



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

September/October 2017

Volume LIII No. 1

TELL US YOUR STORY

It wasn't until I entered grade school that I had ever been in a library. My folks had plenty of reading material at home and I had become a proficient reader before entering kindergarten. It was my 2nd grade teacher, Miss Ford, who spotted a need in me to escape from the boring reading lessons typical of 2nd grade. She called on her principal, Wendell Andrews, for a solution for my ennui. Mr. Andrews knew what to do. He came to my class, took me by the hand and led me to the library, where he instructed the librarian to put me to work. That's how I spent my "reading time", organizing and shelving books.

My love of reading increased and, with my own library card, on the first day of summer vacation from junior high, I would ride my bike to the Schenectady library on Seward and Union Streets, and fill up the bike's saddle bag with interesting titles for my summer reading. Later, as a history teacher, I would always assign a reading/research project for each of my classes every year. No one on the faculty utilized the library more than I did.

After retiring, I became involved with several non-profits as a volunteer and eventually wound up with my first love, joining the Friends in 2002. I have helped set up the Whitney Book Corner and assisted my wife, Gail, as she managed the store for several years.

Now that I am well into senior citizenship, I still have a need to read, but unfortunately my failing eyesight

does not allow me to read normal print material. Once again, the library solved my problem. With my iPad and library privileges in four libraries, Howard County, Maryland, Hillsborough County, Florida, the New York Public Library and, of course, the capital region libraries, I can borrow ebooks online and continue to read. There are some drawbacks. Library online services cannot provide an abundance of materials, especially new releases, so it is often a long wait before I get to be first in line for a title. That being the case, I find myself signing out books that I might never look at except that they are available.

How could Mr. Andrews know that he was contributing to an addiction that has joyfully consumed me for more than 70 years? - John Karl



John Karl, pictured here with his wife, Gail, was president of the Friends of the Library from 2005-2007 and 2013-2016.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Those of us who use and support libraries know that a library can be transformative.

The village library I used as a child transformed me, as I read through Nancy Drew and every other mystery they had, propped open on my bicycle handlebars as I rode home, and then discovered the larger worlds of Rachel Carson and William Beebe. I explored the creek and bay with new eyes.

That was when a library was just books; now it is much more- internet access, classes and programs, a community center, etc. Schenectady County, the library's Board of Trustees, and Director Karen Bradley, along with the library staff, have demonstrated their commitment to the Phyllis Bornt Branch Library & Literacy Center, and

now the planned new Mont Pleasant Branch. The Friends are proud to also commit funds to the new branch libraries as transformers of their communities.

It is difficult to think about fall just yet, but indeed a busy season for the Friends is approaching. Monday Noon Programs will kick off in September, and organizers are getting ready for our fall book sale on September 23-24. Do plan to attend the interesting programs, and of course, shop at —and if you can, volunteer for —the book sale!

We bid a fond and grateful farewell to three volunteers who worked weekly shifts for some time—Judy Dillenbeck (paperback sorting), Jocelyn Pranis, and MaryAnn Van Alstyne (both online sales), and wish them all the best.

- Val Catlin

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

SEPTEMBER - COOKBOOKS
HALF PRICE
OCTOBER - HOLIDAY BOOKS
HALF PRICE
1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM
50% OFF

www.whitneybookcorner.org

A WORD ABOUT BOOK DONATIONS

During the weeks just prior to each book sale, our inventory fills all available storage space, making it difficult to process the incoming donations. For this reason, we ask that you delay book donations until after the sale. Thank you!



SIDEWALK SALE!

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

**THE WHITNEY BOOK
CORNER
10 AM-4 PM**





NOON PROGRAMS

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN
Jo Adams & Diane Leone, Coordinators



Sept. 11: **Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital** by David Oshinsky. Reviewed by Rob Dickson, one of our most popular reviewers for the Friends, the book is a chronicle of the history and evolution of a hospital, its staff, the city of New York and American medicine. This dramatic story of human suffering, social calamity, and scientific ingenuity is full of fascinating, and sometimes horrifying, "firsts".

Sept. 18: **Arthur and Sherlock: Conan Doyle and the Creation of Holmes**, by Michael Sims. Reviewed by Courtney Powers, founder of The Avenging Winters of Albany, a Sherlock Holmes society. Mystery lovers will delight in this story of how Doyle, a medical doctor, modeled the brilliant iconic detective largely on Dr. Joseph Bell, his medical school professor. Not a biography, this work examines the influence of Doyle's experiences as well as the role of earlier detective fiction in creating the inimitable sleuth.

Sept. 25: **Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood** by Trevor Noah. Reviewed by Jack Rightmyer, English teacher and book reviewer for the Albany Times Union. Noah, a comic and host of The Daily Show, recounts, in a series of touching stories, his early years as the mixed-race child of a Swiss-German father and Xhosa mother as South Africa transitioned from apartheid to majority rule. The book is also a tribute to the influence of his extraordinary mother.

Oct. 2: Dr. Larry Lewis, retired GE chemist, is author and reviewer of **Sadie's Boys**, a hot-off-the-press memoir of his father and uncle's experiences in the second World War, and their mother's fight to get them back.

Oct. 16: **The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789**, by Pulitzer Prize winning historian Joseph J. Ellis. Reviewed by retired physicist and veteran Books Sandwiched In presenter Donald Gavin. The author assesses the importance of Washington, Hamilton, Madison, and John Jay, in reshaping the loose confederation of states after the Revolution into the centralized nation it became under the U.S. Constitution. A treat for Hamilton fans, as well as students of American history.

Oct. 23 **The Enigma of the Owl: An Illustrated Natural History**, by Mike Unwin and David Tipling. Reviewed by independent Environmental/Outdoor Education Specialist George Steele, of Seek No Further Farm.

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.



FALL BOOK SALE
SEPT. 23 & 24
BOOKS \$1 OR LESS

The Beat the Snow Concert Series will continue this winter beginning in January, 2018. As in the past, we will be showcasing the wonderful variety of talented musicians we have in our area. I am always looking for volunteers to welcome our performers. Interested in being an ambassador for the Friends at the concerts? Email: Jan Walz at jmdwalz@nycap.rr.com.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

It's been a busy summer getting Square up and running. Our sales have increased 20% from this time last year. Accepting credit cards and keeping our shelves full have added to our increased sales. There have been some small changes made, from new fixtures to new signs, that have improved the look of the store.

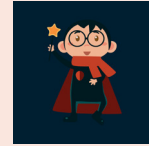
Comic Con was very successful this year and a lot of fun as usual. We netted \$1,200 in sales and have already started saving books for next year.

We are planing a teacher appreciation day sometime in September and a sidewalk sale on September 9 during the Greek and Italian festivals. And don't forget our big Harry Potter event on October 28th. - Charlene Roman



Whitney Book Corner volunteer Maria Bourchard uses the new Square Point of Sale system.

HARRY POTTER!



Witches! Wizard ! Muggles too! Mark your calendars! The second annual Harry Potter event is coming to the Schenectady County Public Library on October 28th from 10 am to 3 pm. On hand will be fantastic beasts, live owls, characters from the books, classes, and, new this year, Diagon Alley.

Volunteer Positions Available

Online Books

- **Shipper** to work Wednesdays, morning or afternoon. Some lifting of books and packages and walking to the Post Office is required.
- **DVD/Audio-book reviewer**, work from home. Pick up and return items to online once a week. Must have the necessary equipment to listen to CDs, MP3s, DVDs and Blu Ray to check for flaws.
- Must be a member of the Friends
Email: bookwormT14@gmail.com

Whitney Book Corner/Book Sales

- The Fall Book Sale September 23rd and 24th - set up, clean up, cashiers needed.
- Whitney Book Corner - cashiers, shelvers, pushing carts of books from library to the store
- Must be a member of the Friends
Email: rjeddy321@gmail.com



TRAVEL TO IRELAND WITH THE FRIENDS!



After a wonderfully successful trip to the Canadian Rockies in July, the Friends are partnering again with Collette Tours for an exciting trip to Ireland in June, 2018. Kiss the Blarney Stone, overnight on the grounds of a real castle, experience the Ring of Kerry, and visit a working farm to see sheepdogs in action.

Join us for an informational meeting at 6 pm, on Thursday, September 28th in the McChesney Room of the Central Branch, where a representative from Collette Tours will give a presentation about the trip and answer questions.

Additional information can be found on our website www.friendsofscpl.org.

AROUND THE LIBRARY



REELS

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



September

September 6: **Going in Style** Morgan Freeman, Michael Cane, Alan Arkin. Lifelong buddies Willie, Joe and Al, decide to buck retirement and step off the straight-and-narrow for the first time in their lives when their pension fund becomes a corporate casualty.

