# Views

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library Michigan Tech University 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931 October 2019 Volume 24, Number 2

# Friends Annual Meeting 24 October 2019

The Friends of the Michigan Tech Library will hold their 2019 Annual Meeting on Thursday 24 October 2019 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the library, upstairs, in room 244 (near the bridge to Rekhi Hall). All members and the public are invited to attend, and refreshments will be served.

Along with a short business meeting, the Friends will welcome speaker Dr. Steven Walton from the Michigan Tech Department of Social Sciences. Prof. Walton's presentation is titled "*The Majestic Nature of the North: The Travels of Thomas Kelah Wharton in Antebellum America.*" The presentation will focus on Walton's research on a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century architect, artist, and educator and his experience in the Hudson Valley in the 1830s and then a transcontinental trip from New Orleans to Boston and Back in 1853. Prof. Walton is Associate Professor of History at Michigan Tech and he is principally interested in the intersection of technology, its



The annual meeting of the Friends will feature Tech professor Steve Walton speaking about his book (shown).

users, and the technical knowledge that they claim about it. Much of his work, though chronologically diverse, centers on military topics from arms and armor to artillery and the use of scientific instrumentation in war.

Please join us!

# Renowned Author Mary Doria Russell Coming to Houghton

Award winning author Mary Doria Russell's recently published novel is *The Women of the Copper Country*, and she is coming to the Copper Country to share it with us. Her visit, which comes at the invitation of Portage Lake District Library

(PLDL) and the Van Pelt and Opie Library, will have two parts. Her formal lecture will be at Michigan Tech (7pm October 8 in the East Reading Room) and she will discuss the book, her research and writing process, as well as primary sources she used to help tell the story. The second event is an informal book talk and book signing at PLDL (6-8pm October 9). Refreshments will be served at both events and all are invited.



*The Women of the Copper Country* centers on the life of American labor activist, Annie Clements, as well as paints a broader historical portrait of the lives of local people in the midst of a turbulent labor movement and social landscape. The historical novel is startlingly relevant today and would be of great interest to the campus and local communities. Some of the research for her book was conducted with the Michigan Tech University Archives and Historical Collections.

Mary Doria Russell has been called one of the most versatile writers in American literature and one of our greatest contemporary storytellers. Her novels are studied in literature, theology, and history courses in colleges and universities, and often chosen as book club and "community read" selections. Russell's first novel, *The Sparrow* (1996), was chosen as one of the Ten Best Books of the Year by Entertainment Weekly and won the Arthur C. Clarke Prize, the British Science Fiction for Best Novel in 1998. The sequel, *Children of God* (1998), won the Friends of the Library USA Reader's Choice Award. The San Francisco Chronicle called *A Thread of Grace* (2005) "hauntingly beautiful," and the novel was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Please come to one or both of these extraordinary events.

### Michigan Tech Archivist Elected to National Board

#### (from Keweenaw Report 1Aug2019)

The Library's own Lindsay Hiltunen was appointed Vice Chair/Chair-Elect to the Oral History Section Steering Committee for the Society of American Archivists. This 6,200 member professional society was founded in 1936 and serves the needs and interests of archives and archivists.

Hiltunen has been active in SAA in service and in making professional presentations. One of her projects, the Black Voices oral history project at Michigan Tech (https://blogs.mtu.edu/archives/tag/black-voices/) explores community and Michigan Tech Campus Life for African-Americans at the University. She oversees the Michigan Tech University Archives and Historical Collection—we're proud to have her as one of our own. Congratulations Lindsay!

# Library Update for the FMTL

Highlights from summer and early fall 2019

*Move-in Weekend*. The library hosted all incoming students, parents, and the necessary university departments during move-in weekend on Saturday 24 August. Library staff greeted people, offered tours, shared university specific memorabilia in the archives and helped keep things running smoothly. This event was a huge success and received much praise.

**Copper Range Traveling Exhibit.** The Copper Range Railroad exhibit "*Becoming the Pride of the Upper Peninsula*" has been traveling across the western Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin since June. The exhibit is currently on view at the Quincy Mine in Hancock and will be at the Portage Lake District Library in mid-October and the Carnegie Museum of the Keweenaw in mid-November through December. The exhibit tells the early history of the railroad, including the construction of the mainline, financial challenges, and prominent players. This exhibit is funded in part by the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission Heritage Grant program.

*Multi-chargers.* Fifty multi-chargers have been installed at USB ports throughout the building for the convenience of our patrons. Each charger has three charging cables available

(iPhone, type c and a micro USB charger). These are some of the more popular cables that our patrons check out from the service desk. We will continue to also have these types of cables for check out at the circulation desk.

*Happy Lights.* The library now has 5 HappyLight Compact Energy Lamps available for checkout. HappyLight Compact Energy Lamps help to improve your mood and energy, naturally! The lamps help to alleviate winter blues, fight fatigue, increase alertness, and regain focus and concentration. It is recommended for use in sessions of 30 minutes to 1 hour per day.

