

WOOSTER FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

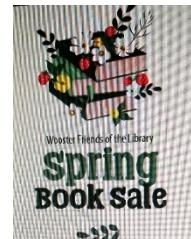
2026 WINTER NEWSLETTER

Letter from the President

Dear WFOL members and possible new members,

It is time again to renew WFOL memberships for 2026. With the trimming of state funding for our library by some \$100,000 for the upcoming year, the Wooster Friends are hoping to step up and do our part. We will continue to provide pin funds for various departments, support professional development of the staff with tuition scholarships, support library programming initiatives in cooperation with the Lyric Cinema and the Buckeye Book Fair, and fund some capital improvements -- possibly purchasing additional equipment for the Creation Station and items for the Children's Department as it undergoes refurbishing in May. We will, of course, continue preparing for our March and July Book Sales. It is thanks to your memberships and your generous donations that enable us to reach these goals.

In 2025 we have made progress on the WFOL website (woolibraryfriends.org) where you can learn more about us and see upcoming events. We are hoping by next year to have the ability to renew memberships, welcome new members and even pay membership fees online. Thankfully, board members Jen Hugon, Marcy Campbell and Chris Stormer have been working hard to bring this to fruition. In the meantime, for this membership drive, we ask you to mail in your renewals. For those of you in the future who prefer renewing by check, that will remain an option.



Included in this mailing you will see we are planning a WFOL trip to Cleveland for members and their guests. We warmly encourage guests to join our excursion, and we would love to welcome you into our organization as well. We have hired a bus with 38 seats, so please make your reservations in a timely fashion along with your membership payments.



Although there is no entrance fee to visit the general galleries of the CMA, there is an exciting visiting exhibit at the time of our trip that would require a registration and a special payment. The exhibit is called "Manet and Morisot." They were two friends and important innovators during the Impressionist Period of French Art. The exhibit will feature some 35 of their paintings with juxtapositions to show how the lesser known Berthe Morisot influenced Manet in terms of subject matter, composition, and painting style. Towards the end of February or early March, please check at CMA.org for ticket availability. At the appropriate time, tickets can be purchased on-line or by calling the museum directly at 1-216-421-7350. Please note that WFOL will NOT make or pay for these reservations.

On another cultural note, Jeannie Browning, Adult Department Associate and Book-to-Film Club Coordinator, reported the program has been well-received. This is an endeavor that WFOL has funded and that the Library and the Lyric Cinema have implemented. So far there have been four showings usually on a Monday or Tuesday at 5:15. From surveys, Jeannie was able to share patrons' impressions. In response to *Frankenstein*, one filmgoer wrote, "The film itself was excellent, but I especially enjoyed the librarian's...ability to engage the attendees in the discussion after the film. Those comments were also a big part of the evening." And after *Dorian Gray*, someone wrote, "Fabulous discussion before and after the movie. Well organized and extremely informative." Forthcoming films in this series are *Mrs. Harris goes to Paris* (author Paul Gallico) on Monday, February 9, at 5:15 and *Strangers on a Train* (author Patricia Highsmith) on Thursday, March 19, at 5:15. Register at the Library or the Lyric for the films and join us!! The films are all free, compliments of WFOL.



Just a reminder: Our WFOL Board Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 3 pm in the OC conference room. You are always welcome to join us.

With much gratitude for your past and current support, Betty Wilken.

Coming Soon

Mark your calendars. The 2026 Spring Book Sale begins on March 19 at 9 am. Fill out your DVD library with our huge selection; add to your book collection with our shelves full of general fiction, mysteries, westerns, and nonfiction. And for you sci-fi lovers, we have you covered. Check us out on March 19 and 20 from 9 am to 4 pm and on March 21 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Annual Membership Drive

Each February, the Wooster Friends of the Library host a “Be a Friend” membership drive to encourage current members to renew and invite others to join. While memberships are welcomed year-round, those who join or renew during February receive a special incentive—a chance to win a book-themed gift basket. One lucky member who joins or renews by March 2 will be entered into the drawing. The gift basket is on display throughout February in a library cube on the main level near the stairs. Yearly membership is \$10 for individuals and \$25 for families. Whether you are a sustaining member (donation only) or an active member (volunteer), your membership is essential. Please encourage your friends to join! Additional brochures about membership are available at the Friends of the Library display case next to the elevator.



Marcy Campbell and new board member Lisa McDougall

Among items in the gift basket: autographed book *What Are You Waiting For?* by local author and Friends board member, Marcy Campbell; 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle; ivory throw blanket; book-lover wine glass; rechargeable clip-on book light; \$15 Joyful Café gift certificate; funny reader socks - “So Many Books, So Little Time;” ceramic mug with cork bottom; three ballpoint pens with clever book-lover messages; tea; candle; library tote; chocolates; a reading journal; and 50 book-themed stickers (perfect for water bottles, Kindles, or laptops). These items are packed in an attractive “To be Read” storage bin.

Welcome A-Board, Lisa McDougall

The WFOL board welcomes Lisa McDougall, who will chair the program committee. She recently introduced herself: “I grew up in Burton, a small, rural community in northeast Ohio. There I learned to appreciate the values of quiet, small-town living in the setting of a loving and lively home. After receiving a bachelor's degree from Case Western Reserve University, I pursued a career in pharmaceutical and medical device sales, from which I am now retired. I moved to Wooster in the summer of 2025. One of my first stops was a visit to Wooster's Public Library. I am grateful for those who have welcomed my husband, Ray, and me here.”

With postage costs rising and the completion of a Friends website, this newsletter (and previous newsletters) will be posted online at: www.woolibraryfriends.org (Click the News tab). If you would like to continue receiving a printed copy, please contact info@woolibraryfriends.org