September 13: **The Sense of an Ending** Michelle Dockery, Emily Mortimer, Jim Broadbent, Charlotte Rampling. An elderly man recalls a teenage love triangle involving his first crush and a school chum.

September 20: **Split** James McAvoy, Anya Taylor-Joy, Betty Buckley. This original thriller delves into the mysterious recesses of one man's fractured, gifted mind.

September 27: **Black Butterfly** Antonio Banderas, Jonathan Rhys-Meyers, Piper Berabo. Outside a mountain town grappling with a series of abductions and murders, Paul, a reclusive writer, struggles to start what he hopes will be a career-saving screenplay.

October

October 4: **Tommy's Honour** Peter Mullan, Jack Lowden. Biopic of legendary golf champion "Young" Tommy Morris, who won the British Open as a teen in 1868 despite his father's fervent belief that their family was too lower-class to play the sport at a professional level.

October 11: **Grey Lady** Eric Dane, Natalie Zea, Adrian Lester. A Boston police officer travels to Nantucket to find the killer of his partner.

October 18: **Awakening the Zodiac** Shane West, Leslie Bibb, Matt Craven. Follows a down-on-their-luck young couple who discover a serial killer's film reels.

October 25: **The Mummy** Tom Cruise, Annabelle Wallis. An ancient princess is awakened from her crypt beneath the desert, bringing with her malevolence grown over millennia, and terrors that defy human comprehension.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



On July 19, 2017, our County legislators made an exciting announcement at our Mont Pleasant Branch Library concerning site acquisition of the former Chubby's establishment next door to the library. The acquisition

ensured that plans to replace the Mont Pleasant Branch with a modern, 21st century library, similar to the Bornt Branch, can move forward.

I would like to thank the Friends of the Library for their generous donation towards construction of a library that will greatly benefit the families living in the Mont Pleasant neighborhood and begin to put the pleasant back in Mont Pleasant!

The generous donations of books from our community and the incredible work of the volunteers who work daily, throughout the year, to sort and sell them, make so many wonderful programs possible for our library and enhance the library system in countless ways.

Don't forget the Fall Book Sale on September 23 and 24! - Karen Bradley



SCPL
-Mont Pleasant Branch Library-



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Domenica Bonacquist
Fred & Robin Eddy
Blanche Fischer
Bill & Edna Gosier
Susan & David Hayes
George Hilt, Jr
Teresa Kennedy
Thomas & Michelle Moran
Dale Steenburgh
Verena Takekoshi*
Janice Thompson
Mary Ann Warner
Jean Wildgrube
Harry & Sandra Willis

PATRON - \$50-199

Shelley & Shel Abelson*
Benita Allaire
Kip & Joanne Arnold
Gloria Blum
Paul & Serena Butch
Anne Christman
Timothy Coakley*
Rosenberg Collins Family*
Cheryl Cufari
Dorothy & William Dever

Lisa & Robert Esperti
Mary Fitzgerald
James & Karen Gonda
Harris & Louise Gregory
Helen MacDonald
John & Sandra Marshall
Anne McCoy
Michelle & Howard
Ostrelich-Schlossberg
Marlene Paccico
Thomas & Barbara Rider
Fouad & Lousie Sattar
Alvin & Sally Schwartz*
Susanna Sherwood
Peggy Stringer
Francis Taormina
Donald Thurston
Nancy Walden
Laura & Carl Wiedemann

BENEFACTOR-\$200+

Bernard Allanson
Florance Bigelow*
Mary Cahill
Maryann & Brock Osborn*
David & Indushobha Smith

NEW MEMBERS

Shelley & Shel Abelson
Rosenberg Collins Family
Tia Amberger **
Glenn Barnes
Maria Bouchard
Susan Cassella
Julie Cohen
Shirley DeBono
Mary Forman
Mary Beth Gillespie
Vicki Hoshko
Joan Kruger
Margaret Litwin
Shaun Margolies**
Jillian Margolies**
Caroline Mattis
Cindy Lou McKeon
Kathy Nichols
Olivia Oliver**
Marlene Paccico
Aeddon Schultz**
Tasneem Serville**
Lisa Totaro
Mary Ann West

*Eligible for GE Match
**Junior Friend

DONATIONS

Esther Swanker
To the Niskayuna Branch
Library In Memory of
Linda Witkowski:
Constance & Percival
Coggins
Cheryl Cufari
Fred & Robin Eddy
Sara Erickson
Melissa Ludwig
Marlene & Dale Reckhow
Marlene Risseeuw
Eugene & Eleanor Rowland
David & Carol Schweizer



FROM OUR SCRAPBOOK



A bench was recently placed in the children's room at the Central Library dedicated to the memory of Lisa Holt. The nearby plaque reads: "She made herself stronger by fighting with the wind."



Some of the Friends of the Library visited the Canadian Rockies this past July. They are pictured here at the Athabasca Glacier.

IN OTHER NEWS

Springfield Museums Added to Museum Pass Program



Visit five world-class museums with the addition of the Springfield Museums to the library pass program. Gain admission to the Amazing World of Dr.

Seuss Museum with the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden, the Lyman and Merrie Wood Museum of Springfield History, the George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, the Springfield Science Museum, and the Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts.

The museum pass is available on a first come basis at the Circulation Desk of the Central branch of the Schenectady County Public Library at 99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, N.Y. For more information about terms of use and other available passes, please visit our web site, friendsofscpl.org.

Authors Among Us Swanker Room

Playing Tennis With a Net:
Fixed Forms in Poetry

Thursdays, October 19, 26,
November 2, 2 – 4 pm
Facilitated by Paul Lamar

Prose Poetry & Flash Fiction:
Complement or Contrast

Mondays, October 30, November 6, 13,
6 - 7:30 pm
Facilitated by Brian Phillip Whalen

Register online at www.scpl.org or call
518-388-4511

MEET THE AUTHORS! McCHESNEY ROOM CENTRAL LIBRARY



Sunday, October 1, 2 pm - B.A. Shapiro – author of
The Muralist and *The Art Forger*

Saturday, October 14, 2017 - 1 pm -
Susan Holloway Scott – author of *I, Eliza Hamilton*

Open Door Bookstore will be on hand selling books;
signings to follow the presentations.

Which Witch is Which? *The Salem Witch Trials of 1692*

**Saturday, October 21, 1:30-2:30 pm,
McChesney Room, Central Library
Presenter: Marilyn Rothstein (aka
mystery writer M.E. Kemp)**



Poetry 1-2-3

Swanker Room

Wednesday, September 13 and 27, and October
18, 12-2 pm

A three-part workshop open to seasoned poetry
writers (ages 18+).

Register by online at www.scpl.org (include
email address) or by calling 518.388.4511.

Facilitated by Barbara Ungar, a professor of
English at The College of Saint Rose.

COMING SOON

The Friends team responsible for the Monday Noon Programs is working on a series of presentations dealing with the history of Schenectady, featuring the anniversaries of several noteworthy events, such as the launching of the Erie Canal, the flu epidemic of 1917-1918, and the granting of women's suffrage 100 years ago. Watch for future announcements in the Friends newsletter and the library Event Keeper.



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
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SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

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Albany, N.Y.
Permit #728

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

FALL BOOK SALE SEPT. 23 & 24

**CENTRAL LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY**

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

SUNDAY - BAG SALE!



FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

Central Branch

Microsoft Word 2013: Getting Started, Wednesday, Sept. 6, 6-7:30 pm

Get to Know Your iPad, Monday Sept. 11, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Word 2013: Beginner, Wednesday, Sept. 13, 6-7:30 pm

Craigslist: How to Buy and Sell, Saturday, Sept. 16, 9:15-10:45 am

iPad, Part 2: Useful Tips, Monday, Sept. 18, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Word 2013: Intermediate, Wednesday, Sept. 20, 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.



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

November/December 2017

Volume LIII No. II

SPREADING HAPPINESS WITH A MUSEUM PASS



Kathy Palmatier loves to promote the museum passes while doing her job as a SCPL library clerk. Recently she told this story:

“There have been many times when sharing the news of the library passes has inspired a grateful response, but none more so than an experience at the Woodlawn Branch library.

On September 23 a man and his son came into Woodlawn. This little boy was a tiny, smiling, excited to be in the library, 4 year old. I had the pleasure of helping him find some books and asked if he wanted

the DVD of one of the books. The father told me that they were taking a trip to Boston because they had to bring him to the Children’s Hospital and they wanted a DVD to take on the long trip. I asked him if he knew about the museum passes and he did not. I showed him the list and he was delighted to see our newest Springfield pass. The dad thought on the way back, as a reward for this beautiful child, they would use the pass to visit the Springfield museums.

I am so thankful to the Friends that they have provided this amazing gift!”

