



# FOCUS ON FRIENDS MONTHLY BULLETIN

September 2024

[friendsofmichiganlibraries@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofmichiganlibraries@gmail.com)

Issue 37



### Note from the President:

Greetings from FOML. Summer was great and our weather about perfect, but our thoughts are turning to fall and planning for next year. We have a Talk About Friends event coming up October 11th for the greater Detroit area. For full details check out the article below. If you attended the Novi Library event in 2023, we hope to see you at the Southfield event. Southfield has a beautiful library and meeting space. For those of you on the east side, Clinton-Macomb North will sponsor your Talk About Friends - another of the great libraries in Michigan.

FOML will be taking a look at our strategic plan and wants your help. Take our survey and share your thoughts so we can make informed decisions about how we can best support you in 2025 and beyond. Our Friends groups throughout Michigan are a great asset to our libraries and our communities.

We have done a lot with Facebook in 2024 and hope that you are enjoying seeing your own posts as well as getting a look at what other groups are doing. We will be announcing a new offering we call Consult-A-Friend. Stay tuned for more about it.

Jill Sodt  
President, Friends of Michigan Libraries



Connect with FOML online! Be sure to like and follow Friends of Michigan Libraries, FOML, on Facebook.

You can get the latest news about other Library Friends groups around the state and helpful reminders or resources useful for your own group.

[facebook.com/FOMLLibraries](https://facebook.com/FOMLLibraries)

### FOML Officers

President

Jill Sodt

Mott Community College

Vice President

Sue Johnson

Novi Public Library

Secretary

Bryonna Barton

Eaton Rapids Area District Library

Treasurer

Charles D. Hanson

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## Help Shape the Future of FOML: We Need Your Input!

Friends of Michigan Libraries (FOML) is embarking on a new strategic planning process, and we need your input! We want to ensure that the programs and resources we offer reflect the needs and priorities of our valued members. Your feedback will play a crucial role in shaping the future of FOML and the support we provide to Friends groups across Michigan.

Please take a few minutes to fill out our short survey at [tinyurl.com/ysac2xu2](https://tinyurl.com/ysac2xu2). Your input will help us create a plan that best serves our community, strengthens our services, and enhances the success of Friends groups throughout the state. Thank you for helping us make a difference!



[tinyurl.com/ysac2xu2](https://tinyurl.com/ysac2xu2)

## FOML Membership Benefits

As a member of [Friends of Michigan Libraries \(FOML\)](#), you receive access to valuable resources, including the FOML Manual, participation in workshops at member rates, and networking opportunities with Friends groups across Michigan. Members also gain eligibility for awards and personalized assistance from FOML Board members on Friends group development.

Stay connected with our Focus on Friends bulletin, designed to help you share ideas and improve your library's services. Through this interactive publication, we aim to provide timely information and foster collaboration among Michigan's Friends groups.





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## Talk About Friends

**Two locations: Southfield Public Library and Clinton-Macomb Public Library, North Branch  
Friday, October 11, 2024 9:30 am**

Another first for FOML!! We are holding concurrent Talk About Friends meetings in the Southeast Michigan area...one on the West side at Southfield Public Library and one on the East side at Clinton-Macomb Public Library, North Branch...on Friday, October 11, 2024 from 9:15 am – 12:30 pm. Please join us at a location that's convenient for you.

This program offers the opportunity for Friends to meet and share information. At the Southfield location, there will be a presentation of Consult-A-Friend, the new FOML mentoring program by FOML Vice President Sue Johnson and FOML Director Joe David. The Clinton-Macomb location will feature Clare Membiela, Library Law Consultant, Library of Michigan, who will present Important Principles & Practices of Friends Groups. Most of the time will be devoted to talk tables where everyone can share information about their Friends organization.

This event is open to all Michigan Friends. Registration is online with payment of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Follow one of these links to register.

[Click here to register for the Southfield Public Library Meeting.](#)

[Click here to register for the Clinton-Macomb Public Library Meeting.](#)



Southfield Public Library  
26300 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI 48076  
OR  
Clinton-Macomb Public Library, North Branch  
54200 Broughton Rd., Macomb, MI 48042  
**Registration deadline: October 7, 2024**



## Agenda

**9:15am** – Sign-in and Refreshments

**9:30am** – Welcome and Introductions

**9:40am** – Southfield Public Library – Introducing Consult-A-Friend, FOML's Mentoring Program Susan Johnson, Vice President, FOML and Joe David, FOML Director

**9:40am** – Clinton-Macomb Public Library – Important Principles & Practices of Friends Groups Clare Membiela, Library Law Consultant, Library of Michigan

**10:10am** – Talk Table #1

**11:00 am** – Morning Break

**11:15 am** – Talk Table #2

**12:00 noon** – Wrap-up and Evaluation

**12:15 pm** – Adjournment

NOTE: Optional Library Tour (to include Friends Bookstore) will be available after adjournment.

