# FRIENDS OF THE ONALASKA LIBRARY



### **BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

July/August 2019

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**From the Desk of Our President---** Greetings, I hope everyone is enjoying the Wisconsin summer. It doesn't last nearly long enough. We already took our summer vacation, so the rest of the summer will find us in town. We like to travel, so weekends are planned for Milwaukee, Chicago, and Iowa. Don't forget to look at the library for books on areas you want to explore. We've found many wonderful, current books on places near and far.

The Friends have sponsored two youth programs again this summer. *The Unhuggables: Animals with Bad Reputations"* was in early June, with *Hedwig and Friends* on July 17 at 6:30 PM. Come early for a seat. We scored big getting Victoria Houston to come September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mark your calendar now and pick up one of her books for a good summer read.

Our Adult Coloring Program is a nice way to spend an evening. We have all the materials you would need. Tim Boyle has provided a nice playlist of music we pipe through the meeting room speakers. Like they used to say on commercials: Try it—You'll like it! ----Kathy O'

# Save the Date---Victoria Houston

## Wisconsin Author---September 23rd 7:00 PM

"Dead Hot Shot" by Victoria Houston Chief of Police Lew Ferris, short-handed thanks to an AWOL coroner, never even gets the turkey stuffed before the bodies start to surface. So, she calls on reliable-retired dentist Doc Osborne for help. Doc, who had counted on sitting by the fire with Lew to plan a fly-fishing trip to Wyoming, grabs his gear and heads out to help Lew make sense of the suspicious deaths.

By the end of the day, credit card theft and dysfunctional families have muddied the waters of the usually clear Loon Lake.



Victoria Houston (pictured) fishes and writes in Northern Wisconsin. Along with her critically acclaimed Loon Lake Mystery series, she has written several non-fiction titles. Ms Houston calls Rhinelander, Wisconsin home.

**Meet the Friends Treasurer**---At the Friends monthly meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, Peggy Curtis Opland graciously took over the duties of treasurer for our group.

She has been married to her husband Russ for forty-eight plus years. They moved to Onalaska the first time in 1976. They have two children, Danah (OHS 1989) and Pern (OHS 1993). She was a stay-athome Mom until returning to college to get a Financial Degree. She worked as a tax accountant until retiring in 2010 to care for terminally ill mother-in-law.

In 2002 they bought a small Victorian on LaCrosse's Northside and refurbished the 100+ year old home to décor of the late 1800's. At the time, she says they were very active with the LaCrosse County



Historical Society. After living in the Victorian for ten years, they moved to Colorado in 2012. In late 2016 when their youngest grandchild entered school they returned to Onalaska.

They have five grandchildren: Jack, 20, Eliza, 19; Sofia, 13; Miles, 11; and Julia, 7.

Peggy loves any kind of work having to do with numbers. Also likes to read murder mysteries; do counted cross-stitch. She says she has many authors that she loves but tends to stick with those that provide a good mystery. She's not inclined to read poignant romance novels, as she gets too emotional. She won't watch the Hallmark Channel for that same reason.

Russ and Peggy like to cruise the Southern Caribbean and a very special cruise was through the Panama Canal in 2015. Peggy says Colorado was a beautiful place to live but she is so glad to back in Wisconsin. It was hard to be a Packers fan in Bronco country.

Besides the treasurer position, Peggy also takes care of the membership drive. Thanks Peggy for your expertise and for accepting the officer duties.



"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out." ---James Bryant Conant







Pictured to the right is Winona author Kathy Sullivan who was our guest speaker on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Her presentation was well received by those present. She told about how she started writing, touched on publishing and how to go about self-publishing. She also discussed how her writing developed over time.





To the left is a display of some of Kathy's books and awards she has received. Her presentation was interesting and informative.

Regrettably we had to cancel the presentation on May 21<sup>st</sup> with Author Jon Steffes as our guest speaker because of a lack of attendance.



To benefit the Friends, use the smile.amazon.com site for shopping. Instead of shopping the regular site, go into Amazon from the following link: <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/39-1597865">http://smile.amazon.com/39-1597865</a> to place your order. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. 0.5% of the price will be donated to Friends of Onalaska Library.

How did the laundry woman look after a day's work? Washed out.

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**Floyde's Senior Moments**---funded by the Ben & Floyde Sias Trust will start the summer series on July 10<sup>th</sup> and will run through July 31<sup>st</sup>. Programs are on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM at the Library. Enjoy.