Information on the Museum Pass Program can be found at: <https://friendsofscpl.org/museum-pass-program/>

VISIT IRELAND WITH THE FRIENDS

Reservations are being accepted through November 30 for the Friends of the Library June, 2018 trip to Ireland. After a very successful trip to the Canadian Rockies, we decided to once again partner with Collette Tours, a company that uses outstanding hotel and restaurant properties to make for an exceptional travel experience.

Experience the Ring of Kerry, one of the world’s great coastal roads, see sheepdogs in action on a working farm, tour Ireland’s vibrant capital city of Dublin, stand in awe of the stunning 700 foot high Cliffs of Mohr, kiss the Blarney Stone and so much more.

Further information can be found at: <https://friendsofscpl.org/tour-ireland-in-2018/>. Questions? Email us at: scplfriendstrips@gmail.com or contact Sue Crawford at 518-372-1198.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Esther Swanker
Bob Symons
Norrine Thompson
Linda Ward

Editor - Christine Witkowski
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Ready or not, fall is here. Books Sandwiched In programs are underway; do join us on Mondays at noon. Book reviews work both ways—this book sounds interesting, I want to read it, or, the reviewer has told me enough that I'll pass on this one, and read something else, but I've learned something in the telling.

Thanksgiving is coming, and we are grateful to so many people—too many to name, but all are appreciated: Friends, library staff and trustees, and volunteers from other organizations, for their contributions to recent events and functions, including the staff and volunteer picnic in June, the fall book sale, weekly programs for the public, special events, day trips and extended trips. Meanwhile, dozens of people work regular shifts and

extra hours, often weekly and more, to keep this organization and its everyday operations going. Their contributions are immense and valuable. Other Friends groups are envious of our level of activity and volunteer commitment.

One current project we are involved with is working with library administration and staff on reorganizing the space in which the library has allowed us to work. Angela Strong, Assistant Director, and Mary Ann Warner, Adult Services Coordinator, have been very helpful. The book sale clear-out has enabled the Friends to better allocate working and storage space to carry on the huge job of handling, sorting, and storing the tens of thousands of books that are so generously donated to benefit the library. To the donors, too, we are grateful.

- Val Catlin

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

NOVEMBER - CHILDREN'S AND
YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

BLACK FRIDAY 50% OFF ALL
REGULARLY PRICED ITEMS

DECEMBER - BETTER BOOKS AND
GIFT BOOKS

1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM
50% OFF

www.whitneybookcorner.org

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A



free newsletter! If you're reading a complimentary copy of this newsletter we urge you to become a member of the Friends and help support the many wonderful programs we

sponsor. Membership forms can be found at
<https://friendsofscpl.org/become-a-friend/>.



NOON PROGRAMS

Patricia Rush & Gene Rowland, Coordinators

History and Opera



October/November

November is New York History Month and the anniversary of some major events in New York-votes for women, the beginning of the Erie Canal, entrance into World War I, and the anti-women's suffrage movement. To acknowledge the important events that took place in our state, the Friends of the Library have organized a series of presentations on them. A special thank you to Patricia Rush for coordinating the series.

October 30: **"Spotlight: Albany and Anti-Suffrage"** A new exhibit at the Albany Institute of History and Art, will be presented by Patrick Stenshorn, the Interpretive Program Manager at the Institute. He will discuss the founding of the anti-women's suffrage organization in New York in 1894. Women were granted the right to vote in New York in 1917; three years later the federal government granted women the right to vote.

November 6: **Erie Canal** Brad L. Utter, Senior Historian and Curator of Science and Technology at the New York State Museum, will speak about the exhibit he has curated, *Enterprising Waters: New York's Erie Canal*. Phase One of the exhibit, on display now, focuses on the beginnings of the canal 200 years ago, and chronicles the canal's construction and its impact along the route.

November 13: **World War I** Aaron Noble, Senior Historian and Curator of Political and Military History at the New York State Museum, will speak about the pivotal role New Yorkers played in all facets of World War I. The exhibit he has curated, *A Spirit of Sacrifice: New York State in the First World War*, commemorates the centennial of New York's entrance into the conflict.

November 20: **The Electric Mule on the Erie Canal** Most accounts of the Erie canal focus on its creation and its significance in early 19th century American history. Few, however, dwell on its last days. In this talk, Professor Andrew Morris of the Department of History at Union College, looks at the last ditch effort by canal supporters to revive it through the use of electricity, culminating in the high-profile test of a G.E. "electric mule" on a stretch of the canal in Schenectady.

November 27: **Women's Suffrage** Jennifer Lemak, Chief Curator of History at the New York State Museum, will speak on the exhibit: *Votes for Women: Celebrating New York's Suffrage Centennial*. She will be joined by Ashley Hopkins-Benton, Senior Historian and Curator of Social History at the New York State Museum.

Information on the State Museum exhibits can be found at: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/exhibitions>

December

December 4: Dr. Frank Strauss will entertain us with a program entitled **Beautiful Music**. We will listen to, view, and talk about an aria, "O mio babbino caro", from Puccini's opera **Gianni Schicchi**. There is more to this piece than just breathtakingly beautiful music. As is so often the case with wonderful music, many people perform it, and the personalities and circumstances of some of the performers may be as interesting as the music. "O mio babbino caro" has been sung by many soprano singers, with perhaps the most memorable being Maria Callas. We will view a short video biography of La Divina, and then watch, thanks to our friends at YouTube, some videos of Callas singing.

December 11: Professor Josef Schmee returns to SCPL to present two opera programs. The first program will be **The Marriage of Figaro** by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. This is a comic opera in four acts, composed in 1786. It is one of the ten most popular operas. The story deals with two servants, Figaro and Susanna, who succeed in getting married, thus foiling their philandering employer Count Almaviva, who attempts to seduce Susanna, and teaching him a lesson in fidelity.

December 18: Professor Schmee presents another very popular opera, **Rigoletto**, by Giuseppe Verdi. This opera is in three acts, and is considered to be one of Verdi's masterpieces. The story revolves around the licentious Duke of Mantua, his hunch-backed court jester Rigoletto and Rigoletto's beautiful daughter Gilda. Dr. Schmee will pay tribute to the famous Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti, who was great in the role of the Duke of Mantua in this opera.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

BOOK SALES

The Fall Book Sale on September 23-24 was a great success! The weather was sunny and warm on both days, and a large turnout of book lovers gathered to browse and buy throughout the weekend. With over 60,000 books for sale, they found plenty worth buying. Many people walked away with armloads of books and smiles on their faces.

Volunteers from the community signed up to fill most of our needed 300 job slots from Friday setup to Sunday cleanup. Our team of book sale volunteers made sure the books were organized by category or author's name, helped buyers to find what they wanted and cashed out the sales. In addition, we had four inmates from the Schenectady Jail who helped with the Friday setup.

A number of students from Schenectady High School and Union College pitched in to add their energy during setup, cleanup and during the sale. An extra special thanks goes to Chief Thompson, who recruited 16 Jr. ROTC students from the high school to help us the entire weekend. Without them the book sale would have been quite overwhelming and demanding for our core group of volunteers.

We measure our success in two ways. At this sale we made \$15,775.58, which is about \$750 less than we made last fall. But more important is the fact that we sold tens of thousands of books to people at very low prices!

Unfortunately, we receive so many donated books that cannot be sold.

Sorting out these books takes time and much lifting. We have to sell them for a nominal price to a wholesale book company. We fill a large commercial truck about every 6-8 weeks with the books we cannot sell! We wish we didn't have to waste our time on these books, so PLEASE donate only books we can sell.

The Fall Book Sale is always a wonderful community event! We want to thank everyone who volunteered at the sale, and especially the team of Friends who work every Wednesday throughout the year to prepare books for the sale.

Don't miss our Mid Winter Book Sale on February 3-4, 2018.

--- Bob Symons, Charlene Roman, Lisa Esperti, Robin & Fred Eddy

OUT AND ABOUT AT THE BOOK SALE



This family found some great books for their little one.



Volunteer Dave Bradley poses with a happy customer.



One of the many volunteers from Schenectady High School Junior ROTC program.

AROUND THE LIBRARY



REELS

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



November

November 1: **Wonder Woman** Gal Gadot, Chris Pine. When an American pilot crashes on their shores and tells of a massive conflict raging in the outside world, Diana, princess of the Amazons, leaves her home, convinced she can stop the threat.

November 8: **The Book of Henry** Naomi Watts, Jaeden Lieberher, Jacob Tremblay. A single mother discovers a scheme in her son's book to rescue a young girl from the hands of her abusive stepfather and sets out to execute the plan at any cost.

November 15: **Churchill** Brian Cox, Miranda Richardson. June 1944. Allied Forces stand on the brink: a massive army is secretly assembled on the south coast of Britain, poised to re-take Nazi-occupied Europe. One man stands in their way: Winston Churchill.