#### Constitution Day Celebrated at the Library: Women's Suffrage and the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment

#### by J. Robert Van Pelt and John and Ruanne Opie Library

Constitution Day, Sept. 17 annually, commemorates the adoption of the US Constitution, and every year it is celebrated at Michigan Tech and in the community. This year we celebrated the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which removed restrictions due to sex from the Constitution. The 19<sup>th</sup> reads: "*The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.*"

The commemoration took place on Sept. 17 through the showing of the film, "*Iron Jawed Angels*," which tells the tale of the last decade of the seven-decade struggle to gain voting rights for all women citizens in the US. The film was shown in the East Reading Room of the Van Pelt and Opie Library to an audience of about thirty.

The fight for women's voting rights peaked during World War I, although the adoption of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was anything but a foregone conclusion. Other hot topics at the time were discriminatory racial practices, prohibition, immigration, labor safety and rights, and industrialization. Following the film there was an informative discussion led by Michigan Tech Social Sciences Lecturer, Susanna D. Peters, J.D.

The Constitution Day film showing was co-sponsored by the Michigan Tech Library, the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country (<u>http://www.lwvccmi.org/</u>) and *riseUP*, *recognizing the Importance of Women's Suffrage Everywhere-Upper Peninsula* (<u>http://pages.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/riseUP/</u>), a local group organizing a year-long educational program surrounding suffrage rights and acquisition of full citizenship rights by all populations. More information on these groups is available online.

# Friends Donor Hall of Fame (2019 October Edition)

The books for the Friends book sale come from generous donors, and we are grateful for their contributions. We seek to thank them by name, beginning with the list below of donors whose books were donated in the first part of 2019. For the many, **many** donors of years past, thank you too for your generosity and for your support of the library.

Todd Arney, Travis Howard, Martha Sloan, Gary and Kim Tunstall

Thanks for all you give and do!

#### Expanded Overnight Study Space in the Library

by Van Pelt and Opie Library (Tech Today 11Sept19)

All of the library's second floor public space is now available for overnight study. Students have asked and we listened.

The expansion of the library's 24-hour study space allows students overnight access to seven group-study rooms, 44 computers, two printers, and four additional restrooms.

The entrances to the overnight space will remain the same, either through the Rekhi bridge entrance or the overnight west entrance of the library using a valid Husky ID card.

# Book Shelf Sales Slow: Come Check out the Bargains!

In addition to our Winter Carnival and annual book sales, the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library maintain an honorssystem sale shelf, near the information desk in the library. The shelf is stocked with many high-quality books, most of which are priced at \$1 or \$2. All proceeds benefit the Michigan Tech Library. We are slightly lagging in book-shelf sales for 2019, so be sure to check out the shelf when you are in the library – books are added regularly, and you will be sure to find something you would like! Many thanks to Friends board members Karen Hubbard, Holly Nemiroff, and Shruti Amre who keep the shelf in order and stocked. And of course, thanks to our treasurer Kelly Luck, who keeps track of our earnings.

# **Book Donations Welcome Year Round**

The Friends of the Michigan Tech Library are always seeking donations for our used book sales; this year's sale is Thursday and Friday 2-3 April 2020 in the Michigan Tech Union Ballroom.

There is a need for gently used books, paperbacks, CDs and DVDs. Make room for new books by donating your old books to the Friends. All proceeds go to help the Library.

#### Make a Difference Day at Michigan Tech—Come help the Library

Every year students celebrate *Make a Difference Day* locally, helping to chop wood, clean roadsides, and get books in order for the spring Friends of the Library Book Sale.

In 2019-20 the national *Make a Difference Day* is 19 October 2019 and hundreds of students are expected to participate. For the Friends, students will sort and arrange book donations that have been received for the sale, scheduled for 2-3 April 2020. Questions about *Make a Difference Day* may be sent to huskyhelpers@mtu.edu.

# *Renew with the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library*

You can renew your membership in the Friends online and you can also buy Friends notecards and the beautiful Friends Michigan Tech blanket. All this with a few clicks beginning here: <u>http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/</u>

Each pack of Friends notecards contains 12 distinct historical cards. The 4 foot by 5 foot cotton blanket in navy and white (below) features historic buildings from the Michigan Tech

campus and sells for \$65 plus tax and shipping/handling. All items make great gifts for Michigan Tech graduating seniors (*hint, hint*), alumni, and friends. All proceeds of items for sale benefit the Michigan Tech Library.



To purchase a blanket, go to the Merchandise tab on the Friends' website: //lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/. Only \$65 plus shipping and handling.

Friends of the Michigan Tech Library Van Pelt and Opie Library Michigan Technological University 1400 Townsend Drive Houghton, MI 49931-11295 Website: <u>lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/</u>

#### It is time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library.

#### Membership Categories

Friend\$20-49Family Member\$50-99Benefactor\$100-249Book Sponsor\$250-999Best Friend\$1000+Senior Citizens (65+) and Students may join for \$15

To renew your membership in the Friends, please go to <u>lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/</u> or send your contribution with this form to:

#### Friends of the Michigan Tech Library

c/o the Michigan Tech Fund Michigan Technological University 1400 Townsend Drive Houghton, MI 49931-1295 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_Address:\_\_\_\_\_

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

Donation Amount:

Send us your email and receive our newsletter electronically. Email <u>fmorriso@mtu.edu</u>.

Please make all checks payable to the <u>Michigan</u> <u>Tech Fund-FMTL</u>. All contributions to the FMTL are tax deductible on your federal return. *THANK YOU for your support of the Michigan Tech Library*.