

# View

**EXTRA! EXTRA!**  
Book Sale 2012  
March 15 5-7pm  
March 16 10am-4pm

The Newsletter of the  
**Friends of the Van Pelt Library**  
Michigan Tech University  
[www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm](http://www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm)  
1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931  
March 2011 Volume 16, Number 1

## *Friends Book Sale Brings in over \$4000*

The 2011 *Friends Annual Book Sale*, held March 24 and 25 in Tech's Memorial Union Ballroom, netted over \$4,000 for the Library. Funds raised by the Friends are used for numerous projects, including the purchase of user technology such as Kindles and laptops and the funding of travel study grants (see related article this newsletter).

The Book Sale has been using a standardized price list since 2010, with hardback books going for \$2 and quality paperback books for \$1. Trade paperbacks (the ones that fit in your back pocket) are a bargain at 50 cents. "The new pricing scheme is much easier on the cashiers," says Library Board Member Karen Hubbard.

Volunteers Deb Charlesworth and Paul Charlesworth established a new feature at the 2011 presale, the "bulk order processing station." Off to the side and out of the way of the main cashier's station, they set up a roomy area for the pre-processing of the large orders of some pre-sale customers. "We count the orders ahead of time and tabulate the amounts for the cashiers," Deb Charlesworth says. "It makes it easier on the cashiers and prevents a bottleneck from forming at the checkout."

As usual, the success of the sale depended on the hard work of Friends Board members and on many other volunteers to classify and box the thousands of books donated. Special thanks go to Dana Richter and his Forestry students who helped a great deal throughout the year.

On the day of the sale, several student groups and many individual students helped in various capacities. Our cashiers this year were once again the members of the Society of Intellectual Sisters. The set-up of the sale was courtesy of members of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity (TKE) and members of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). For the sale break-down, Tau Beta Pi, TKE, and AIChE joined together to make short work of the job. We also very gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Michigan Tech's Facilities Management Department, who helped move the books to and from storage, Public Safety, who provided free parking, and the Baraga County Center of the Copper Country Mental Health Services, who helped us properly dispose of dated and damaged items. Friends board members were active throughout the sale. All volunteers are recognized in our Hall

of Fame, on the web at

[www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/HallOfFame2011.html](http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/HallOfFame2011.html)

Book donations are now being accepted for the 2012 sale and may be dropped in the collection box in the entry of the Van Pelt and Opie Library, or donors may call 906-487-2500 for assistance with larger donations brought to the Library loading dock. Donations can also be picked up – call or email Dana Richter (487-2149 or [dlrichte@mtu.edu](mailto:dlrichte@mtu.edu)) to arrange for pick-up.

## *Welcome to our new Library Director!*

*Submitted by Patricia Van Pelt*

Library Director Ellen Marks started her new position at the Van Pelt and Opie Library at Michigan Tech on August 1, 2010. Now she has almost completed one academic year and has experienced one UP winter! Ellen has supported the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, volunteering at the Winter Carnival Hot Chocolate event and at the just completed Book Sale and mounting new signage in the Library acknowledging the Friends. Ellen has attended our board meetings where we have valued her fresh input and experience. We asked her to share her thoughts for the future of the Van Pelt and Opie Library. Her remarks follow.

## *Comments of the Library Director*



*Submitted by Ellen Marks*

The hard work and dedication of the Friends is one of the Library's chief sources of engagement with the residents of the Keweenaw through their support of programs that bring the community into the Library. Enhancing the Library's exhibits and events is so important to the staff of the Library – and, to be able to share

Michigan Tech's investment in increasing our students' cultural and scholarly opportunities with any member of the community is a joy we cannot have without the support of the Friends.

Through the careful development of the Library's art collection with its focus on Upper Peninsula artists and subjects, support for our Archives' Travel Grants, book sales, including the continuous sale cart across from our exhibit area, and the huge amount of good-will the Friends generate on behalf of the Van Pelt and Opie Library – the Friends value is incalculable. Michigan Tech students have benefitted from the

always-current leisure reading collection and the videos, custom-made by librarian Rhianna Williams, meant to introduce new students to our web site. I lost count after 194 visitors to the Winter Carnival warm-up and book sale! I look forward to helping to continue the traditions of the Friends and continually seeking their guidance for new programs and services for Michigan Tech's students and faculty and community members.

## ***2011 Archives Travel Grant Program***

*Submitted by Julie Blair, Michigan Tech Archives*

Since 1998, the Michigan Tech Archives Travel Grant has helped scholars advance their research by supporting travel to the manuscript collections at the Michigan Tech Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections. The annual program continues to be generously sponsored by the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, who provide support for travel, food, and lodging to researchers using the collections of the Michigan Tech Archives.