November 22: **The Big Sick** Kumail Nanjiani, Holly Hunter, Ray Romano. Pakistan-born aspiring comedian Kumail connects with grad student Emily after a standup set.

November 29: **Spider-Man: Homecoming** Tom Holland, Michael Keaton, Zendaya, Donald Glover. A young Peter Parker begins to navigate his newfound identity as the web-slinging super hero.

December

December 6: **Maudie** Sally Hawkins, Ethan Hawke, Kari Matchett. An arthritic Nova Scotia woman works as a housekeeper while she hones her skills as an artist and eventually becomes a beloved figure in the community.

December 13: **Baby Driver** Ansel Elgort, Jon Bernthal, Jon Hamm, Kevin Spacey. A talented young getaway driver relies on the beat of his personal soundtrack to be the best in the game. But after being coerced into working for a crime boss, he must face the music when a doomed heist threatens his life, love, and freedom.

December 20: **War for the Planet of the Apes** Andy Serkis, Woody Harrelson. Caesar and his apes are forced into a deadly conflict with an army of humans led by a ruthless Colonel.

December 27: **Cars 3** Owen Wilson, Cristela Alonzo, Chris Cooper, Nathan Fillion. Blindsided by a new generation of blazing-fast racers, the legendary Lightning McQueen is suddenly pushed out of the sport he loves. To get back in the game, he will need the help of an eager young race technician with her own plan to win, inspiration from the late Fabulous Hudson Hornet, and a few unexpected turns.

BEAT THE SNOW RETURNS

Mark your calendars for the Beat the Snow Concert Series. Once again, we will spotlight the numerous local talents of our area, beginning with Bien Baez and Michael Clement on Sunday, January 7, 2018.



The concert series will run on Sundays from 2:30-3:30 PM, from January 7 to March 25 excluding February 4th. Other groups set for this season include the Musicians of Maalwyck, Etude Club, Schenectady Light Opera Company, Rosanne Hargrave and Michael Clement, and the Colonie Village Singers with Malcolm Kogut. Concerts are free and open to the public. Questions? Contact Janice Walz at 518 346-8081.

GO DIGITAL!

Interested in receiving the Friends newsletter hot off the presses?

Tired of waiting for snail mail?

Sign up today to have the newsletter delivered directly to your inbox. Simply email us at folmembernotice@gmail.com and we'll put you on our list.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Lois & Richard Atkinson
Marguerite Bauer
Hank & Pat Buczkowski
Barb Armstrong & Bob Coppola
Diane DiMeo
Kristy & Dan Eldeen
Bill & Donna Fairlee
Carl Filbrich & Christy Multer
Marion Grimes
Joan Ipsen**
Bob & Karen Kanarkiewicz
Gene & Susanne Kimura*
Leah LaFera
Sylvia Lange
Lois & Tony Miller
Barbara Palmer
Ron & Gerri Pinkerton
Grace Riccobono
Robert Ringlee
Claudia & Keith Rolfe
William Schmitt*
Julia Stone*
James/ & Margo Strosberg
Owen & Betty Sutton
Carol Wilber
Hazel Wilson
Lorene Zabin

PATRON - \$50-199

Philip & JoAnn Adams*
Phyllis Barbera
Wendy & Walter Berninger*
Elmer & Olga Bertsch
Bryant & Casey Bigelow
Ann Bish
David & Karen Bradley
Naomi Bristol
Wonja & Jeff Brucker
Robert & Julia Burgess
Miriam Butzel
Alan & Valerie Catlin
Gail Denisoff
Rosalie Fadem
Jo Freedman
Debbie & Joel Friedman
Ginny Golden
Patricia & David Gosda
George & Joan Gould
Cathy Gruyters & Sean Albert
Ted Heisler
Ann Hicks
Richard Holt
Bernice Izzo
Karen Johnson
John & Gail Karl
John & Marilyn Knarvik
Dawn & John Knutson
Don & Marilyn Leach
Bill & Mary Liz Leitch*
Joe Leonardo
Bill Levering

Jack & Arlene Maranville
Patricia & Richard Margas*
Rita Moore
Virginia & Jeff Newton
Anne Peterson
Frank & Dorothea Potochnik*
Roberta Richardson
Eugene & Eleanor Rowland*
Sonia Rubenstein*
Kathleen Ryan
Linda & Ralph Spaulding
Themetria Svolos*
Barbara VanEtten*
Barbara Vivier*
Patricia & Robert Wall*
Anita Walther
Barbara Wood
Brian & Liz Yanoff
Connie Young
Anne & Robert Yunick

BENEFACTOR-\$200+

Richard & Susan Baker*
David & Adrienne Bashe
Susanne & Robert Doyle
Donal Early*
Neil & Jane Golub
Lawson & Priscilla Harris*
Leonard Herman*
Kimberly Mastrianni

Wayne & Cynthia Schneider
Angela Strong
Samuel & Carol Wait, Jr
Simon & Sally Weinstein
Frank & Virginia Wicks

NEW MEMBERS

Norm Ainslie
Sky DeJong**
Maya Dhinesh**
Rosanne Faber
Anne & Dave Gray
Catherine Lucas
Eileen Quick
Terry Quigley
Angela Strong
Frank & Virginia Wicks
Marcine Wielt

*Eligible for GE Match

**Junior Friend

DONATIONS

In Memory of Clarence Counterline:
Jean Gordon

In Memory of Veronica Bartholic:
Robert and Anne Yunick

Niskayuna Hannaford Bags
4 You Program



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



IN OTHER NEWS

All About the Erie Canal
Central Library, McChesney Room
Wednesday, November 1
6:30-7:30 pm

This program, by David Brooks, will provide relatable information about the Erie Canal from conception to construction and the various improvements to the waterway over the last two hundred years. Topics ranging from politics, economics and social factors to the environmental views in early America, will be broached.

David Brooks is currently appointed as the Education Director at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site in Fort Hunter, N.Y. The site interprets and preserves the significant history of the Erie Canal and its contributions to the state as well as the nation.

Save the Date

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at the Glen Sanders Mansion.

Excuse Us ----Improvements Underway!



Due to carpet replacement, the Niskayuna Branch Library will be closed on Monday, November 6 and will reopen on November 8 at 10 am; the Glenville Branch Library will close at 5 pm on Wednesday, November 8 and reopen on November 11 at 10 am.

Carpet at the Scotia Branch Library was replaced in October. Stop by these Branch Libraries to see their fresh look.

HELP WANTED!

Online books is looking for a shipper to work Wednesdays, morning or afternoon. Some lifting of books and walking to the Post Office is required. Computer skills helpful. Interested? Email bookwormT14@gmail.com



WHITNEY BOOK CORNER OFFERS DISCARDED LIBRARY ART PRINTS AT SIDEWALK SALE



Junior Friend, Sky, stands with her dad in front of the many paintings for sale at the August sidewalk sale.



Some Union College students were thrilled to find these prints - perfect for dorm walls!



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
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SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

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Permit #728

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL



***Black Friday @
the Whitney Book
Corner!
600 Union St.,
Schenectady
Store opens at
9 a.m.***

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

Central Branch

Microsoft PowerPoint 2013: Basic-Monday, November 6, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Word 2013: Getting Started-Wednesday, November 8, 6-7:30 pm

Digital Photo Editing with Google Photos-Monday, November 13, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Word 2013: Beginner-Wednesday, November 15, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Word 2013: Intermediate-Saturday, November 18, 9:15-10:45 pm



Register online at www.scpl.org,
at any library location, or by calling
518 388-4511. Registrants must
have a valid SCPL card. The classes
are funded by the Friends of the
Library.



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

January/February 2018

Volume LIII No.III

HARRY POTTER DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

If you happened to stop by the Central Library on October 28, you probably thought you took a wrong turn into Hogwarts. Witches, wizards, magical folk and muggles all gathered at our second annual Harry Potter Day.

New this year was Diagon Alley, where shops offered wands, spell books, butterbeer fudge, Bertie Bot's Magical Beans, herbs, potions and magical books.

Two new classes were offered at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry: Magic for Muggles, taught by Merwin the Mediocre and Magical Beasts taught by Adam Bornt of Uncharted Wild.

Live owls, creepy crawlers, snakes, lizards and dragons were back and none of them escaped this year.

We are already planning for next year's event to be held on October 27, 2018. It will be bigger and more exciting than ever, with new classes and characters. So polish your wands and dust off your brooms, we need volunteers. Interested in joining our team? Email us at professorspore@gmail.com.

