last!

Honor-System Book Cart a continuing Success

FVPL Treasurer Terry Reynolds reports that receipts from the ongoing book-cart book sale have increased since the cart was inaugurated in fall 2000:

| <i>Book Cart Sales</i> | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 2000-1 | \$797.60 |
| 2001-2 | \$767.37 |
| 2002-3 | \$899.45 |
| YTD | \$185.00 |

Currently the book cart is stocked monthly by FVPL board member Karen Hubbard, and the cash box is attended to by Reynolds. The book cart project was the brainchild of Reynolds, and has allowed the Friends to sell donated books at a slightly higher price throughout the year, to augment the bargain-basement prices at the annual book sale. Last year the Friends further expanded our book selling by offering books for sale during Winter Carnival. The Winter Carnival sale (the idea for this sale is credited to board member Don Durfee) was a terrific success, allowing the Friends to sell blankets and note-cards and to meet Library patrons and visitors, many of whom asked questions about the Library.

| Board of Directors of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library (term expires) <i>http://www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm</i> | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| open (2004) | Marianne Brokaw (2005) |
| Don Durfee (2005) | June Hawthorne (2003) |
| Karen Hubbard (2005), Vice Chairman | Amy Hughes (2005), Secretary |
| George Love (2003) | Patrick Quimby (2005), Tau Beta Pi |
| Faith Morrison (2005), Newsletter | Mary Marchaterre (2005) Econo |
| Gail Mroz (2004) | Terry Reynolds (2005), Treasurer |
| Dana Richter (2003) | Dee Vincent (2005), Chairman |
| W. Kent Wray, University Provost, ex officio | |
| Phyllis Johnson, University Librarian, ex officio | |