



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

September/October 2015

Volume LI No. 1

ISHMAEL RETURNS

The Schenectady County Public Library unveiled the renovated Library Plaza on June 9 and rededicated the sculpture called Ishmael. The piece was refurbished through a donation from Werner Fiebes, one of the original architects of the Central Library. We asked Werner to tell us the story of Ishmael:

"It all began in 1971 when The Hudson-Mohawk art show was at the Schenectady Museum. At that time the museum had an active art program and I was a member of the Board as well as chairman of the Art Committee. The sponsoring museum would award a first prize and purchase that work. When Mrs. Shulman arrived with a truck and crane with her enormous welded steel piece, we

asked her to drop it off in front of the museum. Mrs. Shulman had several pieces in the Capital District which I had admired but I considered this by far the very best and insisted that we give it first prize and acquire it. It was a tough sell !!! But I had an idea how to sell it.

The Board was troubled that the museum had little presence with the public, particularly since it was built up on the hill. Feibes & Schmitt had designed the Schenectady County Public Library to great success with the public. Now five years later we had begun construction of the police headquarters just east of the library. I convinced (bullied) the Museum Board that if we acquired Shulman's sculpture and offered it on an extended loan to the County, we could install it between the two Feibes & Schmitt buildings. Thus I argued the Schenectady Museum would be recognized for having come down from their Ivory Tower to the public. All we had to do now was raise \$1,900, Shulman's price.

Hanson Construction, the contractor for the police building, agreed to bring the sculpture down to the site where Dagostino Building Blocks, Inc.

provided us with one of their concrete manhole transition pieces as a base. As time went by we were able to pay Mrs. Shulman.

Sadly the County never budgeted any funds for grounds maintenance. The sculpture had not been painted for over 30 years and rust had done its job. Finally the County retained Mary Moore Wallinger, a landscape architect, to restore the entire library site. Swett & Swett Welding restored the sculpture.

I must say I am delighted to have lived to see this happy ending. Schenectady is enriched!!!"

Thank you Werner Feibes for your vision and your generous donation.



Werner Fiebes recounts the story of Ishmael as Karen Johnson looks on.

Comic Con Comes to the Library!



See page 5

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Fred Eddy, 1st Vice President
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone had a good summer and now, for the Friends, it's time to return to work.

Actually, many of us have been busy all summer sorting books and preparing for the upcoming sales. Our bookstore has been busy with monthly sales and redeeming coupons that the Friends provide for participants in the library's summer reading program. Construction of new sidewalks outside the store has been a major inconvenience, but the finished product will be very nice.

Work has begun on the Phyllis Bornt Family Literacy Center on middle State Street with hopes of an opening later this year or early next year.

Two of the library's staff members, assisted by the rest of the staff, organized the areas first Comic Con this summer. A large crowd attended, many wearing costumes of their favorite comic book characters. Thanks to Leah LaFera and Doug Bixler for working hard to put it on. The

Friends provided the funding, as we do for all library programs.

The fall lineup of noon programs is reported in this newsletter and we hope to see many of you every Monday. Plans are in the works for a really big bash celebrating the Friends 50th anniversary in 2016. Stay tuned for information about all upcoming events.

The Friends received a bequest of \$50,000 from the estate of member Mary A. James of Glenville. Part of the money will replenish funding for our museum pass program. We may also be thinking about establishing an endowment fund, which would further encourage folks to remember the Friends in their wills and contributions.

As we look ahead, the funding by the County administration will continue to be unpredictable and the Friends will be needed more than ever to keep the wonderful quality library enjoyed by the residents of Schenectady.

I hope you are looking forward to an exciting and eventful year.

- John Karl

The Whitney Book Corner

600 UNION STREET
SCHENECTADY, NY - 518.377.4670

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MON- SAT: 10AM-4PM

(THURS. TIL 7PM)

SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

POE OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

1-4 PM

UPCOMING SALES

SEPTEMBER - NON-FICTION

OCTOBER - CRAFT/HOBBIES

1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM

HALF PRICE

www.whitneybookcorner.org

Save the Date

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting and celebration of our 50th anniversary will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the River Stone Manor. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for an outstanding and memorable evening.



NOON PROGRAMS

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN
Jo Ann Adams, Coordinator



September 14

The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: the Japanese Art of Decluttering and Organizing, by Marie Kondo, translated by Cathy Hirano; reviewed by Claudia Jakubowski, of Put Together by Claudia. This best-selling guide describes the impact of an organized home on mood and physical and mental health.

September 21

This Old Magic: A New Look at Old Fairy Tales, presented by Dr. Anastasia Pease, Lecturer, English Department, Union College. Dr. Pease will share her Union College Academy for Lifelong Learning Spring 2015 presentation.

September 28

The Iron King, by Maurice Druon; reviewed by Dr Helene Scheck, Director, Medieval Renaissance Studies Program at the University at Albany. A work of medieval historical fiction, recently published in English, is the first volume in a series about the Hundred Years' War, with an introduction by George R.R. Martin, who credits this series as an influence on his Game of Thrones.

October 5

A Toast to Romance, presented by Marge Karowe, retired attorney, based on her very popular Spring UCALL program at Union College.

October 19

When Books Went to War: The Stories That Helped Us Win World War II, by Molly Gupstill Manning; reviewed by Ellen Keegan, Books for Troops, Manager. In 1941, librarians launched a campaign to send 120 million free, small, lightweight paperbacks to American troops in every theater of war.

October 26

The Wright Brothers by David McCullough; reviewed by Kevin Millington, Vice-President of the Empire State Aerosciences Museum in Glenville. McCullough brings his own perspective to a fascinating part of our history.

Note: the Monday series of talks is held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are available for a nominal fee. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.

SPOOKY HAPPENINGS AT THE WHITNEY BOOK CORNER!

Usher in the fall with Edgar Allen Poe at our Poe Open House October 24th from 1 to 4 pm at the Whitney Book Corner. The winning poems from our Poe Poetry Contest will be read and the store will be decorated for this event by our Junior Friends. Refreshments will be served.

Look for other GHOSTLY events to be held at the library during October in partnership with the Whitney.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Several times a year, a dedicated group appears to help prepare the newsletter mailing. They are: Bill & Lois Isles (who will be married 65 years Aug. 2015), Rudy Dehn (who will be 96 in August), Bill and Mary Liz Leitch, Anne Yunick, Madelyn Thorne and occasional helpers Chris Witkowski, Joan Molloy and Dottie Potochnik. Bill and Mary Liz Leitch also prepare the renewal notices every quarter. Many thanks to them for their long and dedicated service.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

REMEMBERING MARY BETH



It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of Mary Beth Barbagelata, a dedicated

volunteer of the Friends of the Library. Mary Beth performed the duties of Friends secretary for several years and sat on the hospitality committee. She was a substitute clerk for the library and could be seen working at any of the branches as well as Central. We asked her friends and co-workers to share their memories.

“Mary Beth was a great person to be around. She always had a kind word and a big smile. She was a great volunteer for the Friends of the Library and would never say no to a request for helping out on a project. She became the secretary for the Board of the Friends and

did a great job for us. Whenever I saw her at the library she would wave and give me a “hello Bill” with her big smile. She ran the annual dinners with Dottie Potochnick and Patti Rotunda and it was always a great success. She was a good friend to all of us and she will be sorely missed.” *Bill Lietch, past president of the Friends*

“Mary was just plain fun. Her personality sparkled. She worked hard, played hard, and gave a lot. I always looked forward to working with her and especially enjoyed chatting with her. I miss her laughter, her feistiness, her caring, and the joy she brought to every single shift.” - *Jan Rose*

“What I remember best about Mary was her smile and her laugh. Her eyes would crinkle at the corners and her whole face would light up! You were always the richer for having spent any time in her

presence.” - *Michelle Moran*

“The one special thing she did for me was to buy and put fancy bows on the chocolate bars we gave to volunteers, who had reached 300, 400, or 500 hours. It sounds small, but I just told her the number and she took it from there.” - *Ellie Rowland*

“Mary always came to work with a smile on her face. She was a joy to work with. Mary loved life and lived life to the fullest! She was one of us at Glenville and we were all so stunned and saddened when we heard of her passing. She will always be in our hearts.” - *Carolyn Morin*

The Friends will determine an appropriate memorial to Mary Beth as opportunities are identified with the opening of the Phyllis Bornt Family Literacy Center.

BOOK SALES



It all starts with donations. Bags, boxes, various containers of all sorts, dropped off at the loading dock at the back of the Central Library. From there they are taken upstairs by our dedicated maintenance staff and left for unpacking. Little by little, they are sorted, once for online sales and then again into categories: nonfiction, fiction, children's, Christmas, music, and audio books.

Sorters then put non-fiction donations by subject in labeled boxes, and fiction is sorted by popular authors, literature, humor, poetry and historical fiction. Friends volunteers spend many hours each week trying to get ready for our sales.

We are in need of substitute sorters for non-fiction. If you are interested, please call Susie Leon at 609-221-4987 or

email her at sleonread@gmail.com.

Our next sale is October 3 & 4. Bobbi Richardson will be contacting volunteers to staff the sale. Please watch for her email or call so you can participate in a popular and worthwhile event in Schenectady. Please be open to the idea of set up and clean up since this takes many hours.

Please mark your calendars to pick up yard signs at the Whitney at least 2 weeks ahead of the sale. When the sale is over, return there as well.

We are looking forward to another successful sale. Please come and support us in any way you can.

- Bob Symons, Susie and Rich Leon, Robin and Fred Eddy



AROUND THE LIBRARY

FIRST ANNUAL COMIC CON A HUGE HIT !



The Central Library came alive with superheroes and cartoon and television characters on July 11, 2015 when SCPL held its first ever Electric City Comic Con

convention. We invited about a dozen regional and NYC comic creators to set-up in the center of the library to sell their work and connect with young readers. Throughout the day the more than 1,400 people attending the event could go to one of many programs including: improvisation drawing events, an introduction to Manga comics, and our most popular event, the costume contest.

The focus of the day was on the comic book creators and the art form of the comic. The keynote speaker, Chris Giarusso, the creator of G-Man, talked about his journey from childhood to successful artist/author. Children in the audience loved seeing his first drawing of G-Man that he did as a young boy and enjoyed hearing how he kept on

drawing and writing the same characters, all based on friends of his.

Some of the feedback we heard from guests included: *"It was one of the best local events in a long time!!!"* *"Fantastic! It was very valuable to speak with other illustrators about their work and methods...definitely do it again!"* *"Great event and family friendly!"*

Due to the success of our first Comic Con we have decided to make this an annual occurrence and have set the 2016 date for July 9.

The event was a shining example of just how vital the Friends of the Library are to the community. The funding provided from them helped the library pay for advertising, food for the artists, travel and lodging for the keynote speaker and programming throughout the day. It was a great community event that built fond memories and inspired lots of new readers. -Leah LaFera, Reference Librarian



TRAVEL MEMOIR WRITING PROGRAM

Saturdays October 17, 24, and 31
10 am – noon

Dixon Board Room

Facilitated by Marea Gordett

Explore ramblings and the inner work of memory to revive trips we have taken, recounting enchanted friends, meals, or places.

Register by calling 388-4511 or online at www.scpl.org



WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

We have been busy this summer! We will have a new sidewalk courtesy of the Schenectady Metroplex Development Authority. We need to recognize anyone who worked or shopped during the construction. It wasn't easy "walking the plank" to gain access to the store and we appreciate your efforts.

