

# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

Sept/Oct 2012

Vol. XLVIII, No. 1

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. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel. See program listings for days and times.

### NOON PROGRAMS BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Jo Adams & Rich Holt, Coordinators

- Sept. 10** **Little Piano Shop On the Left Bank** by Thaddeus Carhart; reviewed by Rand Reeves. In addition to Reeves' lifetime of musical performance and direction, he is currently rebuilding fine grand pianos out of his shop in Ballston Spa, which makes him the perfect reviewer for this little-known book about a piano shop in Paris.
- Sept. 17** **Charles Dickens: A Life** by Claire Tomalin; reviewed by Robert Donovan. Donovan, Emeritus Professor of Literature and Great Books discussion leader, returns to SCPL to review the latest biography of Charles Dickens, continuing the Books Sandwiched In celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the year of Dickens' birth.
- Sept. 24** **Steve Jobs** by Walter Isaacson; reviewed by Rob Dickson. Local businessman, avid reader, and one of our most popular reviewers, Dickson joins us to discuss this biography of one of America's best known and influential entrepreneurs, Steve Jobs.
- Oct. 1** **Conquered Into Liberty**, by Eliot A. Cohen, reviewed by Deborah Reid. Reid, U.S. Air Force, Retired, reviews Cohen's book about the 200 mile region between Albany and Montreal from 1690 to 1812. The book also contains an interesting chapter about Schenectady.
- Oct. 15** **Contested Will: Who Wrote Shakespeare?** by James Shapiro; reviewed by Walter Grattidge, GE Research & Development, Retired. Did William Shakespeare really write all those plays?
- Oct. 22** **Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty** by Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo; reviewed by Fred Eddy. This book describes the lives of the world's poorest people, and a radical rethinking of our approach to problems of poverty, education and health. Fred's travels in developing countries and his son's experiences in India and Chile while working for the book's authors, lead to his interest in this book.
- Oct. 29** **James Madison and the Making of America** by Kevin R.C. Gutzman; reviewed by James Sefcik. Some called him Jemmy, others the Father of the Constitution, or Mr. President, or even Dolley's husband; learn more about the life and times of James Madison.
- Nov. 5** **Let the Great World Spin** by Colum McCann; reviewed by Paul O'Brien. On August 7, 1974, Philippe Petit danced on a cable between the World Trade Center Towers and stunned the world. In McCann's novel, Philippe's dance becomes a metaphor for the lives of a number of New Yorkers, whose struggles and attempts to maintain balance on the tightrope of their own lives serves to illuminate the heart of the human character and the spirit of a great and turbulent city.

### YOUR MONEY AT WORK



There is some confusion as to how much the Friends of the Library contributed to the recently opened library expansion. As you may remember, the planning for the expansion goes back over 10 years, with a number of roadblocks along the way. During the initial fundraising drive for the library expansion, the Friends contributed \$70,000, collected from various

sources: fundraising sales, membership contributions, etc. Once the plans were finalized, it was realized that the mezzanine, which was integral to the design, would not be funded by the county. The shortfall was \$250,000. The director, Andy Kulmatiski, asked the Friends for help. In less than a week, he had a check for a quarter of a million dollars on his desk and the plans could go forward. In addition to this \$320,000 contributed directly from Friends funds, it can be assumed that a large percentage of the \$2 million collected during the fundraising came from smaller donations by individual members of the Friends who have always risen to the occasion when the library is in need. There is still a lot more to be done to finish the job and Friends are ready to do what is necessary. You should be proud of what you do to make the Schenectady library one of the best in the state.

— John Karl



# REELS

A Free Series of Recent Thought-Provoking Films  
Shown in the McChesney Room at the Central Library  
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, New York

## September

### Alfred Hitchcock Month

Wednesday, September 5 at noon & Thursday,  
September 6 at 7pm

#### ***The Trouble With Harry***

John Forsythe, Shirley MacLaine, Edmund  
Gwenn. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock  
Rated PG; 99 minutes; 1955

The trouble with Harry is . . . he's dead. In this  
bizarre black comedy of errors, each eccentric  
character that stumbles across the corpse  
believes he's responsible for Harry's death.  
This understated macabre comedy of confusion  
is one of the best examples of Hitchcock's  
humor as well as one of the master's favorites.

Wednesday, September 12 at noon & Thursday,  
September 13 at 7pm

#### ***Vertigo***

James Stewart, Kim Novak Directed by Alfred  
Hitchcock Rated PG; 126 minutes; 1958

To say *Vertigo* finds Hitchcock at his most  
obsessive, his most perverse, and his sexual  
best, doesn't even begin to convey how  
haunting this film is, or how bizarre. A retired  
police detective (James Stewart) must  
overcome vertigo and his obsession for a  
friend's wife (Kim Novak) in this eerie tale of  
passion.

Wednesday, September 19 at noon & Thursday,  
September 20 at 7pm

#### ***North By Northwest***

Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, James Mason  
MGM/UA; Directed by Alfred Hitchcock  
Not Rated; 136 minutes; 1959

From Roger Thornhill (Cary Grant) being  
chased by the crop dusting bi-plane, to the  
climax atop the faces of Mount Rushmore, this  
Hitchcock classic never lets up. Roger, an  
unsuspecting businessman is mistaken for a  
spy by a secret agent (James Mason).

Wednesday, September 26 at noon & Thursday,  
September 27 at 7pm

#### ***The Birds***

Rod Taylor, Tippi Hedren; Directed by Alfred  
Hitchcock Not Rated; 119 minutes; 1963

The residents of Bodega Bay are suddenly  
confronted with a malicious, full-scale attack  
by birds of all shapes and sizes. Under the  
guidance of bird trainer Ray Berwick, Hitchcock  
employed thousands of real birds and his own  
ingenuity to create the most terrifying aspect  
of *The Birds*, the undeniable reality of  
seemingly impossible events.



## October

Wednesday, October 3 at noon & Thursday,  
October 4 at 7pm

#### ***Rare Birds***

William Hurt, Molly Parker Directed by Sturla  
Gunnarson Rated R; 104 minutes; 2001  
Iceland-born Canadian filmmaker Sturla  
Gunnarsson spins this offbeat comedy about  
fine food and feathered friends. The owner of a  
failing gourmet eatery in a small Newfoundland  
town, Dave Purcell (William Hurt) is about to  
throw in the towel. As he raids his wine cellar  
and nurses his sorrows, his wacky friend  
Alphonse Murphy (Andy Jones) hatches a  
scheme to save the restaurant.

Wednesday, October 10 at noon & Thursday,  
October 11 at 7pm

#### ***The Lady***

Michelle Yeoh, David Thewlis, Jonathan  
Raggett Directed by Luc Besson  
Rated R; 132 minutes; 2012

*The Lady* is the extraordinary story of Aung  
San Suu Kyi and her husband, Michael Aris. It  
is also the epic story of the peaceful quest of  
the woman who is at the core of Burma's  
democracy movement.

Wednesday, October 17 at noon & Thursday,  
October 18 at 7pm

#### ***Moonrise Kingdom***

Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Bill Murray  
Focus Features; Directed by Wes Anderson  
Rated PG-13; 94 minutes; 2012

Set on an island off the coast of New England  
in the summer of 1965, this film tells the story  
of two twelve-year-olds who fall in love, make  
a secret pact, and run away together into the  
wilderness. As various authorities try to hunt  
them down, a violent storm is brewing off-  
shore -- and the peaceful island community is  
turned upside down.

Wednesday, October 24 at noon & Thursday, October 25  
at 7pm

#### ***People Like Us***

Chris Pine, Elizabeth Banks, Michelle Pfeiffer  
Directed by Alex Kurtzman Rated PG-13; 114  
minutes; 2012

This smart, intimate drama features Sam, a twenty-  
something, fast-talking salesman, whose latest deal  
collapses on the day he learns that his father has  
suddenly died. In the course of fulfilling his father's last  
wishes, Sam uncovers a startling secret that turns his  
entire world upside down.

Wednesday, October 31 at noon & Thursday,  
November 1 at 7pm

#### ***Delicacy***

Audrey Tautou, Francois Damiens, Bruno  
Todeschini Directed by David and Stephan  
Foerkinos Rated PG-13; 108 minutes; 2012

French with English subtitles

Nathalie is a beautiful Parisian business  
executive who finds herself suddenly widowed  
after a three-year marriage to her soul mate.  
One day, inexplicably, her zest for life and love  
is rekindled by a most unlikely source, her  
seemingly unexceptional, gauche, and average  
looking office subordinate, Markus.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ellie Rowland and Virginia Thompson have completed ten years of running our very successful book sales with a job well done. Welcome to the new team that will take the helm for the book sales starting with the September 29-30<sup>th</sup> sale. The new team is Fred and Robin Eddy, Rich and Susie Leon and Bob Symonds.

John Karl, our co-membership chairman, was recently selected by the Schenectady County as the senior citizen of the year because of his impressive resume of volunteer work. He was nominated by the Friends.

–Bill Leitch

## WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

The Whitney Book Corner has been busy this past year. We had our 10<sup>TH</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration in May, inviting the community, businesses, and politicians. During the anniversary year we are having monthly theme basket drawings. Margaret Mazza, a volunteer, designs the theme baskets, and makes bookmarks to give to our customers.

We continue to give coupons for one free book for children and young adults who participate in the Library Summer Reading Program. During the month of August we offered customers a free shopping bag filled with school supplies with the purchase of \$10 worth of children or young adult books. July found a tiny cardboard Waldo hidden in our store, as we partnered with the Open Door Bookstore for the a “Where’s Waldo?” treasure hunt in Schenectady.

A first: two authors have visited our store and donated signed copies of their books. The authors were Robert Knightly and Robert Congemi.

Another first: On August 17, as part of the Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation’s (DSIC) “Reverse Merchant Mash Up”, we had a promotional table at Café Nola, giving out coupons to the store and providing membership information for the Friends of the Library.

