



FRIENDS OF THE PRESQUE ISLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

FALL NEWSLETTER 2019

Friendly Faces at the Library

2018 LIBRARY FUN FACTS

- 10,605 visits to the Presque Isle Library an 11% increase over 2017!
- We circulated 12,239 items—up 10%!
- 1,980 E-book check outs!
- 57 Programs
- 176 attendees at summer kids' programs
- 864 Registered Users—an increase of 31% over 2017!

Our library is a place where our residents are inspired to gather...

We offer many resources!

- 24-hour Wi-Fi access
- Gale courses—with your Presque Isle library card— you can take over 350 online courses for free!



Library users often remark, and you will agree: “Aren’t we lucky to have these two librarians managing our library!” Both Library Director, Shelly Knaack and Library Assistant, Sarah Krembs bring fun and friendliness to their jobs, along with their expertise and their “above and beyond” energy and efforts. So yes, we are extremely fortunate to have these two professionals who make our library just terrific!

Remembering Jim Battin

This summer, many library users mourned the passing of Jim Battin on August 6th. Jim had served as Library Assistant at Presque Isle Community Library from 2013 to 2017, when illness forced him to resign. Practically everyone in town knew Jim. When patrons walked into the library, he would greet nearly every one of us by name. Jim knew which types of materials each patron would want and he could always recommend new books or movies. He was a voracious, thoughtful, eclectic reader, and loved to share his favorites (often something British) with others. Jim was also a valued member of the library’s bi-monthly Great Books discussion group. What most patrons may not realize is that Jim *volunteered* many, many hours at the library too. He loved the library (perhaps tied with his love for fishing) and leaves a big hole for his many friends in Presque Isle. Jim’s son, James R. Battin, lives in Chicago with his wife, Dr. Elise Percy and their son, Augie. Generous donations have been made to the library from friends and family.





Fun for Kids!

If you were at the library on a Thursday morning this summer, you would have seen the library come alive with adventures. For example, kids were invited to start a fire, throw an axe, have a snake crawl around, and get soaked with water.

Wonderful presenters let kids experience everything from Reptiles and Amphibians (by the Discovery Center,) to Survival Skills (by Trees for Tomorrow) and All the Water in the World (by UW-Madison.) Both kiddos and parents enjoyed these fun and educational Thursdays at the library.

A summer reading program allowed young readers to earn prizes from the library store.

Your membership dollars allow Shelly to offer interesting programming, and help welcome both kids and adults at the library!

Library Programs, Clubs and Classes

It is no surprise the Presque Isle Library does a lot more than supply us with books and movies. Our director Shelly does a terrific job of organizing programs on a wide variety of topics which are of interest to many of us. Just in the past year:

- Speakers have covered Identity Theft, Dementia, WPR's Chapter a Day, Instagram, Meditation, Book Talks, Geocaching and more!
- We hosted classes such as: Barn Quilt Painting, Card Folding, Cookie Decorating & Basket Weaving.
- Local travelers have engaged us with photos, stories and food from their trips to Germany, Iceland, Argentina, and Antarctica.



- International best-selling author Karen Dionne talked about her popular The Marsh King's Daughter as part of Northwoods Book Festival.
- Ongoing programs included monthly movies and Lunch & Learn.



On a regular basis: two book clubs (Presque Isle Bookies and a Short Story Book Club), Yoga, Qi Gong, Material Girls, Mahjongg and Two Sticks & A String Knitting Club meet at the library.

If you have an idea for a subject you would like to know more about or a suggestion for a speaker that others would enjoy, Shelly will be glad to hear from you! And, keep an eye on the library's website for announcements of what is happening next at the library:

www.presqueislelibrary.org



Trustees

One group of volunteers mostly stays behind the scenes, as they manage the nuts and bolts of library policy, budgets and properties. Our Library Friends group sincerely appreciates the



work of the library's Board of Trustees: President Pam Whipple, Treasurer Merry Beckel, Secretary Krista Slemmons and trustees Vicki Gillett, Joan McDonald, Christine Wallace and Carl Wolter.

Friends

All members of our Friends of the Library group are welcome at our monthly meetings, on the first Tuesday afternoon of each month at 2:00 pm at the library. If you are in town, we would love to have you join us. Please just check the library website to confirm meeting date and time. A steady group of "regulars" join officers President Kathy Sprester, Vice-president Kathy Curtis, Secretary Carmen Farwell, Treasurer Ronie Jacobsen and Diane Schroeder, Membership, as we enjoy supporting our "Best in the North" library.



Volunteers



Pictured here are long-time volunteers Joan and Marsha. You will see them on Monday mornings at the library. We love our volunteers and rely on them heavily to run the library on a daily basis. If you are interested in having fun and volunteering, contact the library.

Summer Fund Raising!



Two summer projects conducted by Friends of the Library volunteers add to your membership donations to help enhance our library.

For years, the library has annually sponsored a **used book sale** the last weekend of June. Now this annual sale also has acquired the reputation of being highly organized, very attractive, and easy and fun to browse. Your donations of books you no longer read are welcome year round, and help make this sale a service to the community, as well as a financial success.

For three weekend days in August, the Friends invite you to have some lunch at the **brat stand in Manitowish Waters**. When you see our sign, stop to join us for lunch, to benefit the library.



Thank you for your continued support!

This annual newsletter of the Friends is our invitation ~ asking you to join us in support of the Presque Isle Community Library.

Whether your membership is a renewal or a first-time gift, please fill out the enclosed form and return it with your check. Donations of any amount will help us continue our work, to enhance the collections and the programming at Presque Isle Community Library.

THANK YOU for using our outstanding local library!

In addition to your membership donation, there are many other ways you may choose to support the library.

- Shop our ongoing book sale at the library
- Purchase a paver in honor of or in memory of a family member or friend
- Shop at Amazon—first go to the link on our website, and part of your purchase price will return to the library.
- Purchase a “Wish List” item— see display at the library
- Donate books to our annual book sale
- Volunteer at the library—even if you are a seasonal resident



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