Some of the categories have been moved around, but layouts have been posted to help find your favorites and new signs are in the works.

In September, our popular sale of

non-fiction books features them at 1/2 off. Stock up on your favorite biography, cookbook or sports book.

In October our craft & hobby books will be \$1.00 just in time to get a head start on your homemade Christmas gifts. Remember to mark your calendar for Saturday, October 24th for our Edgar Allen Poe Open House from 1-4 p.m.

We still have Friends of the SCPL t-shirts available at the store for \$15.00. - Charlene Roman

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Robert Coppola & Barbara Armstrong
 Lois & Richard Atkinson
 Patricia P. Barker
 Barbara Blake
 Hank & Pat Buczkowski
 Richard & Marian Clowe*
 Donna & Bill Fairlee
 Dr. Marion Farlin
 Renie M. Federighi
 Bill & Edna Gosier
 Ann & Joe Gotwals
 Anne & David Gray
 Marion Grimes
 Arthur W. Haberl*
 Gerald & Bea Hahn*
 Dawn S. Knutson
 Mary Lauria**
 A. Wexler & Diane Leone
 Reba Mehan*
 Carl Filbrich & Christy Multer**
 Virginia & Jeff Newton
 Carl & Elizabeth Pieper*
 Ron & Gerri Pinkerton
 Janet I Rainey
 Alice Reed
 Grace Riccobono
 Roberta Richardson
 Tom & Barbara Rider
 Claudia & Keith Rolfe
 Fouad & Louise Sattar**
 William Schmitt*
 Mary Scicchitano
 Albert & Christine Singer
 Marilyn Soffer
 Betty & Owen Sutton
 Legislator Holly C. Vellano
 Harry and Sandra Willis

PATRON - \$50-199

Elmer & Olga Bertsch
 Bryant Bigelow
 Karen & David Bradley
 Robert & Julia Burgess
 Paul & Serena Butch
 Miriam W. Butzel
 Mary Cahill
 Alan & Valerie Catlin
 Edward & Dorothy Curley
 Lisa & Bob Esperti
 Ruth S. Farrell
 Virginia Golden
 Roger & Barbara Grasier
 Cynthia Hamilton
 Howard & Emily Hart*
 Sylvia E. Hosegood
 Karen B. Johnson
 Bill & Mary Liz Leitch*
 Joseph Leonardo
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Liebers
 Arlene & Jack Maranville
 Richard & Patricia Margas*
 Anne Mocker
 Rita Moore
 Anne L. Peterson
 Kristina Philip
 Robert & Carol Reid
 Charles J. Richardson
 Janice Rose
 Gene & Eleanor Rowland*
 Austin & Marti Spang*
 Joan & Robert Spencer*
 Dr. & Mrs. James M. Strosberg
 Themetria Svolos*
 Francis Taormina
 Dr. & Mrs. Clifford M. Tepper
 Fred & Virginia Thompson*

Jon & Nancy Tobiessen
 Joan & Robert Townsend
 Carol Troost
 William & Elizabeth Utzig
 Barbara Van Etten*
 Barbara Vivier*
 Nancy Walden*
 Anita Walther
 Mary Ann Warner
 Hazel M. Wilson
 George & Ellen Woodzell
 Junice & Harold Wusterbarth*
 Anne & Bob Yunick

BENEFACTOR \$200+

Susan & Richard Baker
 Neil & Jane Golub
 Lawson P. & Priscilla L. Harris*
 Kimberly Mastrianni
 Donna Esposito & William Ross*
 Samuel & Carol Wait
 Sally & Simon Weinstein

**Eligible for GE Match*

***New Member*

NEW MEMBERS

Eleanor Alger-Monlea
 M. Sylvia Anapolis
 Marie Baluch
 Bryant Bigelow
 Elaine Carrubba
 Elaine Cerne
 Barbara Dragon
 Peg Foster

Rosalie Harrington
 Cindy Kennedy
 Virginia Manning
 Louis Patterson
 Delores Rasalas
 Charles J. Richardson
 Maryetta E Ryan
 Robert Sweet
 Alexandria Tamburello

JUNIOR FRIENDS

Emily Aucompaugh
 Melissa Aucompaugh
 Joe Giordano
 Shaheen Hasan

DONATIONS

In memory of
 Connie Rehberger from:
 Don & Pat Wheeler

In memory of
 Deb Reid D'Antonio from:
 Clara Chillino
 The 9 a.m. Fitness Class
 Mark & Carol Folgert
 Roy & Sally Thomson
 Jo Ann Adams
 Ronald A. Scharf DVM

In memory of Mary
 Kishton from:
 Lillian Bertalan & Michael DePetrillo



SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE OCT. 3 & 4



AROUND THE LIBRARY

CALLING ALL POETS!

In conjunction with our Edgar Allen Poe Open House on October 24th at the Whitney Book Corner, the Friends of the Library are holding a poetry contest seeking original spooky poems.

Contest Rules:

Two categories: Junior-13 to 18

Adult - 18 and up

Poems must be no longer than four stanzas, four to six lines per stanza.

One entry per person

Poems must be in the spirit of Halloween or Poe's works

All entries must be postmarked no later than October 10th

Please indicate on your poem the category you are in, along with your name and phone number.

There will be one winner per category and the prizes will include a gift certificate to the Whitney Book Corner. The winning poems will be published in our newsletter, on our website and will be read by you or staff at the open house (your choice). Mail entries to Friends of the Library, Poetry Contest, 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY. 12305.



JUNIOR FRIENDS PILOT PROGRAM KICKS OFF

On July 20th the first Meeting of the Junior Friends Pilot Program was held at the Library. In attendance were Joe Giordano, Shaheen Hasan, and Emily Aucompaugh. Melissa Aucompaugh was ill and unable to attend. The framework for the Junior Friends Program was discussed and a lot of ideas exchanged. Our pilot Junior Friends will be volunteering at various jobs such as transporting books,

sorting books, photographing books for online sales, working at the book store and volunteering at the big book sales. They started volunteering in July and August and will be reporting back on their experiences at our next meeting on August 24th. We hope to open the program in September to all students between the ages of 13 and 18. - Shawn Marie Schultz

REELS

A Series of Free Films Shown at Noon in the McChesney Room

September 2: McFarland, USA

September 9: Black Sea

September 16: Kingsman – The Secret Service

September 23: Mr. Turner

September 30: The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

October 7: While We're Young

October 14: 5 Flights Up

October 21: The Age of Adaline

October 28: The Raven

Detailed movie information can be found on the Events Calendar at www.scpl.org.

SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE

OCT. 3 & 4



Shaheen Hasan and Melissa Aucompaugh work on scanning and sorting books.



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Albany, N.Y.
Permit #728

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES AT CENTRAL

Computers for Novices: Tuesday, September 8, 9-10:30	Internet Searching: Wednesday, September 16, 9-10:30
Basic Keyboarding: Thursday, September 10, 9-10:30	Facebook: Tuesday, September 22, 6-7:30 p.m.
Basic Internet: Tuesday, September 15, 9-10:30 a.m.	Basic Microsoft Excel: Wednesday, September 23, 6-7:30 p.m.
Google Docs: Tuesday, September 15, 6-7:30 p.m.	Basic E-mail: Tuesday, September 22, 9-10:30
	Intermediate Microsoft Excel 2010: Saturday, September 26, 9-10:30 a.m.



*Register online at www.scpl.org, at any
library location, or by calling 388-4511.
Registrants must have a valid SCPL card.
The classes are funded by the Friends of
the Library.*

SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE OCT. 3 & 4

***CENTRAL LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY***

***SATURDAY 9-4
SUNDAY 1-3***

OVER 40,000 TITLES!

SUNDAY - FILL A BAG

FOR \$2.00!



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

November/December 2015

Volume LI No. 2

WE'RE GOING DIGITAL.....



.....and we hope you'll join us!

In response to requests from many of our members we have decided to offer the option of receiving the Friends newsletter electronically. Not only is

this environmentally friendly, sending the newsletter digitally will enable the Friends to reduce postage costs. No more waiting for the postman – simply sign in to your email to receive the latest information about the Friends of SCPL.

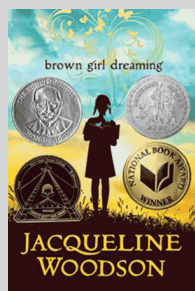
Don't have email? Prefer receiving a paper copy of the newsletter? No worries – we will continue to mail the newsletter to those who favor that method.

How it will work:

In November, members who have already provided us with an email address will receive a notice from the *scplfriendsnotice* account asking if you would like to receive the newsletter digitally. If you want to sign up for this option, simply reply to the email and answer in the affirmative. If you don't want to participate, no response is needed. Haven't given us your email yet but interested? No problem – just send a request to folmembernotice@gmail.com and we will sign you up.

We expect to kick off this initiative in 2016 with the January/February issue being sent to you electronically. We are excited about offering our members the easiest, most convenient means for obtaining news about the Friends.

ONE COUNTY/ONE BOOK TITLE ANNOUNCED



The Schenectady County Public Library is pleased to announce the selection for the 2016 One County, One Book program is Jacqueline Woodson's *Brown Girl Dreaming*, winner of the National Book Award for Young Adult Literature. Ten years ago the first One County, One Book program was kicked off with Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

The community is invited to a planning meeting on Thursday, November 5, from 4-5 p.m. in the McChesney Room.

Interested in assisting but unable to attend? Contact Lauren Bendall, Literacy Outreach Coordinator, at 388-4513 or lbendall@mvls.info.



**Black Friday @ the
Whitney!
Store opens at
9 a.m.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



There is no down time for the Friends. As soon as the major sale is over in the

fall, volunteers are busy with preparations for the next sale, sorting books for the bookstore and identifying books and media that can be sold online. We are reminded that all of these efforts are to serve one purpose: the continued high performance of our libraries.

Amid all the joyful work, and I'm not being facetious, occasionally come some sad times. The Friends have lost two of our good supporters in the past few months. Mary Beth Barbagelata's death was reported in the last newsletter and I am so sorry to report the passing of Lisa Holt. Lisa's legacy is reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

Along with the sorrow we share, there are many bright spots. We welcome Norrine Thompson, a regular worker for the Friends who will be taking over many of the membership responsibilities.

It would not be fair to name a few of the hard workers for fear of leaving some out. They know who they are and how much they are appreciated.

For almost 50 years, the Friends have come forward to support the library. When our anniversary comes next year, all of you will be invited to celebrate the half century of service to the community. Be on the lookout in this and future newsletters for information regarding events that you will want to be a part of. One of those, we hope, will be the opening of the Phyllis Bornt Family Literacy Center on State Street. It is fitting that we celebrate this new addition to the library family since Phyllis was the epitome of dedication. It was her bequest that made this new facility possible.

Finally, to misquote Douglas MacArthur, "Old Friends don't fade away, they just keep pushing books." - John Karl

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Editor - Christine Witkowski
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(THURS. TIL 7PM)

SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

CHARLIE BROWN OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, DEC. 12

1-4 PM

UPCOMING SALES

NOVEMBER - HOLIDAY BOOKS

BLACK FRIDAY - 50% OFF

DECEMBER - BETTER BOOKS

1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM

HALF PRICE

www.whitneybookcorner.org

Save the Date

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting and celebration of our 50th anniversary will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the River Stone Manor. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for an outstanding and memorable evening.