–Gail Karl

## BOOK SALES

The May book sale was a great success due to tremendous volunteer help of over two hundred people. \$19,610 was realized for the two day effort. Thank you everyone! This sale continues to be a great community event.

After this sale Virginia Thompson and Ellie Rowland have stepped down as Co-chairs of the sales. The job has been taken on by a very able committee: Bob Symons, Robin and Fred Eddy, Susie and Rich Leon. The sales will continue to be a united effort by all the members of the Friends of SCPL. Publicity is most important, so please, take a yellow yard sign available at the Whitney in September and tell your friends. The next semi-annual sale will be September 29-30.

–Ellie Rowland and Virginia Thompson

## GIFTS RECEIVED

The Friends are grateful for gifts received: Ronald Willis to the Niskayuna Garden Fund; Julia Stone and Arlene & Max Gollmer in honor of Gail Karl’s birthday; R.D. & L.G. Spaulding in honor of Jo Adams’ work with the Great Books Program; Robert Yunick in memory of Elizabeth Grout.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the following new members: Benita Allaire, Jereldine Cuomo, Sandy and Jim Denney, Lisa Denney, Donna Fairlee, Rory Fluman, Cathy Gatta, Shirley and Donald Hirshorn, Lois Foight Hodges, Connie Liscio, Mary Ann Miller, Theresa and Lawrence Moran, Angelo Muccigrosso, Andelo Santabarbara, Christine Schuppe, Lorraine Seber, Camille Siano Elders, Irene Smith, Constance Young, June Zajaceskowski, Julia Stone, Marlene King, Susanne Semo and Janet Kidd. –Rita Moore

## LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Sunday, September 23, at 2:00 pm, McChesney Room - **Banned Book "Read Out"** - The library is partnering with the Albany Chapter of the NYCLU on this program. Anyone interested in reading from a banned book should contact Karen Bradley at 388-4533 or [kbradley@mvls.info](mailto:kbradley@mvls.info); a limited number of openings are still available.

Sunday, October 21, at 2:00 pm - **Poems and Pavaness II**, McChesney Room-featuring students from the library’s poetry workshop series who will read from their original poems, which will be set to music performed by Lycaides, a recorder consort featuring music performed on early instruments, many made from natural materials.

Monday evenings, October 1, 15, 29 and November 5, from 7 – 8:30 pm, at the Central Library- Authors Among Us writing workshop series **Becoming American**. NYSCA funded, facilitated by local writer Susannah Risley, the workshop is to help newcomers to our community write a short personal story telling about their home and experiences as they made their way to the Capital District.

Thursday evenings, Sept 13, 27, Oct. 18 and Nov. 1 at 7 pm , **The Things We Saw: Veterans Finding Their Voices** - Facilitated by local writers Jack Rightmyer and Ryan Smithson-a five part writing workshop series at the Central Library, bringing veterans of foreign wars together to share their experiences through the written word. Previous writing experience is not required. The workshop series is open to veterans of any war.

Register for programs by calling 388-4511.

## CONTACT US

Find us on Facebook, visit our web site [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org) or email us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com) .



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN-TWO EXCITING TRIPS



The Friends of the Library are sponsoring a trip to Salem, Ma. on Friday, October 26, 2012 to visit The House of Seven Gables and the Peabody Essex Museum. Lunch will be at the Hawthorne Hotel, which is on the National Register of Historic Homes. The cost of the trip is \$90 for members and \$100 for non-members. Registration will run from September 4-21. Detailed information and registration forms can be found at [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org); forms are also available at the Central Library, the branches, and the Whitney Book Corner. Questions? Contact Chris Witkowski at [cwitkows@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cwitkows@nycap.rr.com) or 377-5643.

Hot off the presses! Join the Friends in May, 2013, on a 12 day tour of The French Riviera & Provence as tour directors John Goldsmith and Carole Hirschhorn take us to Nice, Monte Carlo, Antibes and many other beautiful Mediterranean coastal towns. Visit museums and locales associated with Picasso, Matisse, Chagall, Leger, Cezanne and Van Gogh. See fabulous Roman remains, the Pont du Gard aqueduct and the Amphitheatre at Nimes. Enjoy lodging in two splendid hotels and dine on marvelous food. Complete details of the trip, including pricing and itinerary, will appear on the Friends website, [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org) in late September and in the October newsletter.

*The Friends of Schenectady County Public Library*

**semi-annual**  
**BOOK SALE**

**Saturday, September 29, 2012**  
**9 am - 4 pm**

**\$2.00 Bag Sale**  
**Sunday, September 30, 2012**  
**1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Most books \$1.00**

**Children's Books 25¢ & 50¢**

**Paperbacks 3/\$1.00**

**Romance (trade & hardcover) 2/\$1.00**

**Records...DVDs...CDs...VHS...Audiobooks**

**For year-round deals on quality used books, visit the Whitney Book Corner on the corner of Clinton & Union Streets. [www.whitneybookcorner.org](http://www.whitneybookcorner.org)**

Schenectady County Public Library • 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 • 388.4500 • [www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org)

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# NEWSLETTER

November/December 2012

Vol. XLVIII, No. 2

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## NOON PROGRAMS

### BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Jo Adams, Rich Holt, Patricia Rush, Coordinators

- Nov. 5** **Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann;** reviewed by Paul O'Brien. On August 7, 1974, Philippe Petit danced on a cable between the World Trade Center Towers and stunned the world. In McCann's novel, Philippe's dance becomes a metaphor for the lives of a number of New Yorkers, whose struggles and attempts to maintain balance on the tightrope of their own lives serves to illuminate the heart of the human character and the spirit of a great and turbulent city.
- Jan. 7** **To End All Wars: A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion, 1914-1918, by Adam Hochschild;** reviewed by John Karl. This is a book about the First World War, concentrating on the appalling losses suffered by the rank and file, and the extraordinary courage of those who decided that the war was not a just one. Hochschild tried to encompass the global scope of the war, but his main setting is England and his chief concern is the Western Front. John Karl is a retired teacher of history from Bethlehem High School, and a Board Member of the Friends of the Library.

## SPECIAL FEATURES

Gioia Ottaviano, Coordinator

### SEARCHING FOR SERGEANT BAILEY: SALUTING AN ORDINARY SOLDIER OF WORLD WAR II

- Nov. 19** East Greenbush author James Breig will share how a visit to an antique shop led to uncovering the fascinating history of a true 'unknown soldier.' Highlighting history from rural Virginia to wartime New Guinea, Breig's talk will be of interest to history buffs, WWII enthusiasts and genealogists alike.

## TABLE TALKS

### A SERIES OF TALKS FOCUSING ON DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN AND AROUND THE CAPITAL DISTRICT

John Karl, Coordinator

- Nov. 26** **Schenectady Mayor Gary McCarthy** - Mayor McCarthy has been asked to give an update on the "State of the City". After an overview, he will entertain questions about current conditions and future plans.
- Dec. 3** **Schenectady School Superintendent Laurence Spring** - Mr. Spring has recently been appointed superintendent and has been "on the job" since June of this year. He has been asked to give his impressions of the district so far, citing problem areas and successes. The city schools nurtured many of us and their role in the future of the community is major.
- Dec. 10** **Master Sergeant Corine (Cori) Lombardo**-Cori is a much decorated 30 year veteran of the U.S. Army and Army National Guard. She has served as PR person for the military in many parts of the world, including service after 9/11 and a deployment to Iraq. She has been a long-time volunteer for the Friends of the Library and will speak about her "adventures" in the service.
- Dec. 17** **Dr. Alain Diebold, Professor of Nanoscale Science, SUNY Albany.** Dr. Diebold, PhD Purdue University, holds many positions at the innovative school of Nanoscience in Albany. He has been asked to give an idea of the ways in which Nanoscience has and will affect daily life now and in the future. Dr. Diebold is a resident of Niskayuna and has made many contributions in the field of Nanoscience and semiconductor metrology.

## **\*\*NEW\*\* FROM THE FRIENDS**

Thanks to the efforts of Cheryl Cufari, the Friends finally have a viable email list for most of its members. Cheryl will be sending monthly "News & Notes" messages, alerting the membership to upcoming programs and other important news. Cheryl will continue to update these lists and may be contacting members to provide current information. Other ways to obtain Friends info – email us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com), find us on Facebook, or click on our web site [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org).

# REELS

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## November

Wednesday, Nov. 7 at noon and Thursday, Nov.8 at 7pm

### Amazing Spiderman

Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone, Rhys Ifans  
Columbia Pictures; Directed by Marc Webb  
Rated PG-13; 136 minutes; 2012  
Like most teenagers his age, Peter is trying to figure out who he is and how he got to be the person he is today. In his journey to put the pieces of his past together he uncovers a secret that his father held ... a secret that will ultimately shape his destiny as Spider-Man.

Wednesday, Nov 14 at noon and Thursday, Nov. 15 at 7pm

### Fresh; 2009

Director: Ana Sofia Joanes  
There are still efficient ways to produce healthy fresh organic food in a time where most food is being mass produced by corporations in less than hygienic ways. Country farmers and urban farmers explain.

Wednesday, Nov 21 at noon (closed Nov 22)

### Seeking A Friend For The End Of The World

Steve Carell, Keira Knightley, Melinda Dillon  
Focus Features; Directed by Lorene Scafaria  
Rated R; 2012  
Set in a too-near future, the movie explores what people will do when humanity's last days are at hand. As the respective journeys of Dodge and Penny converge, the two spark to each other and their outlooks – if not the world's – brighten.

Wednesday, Nov 28 at noon and Thursday, Nov. 29 at 7 pm

### Chimpanzee

Documentary, Disney Nature;  
Directed by Alastair Fothergill, Mark Linfield  
Rated G; 78 minutes; 2012  
Disneynature takes moviegoers deep into the forests of Africa with "Chimpanzee," a new True Life Adventure introducing an adorable baby chimp named Oscar and his entertaining approach to life in a remarkable story of family bonds and individual triumph. Working together, Oscar's chimpanzee family navigates the complex territory of the forest.

