

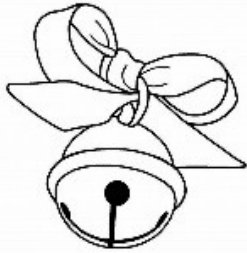


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AUTUMN 2021

AFFILIATE

LV-MARQUETTE COUNTY, INC. NEWSLETTER



Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County's Tots to Teens Book Drive

Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County's annual Tots to Teens Book Drive, which began earlier, ends November 22nd. The book giveaway will be held in conjunction with the Giving Tree program on Saturday morning, December 4th, at Trinity Methodist Church in Montello.

There is high demand for graphic novels for middle school students. Donations of these would be much appreciated.

Please drop off new or gently used books in the boxes provided at the following sites: Montello Library, Montello Forest Lane Elementary, Montello High School, Packwaukee Library, Endeavor Library, Westfield Elementary School, Westfield Library, Oxford Library, and Mike and Cathy's Good Old Days on Lake Puckaway.

Thank you to all who donate!

LV-Marquette County Officers and Board Members

Officers:

Vicki Huffman, President 608-297-8900
LuAnn Zieman, Vice President
Mary Faltz, Secretary
Chuck Bornhoeft, Treasurer 715-347-6615

Board Members:

Barbara Church
Pat Johnson
Teale Loring
Anne Oelke



Public Relations & Newsletter Editor:

LuAnn Zieman elteezee497@gmail.com

Tutor/Student Match Coordinator:

Barbara Church
barbarajchurch@gmail.com

Tutor Trainer:

LuAnn Zieman 608-297-2422

Wi Literacy Regional Virtual Conference

Vicki Huffman attended the WI Literacy Fall Conference hosted by WI Literacy, Inc on October 5th via Zoom. Highlights were an overview of the highly rated WI Job Center website, Health Literacy, and teaching Digital Literacy. In addition, Dennis Winters, WI Chief Economist, spoke about job and population growth. He stated that immigration was saving our economy.

This newsletter is a publication of Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County (LV-MC), a non-profit organization that provides free and confidential tutoring to adults and families who want to improve their reading, writing, math, and other skills. Volunteer tutors provide individualized instruction.

Beth Gaytan, WI Literacy Regional Consultant, and Vicki also met on Zoom on October 6th instead of an onsite visit. She provided insight on where to look for book contributions as well as suggesting graphic novels as good books for middle school students.

Introducing Two New LV-MC Volunteers

Deborah Lehr recently found LV-MC after doing an internet search for literacy organizations in Marquette County. She had seen information regarding low literacy rates and wanted to see if she could help. Recently retired from Director of Employee Development Training roles in Illinois and Wisconsin, Debbie now enjoys living on Lake Puckaway with her husband.

She has also volunteered with the American Red Cross and is currently helping the Montello Food Bank two days a week.

She has helped distribute Tots to Teens boxes to collection points in the county, and books to laundromat baskets, prepare Read for Joy! Books for the County Health Department, and assemble activity packs for Head Start and other classrooms.

Montello native Teale Loring has added LV-MC to her list of services to her community. Teale, who owns and operates her own business, Nothing But Nails, has found time to help direct our all-volunteer organization as a board

member. She is currently working on planning for our winter fundraiser.

After being elected to our board at our September annual meeting, Teale delivered books to laundromats and the UMOS center, and also distributed Tots to Teens Holiday collection boxes.

Teale loves theater, travel, and reading. Recently she has become qualified to be a foster parent with her husband, Josh.

We are thankful for these two energetic women and welcome them to our council!

Literacy Volunteers, Learners, and Friends Appreciation Dinner

On Monday, July 26th, we held our annual Literacy Volunteers, Learners, and Friends Appreciation dinner at Oyster Cracker Restaurant in downtown Montello. There were 24 in attendance.



Vicki's present 2 ESL students, Stephy and Adan, are on the right. The Montello Public School Spanish teacher, Norma Schmidt, is seated 2nd from left with her student, Susanna. Continued on page 4.