NOON PROGRAMS



SPECIAL FEATURES

John Karl & Gene Rowland, Coordinators

November Art & Music in History

November 2, 9, 16, 30 - this series will not be a history of music and art but a study of how the arts have influenced and been influenced by historical developments. Presented by John Karl, retired history teacher and Friends President.

December Healthcare in Schenectady

December 7 - Dr. David Pratt, private consultant in Health Care, former Commissioner of Public Health in Schenectady County and, for twelve years, Medical Director for GE Energy, will present an overview of our health care system and what the future may bring.

December 14 - Bethany M. Gilboard, CEO of the Innovative Health Alliance of New York will explain the new measures undertaken by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to better coordinate care for Medicare beneficiaries through an Accountable Care Organization such as IHANY.

December 21- Candy Rivera Whitehead, Medicare Sales Representative for MVP Healthcare in Schenectady, will explain the broad range of programs and services that are available through MVP Health Care in Schenectady County.

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Patricia Rush, Coordinator

January 5

H is for Hawk, by Helen Macdonald. A memoir about grief and the healing powers of the natural world. Macdonald, a falconer and a lecturer in science at the University of Cambridge, adopts a goshawk* named Mabel. The experience tested the limits of Macdonald's humanity and changed her life. Reviewed by Patricia Rush.

***Join us at 11:00 a.m. for a special pre-Books Sandwiched In program that will introduce people to the northern goshawk.**

Note: the Monday series of talks is held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are available for a nominal fee. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A

free newsletter! If you're reading a complimentary copy why not become a member of the Friends and be assured of receiving the newsletter five times a year, delivered directly to your door or inbox! Membership forms can be found at www.friendsofscpl.org.



Get ready to let the celebration begin for our 50th anniversary year. Kickoff will be January 10, 2016 at the Central Library in conjunction with our Beat the Snow musical programming. Details to follow in our next newsletter.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

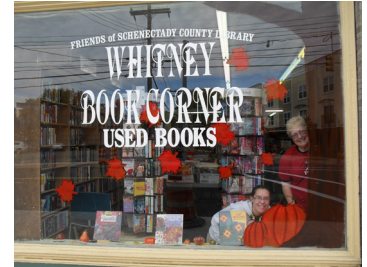
Starting in November, just in time for the holidays, gift certificates will once again be offered at the Whitney. They are available in \$5.00, \$10.00 & \$20.00 amounts.

Holiday books are featured in November for 1/2 off and in December Coffee Table books will be on sale. There is an in store special running the month of November on our \$1.00 gift books. At 3/\$1.00 they make great stocking stuffers.

On December 12th, as part of the DSIC's Hall-iday events, we will have an Open House from 1-4 p.m.

featuring the Peanuts gang and the book A Charlie Brown's Christmas. Refreshments will be provided.

Remember
Black Friday all
books (excluding
Whitney Treasures)
will be 50% off.
- Charlene Roman



Junior Friend Melissa Aucompaugh and Whitney Manager Charlene Roman peer out of the festively decorated window.

BOOK SALES



Volunteers Jo Adams and Pat Yazum greet the customers at the Fall book sale.

In spite of cool, damp weather on Saturday, our Fall Book Sale got off to a good start. With more than 40,000 books to choose from, at prices of \$1 and less, our customers found a lot of bargains. On Sunday, the weather turned much more pleasant, and a huge crowd showed up to buy shopping bags at \$2 and fill them with books. When the sale was over, our treasurer, Nancy Virkler, announced that we had made about \$16,000, comparable to last year. We will receive additional revenue for the left-over books that we sold to a wholesale company.

Making these books available for sale is the culmination of months of

effort to process donated books. Our regular weekly crew of volunteers includes sorters of fiction genres led by Joan Molloy and Pat Stearns, and non-fiction sorters led by Susie Leon and Robin Eddy. Judy Dillenbach and Fred Marx take charge of the donations of small paperbacks.

Bob Symons opens every box of donated books and sends them to the appropriate team for scanning and sorting. Sylvia Curley and Dottie Potochnik sort the children's books. Nancy Virkler works with DVDs and Bern Allanson sorts the CDs. Ellie Rowland takes care of holiday season books and finds bibles that can be used by local prisons.

Alice Reed processes books received from the branches. John and Gail Karl are always on the lookout for good quality books that can be sold at the Whitney Book Corner, and Keith Rolfe and Roger Grasier move these selected books over to the Whitney. Rich Leon and George Hilt find shelf space to store the books by category.

On the Friday before the sale, a

large team of volunteers moves the boxes full of books downstairs to the McChesney Room in preparation for the sale. For many years, we have been helped by volunteers from GE Energy on Balltown Road. This year Kelley Pethick led GE's team of 10 volunteers. More volunteers are needed on Saturday and Sunday for set-up, sale coordinators, and clean-up.

Bobbi Richardson and Robin Eddy filled more than 325 job slots with willing volunteers. These sales would not be possible without the huge amount of support we receive from volunteers and donors of books!

Our successful book sales are made possible by the large number of community citizens who get together to support their libraries and to make books and music available at low prices. Thank you to all who volunteered, donated or bought books at the Fall Sale!

- Bob Symons, Susie and Rich Leon, Robin and Fred Eddy

AROUND THE LIBRARY

Today's Multiple Sclerosis: Understanding Current MS Therapies

A Program for Patients and Their Caregivers

Tuesday, November 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m.,
Central Library. Multiple Sclerosis, attacks the brain, spinal cord and the optic nerves. It produces problems with vision, balance, strength and other basic bodily functions, yet its cause is unknown. Dr. Francisco Gomez, an MS Certified Specialist, will review multiple sclerosis, what it is, how it is diagnosed, and how patients can make a decision among the current available therapies.

Call 388-4511 to register.



***Black Friday @ the
Whitney!***
***Store opens at
9 a.m.***

HALL-IDAY OPEN HOUSE AT CENTRAL DECEMBER 12

The Central Library will participate in DSIC's Hall-iday event on Saturday, December 12 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. You'll find activities, giveaways, coupons to the Whitney Book Corner and more! ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** movie will be shown from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.



COME TO A MEETING

The Friends of SCPL meet at 6:30 p.m. in the McChesney Room on the last Tuesday in August, October, January, March and May. The public is welcome to attend.

AS SEEN AT THE WHITNEY ON FIRST THURSDAY NIGHTS



Young and old alike flock to the Whitney Book Corner on the first Thursday night of each month to take advantage of the half price sale. Students, families, mothers and daughters - we love to see them walk through the door!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Katherine & Chester
Armstrong-Harvey*
Richard & Marlene Breault
Carol Cascio
Bob & Sally Clark*
Justine Connelly
Rose Cooper
Michael Corson
Jean Creighton
Kristy & Dan Eldeen
Eileen & Lyle Eldred
Therese Fitzgerald
Jo Doris Freedman
Suzanne & Jerome Fryling
Patricia & David Gosda
Richard Gullott
William & Lois Isles
Leah LaFera
Chris Makofski
Robert & Helen Ringlee
Mary Beth Rybicki

Karen & Joseph Schell
Richard & Mary Jane Shave**
Julie Shepelavy
Lillian Stern*
Julia Stone*
Paul & Amaryllis Volk
Lorene H. Zabin

PATRON - \$50-199

Mariko Baertsch*
Wendy & Walter Berninger*
John & Barbara Beverley
Ann Bish
Naomi Bristol
Wonja & Jeff Brucker*
Jim & Judy Burns*
Louis & Judith Clough
Gail Denisoff
Nancy Fitzroy
James & Karen Gonda
Harris & Louise Gregory*
Patricia & Gabriela Halsey
Ted Heisler

Leonard Herman
Ann Hicks
Bernice Izzo
John & Gail Karl
Marjorie Karowe
James & Gerri Kenney
Isabel Krempa*
Ken & Leslie Larsen-Thiele
Don & Marilyn Leach*
Charles & Sharon Maneri
Anne McCoy
Anne & Donald Middleton
Linda Post
Frank & Dottie Potochnik
Kathleen Ryan*
Francis & Joan Scheib
Helga Schroeter
Alice Buff Tepper**
John & Constance Young*

BENEFACTOR \$200+

Marilyn Aldi-Rose*
David & Adrienne Bashe
William & Carol
Borthwick**
Susanne & Robert Doyle
Donal Early*

**Eligible for GE Match*

***New Member*

NEW MEMBERS

Laura Lee
Elise Harrison Smith

DONATIONS

In memory of Deb Reid
D'Antoni from:
Sharon Stepp
In memory of Leah Leonard
from:
Raymond and Leslie Senecal

BEAT THE SNOW RETURNS



We begin another season of BEAT THE SNOW Concerts on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The day will begin with the official opening of the anniversary year. To get the season off to a great start we will be entertained by Route Fifty 5. They are a superb brass quintet. Plan on sharing your Sunday

afternoons with us at the McChesney Room from January through March. The season will include the usual array of local musicians from many types of music-all for free and all for your entertainment. The full schedule will appear in the next newsletter.

Contact Janice Walz at 346-8081 or jmdwalz@nycap.rr.com if you have any questions.



**Black Friday @ the
Whitney!
Store opens at
9 a.m.**



REELS

A Series of Free Films Shown at Noon in the McChesney Room



NOVEMBER

November 4: **Insurgent** Shailene Woodley, Ansel Elgort, Theo James, Kate Winslet, Octavia Spencer Directed by Robert Schwentke; Rated PG-13; 119 minutes; 2015

November 18: **The Water Diviner** Russell Crowe, Olga Kurylenko, Yilmaz Erdogan, Cem Yilmaz, Isabel Lucas, Ryan Corr, James Fraser, Ben O'Toole

Warner Bros.; Directed by Russell Crowe; Rated R; 111 minutes; 2015

November 25: **San Andreas** Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson, Carla Gugino, Alexandra Daddario, Paul Giamatti, Ioan Gruffudd, Hugo Johnstone-Burt, Art Parkinson New Line; Directed by Brad Peyton; Rated PG-13; 114 minutes; 2015



DECEMBER

December 2: **Spy** Jude Law, Raad Rawi, Melissa McCarthy, Jessica Chaffin, Miranda Hart, Directed by Paul Feig; Rated R; 120 minutes; 2015

December 9: **I'll See You in My Dreams** Blythe Danner, Martin Starr, Sam Elliott, Mary Kay Place Directed by Brett Haley; Rated PG-13; 97 minutes; 2015

December 16: **Pitch Perfect 2** Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson, Hailee Steinfeld, Brittany Snow, Directed by Elizabeth Banks; Rated PG-13; 115 minutes; 2015

December 23: **Jurassic World** Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard, Ty Simpkins, Irrfan Khan, Directed by Colin Trevorrow; Rated PG-13; 124 minutes; 2015

December 30: **Cinderella** Lily James, Cate Blanchett, Richard Madden, Disney; Directed by Kenneth Branagh; Rated PG; 105 minutes; 2015

FROM THE DIRECTOR



The SCPL staff was deeply saddened to learn that one of our former children's and substitute reference librarians, Lisa Holt, had lost her long fight with cancer. Not only did Lisa work at the library for a period

of time in her career, she and her husband Rich were active members of our Friends of the Library.