We even have a Facebook page - be sure to like us and stay informed about the next, great Harry Potter Day! <https://www.facebook.com/professorspore/>

- Charlene Roman & Shawn Schulz



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
Robin Eddy
Donna Fairlee
Shaheen Hasan
Chris Makofski
Arlene Maranville
Geri Mulligan
Roberta Richardson
Charlene Roman
Dick Shave
Patricia Stearns
Esther Swanker
Bob Symons
Norrine Thompson
Linda Ward

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org
Find Us On Facebook

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year
to all!

Come and enjoy
a highlight of the
winter season,

the Beat the Snow music series
on Sunday afternoons January-
March, (except book sale day
2/4) in the McChesney Room.
Janice Walz has arranged
programs featuring a variety of
local performers and musical
genres, with something for
everybody.

Why does the Friends of SCPL
matter?

- Because we partner with
library staff and the library
board to offer more and better
services and materials to the
public. Karen Bradley and the
library staff, and Carmel Patrick
and the library board, have
worked hard to improve the
library's facilities and services.
The County provides basic
support, which is their job,
and the Friends enhance the
library's programs, services, and
collections.

- Because our volunteers
process and get value from vast
amounts of book donations
and library discards. This is
an enormous task, carried on
by dozens of hard-working
volunteers all year-round.

- Because we fund
purchases for the library that
they cannot afford otherwise.
SCPL is funded at a lower level
than other larger libraries in the
region and the tax cap has kept
funding limited. SCPL's revenue
in 2015 (last available statistics)
was \$35 per capita, and that
supported 8 branches. Clifton
Park-Halfmoon library's funding
per capita was \$74; Albany's
(with 6 branches) was \$92, more
than two and a half times SCPL's;
and Saratoga's \$110.

Volunteerism and generosity
are a strong tradition in our
community; your contributions
make a difference, to an
institution that makes a
difference. Thank you.

- Val Catlin



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 13TH
MEDIA ON SALE ALL MONTH

FEBRUARY - ROMANCE
HARDCOVER- \$1; PAPERBACKS 4/\$1
1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM
50% OFF

www.whitneybookcorner.org

MID-WINTER BOOK SALE

FEBRUARY 3 & 4

McCHESNEY ROOM, CENTRAL BRANCH

SATURDAY 9-5

SUNDAY 1- 4

ADULT FICTION & NONFICTION TITLES



NOON PROGRAMS



Books Sandwiched In
Patricia Rush, Coordinator



January

February

January 8: Harry Marten, professor emeritus of English at Union College, will discuss the novel **Ceremony**, by Leslie Marmon Silko. The hero of the novel is a native of the Laguna Pueblo people who had been imprisoned by the Japanese during WW II.

January 22: Thomas Bolger, professor emeritus of English at Siena College, will discuss Harold Bloom's famous study of Shakespeare's plays, **The Invention of the Human**. Bloom leads us through a comprehensive reading of each one of Shakespeare's plays.

January 29: Tom della Salla, retired English teacher from Linton High School, will discuss **Cat's Cradle**, Kurt Vonnegut's well-known satire of the arms race and nuclear holocaust.

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 5: Leah Akins, the new executive director of ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse, will review **The River Is In Us: Fighting Toxics in a Mohawk Community**, by Elizabeth Hoover. The book is the story of how the St. Regis Mohawks in Akwesasne partnered with scientists to fight the contamination of its lands and waters, and to reclaim its health and culture.

February 12: The Rev. William Levering of First Reformed Church will discuss his favorite summer reading, short stories about science fiction taken from these books: **The Year's Best Science Fiction, 34th Collection, Best Science Fiction of the Year, Vol.2, and The Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of the Year, Vol. 11.**

February 26: Cathy Lewis, a member of the Schenectady City Board of Education and past president of the Board, will discuss **Lit Up: One Reporter, Three Schools, Twenty-Four Books That Can Change Lives**, by David Denby, who reaffirms the power of great teachers and the importance and inspiration of great books.

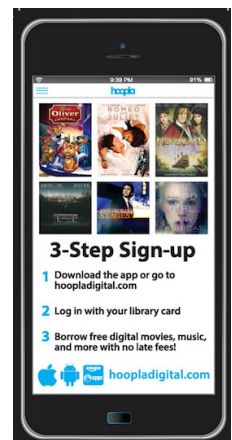
A STAR AMONG US



Our esteemed board member and secretary, Madelyn Thorne, has been chosen as a Woman of the Year for 2017 by the Schenectady Business & Professional Women's Club. Her community service is extensive and wide-ranging, and Schenectady is blessed to have her. Congratulations Madelyn!

WHAT'S ALL THE HOOPLA?

- After the January 8 book review, at 1:00 pm, a
- member of the library
- staff will give a 5 minute demonstration of Hoopla digital, a new ebook/ movie/music app that is
- free to library patrons. All
- are welcome to attend.



KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

Black Friday was an exciting day at the bookstore. We sold over a thousand books, 240 of them mass market paperbacks, for a grand total of \$651.19 in sales. Small Business Saturday was also busy with \$292.72 in sales.

Looking forward to 2018, where January will mark the first six months of using the Square system. It has been a valuable tool in assessing what the public is looking for and has contributed to higher sales.



We are always looking for enthusiastic volunteers that love books and want to shelve or transport books to the store. Interested? Email Robin Eddy at rjeddy321@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED!

- Online books is looking for a shipper
- to work Wednesdays, morning or
- afternoon. Some lifting of books and
- walking to the post office is required.
- Computer skills helpful. Interested?
- Email bookwormT14@gmail.com



Save the Date

The Friends Annual Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
Glen Sanders Mansion

VISIT THE FASNY MUSEUM OF FIREFIGHTING WITH THE MUSEUM PASS!

Did you want to become a firefighter when you were young? Do you have a neighbor, friend, or relative who is a firefighter? Learn about the history and world of firefighting at the Firemen's Association of the State of New York (FASNY) Museum of Firefighting, located in Hudson, New York.

Dedicated Memorial Day 1926, the FASNY Museum of Fire Fighting strives "to engage you by presenting the subject of firefighting as history, as culture, as a service to humanity, as a preventative practice and as ever-changing art and technology." Creative programs such as Dalmatian Day and Super Saturdays will appeal to the whole family.

Browse through panels of firefighter patches and find the one for your hometown. Walk through the history of firefighting apparatus beginning with the 1731 Newsham Pumper, the oldest documented fire engine in New York State. Educational kiosks

answer questions every child and many adults have concerning firefighting. Learn about the bravery and heroism of firefighters for over 300 years. For more information about the museum, visit <https://www.fasnyfiremuseum.com/>.

Use your Schenectady County library card and sign out a Museum Pass to this "premier firefighting museum of the world".

Information on the Museum Pass Program can be found at: <https://friendsofscpl.org/museum-pass-program/>



AROUND THE LIBRARY



REELS

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



January

February

January 3: **The Beguiled** Nicole Kidman, Kirsten Dunst, Elle Fanning, directed by Sofia Coppola. At a girls' school in Virginia during the Civil War, where the young women have been sheltered from the outside world, a wounded Union soldier is taken in. Soon, the house is taken over with sexual tensions, rivalries, and an unexpected turn of events.

January 10: **The Glass Castle** Brie Larson, Woody Harrelson, Naomi Watts, directed by Destin Cretton. Chronicling the adventures of an eccentric, resilient and tight-knit family, this is a remarkable story of unconditional love. A young woman, who, influenced by the joyfully wild nature of her deeply dysfunctional father, found the fiery determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms.

January 17: **Atomic Blonde** Charlize Theron, James McAvoy, John Goodman, directed by David Leitch. The crown jewel of Her Majesty's Secret Intelligence Service, Agent Lorraine Broughton, is equal parts spycraft, sensuality and savagery, willing to deploy any of her skills to stay alive on her impossible mission. Sent alone into Berlin to deliver a priceless dossier out of the destabilized city, she partners with embedded station chief David Percival to navigate her way through the deadliest game of spies.

January 24: **Home Again** Nat Wolff, Candice Bergman, Reese Witherspoon, directed by Hallie Meyers. Shyer. Life for a single mom in Los Angeles takes an unexpected turn when she allows three young guys to move in with her.

January 31: **The Hitman's Bodyguard** Ryan Reynolds, Samuel L. Jackson, Gary Oldman, directed by Patrick Hughes. The world's top protection agent is called upon to guard the life of his mortal enemy, one of the world's most notorious hitmen.

February 7: **Dunkirk** Fionn Whitehead, Damien Bonnard, Aneurin Barnard, directed by Christopher Nolan. A World War II thriller about the evacuation of Allied troops from the French city of Dunkirk before Nazi forces can take hold.

February 14: **Kingsman-The Golden Circle** Taron Egerton, Edward Holcroft, Julianne Moore, Colin Firth, directed by Matthew Vaughn. When the secret organization headquarters are destroyed and the world is held hostage, their journey leads the agents to the discovery of an allied spy organization in the U.S. called Statesman, dating back to the day they were both founded.