Literacy Volunteers – Marquette County
Annual Meeting
September 9, 2021

Members Present: Vicki Huffman, LuAnn Zieman, Chuck Bornhoeft, Pat Johnson, Barbara Church, Mary Faltz, Teale Loring

Guest: Hope Kendall

Secretary’s Report: Minutes from the September 10, 2020 virtual annual meeting were reviewed. Motion by Barb, seconded by Chuck to approve. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Chuck presented the Income/Expense report for fiscal 2020-2021. Total income: \$4,215.89; total expenses: \$4,015.57; net difference: \$200.32.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Relations:

1. Newsletters. In November 2020, 35 PDFs were emailed and 9 copies mailed; 25 copies put into the tutoring area at the Montello Public Library. May 2020, 37 PDFs were emailed and 9 copies mailed; 25 copies put into the tutoring room.

2. Ads/Articles. In the Marquette County Tribune: Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, 2020 articles on Tots to Teens Book Drive; Dec. 17, Tots to Teens report with pictures; March 18, 25 and April 1, 2021, Call for volunteers article. Aug. 26, Sept. 2 & 9, 2021, LV-MC Annual Meeting article. LuAnn also posted announcement and International Literacy Day info on her Facebook page.

3. Website. Anne Oelke has updated newsletters and other entries on www.mcreads.com. Next newsletter is in November.

4. International Literacy Day/Month 2021. No special activity for us.

5. Reminder that the trifold brochure is available in the tutoring room at the library.

Tutor Training Report:

Two new tutors are waiting for students: Charles Church and Rhonda Lechner. Both completed their independent tutor training. LuAnn will check with Donna Kuehn, who also expressed interest.

Materials:

LuAnn purchased 5 copies of Tutor 8 @ \$18.40 each for a total of \$100.74. She also purchased 2 copies of Clear Speech Student’s Book with Integrated Digital Learning at \$42.73 each for a total of \$85.46 + tax.

Program Report:

The Covid pandemic continued to wreak havoc again this year, but Marquette County libraries reopened in May 2020 and schools remained open with some quarantining. Area businesses cautiously reopened their doors.

At the same time, Literacy Volunteers-Marquette Co. continued their work. Board meetings went virtual. Tots to Teens continued book giveaways with drive-up service. The Mekan fundraiser became a virtual donation event, and raised a few extra dollars as well. Tutoring started – virtual at first, but then face-to-face with masks.

Twenty-six volunteers reported a total of 440 hours, including 58 tutoring hours. Vicki had 2 ESL students, while new tutor Norma Schmidt tutored 1 ESL student. Chuck had a couple hours with an adult from Albania who wanted to improve his English but it didn’t continue. Because of Covid, Chuck was unable to present any Health Literacy training sessions this past year. Only 1 volunteer was able to work in the schools this past year, at St. John’s, for a very short time.

Volunteers once again gave their time to gather and organize books for the Tots to Teens Book Giveaway in December; to read for Story Hour in Montello; to prepare activity packs for WI Bookworm project at Head Start; to provide books for the first time moms program coordinated with the County Health Dept.; to stock and maintain book shelves at the Food Pantry, county laundromats, medical and dental offices, Hope House, and Casita de Libros at UMOS; and to continue to develop their knowledge by attending WI Literacy conferences virtually, as well as many other services. Because of their dedication, hundreds of children and families in Marquette County have received help with reading and other literacy concerns.

Library Story Time: Story Time at Montello Library went virtual for the year with readings from library director Andrea Klapper, Vicki Huffman, Mindy Johnson Roidt, and other volunteers. We finally went live on August 23rd, 2021. One volunteer mom has started it off, but others will be needed as Grandma Librarian has finally retired.

The Story Trail was up and running again this spring/summer on the dredgebank in Montello with help from Andrea, Kathleen McGwin, and others. It remains up through September.

Casita de Libros: Sharon Samuelson and her husband moved to Madison this past year but they once again set up and stocked the Casita de Libros at UMOS.

WIC Montello: We continue to refresh the books at both the Montello and Westfield book racks, using many of the books left over from the Tots to Teens Book Giveaway.

