



## Letter from the President of the Friends

Greeting Friends!

Can you believe it? We are already into the second month of 2025. Many New Year resolutions seem like a distant memory. Resolutions made because we know we should do them; exercise, eat healthy, take time out for our self. Other resolutions are made to give of ourselves to others; visit family and friends, volunteer our time to worthwhile causes. But the start of the year isn't the only time to make a commitment to a new adventure. Every new month, even every new day, affords the opportunity to give back to yourself and to reach out to others.



*Friends Treasurer Lorin Weiler presents Library Director Lauren White with a check to fund items on the library's wish list.*

In January, the Friends presented a check to the library for over \$10K to fund the library's Wish list. The funding supports adult, teen, and children's programming, summer reading programs, Lucky Day books, and library enhancements. Your generosity and commitment make this possible each year!

On March 17, the Friends will hold our Annual Membership meeting. The meeting is open to all members of the Friends. Members present at the meeting can vote for the Friends Board

officers and directors. The officers serve a one-year term and directors serve a two-year term. All officer positions and five director positions are open for election at the meeting. If you are interested, I encourage you to attend the meeting at 6:30 pm in the Community Room of the Ruth Culver Community Library. If you would like more information about the Friends or being a director or officer, feel free to contact the Library or any Friends Board member.

Take time for yourself today. And tomorrow. And the next day too! And take time for someone else. Giving to others gives back to yourself. Giving joy brings joy. Be a friend!

Thank you for being a Friend!

Carl Hoffman

Friends President

Friends of the Ruth Culver  
Community Library

540 Water St.

Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

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friendsoftheruthculverlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/friendsoftheruthculverlibrary)

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## Trivia Night Fundraiser

**Wednesday, April 9, 6:30pm  
Water Street Social Club**

Thank you to Water Street Social Club for hosting a fantastic Trivia Night Fundraiser October 22, and thank you to all the teams that participated! We had so much fun, we're doing it again! Save the date for the next Trivia Night Fundraiser in celebration of National Library Week! The event will be held at Water Street Social Club Wednesday, April 9 at 6:30pm. Tickets will be available at the Ruth Culver Community Library in mid-March. Cost will be \$5 per person, cash or check, with a maximum team size of eight members.

Gather up your friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, strangers off the street, whoever you can to pull a team together - and come test your general trivia knowledge! Grab a bite to eat, a signature craft cocktail and join us for a night you don't want to miss!



## Friends Fund Library Wish List

Thanks to the support of our Friends, the Friends Board was able to make the annual donation to the Ruth Culver Community Library, funding the library's 2025 wish list in full!

The wish list included:

- Funding for adult speakers and craft events
- Summer reading challenges for all ages
- Lucky Day book collection
- Summer reading challenges for all ages
- Teen programming and space enhancements
- Children's afterschool programming
- NEW Halloween candy buy-back program (coming the week after Halloween, watch for details in the fall!)
- New book cart
- Addy American Girl Doll repair
- Overhead camera for programs & demonstrations

If you would like to make a donation to support a specific item, please contact Meagan Statz at [mstatz@pdslibrary.org](mailto:mstatz@pdslibrary.org) or 608-643-8318.





### What is the purpose of the Friends?

- To promote and improve library services, materials and facilities for the community
- To stimulate gifts and bequests to the library
- To provide volunteer support in strengthening the library's programs
- To encourage the broadest possible use of its facilities, materials, and services

### Friends Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library will be held **Monday, March 17 at 6:30pm** in the library community room. The meeting is open to all Friends members. Election of Officers and Directors will take place, and all members present may vote. Contact Meagan at [mstatz@pdslibrary.org](mailto:mstatz@pdslibrary.org) or 608-643-8318 if you would like to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom.

We are looking for a few good Friends to help fill openings on the Board, which meets 6 times per year and makes important contributions in a multitude of ways including fundraising and volunteering. Please reach out to a Friends Board member or Meagan at [mstatz@pdslibrary.org](mailto:mstatz@pdslibrary.org) or 608-643-8318 if you are interested in learning more.



### 2024-2025 Friends Board of Directors

- CARL HOFFMAN, PRESIDENT
- KRIS RILLING, VICE-PRESIDENT
- LORIN WEILER, TREASURER
- MARY BRENNAN, SECRETARY
- NANCY MASCHMAN, DIRECTOR
- MARGARET MAUCH, DIRECTOR
- LAUREL SAMPSON, DIRECTOR
- LISA SCHWARZ, DIRECTOR

### 2025 Friends Meeting Dates

The remaining 2025 meeting dates for the Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library are:

- Monday, March 17 (Annual Meeting)
- Wednesday, May 28
- Wednesday, July 23
- Wednesday, September 24
- Thursday, November 20

Meetings will be held at **6:30pm** in the library Community Room. All are welcome to attend. Contact Meagan at [mstatz@pdslibrary.org](mailto:mstatz@pdslibrary.org) or 608-643-8318 for details.