The program is intended to encourage research using the Archives' lesser known collections or to promote new methodological approaches to well-known collections. From a competitive field of applicants, the grant committee selected three scholars this year whose research typifies the spirit of the grant program. This year's award committee included Larry Lankton from the Michigan Tech Department of Social Sciences, Terry Reynolds of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, and Erik Nordberg and Julie Blair, representing the Michigan Tech Archives.

The grant supports travel to the Archives with stipends of up to \$750. Once a research proposal has been selected, the amount awarded is determined according to an applicant's distance from Houghton and the degree of financial need. A full-time graduate student working to complete her or his dissertation is an example of the kind of applicant considered to have a high level of financial need. Although the majority of award recipients are associated with academic institutions either as students or faculty members, applicants need not come from an academic environment. The program recently supported a strong research program in ethnology by funding two genealogy practitioners exploring Calumet's 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Polish community.

"Another aspect given high consideration is a person's track record for completing projects in a timely manner," said program coordinator Julia Blair. "We are looking for people who will publish their research, create a public web page, or otherwise make available the results of their work at the Michigan Tech Archives. We have a rich collection of historic resources that we want people to know about. And we don't want the distance someone might have to travel to the Upper Peninsula to discourage them from coming here. The travel grant helps us achieve both of those goals."

Three researchers were selected to receive a Michigan Tech Archives Travel Grant for the current year. This year's grant recipients will investigate a diverse array of topics in the Archives' manuscript collections. Research subjects include the Black Campus Movement of the '60s and '70s, an investigation of linguistic variations in local Italian language newspapers, and further research by into copper mining company medical records.

Ibram H. Rogers, a post-doctoral fellow at the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis in New Brunswick, New Jersey visited the Michigan Tech Archives in March and gave a talk entitled "The Black Campus Movement and the Racial Reformation of Higher Education." During the 1960s and 1970s, black college students, sometimes aided by white and Latino students, protested for a relevant learning experience. At traditionally white and historically black colleges and universities, black campus activists formed the nation's first progressive black student unions and gained control of some student government associations. They utilized these pressure groups to advocate for a range of campus reforms, including an end to campus paternalism and racism, the addition of more black students and faculty, and the establishment of Black Studies courses and programs. Their ultimate aim was to diversify and thus transform higher education. Dr. Rogers' presentation included an overview of early black student organizations at Michigan Tech and how they participated in a movement which challenged the racial confines of upwards of 1,000 colleges and universities in 48 states.

Franco Pierno, assistant professor of Italian linguistics at the University of Toronto, plans a July visit to examine linguistic shifts in the Italian newspaper *Il Minatore*, published in Calumet from 1896 to 1928. His study is part of a wider research project that includes other Italian newspapers printed in the US during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries in which Pierno seeks evidence of common Italian language, style, and information among Italian immigrants from different regions of Italy.

Jennifer Gunn, associate professor and Director of the Program in the History of Medicine at the University of Minnesota returns to the Archives to continue her research into the health and medical issues associated with the history of copper mining. She earned her Ph.D. in the History and Sociology of Science from the University of Pennsylvania, where her dissertation was on the history of graduate medical education in the United States. Her first publication was on industrial medicine. Currently working on a book on rural health and medicine in the Upper Midwest, 1900-1950, Professor Gunn's interest in mining communities and rural health disparities in an urbanizing society is informed by her experience as a coal miner in Alabama.

The Friends of the Van Pelt Library has made it possible for twenty-five scholars and researchers to travel to Houghton from all over the United States, Canada, and Europe to delve deeply into the Archives' collections. As part of the grant program, researchers are asked to give a public presentation

on their work. These talks have connected not only the campus with the Archives but are of interest to the community as well.

For more information on the Travel Grant programs and this year's recipients, please contact the Michigan Tech Archives at 487-2505, [copper@mtu.edu](mailto:copper@mtu.edu), or visit the Archives on the web at [www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives/](http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mtuarchives/).

## ***A Change of Treasurer***

*Submitted by Faith Morrison*

Long-time Treasurer of the Friends the Van Pelt Library Terry Reynolds stepped down from that post in October 2010 after more than 10 years of service to the Friends. Terry had been treasurer for so long that it was hard for many of us to imagine a Board meeting without his witty remarks and, frankly, his parsimony! – all in jest, of course.