I began the Friends Literary trips a number of years ago, with a trip to Concord, MA. As my work flow increased Lisa stepped in to assist me, and then took them over completely for several years. The literary trips brought many new members to our Friends organization and provided many with a wonderful cultural opportunity. Lisa was also instrumental in enlisting the services of tour director John Goldsmith, who planned several multi-day European trips, including two trips to England.

Many of us learned of Lisa's death at the Fall Book Sale. It was not a surprise to see that one of the donations in memory of Lisa was to the Friends of the Library. She was an avid book lover and enjoyed related programming. We are deeply grateful to Lisa's family, and for other families, such as Leah Leonard's, for choosing this wonderful organization to make donations in memory of a loved one. The Friends do so much for our community!

- Karen Bradley



Lisa Holt discusses the literary trips at the Friends Volunteer Expo in 2013



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Albany, N.Y.
Permit #728

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES AT CENTRAL

Basic Microsoft Excel: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 6-7:30 p.m.
Computers for Novices: Thursday, Nov. 5, 9-10:30 a.m.
iPhone/iPad Photography: Saturday, Nov. 7, 9-10:30 a.m.
Get to Know Your iPad: Monday, Nov 9, 9-10:30 a.m.
Basic Keyboarding: Tuesday, Nov. 10, 9-10:30 a.m.
Basic PowerPoint: Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6-7:30 p.m.
Basic Internet: Thursday, Nov. 12, 9-10:30 a.m.
Introduction to Tablets: Friday, Nov. 13, 9-10:30 a.m.
Intermediate Microsoft Excel: Saturday, Nov. 14, 9-10:30 a.m.
iPad, Part II: Let the Tips Continue: Monday, Nov. 16, 9-10:30 a.m.
Internet Searching: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 9-10:30 a.m.
Basic E-mail : Thursday, Nov. 19, 9-10:30 a.m.



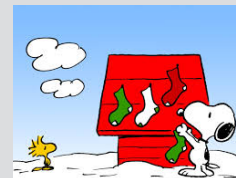
Register online at www.scpl.org, at any library location, or by calling 388-4511. Registrants must have a valid SCPL card. The classes are funded by the Friends of the Library.

JOIN SNOOPY, LINUS AND THE GANG AT

A CHARLIE BROWN OPEN HOUSE

**THE WHITNEY BOOK
CORNER
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 12
1-4 P.M.**

**COUPONS, REFRESHMENTS
AND MORE!**





NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

January/February 2016

Volume LI No. 3

FRIENDS OF SCPL BEGIN ANNIVERSARY YEAR



As we think about the Friends allow me to paraphrase an old song with this: "What a Difference a Half Century Makes."

April 2016 will mark 50 years of the Friends doing what is necessary to make the Schenectady County Public Library the best there is. Without any mathematical proof, I would venture to say that the majority of the library's patrons weren't born when this all began. Yet, today, the many volunteers who do the work of the Friends are as enthusiastic as ever.

Our 50th anniversary year will begin with the January 5th Schenectady Today Show as Ann Parillo interviews Rita Moore, Anniversary Chair, Jan Walz, Beat the Snow Coordinator and myself. The program will be streamed that day, with film airing on the 6th at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Channel 16.

Be sure to join us on Sunday, January 10 at 1:30 p.m. at the Central Library for our major kick off event. A brief program, with refreshments, will highlight 2016's upcoming events. The first in the Beat the Snow music programs will follow at 2:30 p.m. in the McChesney Room.

While you're marking your calendars, don't forget the Monday Noon Programs, which will continue to feature timely book reviews, a science series and special features programs.

April will bring more than showers, with our One County/One Book author Jacqueline Woodson coming to Schenectady for a number of events centering around her books.

Because this is a special anniversary year, the Annual Dinner will be enlarged and will be held at the Riverstone Manor in Scotia on Saturday, April 16. You will want to be there for this special event as the 50th anniversary yearbook and video will be unveiled.

The Friends are as committed to computer literacy as well as traditional literacy and provides free computer classes from September through June.

Warm weather brings the regular summer reading programs for children and adults, also provided by the Friends.

There will be an added attraction in 2016 as the Bornt Family Literacy Center will be up and running. A significant contribution has been made by the Friends to ensure that the Center has everything needed to serve the literacy needs of the city

community. The Center will be open regular branch hours and you are urged to drop in and see your library dollars at work.

The Friends are getting younger. A Junior Friends membership program was begun in 2015 and hopes are to have youngsters from ages 13 to 18 become a major part of the volunteer efforts of the Friends.

Be sure to look for announcements of special events and sales at the Whitney and for a major author visit in the fall.

For those of you who are comic book and superhero fans, or just want to have fun, the library will host the 2nd annual Comic Con on July 9, 2016. Again, funding for this event will be provided by the Friends.

Announcements regarding all of the Friends programs and events can be found in the newsletter, on the Friends website and in the local newspapers.

Finally, it has been my pleasure to be involved with the Friends for 14 years, so I am a Johnny-come-lately. We will be honoring and remembering those who stepped up in April of 1966 and formed this wonderful support system of which you are a part. Here's to the next 50 years and beyond.

-John Karl, President

Friends of the Library Board
John Karl, President
Fred Eddy, 1st Vice President
Ellie Rowland, 2nd Vice President
Nancy Virkler, Treasurer
Madelyn Thorne, Secretary
Bill Leitch, Past President

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Bob Coppola
Donna Fairlee
Chris Makofski
Tricia Margas
Sandy Marshall
Joan Molloy
Rita Moore
Dottie Potochnik
Shawn Marie Schultz
Esther Swanker
Bob Symons
Madelyn Thorne

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org
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POETRY CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED

Marilyn Way, a native of Schenectady living in Granby, Connecticut, spends the summer at her home on Mariaville Lake. In late August, in between rushing to close up the lake home, she found time to visit the Whitney Book Corner, a favorite stop of hers. While there, she noticed the poster seeking spooky poems written in the spirit of Edgar Allan Poe. Later that day she quickly jotted down a poem and put it in the mail to the Friends. Her entry was chosen by librarians Ann Moore and April Fernandez from the many submissions. Marilyn received a small gift for her efforts. She has assured us that she will visit the store next summer when she's in town.



We are pleased with the success of our first poetry contest and we look forward to similiar events in the future. Here is Marilyn's poem:

October Tale

There's something in October we can feel—
Reality unreal.
The smoky nights and apple-scented days
Are merely overlays
On some appalling and archaic force
That follows its incalculable course.

The traffic passes up and down the street,
We part and meet,
But there's a warp in the continuum,
Where all the past, and all the yet-to-come
Slip into Now within a second's change.
Familiar things look strange,
Shapes alter; in the field a rabbit screams,
And men wake, troubled, from uneasy dreams.

In other ages men met force with force,
To hold it to its course
By a concerted will,
And Samhain fires blazed on every hill.

But we take no precautions now, at all—
And it is closest to us in the fall.

The Whitney Book Corner

600 UNION STREET
SCHENECTADY, NY - 518.377.4670

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MON- SAT: 10AM-4PM
(THURS. TIL 7PM)
SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

UPCOMING SALES

JANUARY- STOREWIDE CLEARANCE
THROUGH THE 16TH
MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

FEBRUARY - ROMANCE
1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM
HALF PRICE
www.whitneybookcorner.org



NOON PROGRAMS



BOOKS SANDWICHED IN
Patricia Rush, Coordinator

January 4

H is for Hawk, by Helen Macdonald, reviewed by Patricia Rush, past president of ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse, retired teacher, fundraiser and non-profit administrator. Part memoir, part elegy for a dead father, the author, a Cambridge poet, historian, naturalist and falconer, resolves to train the most difficult and fiercest of the raptors, a goshawk.

NOTE: Bob Yunick will lead a special pre-BSI program at 11 a.m. in the McChesney Room on hawks, especially the northern goshawk, the species of hawk which is the subject of Macdonald's book.

January 11

Sisters In Law: How Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsberg Went to the Supreme Court and Changed the World, by Linda Hirshman, reviewed by Mark Blanchfield, Judge of the City Court in Schenectady. The book relates the story of the intertwined lives of the first and second women to serve as Supreme Court justices.

January 25

Station Eleven, by Emily St. John Mandel, reviewed by Tom Della Sala, retired English teacher and English coordinator for the Schenectady City Schools, past member of the Schenectady City Council, and current member of the Board of the Schenectady Light Opera Company. A novel about the future, when a flu pandemic kills hundreds of millions of people, and how the survivors learn to live without the cultural trappings of civilization.

Note: the Monday series of talks is held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are available for a nominal fee. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.

February 1

Unfinished Business: Women, Men, Work, Family by Anne Marie Slaughter, reviewed by Madelyn Thorne, Secretary to the Board of Friends of the Library, and Executive Director of Schenectady County Habitat for Humanity. Based on the controversial Atlantic Monthly article "Why Women Still Can't Have It All," the author establishes a conceptual framework for understanding the problems of working women at all levels, and proposes policy solutions to these problems.

February 8

The Optimistic Environmentalist: Progressing Toward a Greener Future, by David R. Boyd, reviewed by Patrick Clear, Executive Director of ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse and chair of the Montgomery County Water Quality Coordinating Committee. Much progress has been made in solving our environmental problems, and the author catalogues these solutions. Endangered species pulled back from the brink, the salvation of the ozone layer, a circular economy where waste is a thing of the past—all hopeful signs toward a more sustainable future.

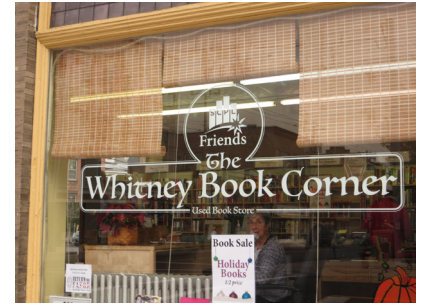
February 22

Between the World and Me, by Ta-Nehisi Coates, reviewed by Marggie Skinner, community relations coordinator, The Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza. The 2015 National Book Award winner for non-fiction, Coates writes in the form of a letter to his son about being black in America, about fear and its corrosive effects on our culture. He persuades us that we need a new way of understanding American history, a new story, and new names for ourselves and others in order for humanity to survive and thrive.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

We welcome the New Year as the Whitney starts its 14th year on the corner and the Friends celebrate their 50th anniversary. Our look has changed a bit as well as some of our upcoming sales. If you haven't seen our new windows, drop by and take a peek. We thank Doug Bixler, graphic design artist for the library, for the design. We love how he incorporated the Friends logo into it!



The Whitney Book Corner has a new sign!

During the first two weeks of January, from the 2nd to the 16th, there will be a store-wide clearance on all books, excluding Whitney Treasures - 50% off. The mass market paperbacks will be 4/\$1 the whole month of January. As always February is Romance month with hard covers and trade paperbacks on sale for \$1, and mass market paperbacks 4/\$1. - Charlene Roman

BOOK SALES

What a year this has been! More books have been donated than ever before. Our volunteers have been kept extremely busy. Years past, Wednesday was about the only day volunteers spent in sorting/shelving books for the upcoming sale. Now, on any given day, you may find volunteers upstairs at the Central library working. An important goal of our workers is to find perfect items to be sold at the Whitney Book Corner.