## December

Wednesday, Dec 5 at noon and Thursday, Dec. 6 at 7 pm

### Arthur Christmas

Animated Feature Voices by: James McAvoy, Hugh Laurie, Jim Broadbent  
Columbia Pictures; Directed by Sarah Smith  
Rated PG; 97 minutes; 2011  
This animated feature at last reveals the incredible, never-before seen answer to every child's question: 'So how does Santa deliver all those presents in one night?' Wednesday, Dec 12 at noon and Thursday, Dec. 13 at 7pm

### Madagascar 3

Animated Feature,Voices by: Ben Stiller, Frances McDormand, David Schwimmer  
DreamWorks Animation; Directed by Eric Darnell  
Rated PG; 93 minutes; 2012  
Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Gloria the Hippo, and Melman the Giraffe are still fighting to get home to their beloved Big Apple and of course, King Julien, Maurice and the Penguins are all along for the comedic adventure.

Wednesday, Dec 19 at noon and Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 pm

### Elf

Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart  
New Line Cinema; Directed by Jon Favreau  
Rated PG; 95 minutes; 2003  
Buddy was a baby who stowed away in Santa's toy bag and ended up at the North Pole. The elves raise him as one of their own, but when he begins to notice his differences to the other elves he goes to New York City to find his birth father in this sweet holiday comedy.

Wednesday, Dec 26 at noon and Thursday, Dec. 27 at 7 pm

### Ted

Mark Wahlberg, Mila Kunis, Seth McFarlane  
Universal Pictures; Directed by Seth MacFarlane  
Rated R; 106 minutes; 2012  
Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane brings his boundary-pushing brand of humor to the big screen for the first time as writer, director and voice star of Ted. In the live action/CG-animated comedy, he tells the story of John Bennett, a grown man who must deal with the cherished teddy bear who came to life as the result of a childhood wish...and has refused to leave his side ever since.

## Friends of School Libraries Effort Underway

Every library needs friends, and school libraries are no exception. For many young readers, the school library is a vital source of good things to read and a place to hang out with others who love reading. They're the next generation of library Friends, and they need your support now. Our fundraising efforts include a chance to win a lovely Harry Potter tapestry. The cost of your first ticket is filling out a membership form. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$1, with the proceeds used to help meet the needs of school libraries. Look for us at upcoming school events! Prizes will be awarded in early December in time for holiday giving.

The School Library Friends hosted a competition on October 20 at Schenectady High School to challenge students' book sorting skills. Schools whose students amassed the most points in the competition were awarded gift certificates from the Open Door. Whitney Book Corner coupons were also distributed to participants.

To join the School Library Friends, to purchase raffle tickets or for more information, contact Donna Phillips at [phillipsd@schenectady.k12.ny.us](mailto:phillipsd@schenectady.k12.ny.us).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The September 29-30<sup>th</sup> book sale run by the new team of Fred and Robin Eddy, Rich and Susie Leon and Bob Symons was a big success even with the inclement weather. Congratulations on a job well done to them and their many volunteers.

Congratulations to Karen Bradley, a longtime Schenectady Library staff member, who has been selected to replace Andy Kulmatiski as the new Library Director. We wish Andy well in his retirement and promise that all the Friends will strongly support Karen in her new position. We are excited to have her as the Director and know that she will do an outstanding job.

—Bill Leitch

## WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

Your Friends bookstore has become a major player in the downtown Schenectady community. The store has participated in several activities in and around the downtown area. We partnered with Café Nola in August to promote both businesses and we will be partnering with another local business (unknown as yet) for the Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corp annual Block Party in November. We have joined downtown's Passeggiatta event, staying open on the third Friday of each month. And don't forget to shop the Whitney on Nov. 23, Black Friday for some HUGE sales.

Our customer base continues to grow and, as a result, we are earning more income which goes to the support of the library. The Whitney has become "the place to be" for great deals on books, CDs, DVDs, records and VHS tapes. The many volunteers who clerk at the store and those who maintain the store and keep the inventory fresh have contributed greatly to our first decade.

—Gail Karl

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the following new members: Carol B. Kahn, Barbara Hipwell, Mariko Baertsch, Bertha Berman, David & Laura Fronk, Ellen Blake, David Coplon, Robert Donovan, Gail Girvin, Annemarie McLaughlin, Patricia Poersch Robbins, Diane Roberts, Wesley R. Ryerson, Dorothy Thomas and Arlene Turner.

The new schedule of renewal reminders and the addition of annual membership cards have eased the confusion of when a membership expires and a renewal is due. Sending renewal notices on a quarterly basis also allows our treasurer to more evenly space out the returns and not be inundated all at one time.

A new Friends brochure is being prepared which updates all of the activities and efforts provided by the Friends. It should be available in November.

—John Karl and Rita Moore

## NEW PROGRAM AT SCPL

Planning a vacation to France? Going on a business trip to Spain? Learn a new language with Livemocha, SCPL's newest online resource, available from home 24/7. Just go to our homepage at [www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org) and look for the logo. Livemocha is a helpful resource for travelers and students, including ESL students. Call 388-4511 with any questions.

Upcoming Author Events:

- Juliette Fay, author of *The Shortest Way Home*, Nov. 3 at 1 pm at Niskayuna Branch Library
- Lee Woodruff, author of *Those We Love* Most-Nov. 10 at 2 pm at Central

## BOOK SALES

Rain, clouds and more clouds dominated the weekend of the Book Sale this year. Despite the weather, the Friends ran another successful sale the weekend of September 29 and 30 with a profit of \$18,697. We say *Friends* because it was a completely cooperative effort beginning with Ellie Rowland and Virginia Thompson patiently answering numerous questions and providing great notes and advice, and the many volunteers that came out to help.

The people who sort each week and coordinate their sections are amazing. Leah Leonard, Joan Malloy, Pat Stearns, Joanne Griffin, Beverly Glover and Ellie Rowland - Fiction; Bern Allanson -CDs; Bruce Northrup-records; Rich Holt- Books on Tape; Nancy Virkler and Janet Kiddle- DVDs and VHS; Simon and Sally Weinstein, Donna Hennel, Robin Eddy, Susie Leon, Lois Quillian - Nonfiction; John and Gail Karl- Whitney items; Judy Dillenback and Fred Marx-paperbacks; Sylvia Curley and Dorothea Potochnik-children's books.

Bob Symons spends many hours a week going through boxes and bags of donated books to help us get ready for the sales, with Alice Reed assisting in this very important task. The physically demanding job of storing and organizing the books for the sale is done by Rich Leon, Fred Eddy, and Charlie Hatch.

We would like to also thank Corine Lombardo for all her expertise in handling publicity. Bill Leonard is essential to the setup of the sales, especially in the McChesney Room. Thanks to Nancy Virkler, Val Catlin, Gene Rowland, Bob Coppola, and Walter Hayes who handle all the tasks involving money for the sale. The maintenance staff willingly and enthusiastically (in the rain) set up tables and tents, and answered our questions with patience. Thank you to Serena, Janice, and Sandy for all their help to make this a success and showing patience to our new committee. Twenty-one people from the non-profit sector selected an unlimited number of books for their organizations beginning at 2:30 on the first day of the sale. Thank you to Barbara Grasier for coordinating this effort.

It takes 325 slots for volunteers to fill to make the sales a success. We know that we probably left some people out; please know that you were all appreciated for the support you gave this new committee of five. We couldn't have done all that we did without your help!

—Susie Leon

## SAVE THE DATE

The Beat the Snow Winter Concert Series will be back starting Jan 6. A complete schedule will be in the next newsletter.

## HELP WANTED

Volunteers are needed to provide one-on-one computer literacy tutoring at the main branch and/or to assist with the ongoing introductory computer classes given at the library. If interested contact Christine Witkowski at 377-5643 or [cwitkows@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cwitkows@nycap.rr.com).

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Many thanks to the following who have prepared the mailings of the Newsletter and other membership materials: Anne Yunick, Bill and Mary Liz Leitch, Bill and Lois Isles, Kathy August, Rudy Dehn, Joan Molloy, Mary Beth Barbagelata, Lisa Denney, Cathy Lenahan, Rita Moore, John Karl, Chris Witkowski and Donna Phillips.



## KAREN BRADLEY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF SCPL

On October 9, 2012, the County Legislature appointed Karen Bradley the next director of the Schenectady County Public Library system. Karen began her career at SCPL in 2000. She served in a variety of roles in the Adult Services Department, including Reference Services and as the Adult Programming coordinator. She initiated the One County One Book (OCOB) program, which received an award from the Mohawk Valley Library System; presented a Community Reads workshop at a New York Library System (NYLA) conference in Buffalo; and recently wrote a chapter for the NYLA publication **Bridging Cultures**.

Karen's dedication to the community embraces service through other organizations. She served on the Scotia-Glenville School Board for twelve years including terms as President and Vice-President. As a Board member, she received training in budgeting, policy making, and leadership training which should serve her well in her new position at the library. She has volunteered with the Schenectady County Medical Reserve Corp, the League of Women Voters Working for Girls program, and other community groups. She believes "working with community agencies and organizations enables the library to identify the needs and issues in our community which helps the staff to better meet those needs. We learn about what services they provide and what their needs are and they of course learn more about what we have to offer."

Karen sees the library as the informational, educational, and cultural heart of Schenectady County. "Our library is a dependable source of reliable information that promotes lifelong learning. Our staff is trained to provide first rate reader's advisory services and programs that enrich the lives of the residents of the County. But we are now at a turning point. Andy, the Board and the County dedicated ten

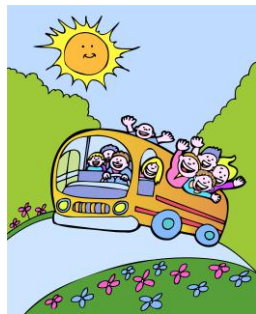
years to the highly successful completion of our new Children's Room and to some interior enhancements of our existing building.

