

The Book Club of Grosse Ile
P.O. Box 375
Grosse Ile, MI 48138
www.gibookclub.com

Dear New Member:

Welcome! We are so glad that you have joined the Book Club of Grosse Ile, now in its 85th year. Through the annual circulation of 20 quality books, 3 meetings featuring speakers, 2 book discussions, and a spring field trip, our organization brings literature, knowledge, fellowship, and fun to the community. Please join us for a cocktail reception on Thursday, January 9th, 2020 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Colony Clubhouse (8225 Macomb) so that we can get to know each other. In the meantime, we hope that this letter will serve as a helpful primer on how the club functions. 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 head for north, south, and central Grosse Ile whose name is also on this sheet. Please contact that individual for help if you 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 if you leave them in a designated place (porch or inside a door, for instance).

You will pick up the first book of the circulation year at the dinner meeting on February 21st. That book will come back to you by March 1st of 2021, and it is yours to keep. Since the book that you keep is randomly assigned, you may want to swap with another member for a book that suits you better for your library.

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 includes dinner and usually begins at 6:00 PM. You are encouraged to bring spouses, significant others, and friends to enjoy that program.

Designated leaders guide our 2 book discussions in October and March, which also begin at 1:00 PM. Each of these focuses on a title selected from the book list of the previous year.

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

Our website, 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 are delighted to welcome you and look forward to seeing you at the January “meet and greet.”

Best regards,

Christine Dowhan-Bailey
President