What do we do with books not sold or not able to be sold at the book sales? We have

found an amazing business, **discoverbooks.com**, that buys books to help with all our efforts to fund programs and activities for the Schenectady County Library. The company has the following mission statement and beliefs:

"We strive to divert books from landfills, help fund library sustainability and through our partners, provide meaningful solutions to the global problem of illiteracy. We fundamentally believe reuse is the best possible form of recycling and our business model is centered on this core value. This focus allows us to get books in the

hands of people who want and need them most, rather than allowing them to become waste or languish unread..... Since our inception, we have donated over 8.9 million to non-profit organizations in North America and internationally, and that number continues to grow. "

Please mark your calendars for the Winter Book Sale on February 6 and 7, 2016. Nonfiction and fiction books will be sold in the warmth of the McChesney Room.

- Bob Symons, Susie and Rich Leon, Robin and Fred Eddy

Save the Date

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting and celebration of our 50th anniversary will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the River Stone Manor. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us for an outstanding and memorable evening.

GO DIGITAL!!!



If you are a member of the Friends of the Library and interested in receiving the newsletter electronically, write to us at folmembernotice@gmail.com and we'll get you signed up.

AROUND THE LIBRARY

WINTER CONCERT SERIES RETURNS



Celebrate! Celebrate! The brass quintet, Route Fifty 5, will begin the Friends of SCPL's 50th anniversary celebration with music that reflects those fifty years. This well-trained and creative group will be just the first of many exciting acts for our annual Beat the Snow Concert Series.

Time and time again, we hear that music is good for our health as well as our soul. And it is free. Sunday

afternoons from 2:30-3:30 p.m. beginning January 10th through March 20th, at the McChesney Room, there will be music for your enjoyment presented by local artists as part of their community service (they volunteer!). This year's roster of performers contains some old favorites as well as newbies.

I would encourage everyone who comes to invite another person for two reasons. One, for yourselves. Many of these players are groups

that usually play publicly for \$15/25 per concert and we get to see them for free. Another reason is that it helps to keep ourselves and our community well. Here is a place to meet with people who like music. Looking at our concert list, I am grateful for the generous spirit of players in our community. Be sure to support them with your presence and have a delightful afternoon.

- Janice Walz

BEAT THE SNOW SCHEDULE

January 10 Route Fifty 5-brass quintet
January 17 Carla Metz and Larry Acunto-jazz music
January 24 Terri and Robin-blues and jazz
January 31 Musicians of Maalwyck-classical
February 7 NO CONCERT-BOOK SALE
February 14 Misty Jazz Trio with Bill Harrison-jazz
February 21 Rosanne Hargrave and Michael Clement-Broadway music

February 28 Bien Baez and Michael Clement-art songs
March 6 Schenectady Light Opera Company
March 13 Sing-along with Janice Walz and Malcolm Kogut
March 20 Schenectady Etude Club-classical



FROM THE SCRAPBOOK



During the Friends 50th anniversary year we will be sharing photos and articles from the library's archives.

We start the year off with this July 1982 photo of librarian Nancy Gifford reading to children on a porch on Locust Avenue in Schenectady. Nancy was a "doorstepper", part of a SCPL project which began in 1968. When the children couldn't go

to the library, the library would come to them. A ringing cowbell would herald the arrival of the doorsteppers. Serena Butch, now Assistant Director of SCPL, could also be seen in the neighborhoods reading to the children. The program, funded by the Friends of the Library, continued until 1984, making it the longest running SCPL outreach program.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Marguerite Bauer
Gene & Susanne Kimura*
Suzanne Mason
Ann & Emile Walraven*

PATRON - \$50-199
Philip & JoAnn Adams*
Bill & Mary Jane Beaulieu*
Gertrude Carpenter
Alfred & Mary Jo Gilbert*
Cynthia & Ralph Leach
Fred Marx
Marsha Mortimore
Nancy & Wayne Virkler
Patricia & Robert Wall*

BENEFACTOR \$200+
Esther Swanker

**Eligible for GE Match*

NEW MEMBERS
Daniel Seaver

In memory of Lisa Holt
from:

Donald & Kay Ackerman
Phil & Jo Adams
Mark & Elaine Arnold
Charles & Sally Bauer
Howard Berkun
Evelyn Bernstein
Ann Bish
Karen & Dave Bradley
Phyllis Budka
James & Judith Burns
Virginia Camerman
James & Lucy Comly
Robert Coppola
Jeanne and George Corrigan
Denny Cottrell & Lucy
Desjardins
Cheryl Cufari
Valerie DaMario
Phyllis DePalo
Linda Doyle
Fred & Robin Eddy
Linda Edwards
Eileen & Lyle Eldred
Melissa Engler
Mary Ann Fisher
Gail Flanery
Sue & Jerry Fryling
Mary Lynn Olbrych &
George Kozer

DONATIONS

Patricia Gioia
Roger & Barbara Grasier
John & Katherine Greenthal
Susan Grey
Howard, John & Lucy
Halstead
Analine Hicks
Richard & Nancy Horan
John & Janet Hutchison
Karen Brown Johnson
Sally Gay & Joseph Gomes
Marjorie Karowe
John & Dorothy Kelley
Dr Robert & Elaine Kennedy
Teresa & John Kennedy
Gene & Susanne Kimura
Robert & Sara Knower
Andrew & Phyllis Kulmatiski
Robert Lang
Robert & Susan Leach
Sally Legendre
Mike DePetrillo & Lil
Bertalan
Melissa Ludwig
Mike & Suzanne Mason
Linda Matt
Liz & Jim McKinney
Rick & Peggy Mele
Dorothy Meyer
Barbara Nigro
Maggie & Justin O'Sullivan
Jenny Overeynder

Michael Bishop & Pauline
Holmes
Ann Perry
Shirley Pingelski
Mary Pressman
Janet Rainey
Miranda Rand
Carol & Bill Reynolds
Carolynn & Richard Rini
Patricia Robbins
Eleanor & Eugene Rowland
Anna Saville
Herbert & Cynthia Schultz
Boris & Harriet Severenko
William & Rochelle Shapiro
Jeffrey & Nancy Smith
Angela Strong
Fred & Virginia Thompson
Kate & John Vrtiak
Carol Wallace
Gunnar & Linda Walmet
Diane Wells
Mary, Leslie, Christopher &
Elizabeth William
Mary Ellen & Tom Windish
Linda Witkowski
Harold & Junice Wusterbarth
Dick & Ann Wyles
Anne & Bob Yunick
Lorene & Barton Zabin
Schenectady Ole Timers
Baseball Club-Edwin Meyer,
Treasurer

MID-WINTER BOOK SALE

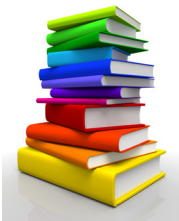
FEBRUARY 6 & 7

McCHESNEY ROOM

SATURDAY 9-5

SUNDAY 1- 4

ADULT FICTION & NONFICTION TITLES





REELS

A Series of Free Films Shown at Noon in the McChesney Room



JANUARY

January 6: **Mad Max: Fury Road** Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult; directed by George Miller; 120 minutes; 2015. A return to the world of the Road Warrior, Max Rockatansky.

January 13: **Testament of Youth** Colin Morgan, Alicia Vikander, Taron Egerton, Dominic West; directed by James Kent; 129 minutes; 2015. A powerful story of love, war, and remembrance, based on the World War I memoir by Vera Brittain.

January 20: **Tomorrowland** George Clooney, Britt Robertson, Hugh Laurie, Raffey Cassidy, Tim McGraw; directed by Brad Bird; 130 minutes; 2015. Bound by a shared destiny, former boy-genius Frank, jaded by disillusionment, and Casey, a bright, optimistic teen bursting with scientific curiosity, embark on a danger-filled mission.

January 27: **Me and Earl and the Dying Girl** Thomas Mann, Olivia Cooke, Molly Shannon; directed by Alfonso Gomez-Rejon; 105 minutes; 2015. A uniquely funny and moving story about Greg, a high school senior who avoids deep human relationships as a way to safely navigate the social mine field that is teenage life.

FEBRUARY

February 3: **4 Little Girls** HBO; directed by Spike Lee; 102 minutes; 1997. A powerful documentary film that captures a time, a place, and a way of life that would be forever altered by the death of four little girls.

February 10: **The Man from U.N.C.L.E.** Henry Cavill, Armie Hammer, Alicia Vikander, Elizabeth Debicki; directed by Guy Richie; 116 minutes; 2015. CIA agent Napoleon Solo and KGB agent Illya Kuryakin team up on a joint mission to stop a mysterious international criminal organization.

February 17: **Shaun the Sheep Movie** Justin Fletcher, John Sparkes, Omid Djalili; directed by Mark Burton, Richard Starzak; 84 minutes; 2015. When Shaun decides to take the day off and have some fun, he gets a little more action than he bargained for.

February 24: **Ricki and the Flash** Meryl Streep, Rick Springfield, Rick Rosas, Joe Vitale; directed by Jonathan Demme; 101 minutes; 2015. Ricki, a guitar heroine who gives up everything for her dream of rock n' roll stardom, returns home to make things right with her family.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

2015 is rapidly drawing to a close and the buzz for 2016 has already begun!

2016 will be a very special year for our Friends of the Library as they begin a yearlong celebration of fifty fabulous years assisting our County library system in countless ways. The list is very long of the things they have assisted us with - from a large donation towards the construction of our children's expansion to the endless variety of educational, cultural and recreational programs that our entire County and beyond benefit from.

I would like to take the opportunity to express our deep appreciation for all the Friends have done for us over the years. I have never encountered such a devoted, hardworking, energetic group of volunteers.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead and hope you will all come out on Sunday, January 10, 2016 when they officially kick off their anniversary year, and show your support for our Friends family. Best Wishes! - Karen Bradley



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES AT CENTRAL

Microsoft Word 2010: File Management – Wed., Jan. 6, 6-7:30 p.m.
Computers for Novices – Thurs., Jan 7, 9:15-10:45 a.m.
Basic Keyboarding – Tues., Jan. 12, 9:15-10:45 a.m.
Get to Know Your iPad – Tues., Jan. 12, 6-7:30 p.m.
Basic Internet – Thurs., Jan. 14, 9:15-10:45 a.m.
Internet Searching – Tues., Jan. 19, 9:15-10:45 a.m.
iPad, Part II: Let the Tips Continue – Tues., Jan. 19, 6-7:30 p.m.
Word: Getting to Know Word – Wed., Jan. 20, 6-7:30 p.m.
Basic E-mail – Thurs., Jan. 21, 9:15-10:45 a.m.
Advanced Excel – Sat., Jan. 23, 9:15-10:45 a.m.



Register online at www.scpl.org, at any library location, or by calling 388-4511. Registrants must have a valid SCPL card. The classes are funded by the Friends of the Library.



**AT OUR
50TH ANNIVERSARY KICK OFF!
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10
1:30 P.M.
AT THE
CENTRAL LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY
REFRESHMENTS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS & MORE!**

WINTER CONCERT SERIES WILL FOLLOW
@ 2:30 IN THE McCHESNEY ROOM



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

March/April 2016

Volume LI No. 4

CELEBRATING . . . PROGRAMS, PROGRESS, SERVICE



From left -Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, Rita Moore, Karen Bradley and John Karl

January 10th saw the successful launch of our 50th anniversary celebration. Good friends, good food, and good weather made for a congenial afternoon.

