



MAMMOTH LAKES FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2023

Tidbits from the Mono County Library Director, Christopher Platt

Hello to all our Friends of the Mammoth Lakes Library! As we work our way through a very wintry Winter and move into the Spring, the Mammoth Lakes Library team and I express our gratitude and appreciation for your support, especially for using the library and participating in our programs. We also appreciate your patience as our open hours were affected in recent storms. I also want to salute the Library Team for helping our new and existing programs continue to grow despite the weather challenges.

Our 3rd Winter Reading Program ran through the month of January with 46 sign ups countywide, 36 in Mammoth Lakes. Prize winners received Beanie hats or, for participants from Mammoth Elementary, tokens to the MES' Book Vending Machine.

In addition, the Makerspace is buzzing with activity again with the arrival of our newest Makerspace Team Member, Paige Lary. Student afterschool hours on Tuesdays & Wednesdays are popular as are the adult Makerspace repair clinics on Thursday mornings.

Parents of children too young for our weekly Wednesday Storytimes now have twice monthly "Itty Bitty" times on alternate Fridays that include a story and activity in the Children's program room.

For adults, the MLFOL-sponsored FREE live-streamed author talks continue to be popular, especially for Mono County residents who choose to watch the recording of the events on their own time. Since January alone, 16 participants watched 7 live events while 285 people viewed the recorded talks. Find out more information under the Quick Links menu of the library's website: www.monocolibraries.org.

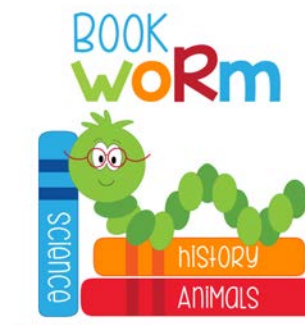
Additionally, our newest book club, Just One More Chapter, is a hybrid club with both in-person and online participation. It uses a free online book

club site to vote on books and schedule discussions. Go to bookclubs.com, create a free profile, and search for 'Just One More Chapter' book group to join!

While we're talking 'online' services, did you know our Online Library, primarily eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and online databases is our second busiest "branch" in Mono County? Three important offerings include these apps: "Palace Project," a free eBook app from California State Library that provides primarily youth-oriented titles; "Hoopla," a collection of eBooks, eAudiobooks, Graphic Novels and Movies; and, "Libby," our main e-collection that now provides Mono County cardholders with access to over 100,000 additional titles through our partnership with Peninsula and MarINET library systems. You can find more information about setting the latter up on our website or by asking at the front desk.

Three grants are bringing us programming this coming Spring, stay tuned for multiple Earth Month activities co-sponsored with High Sierra Energy Foundation, Mono Basin Library Activity Walks with California State Parks, and refreshed family literacy resources for parents of very young children in partnership with Mono SafeKids and First5 Mono County.

Finally, I'm excited to share that Mammoth Library welcomes two new staff. Ceanne Faustini who is helping lead our adult book clubs and Katie Johnson who will be providing support to our onsite youth programs. Be sure to say 'hi' when you next pop in the Mammoth Lakes Library!



**From the desk of the MLFOL President,
Cathy Foye**

Thank you, again, for your continued support. I am eternally grateful to the members of this Board of Directors for being willing to maintain their positions in spite of the “holding pattern” we’ve been in these past many months. We are all looking forward to being able to hold in-person programs and meetings and events, soon. Many thanks to OJ Zeleny for putting this newsletter together. The Board has been meeting on Zoom and in person this past year. Our in-person meetings at the Library have been so much fun. Being able to explore and enjoy the many changes that have been made in the last couple years has been a real treat. Please, when you have a moment, do visit our Library. The Children’s area has been reorganized and made more comfortable, more colorful and more inspiring. The Youth collection has been made more accessible and has new additions. All collections have been expanded, especially the dual language and Spanish language offerings. The MakerSpace is now open and thriving. Our Library staff has been working very hard to have programs and services for everyone in our community.

2021-2022 was a fiscal year marked by generous donations - thank you! Additionally, there have been excellent in-Library sales in the Mini Book - peruse these gently used treasures during your next library visit. Last year the MLFOL Board approved funding for buying books, providing funds for prizes, marketing and supporting the many projects and programs our Library staff has created and implemented.

Next time you are online, check out the Mammoth Lakes Library’s website. The calendar is impressive. Plus there is access to e-books, podcasts, Author Talks, and books that can be ordered and picked up at the Library.