Even a casual visitor to a Friends Board meeting quickly caught onto the joke: our treasurer saw his role as guardian of the funds. By this we mean, literally, "he who guards the funds and prevents expenditures!" The hard work done by Terry Reynolds was no joke, however; he has been on the Friends Board from the beginning and has whole-heartedly supported the expenditure of Friends funds for the benefit of the Library. Without Terry, I'm sure our organization would be broke, given the profligate ways of the rest of the Board (right Terry?).

Stepping into these hard-to-fill shoes is Kelly Luck. Kelly joined the board of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library in October 2010. She is an environmental scientist who works at home in Hancock and has lived in the Copper Country for 13 years. Kelly previously served as the treasurer of the Copper Country Suzuki Association for eight years, and as treasurer of the Hancock Elementary Parent Teacher Association for two years. And she loves books.

Kelly reports that our accounts are in very good shape. She asked me *not* to emphasize that we have tons of money to spend, since that would offend the sensibilities of our outgoing treasurer. Showing her diplomatic side, Kelly remarks, "The Board is working with University Librarian Ellen Marks to identify projects or any other Library needs to which the FVPL could provide financial support."

### **Join the Friends of the Van Pelt Library!**

More on joining or renewing your Friends membership is on the back page. For more information about the Friends, please visit our web page:  
[www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm](http://www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm)

## ***Econo Foods Program***

The Econo Foods Computers for Kids receipt program is still going strong. Please save your receipts from Econo and drop them in the collection box at the Library Circulation Desk or in other spots on campus. You may also send receipts to Mary Marchaterre by campus mail (Citizens Building 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Hancock). The program runs through June 2011 and then stops until the Fall. See previous newsletters on the web for more information on this program.

## ***Friends Blankets Online!***

Getting your hands on a Michigan Tech blanket or Friends of the Library note cards is now a just few clicks away! The Friends have opened an online branch, and we invite all to order the beautiful blanket or cards 24/7.

To shop our online store, please go to the web address below. You can also access this link from our homepage. All major credit cards are accepted, and all revenue goes to the Friends.  
[www.techshop.mtu.edu/ustores/web/store\\_main.jsp?STOREID=9](http://www.techshop.mtu.edu/ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=9)

## ***Post Card Debuts***

The Board of the Friends was wondering how to get the word out about our activities, and our latest idea is the Friends postcard. Thanks to the design work of Faith Morrison with input from Patricia Van Pelt, the card was produced in Fall 2010 and given away for the first time at the Friends Winter Carnival Hot Chocolate Event. The post cards are available free at the circulation desk of the Library. All Friends received one of the post cards a few weeks ago announcing the Book Sale. We plan to design another post card soon. To see the image of the new Friends post card, go to [www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/Postcard.jpg](http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/Postcard.jpg) or to the Announcements page of the Friends website.

## ***Have you noticed our year-round book cart?***

Used books are available for purchase in the Library at the Friends Book Cart. This special service of the Friends is operating year-round. The cart sits in the main hall opposite the exhibition wall and is available for everyone. It is regularly stocked with a fresh selection of good books. There are many quality hardcovers and fine trade paperbacks on the shelves. A selection of popular mass market paperbacks are on the top shelf with the cash box. The selection for the Book Cart contains newer books and books in good condition, and prices range from \$1 to \$5. The Book Cart has been in service since the year 2000 and has raised nearly \$7,000 over time. Last year the cart brought in just over \$700 and this year is looking to be a bit better. It helps us serve the Van Pelt Library in many important ways. Thank you and Enjoy!

*It's time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Van Pelt Library.*

Membership Categories

Friend \$15-24  
Family Member \$25-49  
Benefactor \$50-249  
Book Sponsor \$250-999  
Best Friend \$1000+

*Senior Citizens and Students may join for \$10*

*To pay by Visa/Mastercard fill in below:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa/MC #: \_\_\_\_\_

expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

To renew your membership in the Friends, please send your contribution (filled in form above or check) to:

Friends of the Van Pelt Library  
c/o the Michigan Tech Fund  
Michigan Technological University  
1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1295

Please make all checks payable to the Michigan Tech Fund-FVPL. All contributions to the FVPL are Federal tax deductible. ***THANKS for your support of the Michigan Tech Van Pelt and Opie Library.***

Michigan residents benefit in addition from the Michigan Tax Credit. The State of Michigan allows a portion of contributions made directly to Michigan universities to be credited against state income tax. The allowable credit is 50% of the gift, but may not exceed \$200 for a joint return and \$100 for a single return.



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