"We are now starting a new chapter. The County is facing difficult financial challenges as they struggle to keep taxes as low as possible for homeowners. This will no doubt affect us in the coming year and beyond. My goal is to include the Board, the staff, the Friends of the Library and the community in an overall assessment of our services, programs and resources, positioning the library to confront financial restraints, while continuing to meet everyday needs of our patrons." Karen stated that every effort would be made "to continue to offer quality programming for the youth and adults of our community, with our existing staff, that will enrich people's lives and that our community has come to value."

Karen has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Friends for many years. She believes "they are the most vibrant, energetic group . . . a fabulous resource for the library . . . essential to what we do at the library... and have made us the envy of others in the Capital region." The Friends of the Library exists for the benefit of the library and, therefore, the community at large. Together with the new Director, we will acknowledge our achievements and "think to the future".

Karen will have a regular feature in upcoming FOL newsletters. -Rita Moore

## THE FRENCH RIVIERA AND PROVENCE IN THE SPRING



Join the Friends of the Library from April 30-May 10, 2013, on a 9 day tour of The French Riviera & Provence as tour directors John Goldsmith and Carole Hirschhorn take us to Nice, Monte Carlo, Antibes and many other beautiful Mediterranean coastal towns. Visit museums and locales associated with Picasso, Matisse, Chagall, Leger, Cezanne and Van Gogh. The price of the tour, including round trip airfare, is \$4,599.00 per person, double occupancy, with a single occupancy supplement of \$790.00. Membership in the Friends of the Library is required. Complete details of the trip can be found on the Friends website, [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org), at all the library branches and the Whitney Book Corner. Depending on interest, a second tour will be scheduled from May 13-23. Don't wait to sign up – these trips fill up fast! Questions? Contact

John Goldsmith at [musicman1853@aol.com](mailto:musicman1853@aol.com) or 518 406-5459.



# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

January/February 2013

Vol. XLVIII, No. 3

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. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel. See program listings for days and times.

### NOON PROGRAMS BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Patricia Rush, Coordinator

- Jan. 7** **To End All Wars: A Story of Loyalty and Rebellion, 1914-1918**, by Adam Hochschild; reviewed by John Karl. This is a book about the First World War, concentrating on the appalling losses suffered by the rank and file, and the extraordinary courage of those who decided that the war was not a just one. Hochschild tried to encompass the global scope of the war, but his main setting is England and his chief concern is the Western Front. John Karl is a retired teacher of history from Bethlehem High School and a Board Member of the Friends of the Library.
- Jan. 14** **Velazquez and the Surrender of Breda: The Making of a Masterpiece**, by Anthony Bailey, reviewed by Patricia Rush. The Spanish painter Diego Velazquez memorialized Spain's reconquest of the Netherlands' city of Breda with a painting entitled "The Surrender of Breda" (1634-1635) which has been called the most dazzling and moving of history paintings. It has also been said that modern art was born when Manet saw Velazquez and despaired. Pat Rush is a retired college teacher and administrator.
- Jan. 28** **Oil's Endless Bid: Taming the Unreliable Price of Oil to Secure Our Economy**, by Dan Dicker, reviewed by Professor Brad Lewis. This book reveals why oil prices cannot stabilize without dramatic action on the part of both government and business. It details how the new, but wrong, ideal of oil as an asset class took a sleepy, club-like market into the national spotlight. Brad Lewis is an economist who specializes in financial markets and is a Professor of Economics at Union College.
- Feb. 4** **The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness**, by Michelle Alexander, reviewed by Dr. Alice Green. Legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that we have not ended racial caste in America, we have redesigned it, by "targeting black men through the War on Drugs and by decimating communities of color." The author further argues that the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control, relegating millions to a permanent second-class status. Alice Green is an attorney, executive director of the Social Justice Center in Albany, and director of the New Jim Crow Project in the Capital Region.
- Feb. 11** **The Space Between Us**, by Thrity Umrigar, reviewed by Esther Willison. This novel, set in modern-day India, tells the story of two women, one a member of a privileged caste and the other her servant, illiterate and powerless. Esther Willison is a retired teacher from the Open School in Schenectady.
- Feb. 25** **One County/One Book Selection – The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein; reviewer to be announced.

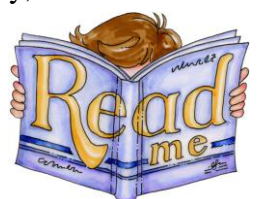
### TELL US YOUR STORY!



I grew up in a very small rural town near Boonville, New York. We were too small to have our own public library but we did have the Bookmobile in the summer. As a child, I remember hopping up and down waiting for my turn to get on board the reading bus and being so excited about the pile of books I could sign out to read. I remember, years later as an adult, needing picture books for a special reading project involving students from Schenectady High School. The computer said I had exceeded the acceptable limit of books I could take out, but the librarian at the Scotia branch said "Yes". . . . And that made all the difference.

These are just two examples where library service and librarians have made a difference in my life. I invite you to share your story with us. Selected stories will be featured either in this newsletter and/or on our webpage. Send your story to Rita Moore, Friends of SCPL, 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 or e-mail us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com). We're looking forward to reading YOUR story!

-Rita Moore



# REELS

A Free Series of Recent Thought-Provoking Films  
Shown in the McChesney Room at the Central Library  
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, New York  
Wednesdays at Noon  
(Please Note – There Will No Longer Be Thursday Evening Showings)

## JANUARY

**January 2 -THE DARK KNIGHT RISES**  
**Christian Bale, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Anne Hathaway** Christopher Nolan returns to complete the Gotham trilogy that launched with “Batman Begins” and reached the stratosphere with the billion dollar blockbuster “The Dark Knight.”

**January 9 CHERNOBYL DIARIES**  
**Jesse McCartney, Jonathan Sadowski, Olivia Dudley** The film follows a group of six young tourists who, looking to go off the beaten path, hire an “extreme tour” guide. Ignoring warnings, he takes them into the city of Pripyat, the former home to the workers of the Chernobyl nuclear reactor.

**January 16 HOPE SPRINGS**  
**Meryl Streep, Tommy Lee Jones, Steve Carell** Kay and Arnold are a devoted couple, but decades of marriage have left Kay wanting to spice things up and reconnect with her husband. When she hears of a renowned couple’s specialist in the small town of Great Hope Springs, she attempts to persuade her skeptical husband, a steadfast man of routine, to get on a plane for a week of marriage therapy.

**January 23 ARBITRAGE**  
**Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon, Brit Marling** A troubled hedge fund magnate desperate to complete the sale of his trading empire makes an error that forces him to turn to an unlikely person for help in this gripping thriller from the Sundance Film Festival.

**January 30 TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE**  
**Clint Eastwood, Amy Adams, Justin Timberlake** Gus Lobel has been one of the best

scouts in baseball for decades, but, despite his efforts to hide it, age is starting to catch up with him. The one person who might be able to help is also the one person Gus would never ask: his daughter, Mickey.

## FEBRUARY

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**February 6 THE BOOK OF ELI**  
**Mila Kunis, Denzel Washington, Gary Oldman** In the not-too-distant future, across the wasteland of what once was America, a lone warrior must fight to bring civilization the knowledge that could be the key to its redemption and save the future of humanity

**February 13 DO THE RIGHT THING**  
**Danny Aiello, Ossie Davis, Spike Lee** Producer/writer/director/star Spike Lee combines humor, drama and music in a technique used in his previous films to again expose the absurdity of racism.

**February 20 IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT**  
**Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger, Lee Grant** A fascinating look at the strained relationship between a racist Southern cop and a black detective from Philadelphia, who are involved in the same murder case.

**February 27 BAMBOOZLED**  
**Damon Wayans, Savion Glover, Jada Pinkett Smith Directed by Spike Lee** A frustrated African-American TV writer proposes a blackface minstrel show in protest, but to his chagrin it becomes a hit.

## GREAT DECISIONS 2013

The Great Decisions discussion series, held on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the McChesney Room, is free of charge, and is sponsored by the national, non-partisan, Foreign Policy Association ([www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org)). The FPA publishes a discussion guide, which presents a comprehensive balanced review of each topic. The guide is helpful, but not mandatory. A copy may be ordered by contacting Jeannie Minch (399-9567) or Frank Feiner (377-9448, [FFeiner@nycap.rr.com](mailto:FFeiner@nycap.rr.com)) by Jan. 18. Series topics are:

Feb. 5	Future of the Euro	Mar. 5	Intervention
Feb. 12	Egypt	Mar. 12	Iran
Feb. 19	NATO	Mar. 19	China in Africa
Feb. 26	Myanmar and Southeast Asia	Mar. 26	Threat Assessment

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN



The next Friends bus trip will take us back in time to the Adams National Historical Park in Quincy, Massachusetts, <http://www.nps.gov/adam/index.htm> to visit the birthplaces of John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the oldest presidential birthplaces in the United States. The one-day bus trip will take place in late May or early June, 2013. The date will be published in the next Friends newsletter and on the Friends website, [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy and healthy New Year to everyone!

With the reduced 2013 budget imposed on the library system by the County and the proposed planning for a restructuring of SCPL, we are facing some interesting challenges in the new year. We appreciate the continued support from all the members of the Friends of the Library and encourage you to be vocal in your support of your libraries. We had some great responses from the survey that the Friends recently helped the library staff conduct and we thank everyone for their cooperation. This survey will assist us in the planning for the new year.

