

# The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library Fall 2023 Newsletter

*Mission Statement: The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library, Inc. is an independent, non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting the Paw Paw District Library as an essential institution in our community.*



## Have You Seen Us Out & About?



Two recent Friends outreach projects are shown at left. The new Little Free Library (upper photo), has been assembled & installed (in collaboration with the Paw Paw Kiwanis) along the sidewalk between the Paw Paw Village Hall & the Strand Theater. Also, our new traveling book sale cart (lower photo) is on the move and offers items for sale (via the honor system). Look for the cart at The Lucky Wolf & Greenglass Coffee Company or at other local businesses as it travels throughout our community.

## Upcoming Library Programs

### KIDS

Wednesday  
**Dec. 20**  
6 pm – 7 pm

**Gingerbread Engineers**  
*Design and build a  
gingerbread house*

Friday  
**Dec. 15**  
3 pm – 4 pm

**TEENS**  
**Just For Fun Friday**  
*Make pizza dough to take home,  
and use science skills  
to make pizza slime*

Tuesday  
**Dec. 12**  
6 pm – 7:30 pm

**ADULTS**  
**Wrap & Yap Party**  
*Wrap your holiday gifts  
at the Library! Wrapping  
supplies provided*

Wednesday  
**Nov. 29**  
6 pm – 7:30 pm

**FAMILIES**  
**Family Game Night**  
*Board games, cards, indoor lawn  
games, video games and more*

Saturday  
**Dec. 16**  
11 am – 2 pm

**Santa's Winter Workshop**  
*Meet Santa and enjoy music,  
crafts, and treats*

All Month!  
**Jan. 2 – 31**

**Flamingos in the Snow**  
*Participate in the Library's winter  
activity challenge and get a  
flamingo for your yard*





Over 600 books sold at "pop-up" book sale in Perfect Storm West space during 2023 Paw Paw Wine & Harvest Festival!

With the availability of a new sorting and storage space (courtesy of Kerry Tapper), the Paw Paw District Library is again accepting donations of items in good condition (e.g. books, DVDs, CD's, etc.) in preparation for the May 2024 book sale to be held in the community room at our Library. Please consider donating your items to enable our continuing support of such programs as Geek Fest, Spooktacular (with John Tapper Automotive) and the upcoming Santa's Winter Workshop, all of which promote community engagement with our Library.

Beginning in January 2024 volunteers will be needed to help sort these materials as they come in over the winter & spring. We hope to establish a regular schedule for sorting, but this will, of course, depend somewhat upon the incoming supply of donated items. Volunteers will also be needed to staff the May 2024 book sale. Please contact us for more information and/or if you are interested in helping.

### Contact/Follow The Friends

**Email:** friends@pawpawlib.org

**Facebook:** FriendsofPPDL@facebook.com

**Website:** <https://www.pawpawlib.org/friends-of-the-library/>

**By Mail:** The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library  
609 West Michigan Ave  
Paw Paw, MI 49079

### The Friends Calendar of Events

November 15, 2023	Regular Board Meeting
January 24, 2024	Regular Board Meeting
March 27, 2024	Regular Board Meeting
May 17 & 18, 2024	Used Book Sale @ Library
May 22, 2024	Regular Board Meeting
July 24, 2024	Regular Board Meeting

*The Friends Board meetings are open to the public & typically held at 4:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of alternate months in the PPDL Community Room. For most current schedule information please check the Events section of the PPDL website.*



PPDL staff, Friends & supporters at well-attended 2023 Halloween Spooktacular event with Tapper Auto Group (prizes & supplies were purchased with Friends funds).

### Acknowledgements

*The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library express their appreciation to:*

- Carter of Perfect Storm West for hosting "pop-up" book sale during 2023 Wine & Harvest Festival
- Proprietors of The Lucky Wolf & Greenglass Coffee Company for hosting The Friends traveling book sale cart
- Paw Paw Kiwanis for their assistance with The Friends newest Little Free Library box
- Paw Paw Lions Club for temporary storage of donated books prior to Wine & Harvest Festival
- Kerry Tapper of Look Sharp Marketing/ Sporting Image for space to be used as our new long-term book storage & sorting location



## Geek Fest 2023

Geek Fest is a free, all-ages welcome celebration of geek culture in all of its forms! It includes comics and art, table top games, technology, cosplay, and much, much more!

This year's event took place on Saturday, October 14 at the Kalamazoo Expo Center and was hosted by the Kalamazoo Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, Portage District Library, Richland Community Library and Vicksburg District Library. The Paw Paw District Library's role in this event was in part supported by Friends funds, and as you can see from the photos at left and below, the event was enjoyed by young and old.

Guests included award-winning young adult author Mark Oshiro, most recently known for co-authoring with Rick Riordan on *The Sun and the Star*. Organizers also welcomed DMScotty, who runs a hugely popular YouTube channel (*The DMs Craft*) where he demonstrates how to make props and set pieces for Dungeons & Dragons (DnD) and other table top games. Crowd favorites of Sew Excited Cosplay, Kenji, Paul Sizer, and all of the usual Gaming Masters were back for the fun! Visit the Facebook page **SWMGeekFest** for more information and photos from this and previous years.

The local Geek Fest began in 2016 at the Antwerp Activity Center with the hope of creating a fun event that could bring the community together. Over time it has grown in popularity, with many new attendees each year along with those who return every year. This expansion has led to the need for a larger venue such as the Kalamazoo Expo Center. With ongoing support from the Friends, the Paw Paw District Library can keep participating and expanding its audience year after year!





## Fall 2023 Membership Drive

Our ability to support Library programs is determined entirely through new memberships, annual renewals and fundraisers. The Friends Membership Director Joan Ford recently completed our annual mailing to existing members in an effort to update our volunteer list and replenish our account with much needed monies so that we can continue to support Library programs at the same level as in previous years. Many thanks to those who have already responded generously.

Please help us to spread the word about our organization by sharing the membership & volunteer application form at right with friends and family members and/or encourage them to pick up our membership brochure the next time they visit our Library.

Note that The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library is registered as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and all donations to the Friends are tax deductible. To receive a receipt for your donation, please send your request to [friends@pawpawlib.org](mailto:friends@pawpawlib.org).



*Friends volunteers loading donated books from temporary storage at Paw Paw Lions Club for transport to Perfect Storm West, location of "pop-up" book sale during 2023 Paw Paw Wine & Harvest Festival.*

**"The only thing  
that you absolutely  
have to know,  
is the location  
of the library."**

*Albert Einstein*

## The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library Membership & Volunteer Application & Annual Renewal Form



Return to: The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library  
609 West Michigan Ave  
Paw Paw, MI 49079

Name(s):

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

☐ Please contact me/us about  
volunteer opportunities!

### Membership Level

(Please make checks payable to:  
The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library)

- ☐ Student \$ 5
- ☐ Senior (60+) \$ 5
- ☐ Adult \$ 20
- ☐ Family \$ 30
- ☐ Carnegie \$100 & up

### The Friends Board of Directors

President:	Kris Steward
Vice President:	Cindy Barres
Secretary:	James Miller
Treasurer:	Tom Shoemaker
Membership Director:	Joan Ford

Book Sale Co-Director	Carla Chase
Book Sale Co-Director	Darlene Wilson