

Views

The Newsletter of the
Friends of the Van Pelt Library
Michigan Tech University
1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931
October 2012 Volume 17, Number 2

Friends Annual Membership Meeting:

Mark your calendars: The ***Friends Annual Membership Meeting*** will take place Thursday, October 25, 2012 from 4:30 – 6:00 pm in the East Reading Room in the Van Pelt and Opie Library. All members and the public are welcome to attend.



Our guest speaker in October is Prof. Mary Durfee. Her topic is Malta: The Surprising Little Country That Can.

In the near geographic middle of the Mediterranean, about 70 miles to the S/SE of Sicily lies the Maltese archipelago. The microstate of Malta is about 1/10th the size of Houghton County and has about 400,000 citizens—and nearly 2 million visitors who want to see the history, enjoy the very blue Mediterranean, or perhaps move their pharmaceutical or software business to a welcoming country in the EU. While it has been ruled by many cultures, the modern Maltese have a healthy economy, strong democracy, and a deep love of their country. Like any country they face their own challenges, especially relative to development and a healthy environment, but they are facing these issues and modernizing.



Come listen to Prof. Mary Durfee give a photographically-illustrated talk about the history, culture, and possible future of this remarkable country.

Speaker: Prof. Mary Durfee taught at the University of Malta as a Fulbright Scholar in 2007-2008. She has been back to Malta as a visiting professor at least once a year ever since. In spring 2012, she co-led a study tour of the country for the Society for Industrial Archeology. Dr. Durfee, Social Sciences Dept., teaches international affairs and law at Michigan Tech.

Durfee's presentation will begin after a short business meeting and elections for the Friends of the Van Pelt Library. Refreshments will be served.

Nominated for Board membership are:
Debra Charlesworth, Eloise Haller, Kelly Luck, Dana Richter

Nominations for officer positions are:
Amy Hughes, Chairman
Debra Charlesworth, Vice Chairman
Mary Marchaterre, Secretary
Kelly Luck, Treasurer

Save Your Receipt: Econo Foods Computers for Kids Program Benefits Library

Submitted by Mary Marchaterre

Time to collect your receipts from Econo to benefit the Van Pelt and Opie Library at MTU. Through its Computers for Kids program, Econo Foods donates to the Friends 1 percent of the sum of all Econo receipts collected. These funds are used to pay for laptops and computer systems in the Library.

Many thanks to those who participated last year, and a big "keep it up" to all collecting receipts for this year.

Please collect your receipts from Econo Foods and send them by intercampus mail to Gisele Colarossi (Citizen Building 300C), or drop them in the collection box atop the bookcases near the cafe and Friends Book Sale cart in the Library, or in the collection can in the coffee room on the second floor of the Administration building.

Want to help more? Put out a collection box in your area and encourage your coworkers to bring in their receipts for our Library. Every little bit helps.

Save the Date! Book Sale will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday in 2013

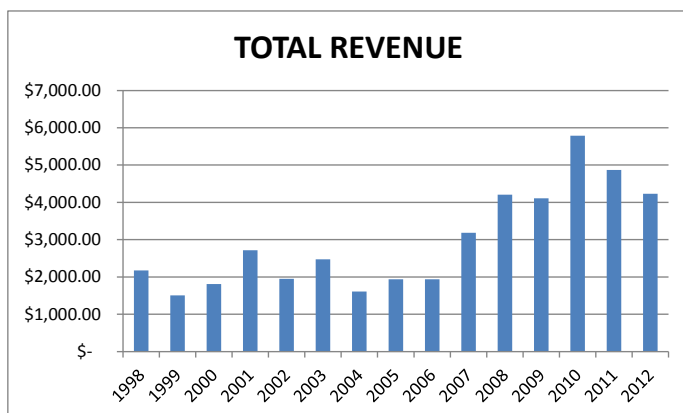
Submitted by Debra Charlesworth

The Friends Annual Used Book Sale is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd and Wednesday, April 3rd 2013 in the Memorial Union Ballroom on Michigan Tech's campus. As a member of the Friends, you will enjoy early shopping, easy (and free!) parking, and the best selection on Tuesday from 5:00-7:00PM. Don't forget to renew your membership!

On Wednesday, the sale continues at 10:00AM with a new selection of withdrawn books from the J.R. Van Pelt and Opie Library, and ends with the bag sale from 3:00-4:00PM. Due to changes in parking regulations on campus, we will no longer be able to provide complimentary parking during hours when parking rules are enforced (7am-4pm). The book sale uses standardized pricing for the majority of books, with hardback books priced at \$2 and quality paperback books for \$1. Mass market paperbacks (the ones that fit in your back pocket) are a bargain at 50 cents. Antique or special sets are priced separately. If you can't wait for the book sale to stock your shelves, stop into the Library during normal operating hours to grab a cup of coffee and check out the book cart, or visit during Winter Carnival to browse the shelves and enjoy complimentary hot cocoa (Saturday, February 9th, 2013).