—Bill Leitch

## WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

Hundreds of patrons enjoy YOUR bookstore every month. The store has participated in most of the downtown Schenectady events, the Black Friday opening, and the December Open House promoting small, local businesses. People wait anxiously at our door when we have one of our many popular sales. At the end of our year-long 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we wish to thank all who participated in the anniversary events and especially Margaret Mazza who provided monthly theme raffle baskets to highlight our year. Thanks also go to the bookstore management team: Bobbie Richardson, Chris Witkowski (who also does all of our great publicity), Ellie Rowland who schedules all of our clerks and Joyce Parry, our banker. The complete schedule of upcoming sales can be found on the last page of this newsletter. - Gail Karl

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Membership in the Friends of the Library continues to grow. As the support from the county continues to decrease, a strong support system will be needed to keep the library the vibrant center of the community that it is. Remember that it was the newly formed Friends group in 1966 that was instrumental in getting our central library built. If you received this newsletter, you are already a Friend. You can be a friend to a friend or relative by encouraging them to join. A membership would make a wonderful gift. Just pick up an application at any branch or go online to our website, [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org).

Welcome to the following new members: Toni Ann Avery, Georgette Cartwright, David & Rita DeLorenzo, Linda Perregaux, Laura & Carl Wiedermann, Susan Winchester, Dorothy Brooks, Paul & Margaret Bryant, Alice Casey, Anne Litynski, Patricia McGurn, Anity McKay, Jeffrey and Bronwyn Perez, Hafeez Waheed and Mary White.

—John Karl & Rita Moore

## ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

At a recent Friends Board meeting an Advocacy Committee was formed to garner more support for the library. Given the current county economic situation, library services have become a target for budget reductions. The Advocacy Committee will be seeking your input to put our best foot forward and let the public and county leaders know how critical the library is to all members of the community. Look for more advocacy information in the months to come. In the meantime, tell everyone you know how great the library is and how deserving it is of our support.

—John Karl

## BOOK SALES

The Nonfiction Book Sale will be held on January 12-14, 2013 and the Fiction sale will be Feb. 9-13. All books will be \$1.00 and large print books will be \$1.00 at the Whitney Book Store. This year children's nonfiction will be available. Books will be restocked as needed; they are in great condition, so come grab a few to read during the winter weather!

—Susie Leon

## LIBRARY SURVEY

Thank you so very much to the Friends volunteers who spent time at the Central Library as well as the branches, personally inviting patrons to fill out the Library survey. The time you took out of your own schedule to do this is appreciated. Due to this effort by volunteers, staff, and online availability, over 4000 surveys were received. We are in the midst of tabulating the results and will be sharing them with our community early in the new year.

We will also be hosting a series of "Community Conversations" mid-winter regarding the probable restructuring of our library system necessitated by the budget reductions approved by the Legislature. We hope you will be able to attend one of these sessions. Please check the library and the Friends website after the first of the year for further details on date, time and location. This response will help as the Library moves forward.

- Karen Bradley, Director and Cheryl Cufari, Board President



- ❖ Volunteers are needed to bring books to local nursing homes as part of the ongoing Outreach program. Contact Paula Carosella at 388-4521 or [pcarosella@mvls.info](mailto:pcarosella@mvls.info).
- ❖ A volunteer is needed to help with the Monday Noon programs - someone who will help set up the coffee and cookies before the program and pick up the table afterwards. They would need to come early (11:30) and stay a few minutes after 1:00. Contact Gene Rowland at 370-1958.

## HANG ON TO THOSE EMPTY CARTRIDGES!

Did you know the Friends of SCPL can redeem used ink cartridges at Office Max and Staples for credit towards needed supplies for mailings, printing, etc.? So, next time you change the ink, bundle up the empties and bring them to the [Whitney Book Corner](#) on 600 Union St., Schenectady, where the clerks will be happy to take them off your hands. The Friends of the Library thank you in advance!

## NEED HELP WITH OVERDRIVE?

For help with downloading e-books, call the Reference Desk at 388-4511 to schedule an appointment with a librarian.

## DONATIONS

Betty and John Nickles made a \$50 contribution to thank the Friends for lending classic books to the Theater Guild for the production of *Verdict*.

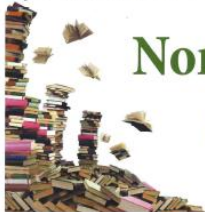


POST ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR– YOU DON'T WANT TO FORGET THESE  
EVENTS!

THE FRIENDS OF THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Non Fiction  
Book Sale

JANUARY 12-14, 2013



Non Fiction

\$1

Continuous restocking!

SALE WILL BE HELD IN THE LOBBY AT THE  
CENTRAL LIBRARY DURING LIBRARY HOURS.

LARGE PRINT BOOKS AT THE  
WHITNEY BOOK CORNER- \$1.00

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
99 Clinton Street • Schenectady, NY 12305 • 388-4500 • www.scppl.org

THE FRIENDS OF THE SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Fiction  
Book Sale

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2013



Fiction

\$1

Continuous restocking!

SALE WILL BE HELD IN THE LOBBY AT THE  
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LARGE PRINT BOOKS AT THE  
WHITNEY BOOK CORNER- \$1.00

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Whitney Book Corner  
2013 Special Sales

Jan. 4-20	Mysteries Hardcover \$1.00 Paperbacks 3/\$1.00
Feb. 2-17	Romance Hardcovers \$1.00 Paperback 3/\$1.00
March 2-17	Paperbacks 3/\$1.00
April 6-21	Cookbooks \$1.00
May 4-19	Travel Books \$1.00
June 1-16	Fiction Hardcover \$1.00
July 6-21	Paperbacks 3/\$1.00
August 3-18	Records 50¢
Sept. 7-22	Biographies \$1.00
Oct. 5-20	Craft Books \$1.00
Nov. 2-17	Holiday Books 1/2 price
Dec. 7-22	Children's & Young Adult Bks 1/2 price

Store hours:

Mon-Wed 10am-4pm, Thurs 10am-7pm  
Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 10:30am-3pm, Sun 1:30pm-3:30pm

600 Union Street, Schenectady, NY  
377.4670 • www.whitneybookcorner.org  
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com



Beat the Snow!

The Schenectady Public Library is the Place to Go!

WINTER CONCERT SERIES

Every Sunday, 2:30 PM in the McChesney Room

January . . . . . February . . . . . March (Except the 31<sup>st</sup>)

- Jan. 6 Dave Lambert & Dan Wanczyk: Great Old Songs for a Good New Year
- Jan. 13 Music by the Dino Cimino Trio: The Great American Songbook
- Jan. 20 The Route Fifty 5: A Brass Ensemble: Ben Richards and Judson Hoffman, trumpets; Kara Pangburn, horn; Ryan Pangburn, trombone; Baret Germaine, tuba
- Jan. 27 Cabaret Concert with Mark Tommasone: Masterful Guitar, Great Vocals, Yummy Eats and Sparkling Drinks!
- Feb. 3 Sing-Along! Patty Bradshaw, leader; Rita Croteau and Chris Patrick, piano: Audience Participation & Fun!
- Feb. 10 Misty Jazz Project: Music for Your Valentine: Linda Harrison, vocalist; Bill Harrison, drums; Andrew Krystopolski, piano
- Feb. 17 A Musical Tribute to the Library Expansion: Malinda Myers, vocalist; Billy Jackson, piano
- Feb. 24 Musicians of Ma'alwyck: Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, Director and violin; Sten Isachsen, guitar
- March 3 Schenectady Light Opera Company
- March 10 Hilltown Ramblers Bluegrass Band: Dick Stock, mandolin; Ed Cryzkowski, bass; Jim Selkirk, guitar; Morrie Safford, guitar; Mo Safford, banjo
- March 17 The Etude Club
- March 25 Troy Children's Chorus, Maury Castro, Director, with Deborah Rocco, Soprano

# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

# NEWSLETTER

March/April 2013

Vol. XLVIII, No. 4

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. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel. See program listings for days and times.

## NOON PROGRAMS-March-April 2013

### SCIENCE SERIES

Walter Grattidge, Coordinator

- March 4**      **Hummingbirds, Jewels of the Bird World**  
Robert P. Yunick, Vice-President Corporate Technology S.I. Group (ret), Niskayuna
- March 11**     **Hudson River Dredging: Implementation Overview and Its Challenges**  
Timothy A. Kruppenbacher, PE, GE, Operations Manager
- March 18**     **Broken Bones and How We Repair Them**  
Tina Maxian M.D., PhD., Schenectady Regional Orthopedic Associates, Schenectady
- March 25**     **Computing-from the Abacus to the Internet**  
Edward Reilly, Emeritus Professor, Computer Dept., SUNY Albany

### SPRING SPECIAL

Featuring Members of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club

Gioia Ottaviano, Coordinator

- April 1**      **Nature at Your Doorstep** - Birds and wildlife within the area of the two New York state rivers, presented by Denise Hackert-Stoner
- April 8**      **Birding in Bhutan**- birds and nature in the Asian Himalayan Kingdom, presented by Bernie Grossman.

### BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

George Wise & Joan Ham, Coordinators

- April 15**     **Ike's Bluff: President Eisenhower's Secret Battle to Save the World** by Evan Thomas; reviewed by Gene Rowland. Dwight Eisenhower was seen by many as a doddering lightweight. Yet behind the bland smile and apparent simplemindedness was a brilliant, intellectual tactician. Facing the Soviet Union, China, and his own generals, some of whom believed a nuclear first strike was the only means of survival, Eisenhower would make his boldest and riskiest bet, knowing that there could be but two outcomes: the survival of the world, or its end. This is the story of how he won.
- April 22**     **Energy for Future Presidents** by Richard A. Muller; reviewed by Howard Hart, retired, physicist, GE. This book addresses the scope, science and possible solutions to the issue of energy supply and demand in the US. Subtitled "the science behind the headlines", it treats the scientific, technological, economic and ecological implications of energy choices. The author is a professor of physics at the University of California, Berkeley.
- April 29**     **Under the Banner of Heaven** by Jon Krakauer; reviewed by Bill Valakovic, retired, electrical engineer, GE. This book is a non-fiction account of a 1984 double homicide. Subtitled "a story of violent faith", it explores connections between the perpetrators actions and their Mormon fundamentalist religious beliefs. The author previously wrote the non-fiction best-sellers Into the Wild and Into Thin Air.
- May 6**        **The Civil War of 1812** by Alan Taylor; reviewed by Don Gavin, retired physicist and avid historian. Alan Taylor gives an in depth study of the political and economic relationship between the United States and Canada before the war of 1812, and a fascinating account of the people who instigated, commanded, and fought in the conflict.

