



Among Friends Newsletter

Spring 2023

It's always wonderful to welcome spring and to know the Net Shed will be open from Victoria Day weekend, through till Thanksgiving Weekend. Book-ending our book sales with holidays is fitting: long weekends give us more of an excuse to read a book—which if purchased at the Net Shed means we have a double pleasure—the immediate read and the knowledge that the money we donate is indirectly going to the Meaford Library.

REVENUE

Last year's revenues were \$18,600; a \$2000 improvement over the year before. As well, the summer concerts start June 25 and go through September 3. Last year the concerts generated approximately \$2600. (Thanks to Jim Brown, our stellar Treasurer for all financial information.)

WHAT DO YOUR DONATIONS SUPPORT?

But what happens to the revenues after expenses? What does FOML support?

It's all about the Library. Historically FOML have contributed over \$100,000 to the fundraising drive to ensure we had a new Library. Now we support ongoing needs; for example, the purchase of newspapers for Library patrons (approx. \$5000 a year) and the purchase of Library equipment (approx. \$4,200 as of 1 April 2023). We also contribute to Library activities that enhance the Library and its role in the community (including bird watching kits available for borrowing at the Library.

Below are a few of the Library's past year's events that FOML supported. Our Community Outreach Coordinator, Amy Solecki, who has a place on the FOML Board, makes recommendations and we rely on her capable guidance.

RECENT ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY FOML

Ontario Library Week- Win with Your Library Card – Oct. 16-22, 2022. In order to promote our library, patrons were offered the opportunity to win prizes—including gift certificates for local businesses. Our main prize was a Nintendo Switch. The lucky winner is below. This promotion generated a lot of interest and resulted in a lot of happy Meafordites!



Ted Barris Talk – Nov. 19, 2022

Members of the Meaford community enjoyed a return talk by Ted Barris about his new book: *Battle of the Atlantic: Gauntlet to Victory*. His honorarium was covered by FOML.



International Women's Day Talk – March 8, 2023

Dr. Kate Graham spoke to a group of students from GBHS at the Library and at a luncheon at Meaford Hall about her book, *No Second Chances, Women and Political Power in Canada* to commemorate International Women's Day. FOML contributed to the events by paying her honorarium.



Pottery Painting – March 13, 2023. FOML supported this event for Meaford students to be creative during March Break. Here is a photo of the results!



Summer Concerts – schedule for June/July 2023, start time 7 pm at the Rotary Pavilion

June 25: The Rice Family

July 2: Bill Monahan

July 9: Bonnie Sadler and Paul Pallister

July 16: Willi and Lynda Henry

July 23: Valley Concert Band

July 30: The Browns

More August and September concerts to be announced!

The Rice Family – Sunday June 25



The Rice name and family are well-known in the Georgian Bay communities for music. Waverly has had a popular

combo for many years which has just recently retired as a group. Waverly's son, Martin, has his own style and crew but the family still gets together for occasions and has agreed to do so and perform for the Friends of Meaford Library kick-off concert for its summer Sunday evening concert series ... as they have for over 20 years. They have always featured a guest appearance by Scott Merrifield who will again entertain us with his unique vocal offerings. The Rice's stylings include traditional and modern country with a smattering of 60s and 70s pop rock-n-roll ... all upbeat and toe-tappin' entertainment.

Bill Monahan – Sunday July 2



Bill Monahan has been making up songs and singing for fun since he came of age in the days of the coffee houses. A resident of Meaford since 2009, he has been an active and enthusiastic community volunteer who has played live music at many community events, sometimes with a band or a duo. He counts it a summer highlight when he is able to perform a Sunday night

concert at the harbour, which he has done on a number of occasions, to the delight of his many fans. For a couple of years, he wrote about the local music scene in an online blog called Meaford Live Music. The majority of his repertoire is made up of original songs accompanied by an acoustic guitar, light folk style with a bit of rockabilly flavour. Whether covers or originals, he likes songs that tell a story and get your feet tapping.

Bonnie Sadler and Paul Palliser
– Sunday, July 9, 2023

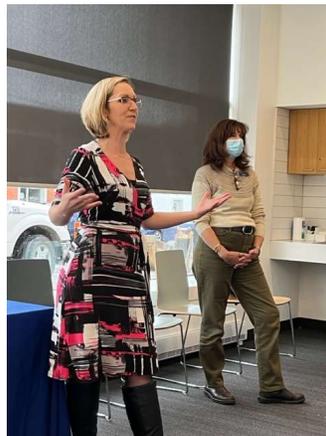


Bonnie Sadler and Paul Pallister have been performing music together for almost 30 years, and prior to that, both had independent success performing, writing music, and teaching others to play guitar and drums. Paul spent many years touring with award winning artists such as Ronni Sommers AKA Debbie Harbottle of Thornbury, Anita Perris, Jason McCoy, and Nashville songwriter Tim Taylor, to name a few. Bonnie spent decades writing, performing, and teaching music. In the 90s The Bonnie Sadler Music Company produced a 3-day country music festival “*Harbourside Jamboree,*” which brought in

many prominent entertainers and fans from all over. She was associated for a while with Country 93 FM radio station conducting and producing interviews featuring local musical talent. Bonnie and Paul met at the first *Harbourside Jamboree*, and they’ve been together ever since; making music and dreams come true as musical partners and husband and wife.

TEA FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Library showed its appreciation to FOML by sponsoring a tea.



Amy Solecki and Lynn Fascinato



Two of our FOML Volunteers

WHAT’S NEW?

FOML has established a mini-Net Shed at the Meaford Thrift Shop which is run by the Rotary Club. This will make books available to more of our residents and further support our fund raising. The mini-Net Shed is only operating in the winter when the Net Shed is closed.

Thanks to Amy Solecki and Paul Wehle for supplying photos. Other photos provided by Mary-Louise Craven

Newsletter Editors:
Mary-Louise Craven
Ingrid Knisely