See you there!



Have you renewed your MLFOL membership for 2023 yet?

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

- Jo Bacon

MLFOL is pleased to announce that we have adapted our traditional awarding of an Honorary Lifetime Membership to our current President, Cathy Foye, during her term in office. Cathy has led us through lockdowns, changes in how library services are presented, snowstorms, and everything else. We felt it was time to acknowledge her service *before* she considers ending her stewardship. The MLFOL Board approved this action in January, but could not present her certificate until February due to a heavy snowstorm. She was lauded by Zoom that month and in person this month.

Rick Koppel was the winner of this year’s “renew-right-away” raffle. When notified, he replied back that this news made his day! We hope that everyone considers their membership as a positive part of their life. There’s a form at the end of the newsletter if you haven’t yet renewed for our 2022-2023 year.

We start 2023 with 96 members in the following categories:

Lifetime	19
Honorary	27
Club 100	20
Patron	10
Family	9
Individual	11

Bookplates have been prepared in honor of our Lifetime, Honorary, and Club 100 members. Our Branch Librarian, Doug Oldham, carefully chooses which book to put which bookplate into for the new books we fund. So, take a moment next time you check out a book to see if it has a bookplate, and whose name is on it.



MLFOL GOALS & OBJECTIVES FY 22-23

These remain the same as the prior fiscal year and may be viewed at https://www.monocolibraries.org/files/MLFOLGoals_11020.pdf

The Board and Committees for 2022-2023

The following MLFOL members will be serving on the MLFOL Board and sub-committees. We thank them for their service.

The Board: President, Cathy Foye; Vice President, Brigitte Berman; Treasurer/Secretary, Jo Bacon; Members-at-Large, Edyth Irvine and OJ Zeleny.

Sub-committees: Newsletter, OJ Zeleny; Vintage Books, Jo Bacon, Carol Benefiel, OJ Zeleny; Gallery Wall, Jo Bacon; Nominating, TBD; Membership, Jo Bacon; Publicity & Membership Volunteer Hours, Jan McPherson.



MLFOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library will offer scholarships annually to Mammoth High School graduating seniors to help purchase books for college. The total amount available to be awarded will be included in that year's approved budget. The number of grants and the dollar amount of the grants will be based on the number of eligible candidates for that same fiscal year.

The following criteria shall apply:

- Students must have an active library card and have used their card to check out materials (not for computer use) during the previous twelve months from the time of application.

- Students must fill out the community scholarship request form provided by MHS counseling staff.
- Students must have attended Mammoth High School or the Independent Learning Center (ILC) for 3 out of the 4 years.
- Students will be selected using Grade Point Average (GPA) as the main criteria, with a minimum of 3.0 GPA. This may be overridden for a student who has been a library volunteer and/or a student who has been a community volunteer above and beyond the required community service requirements, or whose outstanding personal essay merits additional consideration.
- For special consideration, students may volunteer at the library, record their volunteer hours on the form available from the MHS counseling office, and submit the form with their applications.

Procedure:

Each year three members of the Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library will be chosen as the Scholarship Selection Committee. This committee will request the community scholarship applications from the counseling staff. They will recommend, to the Board, students to receive the book scholarships.

The awards will be given by a selected Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library board member at the MHS Awards Breakfast, which usually takes place on the morning of graduation. At the breakfast, the student will receive a certificate of the award. The student will need to provide proof of registration in college to the Friends of the Library, before the check is written. The proof of registration can be mailed to the Friends of the Library or brought into any scheduled meeting.





*What does this say? Not certain?
See answer later in this newsletter.*

*Follow Mammoth Lakes Library
on INSTAGRAM at*

<https://www.instagram.com/mammothlakeslibrary/?hl=en>

and on FACEBOOK at

<https://www.facebook.com/mammothlakeslibrary>

ENDOWMENT FUND

No activity has occurred in our endowment funds since the book boxes, sofa for the Children's area and the online Author Talks Series sponsorship, were reported in the Summer 2022 newsletter.

However, we are expecting requests from library staff soon to support the building and programs as Summer 2023 approaches.



Two Unexpected Donations Surprises

What a surprise for MLFOL, when we were named as a beneficiary by Thalia Hanson, a long-time Mammoth Resident! We have decided to hold these funds in an undesignated account, to be used when needed.