# REELS

A Free Series of Recent Thought-Provoking Films  
Shown in the McChesney Room at the Central Library  
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## MARCH REELS CELEBRATES WOMEN

### March 6 IMITATION OF LIFE

Lana Turner, John Gavin  
Universal Pictures; Directed by Douglas Sirk  
Not Rated; 124 minutes; 1959  
One of the most moving American films ever made. Director Douglas Sirk draws us into an underworld of backstairs, neon gutters, and assembly-manufactured chorus lines. An exploited black maid has a vitally erotic daughter who tries to pass for white.

### March 13 ALICE DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE

Ellen Burstyn, Kris Kristofferson  
Warner Bros.; Directed by Martin Scorsese  
Rated PG; 112 minutes; 1974  
With compassionate and disarming realism, this wry comedy drama follows the difficult odyssey of Alice as she struggles to build a new life; widowed, with a 12-year-old son, no job, and no money. Ellen Burstyn's performance soars in an ever-ascending spiral to new heights of artistry in this poignant film that makes no apologies for being remarkably humanistic.

### March 20 CAMEL

Nadine Labaki, Yasmine Elmasri, Joanna Moukarzel  
Lionsgate; Directed by Nadine Labaki  
Rated PG; 95 minutes; 2008  
This Lebanese film follows the lives and loves of five women whose paths criss-cross in Beirut. They work and play in and around a beauty parlor where their issues involve an affair with a married man, an engagement to a stubborn alpha male, and dalliances with the customers both male and female in this sweet comedy. In Arabic and French with subtitles.

**March 27 LIONESS** directed by Meg McLagan and Daria Sommers. 2009.  
Until recently, U.S. policy forbade women from serving in military units whose primary objective is direct ground combat. This documentary makes public, for the first time, the hidden history of a group of female Army support soldiers who became the first women in American history to be sent into direct ground combat, fighting alongside their male comrades.

## APRIL REELS CELEBRATES ONE COUNTY/ONE BOOK THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN

### Apr 3 TURNER AND HOOC

Tom Hanks, Mare Winningham  
Touchstone Pictures; Directed by Roger Spottiswoode, Rated PG; 104 minutes; 1989  
Tom Hanks' well-ordered life literally goes to the dogs when he unwittingly adopts a sloppy, ill-mannered, junkyard dog named Hooch that is determined to wreck his home and wreak havoc with his work.

### Apr 10 BOBBY DEERFIELD

Al Pacino, Marthe Keller, Anny Duperey  
Columbia Pictures; Directed by Sydney Pollack  
Rated PG; 124 minutes; 1977  
Bobby Deerfield (Al Pacino), a famous American race car driver on the European circuit, falls in love with the enigmatic Lillian Morelli (Marthe Keller), who is terminally ill.

### Apr 17 WHITE FANG

Ethan Hawke, Klaus Maria Brandauer  
Walt Disney Pictures; Directed by Randal Kleiser  
Rated PG; 104 minutes; 1991  
In the tradition of the great Walt Disney nature adventures comes Jack London's WHITE FANG, an exciting adventure filled with the panorama of the Alaskan wilderness. Ethan Hawke is Jack, a young, would-be prospector who befriends "Fang," a beautiful wolf dog. With his trusted companion by his side, Jack embarks on a series of journeys and soon grows to meet the challenges of the spectacular but deadly Alaskan territory.

### April 23 GRAND PRIX

James Garner, Eva Marie Saint, Yves Montand; Turner/MGM: directed by John Frankenheimer; not rated. 175 minutes  
A story of the international race car circuit depicting the glamour off the track and the danger on. The racing scenes, filmed on real championship tracks, feature remarkable camera work, and Academy Award winning sound effects that put the view into the driver's seat.





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be my final message as President and I want to thank everyone for their great support during the last four years. We have accomplished a lot with the commitment of all our hard working members and I know we will continue our record of success and overcome the difficult budgetary restraints that we will experience in 2013.

-Bill Leitch

## MUSIC COMMITTEE

The Music Committee of the Friends, in association with the Music Department of the Schenectady County Community College, will present a concert on Sunday April 28th in the McChesney Room at the Central Library at 2.30 p.m. The program will present various ensembles including the SCCC Vocal Chamber Ensemble under the direction of Dr. YiPing Wu, the SCCC Jazz Combo under the direction of Brian Patneade, a saxophone quartet, a guitar quartet, and several student soloists.

Upcoming Beat the Snow Concerts:

March 3	Schenectady Light Opera Company
March 10	Hilltown Ramblers Bluegrass Band
March 17	The Etude Club
March 25	Troy Children's Chorus

## WHITNEY BOOK CORNER



Now that our first decade has ended, we can look forward to continued success of our little bookstore. Patrons have been asked to make comments about their experiences at the store.

Here are some of their thoughts: "Great, I love this bookstore" "Best place in Schenectady" "Lovely store, lovely help". Many patrons are first-timers and can't believe the selection and the price. Many claim that they just happened to be walking or driving by and saw our window signs and stopped in. 13,685 customers visited the store in 2012. Not bad for Schenectady's "best kept secret." Upcoming sales include a 3/\$1.00 paperback sale in March and a \$1.00 garden books sale in April. Look for mini-sales each month throughout the year. Continuing thanks to our many volunteers who work so hard to provide funds for our library. -Gail Karl

## HANG ON TO THOSE EMPTY CARTRIDGES!

Did you know the Friends of SCPL can redeem used ink cartridges at Office Max and Staples for credit towards needed supplies for mailings, printing, etc.? So, next time you change the ink, bundle up the empties and bring them to the [Whitney Book Corner](#) on 600 Union St., Schenectady, where the clerks will be happy to take them off your hands. The Friends of the Library thank you in advance!

## MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the following new members: Sophia Morris, Gillian Scott, Helen MacDonald, William McColl, Daniel McNott and Jolie Halsey.

The change to a quarterly renewal mailing has been successful. As you get your renewal notice, you will be informed about the value of your Friends membership to the library community. Renewal notices are being prepared for mailing in February and March for those whose membership expires before April. It is also hoped that the membership card you will receive after renewing will be a reminder of the commitment needed to keep our library as excellent as it has always been.

-John Karl and Rita Moore

## BOOK SALES



The Non-Fiction Sale raised over \$3,300 in January. We would like to thank all the volunteers: cashiers, setup, and



organizers for both sales. Without your help, we wouldn't be able to have the sale or contribute as much to the SCPL.

Please note on your calendar the Spring Sale is May 4 & 5. Keep a time slot open to come help us with this huge event!

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



The Friends are looking for volunteers to help design various materials needed to promote its activities. This would include posters advertising upcoming programs and Whitney Book Corner notices. Computer skills as well as graphic design experience are needed. This is your opportunity to be creative and help out the Friends at the same time. Please email us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com) if interested.

Volunteers are needed to provide one-on-one computer literacy tutoring at the main branch and/or to assist with the ongoing introductory computer classes given at the library. If interested contact Christine Witkowski at 377-5643 or [cwitkows@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cwitkows@nycap.rr.com).

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to the following: Junice & Harold Wusterbarth , \$200 for the Woodlawn Fund; John C. Hubbard Jr., \$1,000 to the John C. & Susan K. Hubbard Foundation; Estate of Allen J Wood, \$5,000 for the "Library Pass Program" and Robert Symons, \$2,000.

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN



On Saturday, June 8, 2013, the Friends will travel to the Adams National Historical Park in Quincy, Ma, [www.nps.gov/adam](http://www.nps.gov/adam), to visit the birthplaces of John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the oldest presidential birthplaces in the United States. We will

have a buffet lunch at The Common Market Restaurants in Quincy, [www.commonmarketrestaurants.com](http://www.commonmarketrestaurants.com). Following lunch, we will visit the church where John, his son and their spouses are entombed.

The cost of the trip is \$70 for members and \$80 for non-members. Registration is from March 6, 2013 through May 1, 2013. Complete information, including registration forms, is available on the Friends website: [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org) ; forms can also be found at all branches and the Whitney Book Corner. Contact Lisa Holt, [lahnisky@yahoo.com](mailto:lahnisky@yahoo.com), 370-1811 if you have any questions.

## POETRY GALA

It's not too early to start thinking about the Poetry Gala to be held on Sunday, April 21, 2013 in the McChesney Room. Come to recite, come to hear, come to a lovely afternoon in April. Light refreshments will be available at 2 p.m., with readings to follow from 2:30-4 p.m. If you would like to read or recite a favorite poem, call Linda Witkowski at 374-7904.

## CONTACT US

If you have any questions regarding programs at the library, membership or just want to make a suggestion, contact us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com) Check out our website – [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org) We have added a new feature – videos! Sign on and watch Karen Bradley as she discusses the important role the Friends play.



## LIBRARY EVENTS

### ONE COUNTY/ONE BOOK THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN

**Mid-February through mid-April, Photography Display at Rotterdam Branch-** Photographs of stock car racing taken at Fonda Speedway by Bob Riccardo and Carol Donato.

**Saturday, March 9 at 1 p.m., McChesney Room All About Pets Family Program** The Animal Protective Foundation (APF) will provide a family-friendly overview of the shelter and the pets available for adoption. Staff members from there will also talk about how to select the perfect pet for your family. Also, a few dog trainers will be there with their canine friends, all of whom have passed the Canine Good Citizen Test! Call 388-4511 to register.