John Karl, Karen Bradley, and Janice Walz were all smiles as they addressed the group. Shaheen Hassan, a Junior Friend, delighted the audience with her presentation. Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara presented the Friends with a New York State Assembly proclamation in recognition of our 50th anniversary kickoff event.



Junior Friend Shaheen Hassan

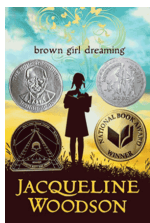
When the speeches were done and the cookies thoroughly enjoyed, the attendees were invited to “cross the hall” to the McChesney Room for a delightful Beat the Snow musical program presented by the Route Fifty 5 brass quintet.

I would personally like to express my appreciation to everyone who shared this special moment with me.

- Rita Moore, Chair, 50th Anniversary Celebration



ONE COUNTY, ONE BOOK AUTHOR TO SPEAK



National Book Award Winner Jacqueline Woodson, author of SCPL's One County, One Book selection *Brown Girl Dreaming*, will appear on Monday, April 4, 2016 at

7:00 pm at Proctors GE Theater. In her memoir, told in verse, the author shares what it was like to grow up as an

African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.

Woodson's talk is free and open to the public; doors will open at 6:30 pm and seating is on a first come, first served basis.

15th ANNUAL POETRY GALA

Sunday, April 10

2:00 pm

McChesney Room
Central Library

Interested in reading or reciting a poem? Contact Deborah Noyes at dnoyes@mvls.info.

Friends of the Library Board
John Karl, President
Fred Eddy, 1st Vice President
Ellie Rowland, 2nd Vice President
Nancy Virkler, Treasurer
Madelyn Thorne, Secretary
Bill Leitch, Past President

Directors
Val Catlin
Bob Coppola
Donna Fairlee
Chris Makofski
Tricia Margas
Sandy Marshall
Joan Molloy
Rita Moore
Dottie Potochnik
Shawn Marie Schultz
Esther Swanker
Bob Symons
Madelyn Thorne

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Over the years, I have tried to keep you informed about what I think are the highlights of the Friends. I will pass on that task to a new president this April. I am confident that the Friends will always be in good hands and will continue to offer much needed support for the Schenectady County Public Library system.

As you know, this year marks a very important milestone for the Friends. Fifty years ago, a group of library lovers formed our organization to promote the building of a new library on Clinton Street. Since then, the purpose of the Friends has grown by leaps and bounds. Fundraising since 1973 has contributed several millions of dollars to the library and the membership has grown from about a dozen to almost 1,200.

When I became president, I remembered the warning by the ancient Greek Father of Medicine, Hippocrates, who cautioned physicians to "first, do no harm." That is my advice to future leaders of the Friends. Our organization is precious and a true gem in our community.

While I still have this voice, let me comment on the community that we serve. When all of the negativity about Schenectady is stripped aside, the focus must be on what is good. We have, perhaps, the most volunteer-rich county I can think of. Hundreds of residents from every community reach out to those most in need, both helping with physical needs but also with cultural and intellectual needs that are necessary for success.

Schenectady County is one of the most intellectually gifted counties in the state, and many of those who are gifted are helping to lift up others to a higher level. The library system in Schenectady has and will continue to be a hub of this uplifting, not just at the new Bornt Literacy Center, but throughout the operations in every community of the county.

And so, unlike General MacArthur, I do not intend to "fade away" but will continue to be ready to do what I can to serve our library. And I know most of you will also. -John Karl

The Whitney Book Corner

600 UNION STREET
SCHENECTADY, NY - 518.377.4670
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MON- SAT: 10AM-4PM
(THURS. TIL 7PM)
SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

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\$1.00
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www.whitneybookcorner.org



SAVE THE DATE!! GOLF TOURNAMENT



JUNE 20 - MOHAWK GOLF CLUB
TO BENEFIT THE MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARY FOUNDATION
SPONSORS AND GOLFERS NEEDED

Contact Cheryl Cufari: cufaric@gmail.com or 356-0392

NOON PROGRAMS

SCIENCE SERIES

George Wise, Coordinator

March 7

Frontiers in Astronomy -Josh Hauck and Valerie Raphson, Dudley Observatory

March 14

Frontiers in Genetics -Ricki Lewis, Geneticist and Science Writer

March 21

Climate Change: Science, Society and the Skeptics-
Nancy Slack, Ecologist and Science Historian

March 28

Bitcoin, A New Form of Money-Christopher Dosch,
GE Global Research

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Gene Rowland, Coordinator

February 29

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson, SCPL's One County, One Book selection. Eileen Abrahams, SCCC English professor, will review Woodson's powerful narrative autobiographical poem.

April 4

Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal? by Jeanette Winterson. This is a memoir about a life's work to find happiness. Reviewed by Esther Willison, one of the founders and teachers of an alternative ungraded public school in Schenectady.

April 11

Pacific: Silicon Chips and Surfboards, Coral Reefs and Atom Bombs, Brutal Dictators, Fading Empires, and the Coming Collision of the World's Superpowers by Simon Winchester, reviewed

by Gene Rowland, Coordinator of Monday Noon Programs. New York Times bestselling author Winchester offers an enthralling biography of the Pacific Ocean and its role in the modern world.

April 18

U.S. Presidents: From Awesome to Awful by Thomas O. Kelly and Douglas Lonnstrom. The authors have developed a formula for ranking presidents that is widely accepted today. Reviewed by Thomas Kelly, co-author, retired Professor emeritus of History and American Studies at Siena College and co-founder, with Dr. Douglas Lonnstrom, of the Siena Research Institute.

April 25

TAKING RISKS: Getting Ahead in Business and Life by Walt Robb, reviewed by the author. Dr. Walter Robb is retired as a Senior Vice President of General Electric Co. where he directed GE Medical Systems and the GE Research and Development Center. This book "...relates his life's memorable experiences, from boyhood to Jack Welch".

May 2

The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World by Andrea Wulf, reviewed by Andrew Chestnut, a man of broad interests and a life-long reader. The acclaimed author of *Founding Gardeners* reveals the forgotten life of Alexander von Humboldt, the visionary German naturalist whose ideas changed the way we see the natural world.

Note: the Monday series of talks is held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are available for a nominal fee. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.

HELP WANTED



Online Sales is looking for someone with computer skills to join their team. Must be available to work Saturday mornings and as a substitute for other

shippers and be capable of transporting books to the post office. Contact Shawn Marie Schultz at dschultz7@nycap.rr.com.

SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE

APRIL 30 - 9 AM-4 PM

MAY 1 - 1 PM-3 PM



KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER



Snoopy, aka Ariana Schultz, and Linus, aka Joe Giordano, greet customers at the Charlie Brown Open House

On December 12, in conjunction with the DSIC Hall-iday event, the Whitney hosted a Charlie Brown Open House. Members of the Junior Friends participated, greeting the customers with refreshments and dressing up as some of the lovable Charles Schultz characters. Coupons were given to over 85 youngsters and a good time was had by all.

Our March sale will be Biography and Large Print, half price and April will be Cookbooks and Gardening books for \$1.00.

The Whitney is very excited to be celebrating 50 years of the Friends of the SCPL. The store will spotlight a different decade each month that the Friends have been in existence. Starting with the sixties in April, we will feature books and authors from that decade along with a raffle for a basket of 60's goodies. Stop in, it should be groovy! - Charlene Roman

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED

The Nominating Committee will present the following persons at the Annual Dinner on April 16.

Nominated for first term as an Officer:

Valerie Catlin – President; Val has worked for the Friends book sales for many years, served as Friends newsletter editor, had several previous terms on the Friends Board of Directors, and was president for two terms in the 1990s. She is retired from the Mohawk Valley Library System, where she worked for over 35 years.

Tricia Margas – 1st Vice President; Tricia is a Friends Board Director and Whitney Book Corner volunteer. She retired as Housing Director at the Schenectady YWCA.

Shawn Marie Schultz – 2nd Vice President; Shawn Marie is a Board Director, chair of the Online Sales team, and director of special events at the Whitney Book Corner. She spearheaded the Junior Friends formation and is a member of the Rotterdam Conservation Advisory Council.

Nominated for an initial three year term on the Board of Directors:

Roberta Richardson - Bobbi is a retired educator, having taught in elementary and middle schools. She has been active in the Schenectady Chapter of AAUW and is a volunteer at the Whitney Book Corner, book sorter and a participant in the Master Gardener program sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension at Central Park. She works part time correcting teacher exams and student achievement tests.

Patricia Stearns - Pat worked for the Golub Corporation for 36 years. Since retiring in 2009 she has been a volunteer at the Friends book sales, a book sorter, a clerk at the Whitney Book Corner and a volunteer at the City Mission.

Linda Ward - Linda is a NYS Licensed Psychologist and is retired from private practice in Niskayuna. She has been involved in a number of community activities including the Schenectady Free Health Clinic, Thresholds, and Home Furnishings. She sorts books weekly, works as a cashier at the book sales, and serves as a clerk at the Whitney Book Corner.

AROUND THE LIBRARY

BOOK SALES

The Mid-Winter Book Sale has come and gone, much like the days of the year, quickly!

Preparations are now under way for the Spring Book Sale. Mark your calendars for April 30 and May 1st.

Book donations continue to pour in, most in unbelievably great shape. Sorters continue to sort, shelve and stock the Whitney Book Corner on a weekly basis.

The Book Sale Committee would like to thank all those who commit time and effort so that we can continue to have this amazing community function.

Hope to see you at the Spring Sale!!

- Bob Symons, Susie and Rich
Leon, Robin and Fred Eddy

REELS

A Series of Free Films Shown
at Noon in the McChesney
Room

March 2 **Selma**
March 9 **Sicario**
March 16 **Irrational Man**
March 23 **The Martian**
March 30 **Freeheld**

April 6 **Straight Outta
Compton**
April 13 **Suffragette**
April 20 **Everest**
April 27 **Steve Jobs**

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

March 10- 6:30 pm - McChesney Room
Folk musician Happy Traum will present a program entitled "Coming of Age in the Greenwich Village Folk Revival and Woodstock Scene".

A Game of Poetry - county wide poetry contest for students in grades 2-12 inspired by OCOB selection *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Entries accepted through March 31. Contact Serena Butch at sbutch@mvls.info for information.

April 2 - 2 pm - Phyllis Bornt Branch
Discussion of *Brown Girl Dreaming* led by Eileen Abrahams, SCCC English professor.

Mondays-May 2, May 9, May 16,
6-7:45 pm. *Splashing Around in the Word Pool ~ Diving Into Poetry* with poet Judith Prest -Niskayuna Branch Library. Register by calling 386-2249 or by going online at www.scpl.org.

*Interested in improving
your computer skills?
Check www.scpl.org
for computer class
schedules and registration
information.*



FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Friends 50th Anniversary kickoff was a smashing success on January 10th! Congratulations and thank you to all who were involved in planning for it and for all the exciting things the Anniversary Committee has planned for 2016.

On Saturday, February 27, 2016, we will be hosting a community Open House at our new branch library at 948 State St. from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. We hope you will be able to join us for a tour, family entertainment and refreshments.

This library has been named the Phyllis Bornt Branch Library and Literacy Center in honor of Phyllis Bornt, a former librarian and Friends volunteer, whose large bequest

to our library made the building of a new branch possible.