February 21: **Lego Ninjago Movie** Jackie Chan, Dave Franco, Fred Armisen, directed by Charlie Bean, Paul Fisher, Bob Logan. The young Master Builder Lloyd, aka the Green Ninja, along with his friends, are all secret ninja warriors. Led by Master Wu, who is as wise-cracking as he is wise, they must defeat evil warlord Garmadon, who also happens to be Lloyd's dad.

February 28: **American Made** Tom Cruise, Domhnall Gleeson, Sarah Wright, directed by Doug Liman. A pilot lands work for the CIA and as a drug runner in the south during the 1980s.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Bertha Crosby
D. Clarke Dimond
Gerald & Beatrice Hahn*
Howard & Emily Hart*
Charles Carson
Jane McCloskey
Maia & Jay Newman
Karen Schell
Oscar Sylvan
Donald Thurston

Joe & Ann Gotwals
Stanley & Claudia
Jakubowski
Pat & Chris Jones
Peter & Leah Kucera
Lyn Kucij
Ronald & Donna Lagasse
David Lilienfeld*
Stephen & Ann Lyman
Charles & Sharon Maneri
Kate McGuirl & Matt
Smith

Richard & Mary Jane Shave
Austin & Marti Spang*
Robert & Joan Spencer*
Gary & Lucy Sponberg
Patricia Stearns
Shirley Thomas*
Fred & Virginia
Thompson*
Norrine & Ted Thompson
Jon & Nancy Tobiessen
Nancy & Wayne Virkler
Mary White
Irene Wickham

Deborah Dobbins
Paul Giroux
Donna Grossman
Alice Horgan
Leora Liberatore
Donna Pace
Kathryn Rose
Joseph Sala & Carolyn
Basinger
The Thomas Family

**Eligible for GE Match*

PATRON - \$50-199

Richard Baertsch
Charles & Sally Bauer
Robert & Sylvia Briber
Phyllis Budka*
Jim & Sandra Buhrmaster
Cindy Christman
Edith Cumini
Gedia DeMaria*
Donald & Mary Gavin*
Jamie Gearon

Peter McManus
Robert Nottke
Michael & Susan O'Brien
Anita Paul & David Gerhan
Bill & Meme Pittman
Linda Post
Sylvia Raushi
Robert & Carol Reid
Linda & Lawrence Relyea*
Donald Riggs
Helga Schroeter

BENEFACTOR-\$200+

Carol Borthwick*

NEW MEMBERS

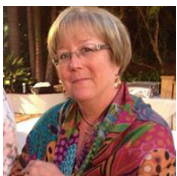
Richard Baertsch
Salvatore Balardo
Patti Chandler
James Chevalier

DONATIONS

In Honor of Esther
Swanker's 90th Birthday:
Margaret Moore

In Memory of Veronica
Bartholic:
Mary Jane Fisher

FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR



As we close out 2017, it is time to reflect upon the past year and to think ahead to what joy or challenges may lie ahead.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the members of the Friends for all they have done to support our library system over the past year. I believe one of the most precious gifts one can give is time - the time and commitment of so many wonderful volunteers, who work diligently throughout the year to sort, organize, and sell the books, contributing enormously to what we as a library system can provide to our community.

As we look ahead to 2018, we need your help! Our renowned book sales take many, many volunteers, over three days, to carry it out. If you are unable to volunteer on a regular basis due to family or work obligations, the book sales are a wonderful opportunity to pitch in. As some of us have knees and backs that are giving out, and some of our regular volunteers who have been with us for dozens of years can no longer assist, we would love to have your help for our spring sale! Please consider volunteering!

Best wishes for a happy New Year!

-Karen Bradley

IN OTHER NEWS

GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions discussion series on foreign policy issues will start on February 6, 2018. We will be meeting every Tuesday in February and March at 9:30 a.m. in the McChesney Room at the Central Branch. Each meeting is about a different topic, so you may attend any or all of them. The program is free of charge and is sponsored by the national, non-partisan, Foreign Policy Association (www.fpa.org).

The FPA provides a video introducing the main issues, which is played during the first half hour of each meeting. The FPA also publishes a discussion guide, which contains a comprehensive, balanced 10-page review of each topic. The published guide is very helpful, but not mandatory. The guide will be available for purchase (by check only) in mid-January at the Central Library Reference Desk. More information is available at <https://FriendsofSCPL.org/programs/Great-Decisions/>.

Previous members of Great Decisions and interested people will be contacted by e-mail or U.S. mail with

details. If you wish to be added to this mailing list please contact one of the following:

Fred Eddy - 346-1683, FredEddy7@gmail.com or

Tony Mogro - 374-1377, AMogro@nycap.rr.com.

Topics for the 2018 series are:

- Feb. 6 The waning of Pax Americana?
- Feb. 13 Russia's foreign policy
- Feb. 20 China and America: the new geopolitical equation
- Feb. 27 Media and foreign policy
- Mar. 6 Turkey: a partner in crisis
- Mar. 13 U.S. global engagement and the military
- Mar. 20 South Africa's fragile democracy
- Mar. 27 Global health: progress and challenges



THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A

free newsletter! If you're reading a complimentary copy of this newsletter we urge you to become a member of the Friends and help support the many wonderful programs we sponsor. Click the link for membership form:

<https://friendsofscpl.org/become-a-friend/>.



FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

Central Branch

Microsoft Excel 2013-Basic: Wednesday, January 10, 6-7:30 pm

Get to Know Your iPad: Thursday, January 11, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Excel 2013-Intermediate: Wednesday, January 17, 6-7:30 pm

iPad, Part 2: Useful Tips: Thursday, January 18, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Excel 2013: Advanced: Wednesday, January 24, 6-7:30 pm



Register online at www.scpl.org, at any library location, or by calling 518 388-4511. Registrants must have a valid SCPL card. The classes are funded by the Friends of the Library.



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
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Permit #728

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL



FEBRUARY 3 & 4
CENTRAL BRANCH
SATURDAY 9-5
SUNDAY 1- 4

ADULT FICTION
& NONFICTION
TITLES

BEAT THE SNOW RETURNS!

2:30 PM IN THE MCCHESNEY ROOM

- January 7- **Bien Baez and Betsy Lehmann**, American Music
- January 14- **Mark and Chris Tommasone**, Classical with Jazz Improvisations
- January 21 - **Kitchen Jazz** - sassy and easy going
- January 28 - **Musicians of Ma'alwyck**
- February 4- **NO CONCERT-BOOK SALE**
- February 11 - **Dolan Brothers** - Jazz
- February 18 - **Rosanne Hargrave and Michael Clement**
- February 25- **Schenectady Light Opera Company** - Broadway music
- March 4 - **Colonie Village Singers with Malcolm Kogut** - favorites/sing-along
- March 11- **Douglas Chilton**, Jazz
- March 18- **The Etude Club of Schenectady**-classical instrumental
- March 25 - **Dino Cimino**, Jazz





NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

March/April 2018

Volume LIII No.IV

SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS TO BE PRESENTED AT ANNUAL DINNER ON APRIL 10

The Nominating Committee will present nominations for officers and directors at the Annual Dinner on Tuesday, April 10, to be held at the Glen Sanders Mansion, Scotia. Kaela Wallman, Coordinator of Youth Services for SCPL, will be the featured speaker.

Nominated for first term as an Officer of the Friends:

Madelyn Thorne, President: Madelyn is Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Schenectady County. She serves on the boards of The Umbrella of the Capital District, New Choices Recovery and the Upper Union Street Business Improvement District. She is a volunteer at the Whitney Book Corner, the Kids Arts Fest, as well as numerous community events.

Charles Richardson, Treasurer: Charles recently retired from his position as Vice President of Administration/Treasurer for Schenectady County Community College. His past volunteer work includes 10 years as treasurer for a church in Nyack, New York.

Charlene Roman, 1st Vice President: Charlene joined the Friends after retiring from 30 years in retail management. She has managed the Whitney Book Corner for four years and also works at online sales and sorting. Charlene, and her husband Anthony, manage the Whitney table at Comic Con. Along with Shawn Schultz, she is the co-creator of Harry Potter Day.

Richard Shave, Secretary: Dick worked in technical sales and, later on, in education. He was the organizing chair of the Schenectady Greenmarket and served on the boards of the Niskayuna Co-op and the League of Women Voters. He is the League's designee on the Citizen's Police Review Board, volunteers at Proctors as a member of the Theater Guild, and is a member of the Friends Online Book Sales committee.

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

Barbara Armstrong - Barbara worked as a physical therapist for 36 years, retiring in 2017. She is a clerk at the Whitney Book Corner, an active member of the First United

Methodist Church in Schenectady and a volunteer with the Reading is Fun program, working with two students from Zollar Elementary School.