**Monday, March 25 at 2 p.m., Woodlawn Branch** The Woodlawn Branch Book Group will discuss "The Art of Racing in the Rain".

**Wednesday, April 10, 7 p.m., McChesney Room Dogs And People – The Heart Connection** Have you ever wondered about the gifts dogs bring to the human heart? Join Saratoga's animal whisperer Susan Hamlin for an evening celebrating the beauty of the dog-human connection. We'll hear heartwarming, fun and inspiring tales from the world of dogs, discover newer science and explore holistic, practical ways to deepen our natural kinship with the dogs we love. Call 388-4511 to register.

**Saturday, April 20 Meet Garth Stein -11 a.m.** in the McChesney Room. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Call 388-4511 to register. Registration doesn't guarantee seating. Book sale and signing, conducted by The Open Bookstore, will follow the program. The Open Door will be offering a 20% discount on "The Art of Racing in the Rain" and "Racing in the Rain" up until Tuesday, April 16. Contact store to order a copy.

### Essay and Poster Contest for Kids!

The first week in May is National Be Kind to Animals Week and the Animal Protective Foundation (APF) will celebrate with its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Essay and Poster contest. Deadline for submissions is Friday, May 20. They must be mailed or delivered to APF, 53 Maple Avenue, Scotia, NY. This year's theme is "Paw it Forward," and challenges kids in grades 1-5 to think about what they can do to make the world a better place for animals. Information about contest guidelines can be found at <http://www.animalprotective.org/> ; there will also be guideline handouts at libraries.

**Friends of Schenectady County Public Library – 47th Annual Dinner Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 5:00 p.m., Van Curler Room**  
**Schenectady County Community College (SCCC)**  
**178 Washington Avenue, Schenectady, NY**

**Evening’s Schedule:** 5:00 p.m. – Social Hour (wine, cheese and crackers)  
5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Jazz combo featuring SCCC music students  
6:00 p.m. – Dinner

**Speaker:** *Reimagining Downtown: It Takes a Team* presented by:  
James J. Salengo, Executive Director of Downtown Schenectady  
Improvement Corporation

**The Menu:**

*Salad: Raspberry Walnut Salad – red leaf lettuce tossed with candied walnuts and raspberries and raspberry vinaigrette*  
*Choice of Entrees: \**

- *Grilled salmon - with house made honey mustard glaze served with asparagus and wild rice*
- *Chicken breast roulade – stuffed with fresh spinach and mushrooms finished with a Chardonnay sauce served with spring peas and rice pilaf*

*Fresh baked (SCCC bakery) rolls and butter*  
*Dessert: Mixed berry shortcake*  
*Coffee, decaf, hot or iced tea*  
*\*Vegetarian meal available upon request*

The culinary arts students at SCCC prepare each dish, using local ingredients when possible. Both the culinary arts and hotel and restaurant management students provide the dining room service.

**ELECTIONS** - the nominating committee will present the following persons for officers and directors:

**Officers:** President: John Karl; 1st Vice President: Fred Eddy; 2nd Vice President: Ellie Rowland; Secretary: Mary Beth Barbagelata; Treasurer: Nancy Virkler

Further information concerning the candidates will be presented at the meeting.

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:**

- From the **east** via Route 5, State Street, turn left at Washington Avenue in front of the College. Turn right into main parking lot.
- From the **west** (Scotia/Glenville), via Route 5, turn right at the "Schenectady County Community College" exit ramp off the Western Gateway Bridge. Turn left at stop sign into main parking lot.
- From **south** and **east**: Take I-90, New York Thruway, to Exit 25, "Schenectady." Take I-890 West to Exit 4C- "To Route 5, Scotia." At the traffic light, turn left on to State Street, Route 5 West (Western Gateway Bridge) for 1/10 mile. Take the "Schenectady County Community College" exit ramp on the right. At stop sign (Columbus Drive), turn right; at the next stop sign, turn left into main parking lot.
- From the **north** (via the Northway, I-87): Take I-87 South to the New York State Thruway, I-90 West. Take Thruway to Exit 25, “Schenectady.” Take I-890 West to Exit 4C – “To Route 5, Scotia.” At the traffic light at end of ramp, turn left on to State Street, Route 5 West (Western Gateway Bridge) for 1/10 mile. Take the “Schenectady County Community College/Gateway Landing” exit ramp on the right. At stop sign (Columbus Drive), turn right; at the next stop sign, turn left into main parking lot.

**Reservations Must Be Made By Monday, April 8, 2013 – Please Use Form Below**

**Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library**  
**Tuesday, April 16, 2013 @ 5:00 p.m.**

**Annual Dinner Meeting Reservation**  
**Van Curler Dining Room**

**Number attending**\_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed**\_\_\_\_\_ **@ \$25.00/person**

**Attendee names (Please print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Circle one choice of entree**

**Salmon                  Chicken**  
**Salmon                  Chicken**

**Please make check payable to Friends of SCPL and mail by April 8th to:**  
**Nancy Virkler, Treasurer**  
**c/o FCPL**  
**99 Clinton Street**  
**Schenectady, NY 12305**



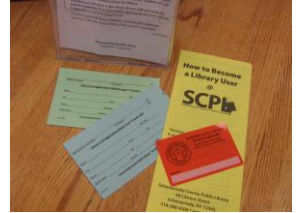
## AND HERE ARE YOUR STORIES.....

Do you recall the first time you walked into a library? When you got your first library card? Do you have fond memories of a particular librarian who made a difference in your life? The Friends of the Library have put out the call for your stories and you have answered!



**From Barbara Grasier:** When our younger son was settled in elementary school, Mom decided it would be nice to volunteer in the school library once a week. This went on for a couple of years until one day she heard of a part-time job opening in the English Department Office at the local high school. The elementary librarian recommended her to the English Dept. Chair and quickly she was hired and worked there for many years surrounded by English books!

**From Jan Olin Altschuller:** My daughter could read when she was three and a half. When she was four and able to write she applied for a library card. However, she could not fit her three names on the line and wrote them in a circle along the edge of the application form. When the librarian hesitated in giving Karen her own card I said that if she didn't have a middle name and my husband's last name, she would be able to stay on the line. She got her card.



Tell us YOUR story! Write to Rita Moore, Friends of SCPL, 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 or e-mail us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com). We will post responses on our website and include them in upcoming newsletters; selected stories may be videotaped for inclusion on the website.

## ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Why an advocacy committee for the library? Because there have been cuts in staff and services that are threatening to reduce the library to a shell of its former self. At what point must this wholesale cutting stop? In the coming months, information will be compiled illustrating the great need for a vibrant library in Schenectady. Members of the community will be recruited to write letters give testimonials and otherwise show support for their library. Ways to be involved will be planned and brought to the public's attention.

You can help. Watch for information on the web site, [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org), in the monthly Friends emails, and upcoming newsletters.

—John Karl

# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

May/June 2013

Vol. XLVIII, No. 5

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. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel. See program listings for days and times.

### NOON PROGRAMS BOOKS SANDWICHED IN George Wise & Joan Ham, Coordinators

- May 6**     **The Civil War of 1812** by Alan Taylor; reviewed by Don Gavin, retired physicist and avid historian. Taylor gives an in depth study of the political and economic relationship between the United States and Canada before the war of 1812, and a fascinating account of the people who instigated, commanded, and fought in the conflict.
- May 13**     **Thinking Fast and Slow** by Daniel Kahneman; reviewed by Tom D'Andrea, former Professor of Psychology and Administrator at Haverford and Union Colleges. This book surveys major recent advances in human psychology based on a two component model of human thought processes. Implications are presented not only for science, but also for a wide range of applications such as decision-making, medicine, politics and economics.
- May 20**     **Just Love: A Framework for Christian Sexual Ethics** by Margaret A Farley; reviewed by Joan Ham, frequent presenter at Books Sandwiched In and UCALL. Dr. Farley has the honesty and courage to take a refreshing and candid look at sexual ethics among different ages, cultures and countries, taking thoughtful, respectful steps toward sexual mores for our time.

### WE'RE ROLLING OUT OUR NEW LOGO!



A logo is an image that embodies an organization. We believe our new logo captures the relationship between the Friends and our public libraries. The Friends is a **S**ervice based organization **C**ommitted to **P**rograms and Practices in support of our **L**ibraries. It is a dynamic and energetic relationship symbolized by the starburst.

### ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

On Wednesday, September 4, 2013 the Friends of SCPL are sponsoring a bus trip to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. Lunch will be at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park. The cost of the trip is \$60 for members and \$70 for nonmembers. Registrations will be accepted May 3 – July 26; forms will be available at all library branches, the Whitney Book Corner and online at <http://friendsofscpl.org/>.



### AND HERE ARE YOUR STORIES.....

Do you recall the first time you walked into a library? When you first got a library card? Do you have fond memories of a particular librarian who made a difference in your life? The Friends of the Library have put out the call for your stories and you have answered! (For more stories check <http://friendsofscpl.org/tell-us-your-story/> )



**From Susannah Risley:** In my early 20's I attended the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, 120 miles south of the Arctic Circle. I lived in a cabin in the woods on an abandoned mining claim. My winter job was at the Fairbanks North Star Borough Library, at that time housed in an old log building. One of my duties was to pack boxes of books to be flown to the "bush". These might include books on mining, trapping and hunting along with novels by Knut Hansen and Jack London. In summers I worked for the Bureau of Land Management as a fire lookout on nearby Ester Dome. Once a month a BLM truck took me to Fairbanks for supplies. I stocked up on books that I devoured at the lookout. In winter I read by kerosene lamp in my cabin. In summer I read in my lookout during the almost endless days of light. How did I ever get so lucky?