The Friends of the Library have also made a large financial contribution to the new library and we are grateful for this. It will be open Monday through Wednesdays, from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm and Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

I hope you have your calendar marked for Saturday, April 16th, for the Anniversary Gala dinner at the River Stone Manor to celebrate and thank the Friends for 50 fabulous years of giving back to our community!

- Karen Bradley

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Frederick & Sheelagh Baily*
 Scott & Diane Bengston-Kilbourn*
 Jonetta Darcy
 Rudolph Dehn
 Jamie Gearon
 Patricia Gioia
 Diane & John Goldsmith
 Peter & Janet Huston
 Virginia Laumeister
 Arthur & Anita Merims
 Pat Mion
 Mardy Moore
 Roy & Mary Neville
 Joseph Sala
 Jean Zegger*

PATRON - \$50-199

Marilyn Anderson
 Hendrick & Joanne Arnold
 Charles & Sally Bauer
 Stephen & Roberta Berk
 Robert/Sylvia Briber
 Jim & Sandra Buhrmaster
 Flower Buhrmaster
 Nancy Curran
 Gedia DeMaria*
 Joanne & Robert Dial
 Toni & Brian Doherty
 Carol Fischer
 Virginia Forster

Donald & Mary Gavin*
 Gail Girvin
 Barbara & Roger Grasier
 Rohinton & Priti Irani
 Stanley & Claudia
 Jakubowski
 Peter & Leah Kucera
 Lyn Kucij
 Andrew & Phyllis Kulmatiski
 Ronald & Donna Lagasse
 David Lilienfeld*
 Kathleen Lutz
 John & Sandra Marshall*
 Barbara & Bernard McEvoy
 Anne McLaughlin
 Robert Nottke
 Michael & Susan O'Brien
 Paul & Deborah O'Brien
 Carmel Rose Patrick
 Anita Paul & David Gerhan
 Lois & Thorton Pearson
 Meme & William Pittman*
 Sheila & Harvey Randall
 Thaddeus & Sylvia Raushi
 Francis & Mary-Sue Reed*
 Edwin & Jean Reilly
 Linda & Lawrence Relyea*
 Beryl Rockwell*
 Lawrene & Jennifer Schmidt
 Jim & Mickey Schultheis*
 Cynthia Shultz
 Gillian Scott
 Shirley Thomas*

NEW MEMBERS

Norrine & Theodore
 Thompson
 Donald Thurston
 Mary White*
 Irene Wickham
 Herman & Holly Wiegman*

BENEFACTOR \$200+

Charles & Debra
 McCambridge
 Lisa & Bart Zabin

*Eligible for GE Match

NEW MEMBERS

Marilyn Anderson
 Nancy Jane Batten
 Flower Buhrmaster
 Fran Gross
 Herb & Pat Leichman
 Carolyn Mills
 Mardy Moore
 Antonina Rindenello
 Robert Slater
 Janice Walz

DONATIONS

John C. & Susan K. Hubbard
 -Hubbard Foundation

In Honor of Gene & Ellie
 Rowland from:
 Maggie Rowland

In memory of Deborah Reid
 D'Anton from:
 Cynthia Mott

In memory of Harold
 Wusterbarth from:
 Sally & Simon Weinstein

In memory of Joanna
 McCarthy from:
 Ted & Dixie Aniolek
 Hilary Buono & Wayne
 Harper
 Mike Della Rocco
 Tom & Cheryl Della Sala
 Richard Greene
 Richard & Mary Jo
 Homenick
 Sharon Jordan
 Karen B Johnson
 Sean & Rhonda O'Brien
 Richard & Patricia
 Pezzano
 Patricia Poersch Robbins
 Jill & Chris Smolinski
 Rotterdam Democratic
 Committee

A THANK YOU

The family of Lisa Holt wishes to thank all of the many who donated to the Friends in her name. She had a life long love of books, in fact she belonged to three book clubs, one for over 40 years. She was proud to be a librarian and a friend of SCPL. She would have been touched and pleased by your generosity.

-- Rich, Sara and Christopher Holt

BEAT THE SNOW SCHEDULE

February 28 - Bien Baez and Michael Clement
 March 6 - Schenectady Light Opera Company
 March 13 - Sing-along with Janice Walz and
 Malcolm Kogut
 March 20 - Schenectady Etude Club

Friends of Schenectady County Public Library - 50th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, April 16, 2016

River Stone Manor

1437 Amsterdam Road, Glenville, N.Y. 12302



5:00 p.m. – Social Hour (Hors d'Oeuvres and Cash Bar)

Cheese Display: *crudités display with dip, focaccia bread, fresh fruit display*

6:00 p.m. - Dinner

The Menu

Salad: *Mixed greens with carrots, cucumbers, tomatoes and red onion dressed with balsamic vinaigrette*

Choice of Entrees:

Roast Top Sirloin of Beef – *with mushroom cabernet demi
served with roasted potatoes and vegetable medley*

Parmesan Crusted Chicken – *with sage butter sauce
served with roasted potatoes and vegetable medley*

Vegetarian: Pasta Primavera – *with garlic cream sauce*

For your evening entertainment:

The Mop and Bucket Improv Theatre Company

Improvisers of scenes, stories and song,
with audience participation

Elections: the Nominating Committee will present the following persons for Officers and Directors:

Officers: President: Val Catlin; 1st Vice President: Tricia Margas; 2nd Vice President: Shawn Marie Schulz;
Secretary: Madelyn Thorne, (incumbent); Treasurer: Nancy Virkler, (incumbent)

Directors: For an initial three year term: Bobbi Richardson, Patricia Stearns, Linda Ward

Reservations must be mailed by April 2, 2016 . Please use form below or download from www.friendsofscpl.org.

..... ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂
Number attending _____

Attendee names (please print)

Amount Enclosed _____ @\$35.00/person

Circle one choice of entrée

Beef	Chicken	Pasta Primavera
Beef	Chicken	Pasta Primavera

Please let us know if you have special dietary needs: _____

_____ Unfortunately, I/we are not able to attend. Enclosed is my/our tax deductible contribution to the
Friends of SCPL in celebration of 50 years of service

Please make check payable to Friends of SCPL and mail by April 2nd to:

Nancy Virkler, Treasurer c/o Friends of SCPL
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**SEMI-ANNUAL
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MAY 1**

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**SATURDAY 9-4
SUNDAY 1-3**

**SUNDAY - FILL A BAG FOR
\$2.00!**



ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

**TRAVEL ON TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016 TO THE
JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
&
THE EDWARD M. KENNEDY INSTITUTE
FOR THE U.S. SENATE**

**\$80 - FRIENDS OF SCPL MEMBERS
\$90 - NON-MEMBERS**

*Complete details and registration forms available www.friendsofscpl.org,
all library branches and Whitney Book Corner*





NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

May/June 2016

Volume LI No. 5

THE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE

... and a good time was had by all! Over one hundred and fifty Friends and guests gathered at River Stone Manor to celebrate fifty years of programs, progress, and service. Even the weather cooperated with sunny skies and a warm 65 degree high for the day. The evening began with the pleasant buzz of conversation over hor d'oeuvres as Friends and guests gathered.

Showing on the wide screen was a special Salute to Volunteers to showcase those who had reached milestones in their dedication to the Whitney Book Corner. Everyone was in awe of the DVD presentation prepared by graphic designer Doug Bixler and Friend Donna Phillips, featuring special remarks by founding member Walter Grattidge, pictured below.



The DVD featured news and events from the founding of the Friends and looked to the future to realize our vision of "a modern, sustainable library system accessible

to all". Notable political leaders either attended or presented the Friends with proclamations of praise and recognition reflecting similar statements made by library director Karen Bradley.



From left, Rita Moore, Shawn Marie Schultz and Charlene Roman

Although the evening was a celebration, there still was work for the group to do at its annual business meeting. The 2016 budget was presented and approved. The slate of officers and names of directors for a first term met with a "Yes" vote by the members. Congratulations to our new president Valerie Catlin. "Val brings a wealth of experience to the Friends and will be a great leader of the Friends team," said outgoing President John Karl. We have been fortunate to have John as our president and would like to take this opportunity to recognize his devotion to the Friends organization.

If you smile, you feel better and The Mop and Bucket Theater Improv group made sure everyone felt just fine. Smiles all around! Their high energy, entertaining, and audience participation skits captivated the audience.

Special thanks and recognition go to the Junior Friends Melissa and Emily Aucompaugh (pictured below) who ably helped set up the tables, acted as greeters for the evening, and stood with baskets in hand at the end of



the evening to collect nametags. The Junior Friends represent our future and what a bright future it is.

- Rita Moore, Anniversary Chair

For more pictures and to view both the volunteer PowerPoint and anniversary DVD, visit our website at <http://www.friendsofscpl.org>

Friends of the Library Board
Val Catlin, President
Tricia Margas, 1st Vice President
Shawn Marie Schultz, 2nd Vice
President
Nancy Virkler, Treasurer
Madelyn Thorne, Secretary
John Karl, Past President

Directors
Donna Fairlee
Chris Makofski
Sandy Marshall
Joan Molloy
Rita Moore
Dottie Potochnik
Roberta Richardson
Patricia Stearns
Esther Swanker
Bob Symons
Madelyn Thorne
Linda Ward

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org
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PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



As we write this, we are assuming a rollicking good time was had at the Friends 50th Anniversary Gala on April 16. If you missed it, we missed you. We now move on to the events



for the rest of our anniversary year under the fine leadership of Rita Moore and her fabulous committees. Look for announcements of all that is going on in our future newsletters, our website, on Facebook and in email bursts sent your way.

Just to remind you, the Friends have waged a multi-pronged campaign for the past 50 years. Fundraising to support library programs and materials has contributed several millions of dollars for that purpose. Funds have also been provided for bricks and mortar expansion of the branches and the Central Library when needed, for regular programming by the Friends and, most important, for strong advocacy for the library in the community. Your continued support has made all of this possible- both your financial support and your willingness to volunteer when called upon.

Together the Board and Friends will work to maintain and hopefully improve the support and services the Friends have provided for the past 50 years into the next half century and beyond.

- Val Catlin, President and John Karl, Past President

The Whitney Book Corner

600 UNION STREET
SCHENECTADY, NY - 518.377.4670

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MON- SAT: 10AM-4PM
(THURS. TIL 7PM)
SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

UPCOMING SALES

MAY - ADULT FICTION HARDCOVER
\$1.00

JUNE - MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS
4/\$1.00
1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM
HALF PRICE
www.whitneybookcorner.org



GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATIONS NOW BEING TAKEN FOR THE FOUNDATION FOR MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARIES



A fun day is planned for the second golf tournament for the Foundation for the Mohawk Valley Libraries on June 20th at the Mohawk Golf Club.

Registration begins at 11:00 with lunch, snacks, and dinner with a cocktail hour included as well as golf carts. Tee time is noon. The fee is \$175 per player to golf on this premium golf course. Guests may also come for dinner at \$42 per person. Prizes, contests, and a silent auction also will be part of the day.

The Foundation helps member libraries of the Mohawk Valley Library System of which SCPL is a part. In 2015 libraries received a small grant as a result of our efforts.

Full information and an entry form can be found on the System website by clicking on the link at <https://mvslibraryfoundation.wordpress.com/fundraising/mgc2016/> OR Contact Cheryl Cufari at cufaric@gmail.com or 356-0392. Hope you can join us and be a part of supporting area public libraries as well as SCPL.

