VOL.32 NO.2 FALL 2026

AFFILIATE

LV-MARQUETTE COUNTY, INC. NEWSLETTER

Next LVMC Meeting At Montello Library Thursday, December 3, 2026 At 9 am

2026 Annual Tots to Teens Book Drive Begins

Literacy Volunteers-Marquette County announces the start of its annual Tots to Teens Book Drive. The book giveaway will be held in conjunction with the Marquette County Giving Tree program in mid-December at Trinity Methodist Church in Montello, bringing a selection of books to the children of local participating families.

Drop boxes can be found at the Marquette County libraries in Endeavor, Montello, Neshkoro, Oxford, Packwaukee, and Westfield. In addition, the following schools will also have boxes: Forest Lane Elementary in Montello, Westfield Elementary, and St. John's Lutheran School in Montello. Trinity United Methodist in Montello is another site for a drop-off box, as well as Nothing But Nails.

New or gently used children's books for ages birth on up are welcome. In addition to books for younger children, graphic novels and other popular titles for ages 12-18 would be appreciated.

If you would like to have a box at your establishment, please call Vicki Huffman at 608-617-7427.

Please bring your donations to any of these boxes by December 2nd, so they can be collected for sorting before the event.

In lieu of donating books, cash donations can be made toward the purchase of new books for Tots to Teens to be distributed by LV-MC via the Giving Tree. Make checks out to LV-MC and mail to LV-MC, P.O. Box 671, Montello, WI. Please include a note that the donation is for the purchase of new books.

LV-Marquette County Officers and Board Members

Officers:
Vicki Huffman, President 608-617-7427
Cathy Puccia, Vice President
Mary Faltz, Secretary
Chuck Bornhoeft, Treasurer 715-347-6615

Board Members:
LuAnn Zieman
Kimmie Kongslie
Anne Oelke
Dawn Renz

Public Relations:
LuAnn Zieman elteezee497@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor:
Cathy Puccia cjw58@hotmail.com
Tutor/Student Match Coordinator:
Barbara Church
barbarajchurch@gmail.com
Tutor Trainer:
LuAnn Zieman 608-297-2422

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.

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.

Appreciation Dinner
June 2026



Thursday, June 11 was our Appreciation Dinner for 2026

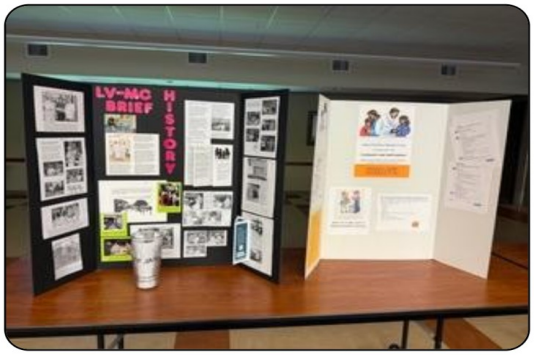


27 Members, Friends, Donors, Volunteers and Collaborators attended



Luann Zieman did an excellent job decorating for the event (notice her coordinated outfit) and thanking President Vicki Huffman for her ongoing work with LVMC.

There was a Silent Auction which raised funds that will be used for our many book giveaways in Marquette County.





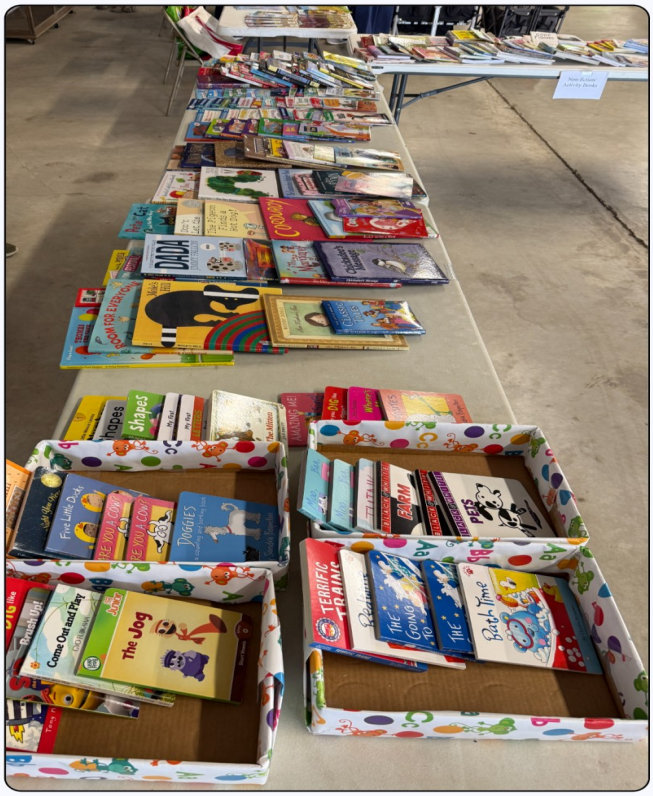
LVMC activities include Family Adventure Day, Touch a Truck, Read for Joy, Laundromat Libraries, Tutoring and the Tots to Teen Book Drive.

www.mcreads.org

Touch A Truck August 2026

On August 8 volunteers Mary Faltz, Cathy Puccia and Dawn Renz assisted young readers select over 80 books.











www.mcreads.org

Literacy Volunteers – Marquette County
Annual Meeting – September 24, 2026

Members Present: Vicki Huffman, LuAnn Zieman, Mary Faltz, Dawn Renz, Cathy Puccia, Barbara Church, Kimmie Kongslie

Vicki called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the 9/11/2025 Annual Meeting were reviewed. Motion by Barb, seconded by Lu Ann to accept them. Minutes stand approved.

