

# Hooked on Books for Kids

Volume 26 No. 3  
Summer 2017

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Kidserie.com

## Everyone Wins at 11th Spelling Bee

Hooked on Books for Kids' 11th annual corporate spelling bee once again rocked the house at Junior's Last Laugh on April 4. Thirteen teams vied for prizes in spelling, best costumes, and most spirit.

Winner of this year's spelling prize was the Twenty-fourth Masonic Lodge team of Mike Stafford, Dick Hiles, and Steve Yovich. Giving them stiff competition and coming in second was the team of Mike Burns, Grant Miller, and Molly Anglin sponsored by the D.A.'s Office.

Again this year, best costumes and most spirit awards went to the Erie Bank team of John Van Tassel, Allison Hodas, and Jacqui Churley.

Audience members enjoyed the good food and drink from Junior's menu, bought tickets for the Chinese auction, and joined in the fun of the "Paddle 50-50" game at intermission.

Thanks to all the sponsors, team members, and supporters who made the evening a success and to all our board members and volunteers from Erie Bank who organized the event and made it run smoothly and to judges Stephanie Domitrovitch and Janice Locke.

Special thanks go to Mary Jane Koenig, our chief judge, who also selected the words to spell, and to MCs Traci Teudhope and Allen Carpenter for their often hilarious contributions to the fun.

Financially, the bee raised a record \$8,000, thanks to sponsors Catrabone, Catrabone & Assocs., Contemporary Ophthalmology, D.A.'s Office, Elderkin Law, EMTA, Erie Bank, Erie Insurance, Erie Kiwanis, Monahan & Monahan, Thrivent Financial, 24th Masonic Lodge, Werner Books, and York Rite Bodies.

Stay tuned for news about our 12th annual bee in 2018!



Bee Winners 24th Masonic Lodge

## Erie Gives Day is August 8. Books at NICU Show Results

Erie Gives Day has become a resounding success in raising money for local non-profits like Hooked on Books for Kids. Last year, 7,395 donors gave \$3,451,087 of which HOBFK received \$3,886.25.

As in previous years, the event will be from 8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p. m. The minimum gift is \$25, which must be made by credit card, either on the Erie Community Foundation's web site or by calling the Foundation at 454-0843.

Please mark the date on your calendar and make HOBFK one of the organizations to which you donate.

### NICU Program at UPMC Hamot Shows Results

Jeanne Burns, a nurse at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Hamot Hospital used books from HOBFK as part of her research on the effectiveness of encouraging parents to read aloud to their babies in the unit.

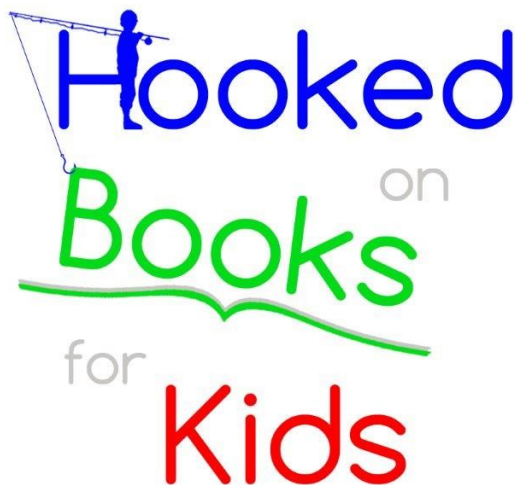
Before the program, only 12% of parents read to their babies, but with encouragement and books provided by us and others, 92% of parents did so, helping them to feel closer to their babies, decreasing stress, and providing an effective bond between parent(s) and children.

HOBFK is proud to provide a new book for each parent with a child in the NICU and congratulates Jeanne on her excellent research! We'll keep providing books!



**Erie Gives Day is August 8, 2017.**

## Thanks to New and Renewing Members



### Major Donors \$250 +

All the spelling bee sponsors  
Corry Area School District  
Erie Insurance Matching Funds  
Dr. Dan Frankforter & Ms. Karen Keene  
Mr. Y Mrs. Donald Mountjoy  
N.I.N.E. Place, North East

### Benefactor \$100 +

Andrew & Jeanne Burns  
Union City Lions Club

## **HOBFK Welcomes Kara Coleman to the Board**

Hooked on Books for Kids is proud to welcome its newest board member, Kara Coleman, news anchor and reporter for WICU TV.

Kara is a 2002 graduate of McDowell High School and a 2007 graduate in Journalism and Communications of St. Bonaventure University. Since joining WICU in 2010, she has "done it all" for the station as anchor, producer, writer, and creator of such segments as "How Cool is Your School."

Kara says, "I've always loved to read, and I think it's so important that all kids can experience that love themselves. And if I can help simply by putting a book in their hands, how fantastic!

**Welcome to HOBFK, Kara!**



**WICU News anchor and new board member, Kara Coleman**

### **Patrons \$50+**

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ter  
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Marilyn Redenius  
M/M David Schlabach

### **Mad Mex Event**

On Sept. 12 from 7-9 p.m. HOBFK will host a fund raising event at the Mad Mex restaurant in the Mill-creek Mall.

Guests will enjoy a Buffet Style Fajita Party, from appetizer to dessert, including both non-alcoholic drinks and a free Margarita or beer.

All proceeds benefit HOBFK.

Cost is only \$35/person. Tickets are available from any board member or call Dean Baldwin at 864-8164. See you there!

### **See Us on Facebook and the Web**

Newsletters are just one of our ways to tell you about our activities and accomplishments.

To keep abreast of our current events, visit our Facebook page.

For information about our goals, mission, and programs, and to print an application for books, visit our web page. Both addresses are on p. 4. of this newsletter.

**And thanks for your Support**

**Please check your mailing label to see when your membership expires.**

Hooked on Books for Kids  
P.O. Box 3059  
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Donations to Books for Kids are tax deductible for those who itemize.