

The Book Club of Grosse Ile  
P.O. Box 375  
Grosse Ile, MI 48138  
[www.gibookclub.com](http://www.gibookclub.com)

Dear :

Welcome! We are so glad that you have joined the Book Club of Grosse Ile, now in its 86th year. In the past, our organization has brought literature, knowledge, fellowship, and fun to the community through the annual circulation of 20 quality books, 3 meetings featuring speakers, 2 book discussions, and a spring field trip. As we learn to adapt and adjust to our world in the pandemic, we are trying to continue as many of these attributes of the club as possible within the constraints of safety. Some of our events this season will occur in the Zoom format until we can again meet face to face, but we will continue to read and pass books according to safety procedures recommended by the American Library Association.

Because of its size and purpose, it is probably different from other book clubs you have known. Our club has approximately 60 regular members who participate in the bi-weekly (sometimes monthly) passing of books chosen by our book selection committee. That committee scours trusted sources and reads constantly before settling on 10 fiction and 10 non-fiction titles to purchase by December of each year. We buy 3 copies of each book so that a complete set of 20 circulates in an established pattern on the north end, south end, and center of Grosse Ile. Associate members enjoy our events but do not participate in the book circulation.

When the newly purchased books arrive, our circulation committee wraps them in a protective covering and affixes a sheet inside the back of each book that designates who passes the book, and when, to you. It also indicates to whom and when you pass the book. Passing dates fall on the 1st or 15th of the month. There is a circulation chairperson for north, south, and central Grosse Ile whose name is also on this sheet. Please contact that individual for help if you have any questions or have not received a book within 3 days of when it is due to you. You may also contact the individual from whom you should have received the book.

If you will be away, it is very important that you arrange for your book to pass to the next person in your absence. Please take care to see that the books are not exposed to the elements by leaving them in a designated place (porch or inside a door, for instance).

In order to be extra careful to not pass along any contamination on the books during the pandemic, we have instituted the following procedure before we pass a book. We clean the plastic cover with a disinfectant, put the book in a Ziploc bag with a note as to the date it went into "quarantine", and pass the book on time. The person who receives the book can determine when she would feel comfortable to take the

book out of quarantine. I have found scientific literature indicating that 3 days is as long as the virus can live on the surfaces of the books.

Ordinarily you would be picking up the first book of the circulation year at the dinner meeting on February 11th, 2021. That book will come back to you by March 1st of 2022, and it is yours to keep at that point. In all likelihood a dinner event will not be possible this season, so the book distribution will have to be revised. When we have decided how we will distribute next season's books, we will notify the members via email.

Our meetings feature speakers and occur on Fridays in September, February, and April. April is also the designated annual meeting when officers are elected. Daytime meetings start at 1:00 PM. The February meeting usually is a dinner in the evening. This year it likely will be a Zoom event with a virtual cocktail party before our speaker. All details are still to be determined.

Designated leaders guide our two book discussions in October and March, which also begin at 1:00 PM on Fridays. Books to be discussed are selected from the book list of the previous year. The remaining book discussion this season will be The Honey Bus by Meredith May: discussion led by our own Flora Case.

Volunteers make the Book Club of Grosse Ile hum along. Our Board members (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and committee chairs – program, hospitality, book discussion, and book selection) meet throughout the year. Members are welcomed to attend. We hope that you will take an active role on a committee or the board.

Our website, [www.gibookclub.com](http://www.gibookclub.com), is an excellent resource. You can find the book lists, circulation information, meeting details, member names, phone numbers and addresses there.

Once again, we would like to welcome you.

Best regards

Katie Hartwell, President

P.S. We look forward to meeting you in person if safety allows at a meet and greet event on January 7th. Please mark your calendar. Details to follow by email.