No one will be surprised to learn that our 14th annual corporate spelling bee, scheduled for March 31, was postponed just days before it was scheduled to happen.

Needless to say, Hooked on Books for Kids is hoping to reschedule, but when that can happen is up to the virus, the governor, and Junior’s Last Laugh. The fall would probably be the earliest we could expect to hold the bee.

Meanwhile, we want to thank our generous sponsors for their contributions: Catrabone, Catrabone, & Assoc., Contemporary Ophthalmology, Corry School District, D.A.’s Office, ERIEBANK, Erie Insurance, Erie Kiwanis, Merrill Lynch, Monahan & Monahan, National Fuel, Quinn Law, Summit Lions Club, and Thrivent Financial. We thank them, too, for their patience and understanding as we try to reschedule. Whenever it happens, the bee will be as much fun as ever!

Erie Gives Day August 11

The annual Erie Gives Day event is scheduled for August 11 this year, and we hope that our generous supporters will again include us among their favorite non-profits.

Rules this year are the same as last year’s. On line donations may be made from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. using Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. Minimum gift is $25, with no upper limit.

If you prefer to pay by check, it must be received by the ECF no later than August 10, payable to the Erie Community Foundation and sent there at 459 W. 6th St., Erie 16507. The form to accompany your check can be obtained at www.eriegives.org. on or after June 15.

We and the children and youth we serve are deeply grateful to all those who support us on Erie Gives Day.

THANK YOU!
We’re Still Giving Books

The coronavirus has interrupted our operations, as it has those of nearly every non-profit. We missed our April and May visits to Edison and Lincoln schools, and our books for Birthdays program on Saturdays has only recently re-opened—observing face masks, hygiene, and social distancing precautions, of course.

We have, however, given out books twice through St. John’s food pantry program, and students at Edison and Lincoln schools received books in June when they retrieved their belongings. Linda Smalley has also fulfilled requests from non-profits, so we’re still in business!

Nuova Aurora Donates $2,000

Every year, the Nuova Aurora Club gives cash donations to dozens of Erie’s non-profit organizations.

Thus, February 24 saw 60-70 non-profits gather at the club’s headquarters at 1518 Walnut Street to receive their contributions.

Hooked on Books for Kids has been fortunate to receive gifts from Nuova Aurora in the past, and again this year the club was especially generous in awarding us $2,000!

We are extremely grateful to Brian Ferraro, president of the organization, and to all of its members for this generous gift. This award allows us to purchase between 1,500 and 1,800 books, plus support our operating expenses.

THANKS, NUOVA AURORA!

At right: Dean Baldwin with sample books for Lincoln and Edison schools, and with Brian Ferraro of Nuova Aurora.

Thanks to New and Renewing Members

Major Donors $250 +

All of our spelling bee sponsors
Mr. & Mrs. James Chadwick in memory of Michael Chadwick
Erie Kiwanis Club
Fairview Community Council
Dr. Dan Frankforter & Ms. Karen Keene
Nuova Aurora
Siebenbuerger Ladies’ Auxiliary
Welcome to New Board Members

Hooked on Books for Kids is pleased to welcome new board members Cal Morse and Phil Rewers.

Cal retired 15 years ago from a “colorful past,” including maintenance work at Waldameer, returning college student, and as Chief of Nutrition and Food Service in the VA system. He is an active Erie Kiwanian and in his second year as its president.

Phil served over 40 years in the Erie School District as teacher, principal, and school psychologist. He also volunteers for the Glenwood Y and St. Patrick’s Church and teaches skiing to children for the Sight Center of North West PA.

Welcome, Cal and Phil!

Check Us Out!

To keep up with our many activities, please “Friend” us on Facebook. There you’ll find photos of recent events, news of upcoming events, and comments by recipients of our books.

On our web site, you can find information about our programs, an application to receive books, photos and a video of the hijinks at our spelling bee, and information about donating.

Remember: We are an all-volunteer organization, so we have no paid employees or officers and very low overhead. 85-90% of donations are used to purchase books; the rest goes for essential operating costs.

WE ARE GOOD STEWARDS WITH YOUR MONEY!

Benefactors $100+
Ron & Karen Krahe in honor of Melanie’s 50th birthday

Patrons $50+
Dean Baldwin, with thanks to Linda Smalley
Mark & Brenda Bane
Rob Cacchione
M/M Keith Donati
M/M Eric Hedlund
Charlotte Richards
M/M Sam Talarico

Sponsors $25+
Norma Jeanne Grieshober
Bernardine Infield
Stephanie Kotowski
Marian Wygant

Friends $10+
M/M Fred Infeld
Roger Olson
Carol Wright.

Prefer Email to Paper?
If you prefer to receive your newsletter by email, with your next donation, include your email address and a note asking for online delivery, Or send a notice to Dean Baldwin at dxb11@psu.edu.

However you get your newsletter, thanks for donating!

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However you get your newsletter, thanks for donating!

New board members Cal Morse and Phil Rewers
Won’t You Please Help Us?

Please use this coupon to lend us your support. The children and youth of Erie County will thank you.

___ Major Donor $250+
___ Benefactor $100+
___ Patron $50+
___ Sponsor $25+
___ Friend $10+

Mail the completed form and check payable to "Hooked on Books for Kids,"
P.O. Box 3059 Erie, PA 16508.
Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hookedonbooksforkids
Check our web site at www.hookedonbooksforkidserie.com

Donations to Books for Kids are tax deductible for those who itemize.