

Friends of the Bemidji Public Library
Membership Application
P O Box 1151
Bemidji MN 56619

Date _____

Renewing _____ or new membership _____

Name

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip

Telephone number

Email

_____ I wish to support the Friends but be inactive.

_____ I wish to support the Friends and be active.

Levels of membership: Please check one that fits your level of support

___ \$3.00 student/senior (55 years old or older)

___ \$5.00 Individual ___ \$10.00 Family

___ \$30.00 Business ___ \$100.00 Supporting

___ \$300.00 (Life time – one time payment)

I would like to help with or are currently helping with the following:

Red Door clerk _____ Mailings _____

Grant writing _____ Publicity _____

Fund raising _____

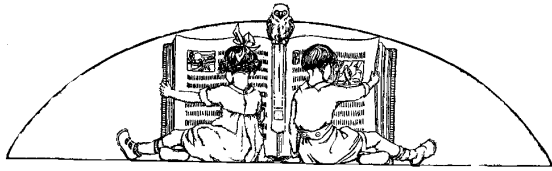
Programming: _____ Children's _____ Adult

I wish to be a board member, please contact me when an opening occurs. _____

Make your check payable to: **Friends of the Library** and mail to the address above.



Friends of the Bemidji Library
P O Box 1151
Bemidji MN 56619



A Short History: The Friends of the Bemidji Public Library was founded in 1988 as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Our Mission: To advocate for and support the Bemidji Public Library in providing high-quality service.

Our Members: The membership consists of a diverse group of individuals - men, women, young, old, retired, working with one thing in common: A love of learning and libraries.

Our Money: The Friends' annual budget is presently over \$10,000 and comes from membership dues, Red Door Bookstore sales, and donations from individuals and organizations. These funds are used to enable the library to offer a variety of materials as well as special programs. Among them:

- *Children's section book bins, floor mats, cushions

- *The BARC (Bemidji Area Reading Canines) READS program

- *Sponsorship of authors/poets programs

- *Support of the Summer Children's Reading program

- *Support of the Winter Adult Reading program

- *Support for the "Santa Saturdays" program at the library

Other On-Going Programs: The Friends has developed many ways to connect with the community to raise awareness of the library's existence and offerings.

- *The Red Door Bookstore, founded in 2003, is located in the library and is open 20 plus hours a week for the public to enjoy. The bookstore is staffed and managed entirely with the help of Friends' volunteers.

- *The Books for Baby project has been in operation for five years. Friends' volunteers assemble packets for new parents that include a new board book for the baby, information about library programs, and information about the importance of reading on social development and bonding between parent and child. Volunteers then deliver the packets to the hospital.

- *The *Library Lines* newspaper column appears monthly in the *Buy Line* and details information about the library and the Friends.

When You Become A Member: Whether you choose to be an active or inactive member, you will receive the Friends newsletter, "Among Friends," as a way to stay informed of Friends activities and future initiatives. You will also be invited to take part in the Annual Member Sale at the Red Door Bookstore where the already low prices are slashed even further to enable you to make large purchase of the available items.

Should you decide to be an active member, there are several ways for you to participate in the organization. When you fill out the membership form, simply check the area(s) in which you have an interest and one of the Friends Board members will contact you. As a Red Door volunteer, you will receive yet another benefit – the ability to earn Red Door Bookstore Bucks which may be exchanged for bookstore items in place of cash.

Remember, your membership fee will go to support programs in the library and to help purchase more items for children and adults. And, as a member, you will help to continue the history of the Friends and ensure its existence into the future.

Please take the time to complete the form on the back of this brochure and consider attending a Board meeting. The Board meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 10 am in the Red Door Bookstore. There, you may ask questions, make suggestions, or simply observe the process of an active, progressive organization.