### Yes! I'd like to support the Friends of the Library!

Thank you for your gift to support the Friends of the Library and the Ruth Culver Community Library. Please share your intentions for your gift:

A one time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is:

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library  
540 Water Street  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Donations may also be make online at [www.pdslibrary.org/friends-library](http://www.pdslibrary.org/friends-library)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer for my generosity to remain anonymous

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

The Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

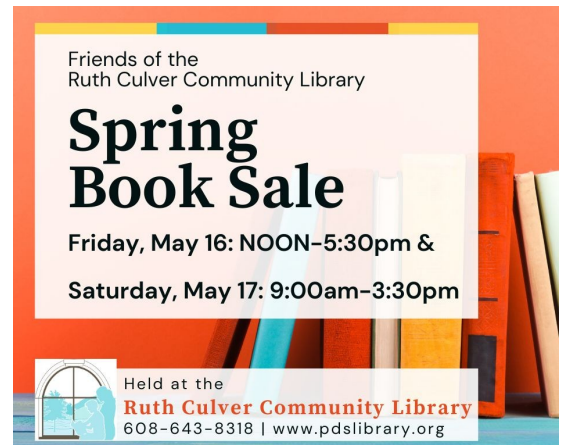


## Spring Book Sale

**Friday, May 16, 12:00pm-5:30pm**  
**Saturday, May 17, 9:00am-3:30pm**

The Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library will hold our spring book sale in the library community room Friday, May 16 starting at noon and running through 3:30pm Saturday, May 17. All sales are by donation. Donations of gently used materials are appreciated (sorry, no nonfiction more than 5 years old, reference materials or magazines) and can be dropped off at the library at any time before the book sale.

Volunteers are needed! Opportunities include staffing the sale for a 2-hour shift Friday or Saturday or helping clean-up Monday, May 19. Contact Meagan at 608-643-8318 or [mstatz@pdslibrary.org](mailto:mstatz@pdslibrary.org) if you are interested in helping.



## Upcoming Library Events for Adults

Find out about upcoming library events through the online calendar at <https://ruthculver.librarycalendar.com>. Many events require registration when space is limited, and you can register online through the calendar too! Contact the library at 608-643-8318 with questions.

### Adult Event: Fairy Garden Craft

[Registration Required!](#)

**Monday, March 31, 6:00pm**

Supplies will be provided to create a Fairy Garden craft item. Open to ages 18+. Space is limited. [Registration](#) required and can be done online or by calling the library at 608-643-8318. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ruth Culver Community Library.

### From Wood to Watercraft: Dugout Canoes of Wisconsin

**Thursday, April 17, 6:30pm**

Sissel Schroeder, with Tamara Thomsen of the Wisconsin Historical Society, will present the Badger Talk "From Wood to Watercraft: Dugout Canoes of Wisconsin." The Wisconsin Dugout Canoe Survey Project highlights the persistence of cultural traditions and technological ingenuity. It embodies the Wisconsin Idea by engaging local and national museums, historical societies, and tribal museums in this project that is documenting an important yet relatively rare form of material culture.

Badger Talks are presented in partnership with UW Madison.

### Letters From Clara with Janet Newman

**Thursday, May 15, 6:30pm**

The Wisconsin History Makers Tour will bring history directly to local communities in every region of the state through pop-up exhibits, artifact displays, public programs, art installations, and other activities.

In 1936 YWCA member Clara Pagel set off from Wausau,

Wisconsin on what would become a three-year world tour, traveling extensively throughout Asia, Africa, and Europe as the world headed towards war. A fascinating collection of letters to her YWCA friends back home documented her many adventures, as Clara witnessed history in the making and described the bombing of Shanghai, Italy under Mussolini, India during one of Gandhi's hunger strikes, and an earthquake in Manila. Now, in *Letters from Clara*, author Janet Newman vividly brings Clara life and letters to light, offering the story of a remarkable, independent woman on an unexpected but fulfilling journey to learn about the world and herself.

Janet Newman, author of *Letters from Clara: One Intrepid Woman's Travels on the Eve of War, 1936-1939*, participates in four book clubs and a writers' circle. Her writing, which shines a light on fascinating people, has appeared in the anthology *Mondays at Ten* and various news publications. In her retirement, Janet and her husband split their time between Wisconsin's Northwoods and St. Croix, US Virgin Islands.

The History Makers Tour is presented by Culver's and is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Grant Number: MA-253159-OMS-23.