July 10<sup>th</sup> Friends of the Upper Mississippi Wildlife Refuge Pools 7 & 8

July 17<sup>th</sup> "Soldiers of Vietnam" Tim Carrier & Ken Loging

July 24<sup>th</sup> "Falconry Through the Ages" River Valley Raptors

July 31<sup>st</sup> "Wolves are Wonderful" Jim Backus, Magoo Nature Photography

**Monthly Monday Night Adult Coloring continues---**Coloring is a popular relaxing activity. Recently when we were up on the second floor (surgery & procedures) at Gundersen I noticed with interest a sign saying they had "Coloring Kits" available to pass the time. Our next Adult Coloring nights coming up are July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup>. Time is 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.



Spring Book Sale April 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

Working the Book Sale

Left to Right

Cheri Niedzwiecki

Sherri Novak

Georgia McGuire



It is time to update my newsletter listing. We still have a number of people who have not renewed yet so I'm going to list the paid members again. Please check the listing of paid members below and if you are not on the list, we hope you will renew your membership. I plan on updating my newsletter addresses shortly. If you have not paid your 2019 membership please do so now. Thanks

#### **PAID 2019 MEMBERSHIPS**

Bardelmeier, Denis/Jean	Kiehne, Fred/Ramona	Russell, Mary Jo
Bartz, Jackie	Krause, Larry	Saltz, Gail
Bell, Sophie	Linder. Merl/Rose	Sheppard, William/Margie
Benusa, Bill/Joyce	Maringer, Linda	Solberg, Winnie
Blanchard, Pat	McGuire, Georgia	Staats, Don/Nancy
Boyle, Tim/Sharon	Nelson-Bickel, Karon	Stevens, Russ/Jennifer
Wheeler	Nick, Charles/Nancy	Stodola, Judy
Brady, Judy	Niedzwiecki, Cheri	Storm, Jerry
Briggs, JoAnn	Odahl, Sharon	Stuhr, Beverly
Duffrin, Trudy	O'Driscoll, Bill/Kathy	Wackerbarth, Cle/Brenda
Dwyer, Betty	Opland, Russel/Peggy	Walley, Ron/Vickie
Finn, Donna	Ostlund, Wendy	Warzynski, Larry/Kathy
Fuhrman, Beverly	Peplinski, Marcee	Whitmman, Sandy
Growt, Dave/Audrey	Peterson, Caroline	Wiesjahn, Naomi
Hansen, Mike	Pischke, Larry	Willford, Ann
Heisler, Caroline	Pohja, Larry/Terry	Wirkus, Lois
Hiser, Vona	Quill, James M.	
Key, Pam	Ramsay, Marv/Candy	



Why did the store manager hire the cow?
To beef up the sales.

#### Why did the shark spit out the clown? He tasted funny.

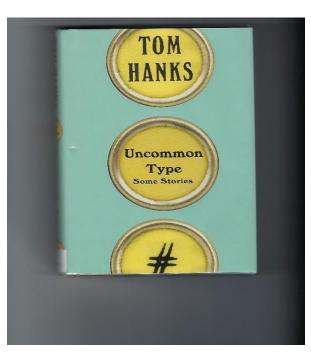
No Monthly Friends Meeting in July. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30 PM in the Library Meeting Room. Coming up in September will be our Chicken-Q (date not determined yet) and a special program featuring our guest author Victoria Houston on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

# From the Shelves of the Onalaska Library:

#### "Uncommon Types" By Tom Hanks

Did you know Tom Hanks was an author? I did not. When I found this book, I thought it was worth pulling out and featuring it in the newsletter.

A hectic, funny sexual affair between two best friends. A World War II veteran dealing with his emotional and physical scars. A second-rate actor plunged into sudden stardom and a A small-town whirlwind press junket. newspaper columnist with old-fashioned views



of the modern world. A woman adjusting to life in a new neighborhood after divorce. Four friends going to the moon and back in a rocketship constructed in the backyard. A teenage surfer stumbling into his father's secret life.

These are just some of the people and situations that Tom Hanks explores in his first work of fiction. Known for his honesty and sensitivity as an actor, Tom Hanks brings both those characteristics to his writing. Alternatingly whimsical, moving, and occasionally melancholy, **Uncommon Type** is a book that will delight as well as surprise his millions of fans. Fiction

