



**Newsletter
Winter 2023**



Friends Mission Statement

The Friends are dedicated to focusing public attention on library services, facilities and needs; helping to promote the use and enjoyment of the library, and developing supplemental funding for the library.

The Friends have pledged/donated more than \$13,750 to the library since 2020 to support their ongoing programs. Our Board meets every 1st Mon. of the month at 2pm in the library. Members are always welcome! To become a **Friends of Ritter Public Library** member, please fill out a membership form and submit it to the circulation desk or fill it out online. (See info below to access our website).

Our Officers this year are: President-Reenie Rak, VP-Karylle Wetzler, Secretary/Membership-Robin Felice, Treasurer-Judy Klucas, Deputy Treas.-Molly Royster

Our Fundraisers: Every day, you can find dozens of gently used books-some right from the library shelves- for sale at the **Friends'** ongoing book sale, located inside the main entrance. We also accept donations of books inside the east entrance near the Book Return slots.

*Large donations require an appointment. Please call 440-967-3798.

We also sell re-usable, Earth-friendly book bags for only \$1 available at the circulation desk. Thank you for supporting **Friends!** We encourage you to become a member of **Friends of Ritter Public Library!** Here are just a few of the many benefits:

*Annual dues are only \$5/individual, \$8/family, \$25/business! It's the best deal in town!

*It's a wonderful way to support and help to maintain the multitude of resources available to our community library. We invite you to attend our meetings and share your ideas.

*Also a great opportunity for you to have first access to tons of gently used books and auction items on Friends Opening Night during our **Friends Annual Book Sale**. You'll be part of a great group of people dedicated to helping our library with programming, new equipment and services! You'll also be contributing to your beautiful community.



Friends of Ritter Public Library a 501c3 non profit

Did you know that **Friends of Ritter** sponsor the “Little Free Libraries” that you see in 3 locations around Vermilion? They are filled with gently used books and you may borrow a book and return it when you are finished. If you have gently used or new books to donate, please email Susie Frankle susanfrankle5@gmail.com Our newest Little Free Library was re-installed at Harbourtown Mobile Home Park and was built by a wonderful community member! Thank you! Access all locations: littlefreelibrary.org

2022 was a comeback year for **Friends**! Along with the **Ritter Public Library Foundation** we co-sponsored “**Friends Present**” free concerts open to the public organized by **Friend’s** member Susan Schauer. Ceci McKay-harpist, Brian Bigley-Irish singer and dancer, Avon Lake Presbyterian Choir & True North Musicians, Andy & Judy (guitars), Lake Erie Winds 4 clarinets. We hope that you enjoyed them!

We pledged funding to support the Summer Reading Programs for children, teens and adults, Book Box Project and an adult Program for seniors. We also provided staff appreciation snack baskets.

Friends served lovely Christmas cookies and refreshments after the Community Band Holiday Concert, Dec. 2 during “Light Up Vermilion.” We held our first Holiday Wrap-A-Thon on Dec.17 & 18th. **Friend’s** talented member Susie Frankle organized our members to provide free gift wrapping services to the public. Many supplies were donated by local businesses and were much appreciated!

Our most popular fundraiser is the **Friends Annual Book Sale**. Due to Covid, we hadn’t had a sale since 2019 but had record sales in August! We expanded our automation with two credit card machines and ipads which allows us to accept monies other than cash. 2023 will take us a step further with an on-line accounting system. We are excited to offer these improvements to better serve our community.

2023 **Friends** has pledged \$6,300 towards the library’s Wish List. The funding will support the purchases of up to 8 chairs for children to use in the Engagement Room, furniture for the 2nd floor patio, Summer Reading Program for children & teens and Book Box Subscription Project.

Friends’ members donated and handed out snacks and juice boxes during “Ice A Fair” Feb.4th. Susie Frankle held a Valentine Origami class that day. Participants made Valentines which were delivered to Kingston residents. A good time was had by all!

Friends 2023 Upcoming Events: March Book Sale! Volunteers needed! Contact Robin Felice rfelice@centurytel.net Organizational Meetings: Feb.20(1:00) March 6(12:30) at Ritter.

Book Sale Schedule:

Tues. March 21, 3:30-7:30pm **"Friends Opening Night"** **Friends Members Only** * (membership required) register early to become a member of **Friends** for **first access** on opening night!

Wed. March 22, 10:00am-6:00pm Open to the public

Thurs. March 23, 10:00am-6:00pm Open to the public

Fri. March 24, 10:00am-5:00pm Open to the public

Sat. March 25, 10:00am-12:30pm **"Donation Day"** Take what you want/Give what you can.

Spend \$10.00 and receive a free **Friends** canvas bag!

April 15- 2:00-3:00pm **"Friends Presents"** series continues with Dr. Mark Alan Wade who will perform on the hammer dulcimer. Dr. Wade is a national champion!

April 23-29 **"National Library Week"**-Scavenger Hunt at Ritter Public Library; fun for all ages!

May 6--King's Coronation Tea Party Fundraiser (live streaming the Coronation)!

August- **Friends Book Sale** Oct./Nov.-Wreath Decorating Contest *more info on all events.

Do you like to sell on Ebay? If you would like to donate a % to **Friends** we are a 501 c3 non profit and would so appreciate it! Thank you!

Please support our local **Dominos Pizza** monthly fundraisers. Dominos generously donates 10% of their sales to **Friends**. Our date is always the 4th Tuesday of each month. Please mark your calendars and thank you in advance!

*For the most updated events/information and to view our newsletter and download a membership form check out our **Friends** website at ritterpubliclibrary.org, click "MENU" "Support Us" then **"Friends of the Library."** or use the QR code below. See you, soon!