Book sales have been over \$4,000 for the last five years (see graph below), generating funds to support numerous projects, including supporting the purchase of the large bed scanner in the Library, funding of travel study grants (see related article), and special funding to support the Archives Symposium about the 1913 Copper Strike (see related article).

If your bookshelves are bulging, and you need to make room for new books, please consider donating your used books and media for the book sale. You can drop books off in the foyer of the Library, or contact Dana Richter (dlrichte@mtu.edu, 487-2149) for assistance with picking up larger donations.



Total book sale revenue from 1998-2012.

2012 Michigan Tech Archives Travel Award Program

Submitted by Erik Nordberg, University Archivist

The Friends of the Van Pelt Library continue to support a travel grant program in the Michigan Tech Archives. Funding encourages out-of-town scholars to visit Houghton to undertake research using the department's extensive manuscript collections. During the 2012 calendar year, this program supported two visiting scholars.

Dr. Aaron Goings, a professor at Saint Martin's University in Washington State, visited in August to continue his research into aspects of the 1913 Michigan Copper Miners' Strike. Goings has particular interest in working-class organization and activism in the region and argues that labor unrest in 1913 was the product of decades of class-based activity by Copper Country workers. While at the Archives, he examined correspondence from both the Quincy and Calumet & Hecla copper companies to assess how local mine managers cooperated to obstruct these activities. Goings holds a PhD in history from Simon Fraser University and is co-authoring a book about the 1913 strike to be published by Michigan State University Press.

Dr. Louis Slesin, editor and publisher of *Microwave News*, visited in October to examine research reports and local response to two United States Navy radio transmission installations in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin. Developed under the project names "Sanguine" and "Seafarer," the sites operated extra low frequency (ELF) transmitters for communication with naval submarines from 1989 to 2004. Concerns about potential ecological and health effects of electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation prompted a series of scientific studies, some conducted by researchers at Michigan Technological University. Slesin holds a PhD in environmental policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and intends to produce a book-length study of ELF EMF effects from the submarine transmitter as well as power lines providing electricity to the facilities.

The board of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library recently approved funding for the program for 2013. Information about this next cycle is available from the Archives at copper@mtu.edu or by calling 906-487-2505.

Friends Supports 1913 Copper Strike Symposium

Submitted by Erik Nordberg, University Archivist

The Friends of the Van Pelt Library will support a historical symposium being organized by the Michigan Tech Archives. The event will provide a scholarly setting for papers and presentations about the history of the 1913 Michigan Copper Strike and is tentatively scheduled for April 12, 2014 to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the end of the strike.

Funding from the Friends will support 4 “anchor” scholars for the symposium program. Each would schedule an initial visit in 2013 to conduct research and return to present their research at the April 2014 symposium. A call for proposals will be issued in the coming months for this special program.

Additional symposium speakers will be selected through a general call for papers in the fall of 2013. A program committee, including a representative from the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, will be responsible for reviewing and selecting proposals, as well as chairing sessions and helping with arrangements during the symposium. The Van Pelt and Opie Library intend to gather and publish papers presented at the symposium.

Projects such as this provide an avenue to encourage, support, and disseminate new research on important historical topics.

For more information contact the Michigan Tech Archives at 906-487-2505, e-mail at copper@mtu.edu, or visit 1913strike.wordpress.com.



Friends Membership, Blankets, Notecards now Available Online!

The wares of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library are now available online at <http://www.mtu.edu/library/shopfriends>

Also online is the opportunity to renew your membership in the Friends: https://www.banweb.mtu.edu/mtu/mtf/gift/fvpl_giftform.xsql

These new weblinks makes it even easier to have the beautiful Michigan Tech blanket (<http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/blanket.htm>) or notecards (http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/fvpl/notice_cards.html).

The 4 foot by 5 foot cotton blanket in blue and white features historic buildings from the Michigan Tech campus (design shown below) and sells for \$65 plus tax and shipping. They make great gifts for Michigan Tech alumni and friends. All proceeds benefit the Van Pelt and Opie Library.

Join the Friends!

More on Joining or renewing your Friends membership is on the back page. For more information about the Friends of the Van Pelt Library, please visit our web page: www.lib.mtu.edu/friends/friends.htm

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

Membership Categories

Friend \$20-49
Family Member \$50-99
Benefactor \$100-249
Book Sponsor \$250-999
Best Friend \$1000+

Senior Citizens and Students may join for \$15

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Donation amount: _____

To renew your membership in the Friends, please go to https://www.banweb.mtu.edu/mtu/mtf/gift/fvpl_giftform.xsql
or send your contribution with this form 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. ***THANK YOU for your support of the Michigan Tech Library.***

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