# REELS

A Free Series of Recent Thought-Provoking Films  
Shown in the McChesney Room at the Central Library  
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, New York  
Wednesdays at Noon

## MAY

### May 1 **ARGO**

Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin, Bryan Cranston  
Warner Bros.; Directed by Ben Affleck  
When militants seize control of the U.S.  
embassy in Tehran during the height of the  
Iranian Revolution, CIA agent Tony Mendez  
creates a fake Hollywood film production in  
order to rescue a group of American diplomats  
who have sought refuge at the home of a  
Canadian ambassador. Inspired by actual events.

### May 8<sup>th</sup>: **THE 39 STEPS**

Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll, Lucie  
Mannheim Gaumont-British Pictures; Directed  
by Alfred Hitchcock . At the end of "Mr  
Memory"'s show in a music hall, Richard  
Hannay meets Annabella Smith who is running  
away from secret agents. He accepts to hide her  
in his flat, but in the night she is murdered.  
Fearing he could be accused on the girl's  
murder, Hannay goes on the run to break the spy  
ring.

### May 15<sup>th</sup>: **ZERO DARK THIRTY**

Chris Pratt, Jessica Chastain, Joel Edgerton  
Columbia Pictures; Directed by Mark Boal  
The filmmaking duo behind The Hurt Locker  
takes on the hunt for -- and the killing of --  
Osama bin Laden in this Annapurna Pictures  
production that tracks SEAL Team Six, the  
special-ops team who eventually brought down  
the terrorist leader.

### May 22<sup>nd</sup>: **CASABLANCA**

Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Paul  
Henreid Turner/Warner Bros.; Directed by  
Michael CurtizBlack and White; One of the  
most memorable of all film experiences. All the  
elements of the production—story, cast,  
photography, direction, and music—are woven  
expertly together to create a motion picture  
monument. Wartime refugees gather in Morocco  
to obtain scarce exit visas to Lisbon. The final  
airport sequence is an event not to be forgotten.

### May 29<sup>th</sup>: **ROBOT AND FRANK**

Frank Langella, James Marsden, Susan  
Sarandon Sony Pictures; Directed by Jake  
Schreier Set in the near future, Frank, a retired  
cat burglar, has two grown kids who are  
concerned he can no longer live alone.  
Against his father's wishes, his son buys him a  
walking, talking humanoid robot programmed to  
improve his physical and mental health. What  
follows is an often hilarious and heartwarming  
story about finding friends and family in the  
most unexpected places.

## JUNE

### June 5<sup>th</sup>: **LINCOLN**

Tommy Lee Jones, Daniel Day-Lewis,  
Walton Goggins, Sally Field,  
Joseph Gordon-Levitt, John Hawkes  
Walt Disney Pictures; Directed by Steven  
Spielberg Rated PG-13; 150 minutes; 2012  
As the Civil War continues to rage, America's  
president struggles with continuing carnage on  
the battlefield and as he fights with many inside  
his own cabinet on the decision to emancipate  
the slaves. This film chronicles the President's  
time in office between 1861 and 1865 as he dealt  
with personal demons and politics during the  
Civil War.

### June 12<sup>th</sup>: **HYDE PARK ON HUDSON**

Bill Murray, Laura Linney, Olivia Colman  
Focus Features; Directed by Roger Michell  
Rated R; 94 minutes; 2012  
In June 1939, President Franklin Delano  
Roosevelt and his wife Eleanor host the King  
and Queen of England for a weekend at the  
Roosevelt home at Hyde Park on Hudson, in  
upstate New York – the first-ever visit of a  
reigning English monarch to America. With  
Britain facing imminent war with Germany, the  
Royals are desperately looking to FDR for  
support. But international affairs must be  
juggled with the complexities of FDR's  
domestic establishment, as wife, mother, and  
mistresses all conspire to make the royal  
weekend an unforgettable one.

### June 19<sup>th</sup>: **ANNA KARENINA**

Keira Knightley, Aaron Johnson, Jude Law  
Focus Features; Directed by Joe Wright  
Rated R; 130 minutes; 2012  
The story unfolds in its original late-19th-  
century Russia high-society setting and  
powerfully explores the capacity for love that  
surges through the human heart, from the  
passion between adulterers to the bond between  
a mother and her children. As Anna questions  
her happiness, change comes to her family,  
friends, and community.

### June 26<sup>th</sup>: **SKYFALL**

Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Javier Bardem  
Columbia Pictures; Directed by Sam Mendes  
Rated PG-13; 143 minutes; 2012  
In Skyfall, Bond's loyalty to M is tested as her  
past come back to haunt her. As MI6 comes  
under attack, 007 must track down and destroy  
the threat, no matter how personal the cost.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My first obligation as president is to thank Bill Leitch for his leadership over the past four years. There have been many changes during that time: a new children's addition to Central; changes in library directorship, with Karen Bradley and Serena Butch stepping into leadership roles; a severe reduction in library budget, leading to a need for restructuring; a major turnover on the Board of Trustees. I am gratified that Bill has turned over a strong, vibrant Friends to stand alongside the library as it faces the future. I can only hope that I can help it to continue to grow in its support for literacy in the community.

-John Karl

## WHITNEY BOOK CORNER



Your store continues to move ahead. On a recent Saturday over 65 volunteer bookstore clerks enjoyed a brunch and learned about their bookstore and

plans for its future.

Our thanks to George Gould and Phil Adams who have been planning for the installation of a new heating/cooling system for the store. Sales to look forward to: late April - garden books; early May-travel books. A committee has been formed to determine how to designate bookstore revenues. Any suggestions for how we can use our funds to support the library are welcome!

-Gail Karl

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the following new members: Hendrick and JoAnne Arnold, Jr., Barbara Blake, Jean Burke, Julia Eddy, Lisa and Bob Esperti, Blanche Fisher, Mary Fitzgerald, Diane Jazeboski, Joe Leonardo, Bill Levering, Virginia McGarry, Charlene Roman, Kristine Rooney, Doreen Ross, Katherine Schmidt, Delanne Stageman, Martha Szuminskyj, Brenda Thomas, Anne Trow, Sandra and Harry Willis, Dr. Grace Jorgensen, Carol Troost, Bernice Igo, Mary Gridley, Helen Perfetti and Shawn Marie Schultz.

- Rita Moore & John Karl

## MUSIC COMMITTEE

Abby Dunn, soprano, will perform a vocal recital on Sunday, June 9 at 3:00 pm. in the McChesney Room. Abby will be joined by Michael Clement at the Steinway. A vocal student of Carol Randles, Abby is a senior at Schalmont Central School and a member of the Capital District Youth Chorale. A French horn player, she is a member of the Empire State Youth Orchestra, and has performed in the Music for Fun series of concerts with her late horn teacher, Ronald Patrick.

- Chris Patrick

## ADVOCACY COMMITTEE



Librarians and administrators from around the state gathered in Albany on March 5 to meet with their elected officials to discuss critical issues facing libraries today, including funding restoration, maintenance of effort waivers and legislative priorities. Shown here meeting with Sen. Hugh Farley are SCPL Director Karen Bradley, Board of Trustees President Cheryl Cufari and Friends members Donna Phillips and Rita Moore.

## BOOK SALES

The semi-annual book sale will be May 4 and 5 with setup on May 3. Please call Robin Eddy at 246-1683 if you can volunteer. Yard signs are once again available and you can pick them up at the Whitney Book Corner. We think that the bright yellow signs stand out and advertise the sale in the best way possible. Even if a sign is put out just the day before the sale it will definitely help. We ask that all signs then be returned to the Whitney once the sale is over.

Thanks for all your support of the sale and our committee. It is amazing what the proceeds can do for the library patrons!

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

## DONATIONS

The Friends have received donations in memory of Dick Cahill from the following: Bruce Connolly, Kenneth and Janice Rose, Dorothy and Robert Hartig, Robert and Joan Ryan, Mary Ellen and Frank Pugliano, Jennifer and Kevin Cahill, Walter Arendt, Marilyn Vansteelant, Cara Moilyneaux, John and Anne McGowan, Eugene and Eleanor Rowland and Andrew & Maureen Kopach.

- Joan Molloy

## CONTACT US

Find us on Facebook, visit our web site [www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org) or email us at [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com).



## **LIBRARY PROGRAM ANATOMY OF A MARRIAGE**

On May 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the McChesney Room Jim Sefcik will present a program on John Adams, second President of the United States and his wife Abigail, one of the most famous partnerships in American History. Sefcik is a retired Director of the Louisiana State Museum, lecturer for Union College's Academy of Lifelong Learning, and presenter for the Friends of SCPL Books Sandwiched In program. Mr. Sefcik has also taught American History at a number of colleges including Gannon, the University of New Orleans and Empire State College. To register for the program, contact the library at 518-388-4508 or 518-388-4511. Refreshments will be served.


## **VOLUNTEER PICNIC**

If you are a volunteer through the Friends and/or the library itself, let us treat you to the annual library volunteers' picnic, June 7 from 5 pm until dusk at the River Road Park in Niskayuna. Non-volunteer guests are welcome for \$5. Registration will take place at the main library and all the branches, the Whitney Book Corner, by phone 388-4511 or by email [Johnsr@johnkarl.net](mailto:Johnsr@johnkarl.net).

## **HELP WANTED**

George Gould is looking for a few good Friends to join the Books-On-Line team. Contact him at [gcgould@earthlink.net](mailto:gcgould@earthlink.net) or 393-2516.

*The Friends of Schenectady County Public Library*



# **semi-annual BOOK SALE**

**Saturday, May 4, 2013  
9 am - 4 pm**

**\$2.00 Bag Sale  
Sunday, May 5, 2013  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

**Most Books  
\$1.00**

**Children's Books  
25¢ & 50¢**

**Paperbacks  
3/\$1.00**

**Romance  
(trade & hardcover)  
2/\$1.00**

Records...DVDs...CDs...VHS...Audiobooks

**For year-round deals on quality used books, visit the Whitney Book Corner  
on the corner of Clinton & Union Streets. [www.whitneybookcorner.org](http://www.whitneybookcorner.org)**

Schenectady County Public Library \* 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305 \* 388.4500 \* [www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org)