We received a second donation, when successful Town Council Candidate Amanda Rice donated the remainder of her campaign funds to us for use in the MakerSpace. Amanda and her family are active patrons of the library and our many programs. The MakerSpace staff has purchased books and supplies with her donation.



USED BOOK SALES

Our Mini Book Chalet in the library continues to provide a service to our patrons and visitors by selling high quality hardbacks and paperbacks at extremely reasonable prices. For the fiscal year ending 30 September 2022, our sales were \$971.00. We have no way to count the number of books sold, but those of us who re-stock the bookshelves have been kept busy!

While we are offering Vintage Books online, sales have been very slow over the past year. We'll look at other options for sales in 2023.

We are accepting saleable books at the library during open hours. If you have lots to donate, please bring a maximum of two boxes/bags at a time, since our storage space is limited. And, while dropping off your donation, please browse the Mini Book Chalet selections for yourself.

As always, all proceeds from these sales benefit library programs.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Jo Bacon, MLFOL Treasurer

We again approved a “bare bones” budget in October 2022 for our support of the library, as there were still too many questions about what kinds of programs could be added during this fiscal year.

As you can see from the other articles in this newsletter, programs are ramping up, and we have plenty of funds to support whatever requests come to us.

Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library	
Proposed FY 22-23 Budget	
	FY 22-23 Budget
Revenue	
Donations - Cash	5,000.00
Dues	3,000.00
Endow Grants	1,000.00
FUNDRAISING	
Misc Fundraising Revenue	1,000.00
GRANTS	
Jane Deming	1,012.00
LIB INC	
Donations	1,000.00
Mini Book Chalet	1,300.00
RETAINED CASH FLOW	11,191.00
VINTAGE BKS INC	2,000.00
Total Revenue	\$ 26,503.00
Expenditures	
Filing Fees	200.00
FUND EXP	
Membership Campaign	20.00
Misc. Fundraising Exps	1,000.00
INSURANCE	1,250.00

MEMBER BENEFITS	
Newsletter Postage	50.00
Newsletter Printing	100.00
OFFICE	
Office Supplies	50.00
Postage	58.00
QB Online Fees	75.00
PROGRAM	
Books - Movies - Audios	5,000.00
Magazine Subscriptions	750.00
SPECIAL PROG	
Collection Development	3,700.00
Endowment Grants Paid	1,000.00
Musical Story Hours	3,000.00
Scholarships	10,000.00
VINTAGE BOOKS EXP	250.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 26,503.00

Below is our standing as of the end of the prior fiscal year. Please note that MLFOL determined to award \$2,000 for each Scholarship awarded in June 2022, based on the increasing costs for books and the caliber of the candidates. As a result, we show a negative amount in our Retained Earnings. As noted in the Winter 2022 Newsletter, the additional costs were covered by our bank balances, which are significant.

Our noted Liability is the funding for the Musical Story Times, where the funds are received in Summer 2022 but not expended until Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

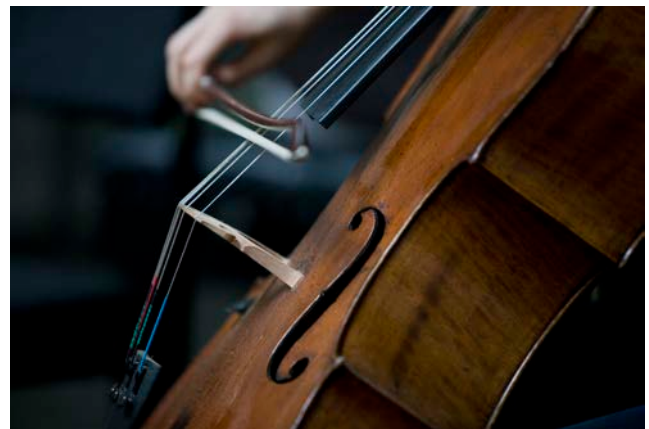
MLFOL Balance Sheet as of 9/30/2022	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking 2854 UBOC	13,281.69
LANGSTON ENDOWMENT	
Langs. Money Market	38,297.27
Langston CD	269,519.46

MLFOL Endowment	
Endow CD (Princ)	100,000.00
Endow Int	11,740.19
MLFOL WELLS FARGO	
MLFOL Money Market	11,960.32
Total Current Assets	\$ 444,798.93
Fixed Assets	
Art Work	4,500.00
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 4,500.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 449,298.93
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Deming Grant	1,012.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,012.00
Equity	
Endowment Equity (Spendable Int)	11,740.19
Endowment Principal	100,000.00
Langston Equity	307,816.73
Retained Earnings	(19,575.60)
Net Revenue	48,305.61
Total Equity	\$ 448,286.93
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 449,298.93




Musical Story Times

Due to scheduling issues, this year's Musical Story Times for TK, Kindergarten, First, and Second Graders have not yet occurred. They are scheduled for April 24 through 26, after the AARP Tax Aide program is completed and the Ellie Randol Room will be available for these sessions. More to come in the Summer 2023 newsletter.