Please review the [FOML Event Refund Policy](#).

**FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN LIBRARIES HAPPENINGS:**

# Elk Rapids District Library

**FRIENDS OF THE ELK RAPIDS DISTRICT LIBRARY**

**Glamour, Glitter & Glitz Event Breaks Fundraising Record**

The [Friends of the Elk Rapids District Library](#) set a fundraising record at their second **Glamour, Glitter & Glitz** event in July. The two-day sale featured gently worn donated jewelry—everything from holiday brooches and costume jewelry to gold, silver, and genuine gemstones. The Friday night ticketed reception included drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction, along with exclusive first access to all the jewelry.

Saturday's all-day event introduced a new auction featuring donated art and locally made products from area businesses and supporters.

The first **Glamour, Glitter & Glitz** event in 2021 raised approximately \$20,000 for the library. This year, thanks to everyone's hard work and a generous donation match from an anonymous donor, the Elk Rapids Friends raised over \$57,000!

Organized by event co-chairs Susan Ash, Susan Calkins, and Cathie Walle, dozens of volunteers spent months sorting, cleaning, and organizing the jewelry, then worked throughout the weekend at the sale. The event's success was made possible by our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and the outstanding efforts of Susan, Susan, and Cathie.



## Celebrate National Friends of the Library Week: October 20-26

We  the Friends  
of the Library.

**NATIONAL Friends of Libraries WEEK**  
OCTOBER 20-26, 2024 AN INITIATIVE OF UNITED FOR LIBRARIES

Mark your calendars! National Friends of the Library Week is happening October 20-26, and it's the perfect time to show appreciation for the Friends of the Library groups that play a crucial role in supporting libraries nationwide. Sponsored by the American Library Association's United for Libraries, this week highlights the dedication and efforts of Friends groups, whose fundraising and advocacy help enhance library services.

This celebration is also a great opportunity to raise awareness of the Friends' contributions and recruit new members. Whether through volunteering, attending library events, or donating, Friends of the Library help ensure libraries remain vibrant community spaces for learning, entertainment, and connection.

### Some ideas for celebrating National Friends of Libraries Week include:

- Membership drive: Plan a membership drive and place a display in the library lobby. The display can include membership brochures and be decorated with pictures and props.
- Volunteer staff: Schedule volunteers to staff the display during busy times.
- Offer a special: Consider offering a membership special, such as a reduced rate or a drawing for those who join during a specific time.

For more information about National Friends of the Library Week, visit the [ALA website](#).

**The American Library Association (ALA) will award two Friends groups with \$250 each for their celebrations during the week. The application for the award will be available in early November.**



## How Others Celebrate Friends Week

### **FRIENDS OF CADILLAC WEXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

We're excited to share the Friends of the Library October newsletter with you! As always, there are plenty of activities happening at the library. This month, we're celebrating National Friends of the Library Week from October 20-26, with events happening before and after. Be sure to check out Al Nelson's presentation on Oscar Peterson Cadillac-Style Fishing Decoys and our popular Autumn Used Book Sale.

In addition, the Literacy Group will be hosting their bi-monthly Cafe Cadillac English Conversation gathering, offering a wonderful opportunity for community members to connect and practice English.

We're actively seeking new and returning members to join us and take on leadership roles, help with membership, and assist in planning programs. If you'd like to get involved, please join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, October 15 at 5:30 PM. We even promise a surprise (though we're not entirely sure what it will be yet!).

Looking for new books or DVDs? Check out the latest additions to our library's collection, including what's popular with Cadillac readers, by visiting [Cadillac Library Catalog](#). Fun fact: "The Women" is the only fiction book on Bill Gates' Summer Reading list this year, and it's also a hot title here in Cadillac!

## **CLICK BELOW TO VIEW THEIR NEWSLETTER**

  **CHECK  
THIS OUT**  



**THANK YOU CADILLAC WEXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOR SHARING YOUR CELEBRATIONS WITH US!**

**-FOML**