John Karl - John retired after 32 years teaching history and economics. He has served as an official at his church, president of Home Furnishings Program, a trustee for Schenectady County Public Library, and was on the Foundation for Ellis Medicine. He was president of the Friends of the Library from 2005-07 and again from 2013-16.

Joan Molloy - Joan is retired from Bellevue Women's Hospital. She is a long time volunteer for the Friends, managing the book sorting operation at the library, clerking at the Whitney Book Corner and chairing the Gifts and Endowments Committee. She is also president of her golf league.

Christine Witkowski: Chris retired from New York State Office of General Services in 2007. She previously served on the board of the Friends and currently volunteers at the Whitney Book Corner, and is the Friends webmaster, publicity chairperson and newsletter editor.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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
Robin Eddy
Donna Fairlee
Shaheen Hasan
Chris Makofski
Arlene Maranville
Geri Mulligan
Roberta Richardson
Charlene Roman
Dick Shave
Patricia Stearns
Bob Symons
Norrine Thompson
Linda Ward

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org
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We are assured that spring is coming, but there is still time to enjoy a few concerts in our Beat the

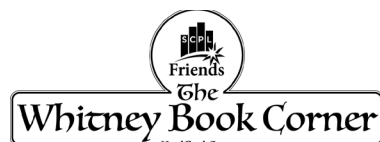
Snow music programs on Sunday afternoons. Our annual meeting also approaches, and my term as president will end. It has been a privilege and a delight to work with and learn from the many wonderful people who make up this organization.

The level of volunteer commitment by Friends volunteers continues to inspire awe. Shawn said one day, "I love this job!"— for which she is paid nothing, of course. In 2017, Friends volunteers donated over 12,000 hours in processing and selling donated and discarded books and media: Whitney Book Corner 5033 + Book Sorting 3507 + Book sales 759 + Online 2928= 12,227. Uncounted are the many hours donated by other committee members and board members.

One outstanding example is our treasurer, Nancy Virkler, who is retiring from her position after eight years. The treasurer's job requires the most commitment and responsibility of all, and we are so very grateful for her long and dedicated service. Nancy has streamlined procedures and coped with new technology while maintaining high standards of fiduciary responsibility. While she will continue to offer training and advice, we wish her all the best as she devotes more time to family and travel.

We are saddened by two recent deaths: Esther Swanker, who was a member of the Friends board, and, for many years, of the SCPL Board of Trustees; she was an ardent and knowledgeable champion of the library. Also Alice Tepper, who volunteered for many book sales with grace and good humor, recently passed away.

-Val Catlin



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SUN 1:30PM-3:30PM

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AND LARGE PRINT

APRIL - GARDENING

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THE ESTHER SWANKER MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD MAY 18

The annual golf tournament sponsored by The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries will be held on May 18th at the Mohawk Golf Club, 1849 Union St., Schenectady. Tee time is 9 a.m.

Full information and an entry form can be found here: <https://mvlslibraryfoundation.wordpress.com/fundraising/> or by contacting Cheryl Cufari at cufaric@gmail.com or 518-356-0392.

The Foundation helps member libraries of the Mohawk Valley Library System, of which SCPL is a part. This year the tournament is in memory of Esther Swanker, an original member of the Foundation board as well as the chair of the inaugural tournament 4 years ago.



NOON PROGRAMS



March

Science Series

Presented by the Museum of Innovation and Science
John Karl, Coordinator

March 5: Valerie Rapson, Ph.D., Outreach Astronomer, Dudley Observatory at miSci: **Exploring Exoplanets:** Dr. Rapson will explore how we search for exoplanets, what we've discovered so far, and the search for earth-like planets.

March 12: William "Mac" Sudduth, Ph.D., retired President, miSci: **The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World** by Andrea Wuft: Join Dr. Mac Sudduth for a review of Andrea Wuft's biography of Alexander von Humboldt, whose exciting voyages to the New World and writings changed our view of nature.

March 19: **Edison and Westinghouse – Schenectady's Connection to the War of the Currents:** Join Chris Hunter, miSci VP of Collections and Exhibitions, for a presentation about the public relations battle between Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse over the use of AC and DC electricity that captured the nation's attention in the late 1880s and 1890s.

March 26: **How Theories Change in Science:** Using Thomas Kuhn's, "The Structure of Scientific Revolutions" as a starting point, Dr. Mac Sudduth will discuss how our cultures and world views affect how we see the truth. Participants will explore what it takes to cause a revolution in science.

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.



April

Books Sandwiched In
Gene Rowland, Coordinator

April 2 – **Home Fire** by Kamila Shamsie, reviewed by Melinda Perrin, local author and poet. "The suspenseful and heartbreaking story of an immigrant family driven to pit love against loyalty, with devastating consequences."

April 9 – **Richer Than a Millionaire** by William D. Danko and Richard J. Van Ness, reviewed by the co-author, Professor William Danko. "The authors want to inspire people to look beyond purely financial goals, to evaluate what their ideal lifestyles are and whether or not they're on the path to living their richest lives."

April 16 - **The Globalization Paradox: Democracy and the Future of the World Economy** by Dani Rodrik, reviewed by Dr. Richard Alben, GE Global Research, retired and RPI, retired. "In this challenge to the reigning wisdom on globalization, Dani Rodrik offers a new narrative, one that embraces an inevitable tension: we cannot simultaneously pursue democracy, national self-determination, and economic globalization."

April 23 - **Grant** by Ron Chernow, reviewed by Thomas Kelly, retired professor emeritus of History and American Studies at Siena College and co-founder of the Siena Research Institute. "Pulitzer Prize winner Ron Chernow returns with a sweeping and dramatic portrait of one of our most compelling generals and presidents, Ulysses S. Grant."

April 30 – **Keys on the Road** by Paul O'Brien, reviewed by the author. O'Brien's memoir speaks about growing up in a small village at a simpler time in a less complicated age. O'Brien taught English for over forty years at Notre Dame and Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School. He has remained active in educational circles.

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

TUESDAY, MAY 22
IN AND AROUND LENOX, MA.

VISIT THE MOUNT
TOUR TANGLEWOOD
EXPERIENCE VENFORT HALL,
A GILDED MANSION

DETAILS WILL BE POSTED ON
FACEBOOK,
FRIENDS WEBSITE AND EMAIL.



ONE COUNTY/ONE BOOK TO RETURN

The Friends of SCPL are excited to announce the return of the popular One County/One Book program in late summer, 2018. As in the past, members of the community will be asked to nominate books that would especially lend themselves to timely discussions and dynamic programming. From that list, five books will be presented to the public for voting. The book with the most votes will become our community read.

Previous books chosen for OCOB include *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, *My Sisters Keeper* and *The Dirty Life*.

Planning for the 2018-19 program will begin in late spring. Email us at schenectadyonecountyonebook@gmail.com if you are interested in being a part of the planning process.



VISIT THE EMPIRE STATE AEROSCIENCES MUSEUM WITH THE MUSEUM PASS



When Jules Verne wrote *Around the World in 80 Days*, he envisioned his characters attempting to circle the globe in a balloon. How impressed Verne would be with the various forms of space flight on display at the Empire State Aerosciences Museum, located at 250 Rudy Chase Drive, Glenville, NY.

With the Museum Pass, available at the Central Library, you can visit the museum and view interpretive exhibits, restored aircraft, educational programs, and the State's largest aviation library. A sampling of exhibits include a replica of the Lockheed Electra flown by Amelia Earhart, an interactive lunar rover and landscape, and displays of Antarctic explorations. For more information about the museum, visit <https://www.esam.org>.

Click here for information on the Museum Pass: <https://friendsofscpl.org/museum-pass-program/>



AROUND THE LIBRARY

Help Keep the Niskayuna Branch Gardens Beautiful



For more than 20 years, the award-winning gardens at the Niskayuna Branch Library on Nott St. East have delighted library patrons and been a source of pride within the community. The costs associated with materials for ongoing enhancement and upkeep of the gardens are all covered by generous donations. We rely on those donations.

Anyone interested in supporting the continuing maintenance of the gardens at the Niskayuna Branch with a contribution may make it to the "Friends of the Library Gifts and Memorials" with a notation on

the check that the donation is earmarked for Niskayuna Branch Gardens. Checks can be sent to: Treasurer, Friends of the Library, Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton St., Schenectady, New York 12305

The gardens are maintained by volunteers who can be seen busy at work on Thursday mornings during the growing season. New volunteers are always needed and appreciated. If interested, simply show up on Thursday mornings, starting in May. No experience required.

17th ANNUAL POETRY GALA

Sunday, April 8

2:00 pm

McChesney Room

Central Library

Come hear your friends, neighbors, and colleagues read their favorite poems.

Interested in reading or reciting a poem?