NOON PROGRAMS

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN
Gene Rowland, Coordinator

May 2

The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World by Andrea Wulf, reviewed by Andrew Chestnut, a man of broad interests and a life-long reader. The acclaimed author of *Founding Gardeners* reveals the forgotten life of Alexander von Humboldt, the visionary German naturalist whose ideas changed the way we see the natural world.

May 9

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and New York Times bestseller about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Reviewed by Richard Holt, former English teacher at Niskayuna High School and a long-time member of the Friends of SCPL.

May 16

Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: 1776 to the Present by Michael B. Oren, reviewed by Robert H. (Rob) Dickson, retired Salesperson/Sales Manager, lifelong history buff and regular reviewer for Books Sandwiched In.. The book tells the remarkable story of America's 230 year relationship with the Middle East. Drawing on a vast range of government documents, personal correspondence, and the memoirs of merchants, missionaries, and travelers, Michael B. Oren narrates the unknown story of how the U.S. has interacted with this vibrant and turbulent region.

Note: the Monday series of talks is held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are available for a nominal fee. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.

TELL US YOUR STORY....

From Carmel Patrick: Libraries have played a central role in my life for as long as I remember. My mom brought me to the East Branch of the Watertown Public Library when I was four to get me my first library card. Once I was able to head there on my own, I think I visited the library at least every other day. I got it into my head that I wanted to be a librarian, and I bugged poor Miss Harney until she finally broke down and hired me as a Page when I was 14 - my very first job.

Now when I can't sleep, I close my eyes and imagine parking my bike, heading down the stairs to the Children's Room, and mentally walk myself around the whole space, ticking off each section of books, until I drift off to sleep (usually before I make it to the center point of the stacks). So I am honored to now be serving as President of the Schenectady Public Library Board of Trustees. We have a great library system, led

by a dynamite staff, and I am honored to be a part of the exciting work they are doing across our county. And I know both my mom and Miss Harney would be proud!



Carmel Patrick, left, with OCOB author
Jacqueline Woodson

Let us know what your library means to you. Send your stories to Rita Moore at friendslibrary12305@gmail.com. Additional stories and videos can be found at www.friendsofscpl.org.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

The Whitney is continuing with the Decades On Display promotion, highlighting the 70s in May and the 80s in June, with subsequent decades throughout the summer months. May's sale is Adult Fiction Hard Cover for \$1.00 and June is paperbacks 4/\$1.00, just in time for vacation reading!

The WBC will have a table at Comic Con on July 9th with cartoon books, graphic novels and Manga. These will also be on sale at the Whitney along with science fiction and mysteries for the whole month.

August is our popular Children's and Young Adult sale. On Saturday August 20th, we will have a teacher appreciation day with the whole store 50% off for teachers.

- Charlene Roman



The Whitney kicked off its Decades on Display with books and memorabilia from the 60s

BOOK SALES

The Spring Book Sale is April 30th and May 1st. We are looking for a bright, sunny day so book lovers can spend some time browsing! Again, books will be \$1, some romances 2/\$1, and paperbacks, 3/\$1. Children's books are only 25 and 50 cents. Lots of categories to satisfy any reader, young and old! We have been busy sorting and storing since February. So many great books have been donated, thanks to many of you!

Our thanks to all the sorters, shelvees, and others who help us get ready for each sale. A tremendous effort by many, some

who show up weekly (or like Bob Symons a few times each week). It is quite a team effort!

As a committee, we are so proud to be part of these book sales and the contribution that the Friends make towards the community of Schenectady. What a pleasure it is to be part of the Friends of the Schenectady County Library! It is an awesome sight to watch all the book lovers (children too) browse and hungrily look for the perfect book or books!

Bob Symons, Susie and Rich Leon, Robin and Fred Eddy

VOLUNTEER PICNIC JUNE 3



5 :30 p.m.-dusk
Niskayuna River Road
Park
Sign up sheets -
Whitney Book Corner
and all library branches.
Catered by Gershon's
Volunteers eat for free
Non-volunteer guests -
\$5.00

PICNIC OPEN TO ANYONE WHO HAS
VOLUNTEERED AT THE LIBRARY OR FOR THE
FRIENDS OR IS ON THE LIBRARY STAFF

HELP WANTED



Online Sales is looking for a person to scan books one day a week on Thursdays or Fridays. Must be able to stand for at least two hours at a time. Contact Shawn Marie Schultz at dschultz7@nycap.rr.com.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT.....

for a wonderful travel opportunity!!!
On September 15, 2016 the Friends will present an informational session on a fantastic tour to the Canadian Rockies that will be offered in July 2017! Details to follow.

AROUND THE LIBRARY

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES AT CENTRAL

Microsoft Word 2013: File Management: Saturday, May 7, 9:15-10:45 am
 Online Security: Monday, May 9, 6-7:30 pm
 Microsoft Intermediate Excel 2013: Wednesday, May 11, 6-7:30 pm
 Microsoft Word 2013: Getting to Know Word: Saturday, May 14, 9:15-10:45 am
 Basic Power Point: Tuesday, May 17, 6-7:30 pm May 7, 6-7:30 p.m.
 Facebook: Tuesday, May 24, 6-7:30 pm
 Microsoft Advanced Excel 2013: Wednesday, May 25, 6-7:30 pm



Register online at www.scpl.org, at any library location, or by calling 388-4511. Registrants must have a valid SCPL card. The classes are funded by the Friends of the Library.



REELS

A Series of Free Films Shown at Noon in the McChesney Room

May 4: Bridge of Spies	June 1: Brooklyn
May 11: Grandma	June 8: Spotlight
May 18: Creed	June 15: Concussion
May 25: Trumbo	June 22: The Danish Girl
	June 29: The Big Short

Detailed movie information can be found on the Events Calendar at www.scpl.org. Check the calendar for movies shown in July and August.

SEMI-ANNUAL BOOK SALE APRIL 30 - 9 AM-4 PM MAY 1 - 1 PM-3 PM



FROM OUR SCRAPBOOK



Tiffany Guarneri recites a poem at the 15th Annual Poetry Gala.



John Karl accepts a proclamation from Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara



From left, Joan Molloy and Alice Reed at the Bornt Opening.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS, NEW MEMBERS AND DONATIONS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Eleanor & Jesse Aronstein
Rachel Cameron
Debbie & Joel Friedman**
Verena Takekoshi
Jean & Samuel Katz

BENEFACTOR \$200+

Christine Matthews
Samuel & Carol Wait, Jr.

**Eligible for GE Match*
***New Member*

DONATIONS

In memory of Joanna McCarthy from:

Kathleen Cromme
Dr. & Mrs. Robert DeLuke
Carmel & William Patrick
Mary & Alun Pritchard
Jim & Sandi Purcell
Family of Linda & Bill Sweet
Barton & Loguidice DPC

PATRON - \$50-199

Anne Christman
Ruth & Arthur Clayman**
Timothy Coakley
Dennis Cottrell & Lucy Desjardins
Patrick Cummings & Donna Phillips
Barb & Gary Dagastine**
Joseph & Jane Hendrick
Mindy and Jesse Holland
Isabel and Steven Krempa
Edward & Anne Mocker
Cheryl Nechamen**
Nancy and Michael Ottati
Jeffrey Peil
Thomas Robbins**
Carol/John Robitzek
Margaret Schadler
David and Shobha Smith
Barbara and Ernest Walton
Peter & Diana Weinberg

NEW MEMBERS

Deidre Butler
Arthur Coats
Aren Culligan (Junior Friend)
Jeannine Deyette
Mary Dix
Maria Esposito
Arlene Graham (Junior Friend)
John & Lucy Halstead
Susan & David Hayes
Jean Johnson
Sharon, John & Matt Nicpon
Steven Rider
Leslie Robbins
Tom & Ruth Schottman
Ariana Schultz (Junior Friend)
Eleanor Tunny
Gail Vazal
Rachel Yazum

In Honor of the Friends 50th
Anniversary from:

Mary Jane & Bill Beaulieu
Bryant Bigelow
Eileen Christensen
Hon. Camille Siano Enders
Gail Girvin
George & Joan Gould
Cori Hoffman
Priti Irani
William Levering
Mary Mortimore
Kathleen Rooney
Jean Scharthorn
Steven & Marilyn Tommasone

WINTER CONCERT SERIES A HUGE SUCCESS

We had another successful Beat the Snow concert series this year. The local arts groups responded eagerly to the call to perform for the community, including two new groups. We have received a business card from another new group for next year. We had three concerts with over 100 attending and three with over 70. Of course, our series worked-we had no snow!

If you see any of the performers, be sure to thank them. We can not do the series without them. I was fortunate to attend all the concerts this year and hear all this fabulous talent. Be sure to support them next year. - Janice Walz

A BIG THANK YOU...

To the mailing team for the dedicated work in getting the Friends newsletter ready for mailing: Bill and Lois Isles, Bill and Mary Liz Leitch, Rudy Dehn, Anne Yunick, Madelyn Thorne, Chris Witkowski and John Karl.

AUGUST 20
TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY
AT THE WHITNEY
50% OFF

A GRAND OPENING



Over 1,000 people visited the Phyllis Bornt Family Literacy Center and Branch Library at its grand opening on February 27. The library would not have become a reality were it not for a bequest from Phyllis Bornt, pictured left.

Phyllis began working for the SCPL system on May 6, 1960 as Senior Librarian II, Head of Bookmobile & Extension. She transferred to the Scotia Branch library on September 1, 1961 where she worked for ten years and then became the Head of Reference in 1971 at the Central library. In 1975, Phyllis became a Librarian IV and Coordinator of Branches until she retired in 1995.

Upon her retirement, Phyllis began volunteering for the Friends of the Library as one of their key weekly book sorters, using her professional expertise to classify donations, until her death on December 10, 2010. Phyllis never married and had no family. She split her estate between her church and the library and expressly indicated the money was to be used for branch libraries. She was a quiet and unassuming woman and very dedicated to the branch libraries and to the library as a whole. Phyllis had a keen understanding of people and always demonstrated great patience with everyone. She never sought recognition for herself and her primary focus was on serving the library users and assisting the staff in carrying out this mission. Naming the branch in Phyllis' memory and honor is a most deserving tribute to her.



AS SEEN ON ERIE BLVD.....

Anyone traveling south on Erie Blvd. during the month of April couldn't miss the huge billboard commemorating the Friends 50th anniversary. The Friends are so grateful to Doug Bixler for his terrific skills in putting this billboard together, as well as for his tireless efforts toward making our celebration the best it can be. Rumor has it he burned the midnight oil to make the fantastic video! Thank you Doug!





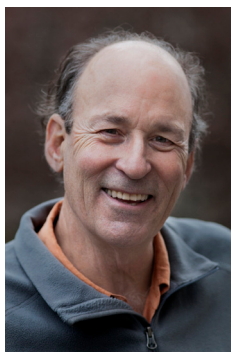
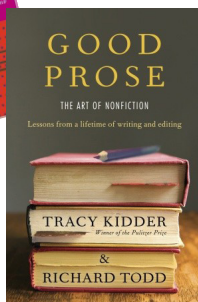
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SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

SAVE THE DATE!!!
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17
HEAR PULITZER PRIZE WINNING AUTHOR
TRACY KIDDER

Look for updates on our website



Tracy Kidder ©Gabriel Attadon Cooney