WI Bookworm: HCE provided 55 sets of books this past year for Head Start students and will continue to do the same again this coming year. Vicki and Pat gave their time preparing activities for the 7 months.

Family Adventure Day: It was cancelled in 2021.

Tots to Teens Book Giveaway: Thousands of books were collected and labelled for this year's annual giveaway at the Giving Tree gift distribution at Trinity United Methodist Church in Montello. Books were selected according to a family's needs, bagged, and delivered via drive-up.

Kathleen McGwin's Programs: In an email after the meeting, Vicki reported Kathleen has been asked to do READ programs with her dogs again at the schools. She needs to get Agatha trained. Also, she will be donating *Ready Set Wiggle* to Mindy's 3rd graders at Montello. As noted, everyone loves Mindy and her classroom! She is also looking for ideas for distribution of her children's book on John Muir.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers/Board: The slate includes: President-Vicki Huffman, Vice President-LuAnn Zieman, Secretary-Mary Faltz, Treasurer-Chuck Bornhoeft, Director-Barbara Church (term exp. 9/2024), Director-Teale Loring (term exp. 9/2024). Note: officers are 1-year terms. Motion by Pat, seconded by Mary to approve these. Motion carried.

Budget Approval: The proposed budget for 2021-22 shows estimated income of \$3,710 and expenses of \$3,584. Motion by Vicki, seconded by LuAnn to approve. Motion carried.

State Literacy Conference: This a free virtual event on Oct. 5th. Vicki will email members a link.

Tots to Teens/Giving Tree Drive: It will be held December 4th, again as a drive-thru format. Teale suggested setting out boxes in September during Literacy Month in hair salons/barbershops.

Storytime at Montello Public Library: Contact Andrea Klapper if you are interested in being a guest speaker.

Mecan River Fundraiser: We are scheduled to hold it February 3, 2022.

Next Board Meeting: October 11th at Café Hilltop, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Annual Literacy Volunteers, Learners, and Friends Appreciation Dinner

Oyster Cracker served a delicious meal, and Chuck Bornhoeft, board member and treasurer, donated refreshments as well as delectable desserts.

The attendees included our volunteers; our Montello librarian, Andrea; our Montello Public School teacher/liason, Mindy; and present literacy board members in addition to students and tutors. Pictures page 5.



BECOME A LITERACY VOLUNTEERS- MARQUETTE COUNTY MEMBER!

We invite you to become a member and supporter of literacy in Marquette County. One person can make a difference in influencing positive changes. We've accomplished a great deal, but there is so much more to be done. Your services as a volunteer or a financial supporter are critical to our success!

Fill out the form below, including a check for \$15 written out to **Literacy Volunteers- Marquette County** (if you wish to be a member), and mail to **Treasurer-LV-MC, P.O. Box 671, Montello, WI 53949.**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, ZIP CODE _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

- I wish to be an active volunteer/member and have enclosed the \$15 fee.
- I wish to be an active volunteer, but not a dues-paying member.
- I would like more information on becoming a volunteer.
- I do not wish to be a member, but would like to contribute to literacy.

Tots to Teens Book Drive

sorting of books will be done by individuals before they are delivered to the Montello Methodist Church for the Dec. 4th Giving Tree distribution!

Volunteer /Tutor Reminder!

All volunteers and tutors should be submitting hours and miles to **Paula Chambers**, our data manager. There is a box at the Montello Public Library to drop off time sheets, or they may be submitted via email to howardandpaula@gmail.com . If you need a time sheet, they are available on the website—mcreads.org.

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LV-MC MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County, Inc. is to improve the quality of life by promoting increased literacy and lifelong learning in Marquette County, Wisconsin. We encourage and aid individuals through public awareness and through volunteer teaching of literacy skills as well as English for non-native speakers.

***Check us out at
www.mcreads.org!***

LV-MC is a member of the following:



**Marquette County
Literacy Newsletter
LV-MC, Inc
PO Box 671
Montello, WI 53949**

**DONATE OR
VOLUNTEER!**

Give the gift of literacy.