Minutes of the May 26, 2026 meeting were reviewed. Cathy pointed out that the annual meeting time was listed as 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. Correction noted. Motion by LuAnn, seconded by Mary to accept the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Income/Expense report for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 was submitted by Chuck.
We had more contributions this past year. Everything else had only small differences, + or -.
Current balances were not reported.

Public Relations Report:
1. Newsletters: Autumn newsletters were emailed November 9, 2025 (31 pdf files). Cathy Puccia is the editor presently and will present her report in the figure. The Spring 2026 newsletter pdf was emailed by Cathy in May (28-30 total).

2. Ads/Articles: Tribune ads and articles since the last annual meeting:
   2025 – October 3rd, 16th, 23rd, and 30th: Annual Tots to Teens Book Drive article
   2025 – October 23rd: Poster Contest winners article and LV-MC Annual Meeting article
   2026 – April 9th: Ads for Family Adventure Day
   2026 – April 17th: Write-up and photos of the Family Adventure Day event.

3. Website: Vince Puccia has updated our website. Our next newsletter, edited by Cathy Puccia, is scheduled for November. LuAnn sent Mary, Vicki and Cathy an article about International Literacy Day with an invitation to this Annual Meeting. It was not seen in the Tribune, as the email sent in by Mary was missed by newspaper staff.

4. Annual Fundraiser Letter to Donors: The invitation to attend the 34th Annual Literacy Appreciation Dinner was run off and mailed by Vicki. Donors and potential donors were advised of an upcoming thank-you dinner to once again replace the appreciation dinners of the past. It was held in the Westfield Village Hall and included sandwich-making items as well as salads, desserts, wine, beer, soda, and lemonade. There was a small silent auction in conjunction with the winner, as well as a donation jar for those wishing to donate. Some trifolds that included a brief history of LV-MC as well as pictures and information about our services were placed on tables as well.

5. A reminder that our trifold brochures are available in the LV-MC tutoring office area at the Montello Public Library.

Tutor Training Report:
No new training. There was an inquiry from Jenna Van de Voort, but she later said she does not have time right now.

Materials: Nothing new.

Board Development and Nominating Committee: The proposed slate of officers will be –

Vicki Huffman: President	9/2027
Cathy Puccia: Vice President	9/2027
Mary Faltz: Secretary	9/2027
Chuck Bornhoeft: Treasurer	9/2027
Anne Oelke, Director	9/2028
Dawn Renz, Director	9/2028
LuAnn Zieman, Director	9/2028
Kimmie Kongslie, Director	9/2030

Old Business:

1. Touch-a-Truck 8/1/26 in Westfield: Cathy reported it went well. They provided help for unloading her truck. Discussion about whether we have a list of volunteers when we have events that need help. We'll look at that. Suggestion was made to look into high school volunteers.
Cathy reported we gave away about 80 books. All the vendors were set up indoors this year.

2. Library Literacy Networking Call: via Zoom on September 22nd. Dawn & Vicki attended. Libraries in Wisconsin feel they don't have enough help and are stretched too thin. Discussion was about working together, networking, finding ways to find more help for directors. Winnefox offers a substitute director program that they budget for to provide help for short-term absences of local directors. They liked the Laundromat Literacy program we have.

Barb suggested a good way for us to help people is to offer help in the schools. Vicki will contact Mindi Johnson-Roidt at Forest Lane Elementary.

Vicki wants us to establish a committee to see what we can do to help MCLC. Vicki will forward an email to everyone to see who is interested.

Cathy Puccia has been hired on part time at the Neshkoro Library. She has been a volunteer there also.

New Business:

1. Election of Officers/Board: Motion by Mary, seconded by Cathy to accept the slate as presented. Motion carried.

2. Annual Report: Paula reported to Vicki, but Vicki is reworking it, so we'll get updates at a later date.

3. Budget: On hold until Chuck can present at a future meeting.

4. Tots to Teens/Giving Tree drive thru event: This will take place on December 12th at Trinity United Methodist Church in Montello. Anne Oelke is available for individual book selection, as she has done in the past. Collection boxes should be out by the end of October (10/30). Article in the newspaper October 29th and early November. Boxes will be prepped beforehand (Oct. 29th at 1 pm). Barb can help with that. Collect the boxes the first week of December and bring them to the Montello Library for the first sorting on Dec. 4th. Anne would then have the next week to make selections for the participating Giving Tree families.

Ideas are needed for books for kids ages 12-18. Last year's gift certificates were ignored, except for a few.

5. Next Meeting: Thursday, December 3rd, to include book sorting. 9:00 a.m. at Montello Public Library.
Vicki collected dues and handed out 2027 calendars for those who paid their memberships.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.
Minutes Submitted by Mary Faltz, Secretary

“We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.” – Winston Churchill



Check us out at www.mcreads.org

LV-MC is a member of the following:

wisconsin·literacy

PROLITERACY America

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.**