**"Libraries allow children to ask questions about the world and find the answers. And the wonderful thing is that once a child learns to use a library, the doors to learning are always open."
- Laura Bush**



Puzzle Answer (from p. 4):

READ YOUR BOOK CASE



A Love Letter to Libraries, Long Overdue

The New York Times sent photographers to seven states to document the thrum and buzz in buildings once known for silence.

By Elisabeth Egan and Erica Ackerberg – February 14, 2023 – *abridged version*

Step into a public library and you know what to expect.

First, there's the smell: a paper bouquet of nothing and everything, including notes of vanilla, sawdust, wet coats, rubber soles and school. Then there are the spines lined up like soldiers, snug in plastic jackets. There are the shelves — metal, wood, sturdy as trees — stretching in every direction. There are the rolling step stools. The windowsill ferns. The free bookmarks. The bulletin board papered with fliers advertising firewood, a 10-speed bike, free kittens, CPR class. There are the sturdy armchairs, the picked-over magazine racks, the award-winning dioramas on loan from adolescent creators, the study carrels etched with decade-old graffiti. There's the water fountain spouting the coldest beverage in town, a different vintage from the lukewarm dribble in the school gym or the violent torrent at the Y.M.C.A. There are the overhead lights casting their fluorescent glow, occasionally flickering, flattering no one except people who live on the page. Still, they get the job done.

And above it all there is a weighted blanket of quiet, that reassuring hush we're hard-wired to expect from our inaugural visit to the children's room. Whether you first crossed that threshold in the scrum of a class trip or clutching your mom's hand; whether your hometown library was on a country road or at a busy intersection; whether you put your library card to good use or used it to pick locks; odds are good that, at some point, someone touched an index finger to their lips and shared the universal password for the kingdom of words: "Shhhh." But this sentiment doesn't really apply anymore. It hasn't for a long time.

Just as reading has changed (from paper to pixel to audio) and tools for research have streamlined, so have the places that house the goods. Silence is no longer a requirement; versatility is. The modern library keeps its citizens warm, safe, healthy, entertained, educated, hydrated and, above all, connected. Libraries have always been a place of worship for a certain type of person, but they're also community centers offering homework help, computer classes, craft sessions and tax advice. Perhaps you need marigold seeds, a loaner guitar, a hammer, a venue for your knitting club or a donation box for your old eyeglasses. Head to your local library. It might have you covered and, if it doesn't, someone there will know where to send you.

Yet somehow librarians still find time to match people with the books they need. These selections may be second-guessed by irate taxpayers who don't know the difference between F. Scott Fitzgerald and L. Ron Hubbard or don't understand that ideas and stories aren't contagious; the only disease they'll infect you with is empathy. Nevertheless, librarians persist. One could argue that they distribute more wings than an airline pilot. Put yours to good use and you can fly anywhere.

Last fall, The New York Times sent photographers to cities, suburbs and rural areas in seven states to document how different libraries respond to the needs of their communities, and the many ways in which patrons find a haven in each one. When the photos started to roll in, it was impossible to look at those pictures and not feel hopeful about the state of humanity, especially with several seasons of isolation still fresh in our minds. How often we pause to appreciate the bounty of libraries is up to us.

For the complete article with photos, search online at www.nytimes.com using "love letters to libraries" dated Feb 14.

Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library
P. O. Box 1468
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 -1468

*Place
stamp
here*

*Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library's mission is to support,
provide service to, and raise awareness of our library.*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION New Member Renewal

Please accept my membership in MLFOL in the following category (check one):

\$1000 Lifetime \$100 Club 100 \$50 Patron \$25 Family \$10 Individual

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I am interested in volunteering time Yes No

I would like to receive news via email: Yes No

Return this form along with your check to:
MLFOL, PO Box 1468, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-1468