Contact Deborah Noyes at

poetrygala2018@gmail.com.

REELS

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

March 7 - Battle of the Sexes

March 14 - Blade Runner

March 21 - Professor

Marston and the Wonder Women

March 28 - Only the Brave

April 4 - Despicable Me 3

April 11 - Roman J. Israel, Esq.

April 18 - Darkest Hour

April 25 - Wonder Wheel



HAVE A GREEN THUMB?



Interested in working on projects to beautify outdoor library spaces and gardens? Please email your contact information to Angela Strong, Assistant

Library Director for Operations, at astrong@mvls.info.

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!



Diane DeMeo, Anne Yunick, Nancy Stuebner, John Karl and Mary Liz Leitch help with newsletter mailings.



Joan Molloy helps sort the book donations.



Norrine Thompson, Bryant Bigelow, Arlene Maranville and Chris Witkowski at the mid-winter book sale.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Robert Devries*
Pat Mion
Paul Mitchell*
Dotty & Pete Sheehan*
Judith Stein

PATRON - \$50-199

Patricia Barker
Scott & Diane Bengston-
Kilbourn*
Barbara Beverley*
Nancy Curran
Toni & Brian Doherty

Steve & Danielle Gray*
Carolyn Hermes
Rohinton & Priti Irani*
Isabel & Steven Krempa
Connie Liscio
Suzanne Mason

Paul Meier
Carmel Rose Patrick
Francis & Mary-Sue Reed*
Joan & Frank Scheib
Lawrence & Jennifer
Schmidt
Delanne Stageman
Leslie Thiele & Ken Larsen
Dori Trela

BENEFACTOR-\$200+

Charles & Debra
McCambridge
Kristina Philip
Cynthia & Herb Shultz

NEW MEMBERS

Steve & Danielle Gray
Lisa Lane & Jean Gustafson

**Eligible for GE Match*

DONATIONS

Patricia & Gabriela Halsey
John C and Susan K
Hubbard Foundation
Fred & Virginia Thompson
Schenectady Foundation
Scotia United Methodist
Church Women

Donation to Niskayuna
Gardens:
Anne Yunick

In Honor of Gene & Ellie
Rowland:
Kyle & Maggie Wortendyke



The launch of the newly formed Repair Café Schenectady will be Saturday, April 14 from 10 am to 2 pm in the McChesney Room, Central Branch, 99 Clinton St., Schenectady. This exciting spring event marks the first Repair Café in the Capital District.

Started in 2009 in the Netherlands, Repair Cafe is a neighborhood initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out. At a Repair Cafe, community members can bring their broken but cherished items to be fixed on the spot, for free, with the help of volunteers. More than 30 people have signed up to be repair coaches, offering varied skills, including lamp repair, sewing,

jewelry and wooden items repair, and much more. The Electric City Bike Rescue is planning to offer a free bike tune-up clinic. Weather permitting, a Smoothie bike will make an appearance.

We have also heard from some folks with interesting items in need of repair, including an antique treadle sewing machine. We believe we have a repair coach with the skills to work on this and also the exact tools required and even some spare parts.

Be sure to "like" us on [Facebook](#) and see you on April 14.

-Dave West, RC Coordinator



Members of the Electric City Bike Rescue will conduct a free bike tune-up clinic at the April Repair Cafe.



Lois Miller will be on hand April 14 with her trusty sewing machine.

*Friends of Schenectady County Public Library – Annual Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2018*



*5:00 pm
Glen Sanders Mansion
1 Glen Ave., Scotia, N.Y.*

*5:00 pm – Social Hour:
6:00 pm – Dinner*



Speaker:

*Kaela Wallman, Coordinator of Youth Services, Schenectady County Public Library
“The Friends Matter!”*

Social Hour:

Cash Bar, Appetizers

Dinner:

*Classic House Salad with Mixed Greens, Tomatoes, Black Olives, Cucumbers, Fresh Garlic Croutons,
Champagne or Balsamic Vinaigrette*

Choice of Entrees:

Chicken Marsala, Sauteed Scallopini, Cremini Mushrooms, Sweet Marsala Wine Sauce

Sole Francaise, Egg Battered with Lemon Herb Beurre Blanc

Butternut Squash Ravioli, Brown Butter and Sage Cream, Shaved Manchego Cheese

Dessert:

*New York Style Cheesecake with Strawberry or Blueberry Topping, Dollop of Whipped Cream,
Coffee, Tea*

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

*Officers: President: Madelyn Thorne; 1st Vice President: Charlene Roman; 2nd Vice President: Shawn Schultz;
Secretary: Richard Shave; Treasurer: Charles Richardson*

Directors: For an initial three year term: Barbara Armstrong, John Karl, Joan Molloy, Christine Witkowski

Reservations must be received by Tuesday, April 3, 2018 (no exceptions). Please use form below:

Tuesday, April 10, 2018 @ 5:00 pm

Glen Sanders Mansion

Number attending _____ Amount Enclosed _____ @ \$33.60/person

Attendee names (Please print)

Circle one choice of entree

<i>Chicken</i>	<i>Sole</i>	<i>Ravioli</i>
<i>Chicken</i>	<i>Sole</i>	<i>Ravioli</i>

*Please make check payable to **Friends of SCPL** and mail by April 3 to:
Charlene Roman, Annual Dinner Chairperson, c/o FSCPL
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305*



FRIENDS OF SCHENECTADY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
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SCHENECTADY, N.Y. 12305

Non-Profit Org
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Albany, N.Y.
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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

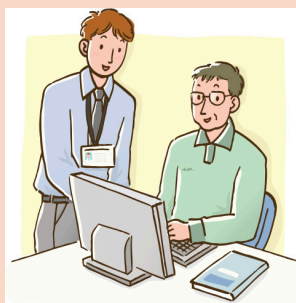
BEAT THE SNOW 2:30 PM IN THE MCCHESNEY ROOM

- March 4 - **Colonie Village Singers with Malcolm Kogut** - favorites/sing-along
- March 11- **Douglas Chilton**, Jazz
- March 18-**The Etude Club of Schenectady**-classical instrumental
- March 25 - **Dino Cimino**, Jazz



FREE COMPUTER CLASSES Central Branch

- Digital Photo Editing with Google Photos** – Tuesday, March 6, 6-7:30 pm
Microsoft Excel 2013: Basic – Wednesday, March 7, 6-7:30 pm
Introduction to Blogging - Saturday, March 10, 9:15-10:45 am
Online Security - Tuesday, March 13, 6-7:30 pm
Microsoft Excel 2013: Intermediate – Wednesday, March 14, 6-7:30 pm
Microsoft Excel 2013: Advanced – Wednesday, March 21, 6-7:30 pm



Register online at www.scpl.org,
at any library location, or by calling
518 388-4511. Registrants must
have a valid SCPL card. The classes
are funded by the Friends of the
Library.



NEWS OF THE FRIENDS of Schenectady County Public Library

May/June 2018

Volume LIII No.V

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD BOOKS!



Read any good books lately? Recently finished a book you wanted to discuss with others? Came across a title that keyed into current events and trends? Love the idea of recommending books to others? We have just the program for you!

library branches, the Whitney Book Corner, Schenectady County Community College, the Open Door Bookstore, and other community locations.

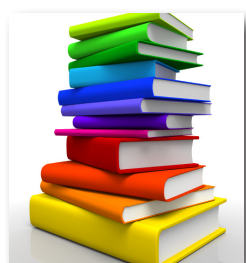
OCOB selections will be presented in late summer for voting, with the winning title announced in November. Programming around the selected title is scheduled to begin in early spring, 2019.

Schenectady County Public Library and the Friends of the Library announce the return of the One County, One Book program, an exciting initiative that will get everyone in the county reading the same book. All are invited to submit nominations of books, either fiction or non-fiction, under 500 pages in length, that have a wide appeal and would lend themselves to related programming. More than one title can be suggested.

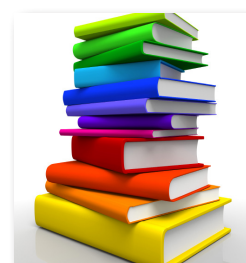
Nominations will be accepted through June 1 and can be made online at www.scpl.org or at any of the



*Look for ballot boxes at all
the library branches and
throughout the community.*



SPRING BOOK SALE
MAY 5
BOOKS \$1 OR LESS
MAY 6
FILL A BAG FOR \$2



Friends of the Library Board
 Madelyn Thorne, President
 Charlene Roman, 1st Vice President
 Shawn Marie Schultz,
 2nd Vice President
 Charles Richardson, Treasurer
 Richard Shave, Secretary
 Val Catlin, Past President

Directors
 Barbara Armstrong
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 John Karl
 Chris Makofski
 Arlene Maranville
 Joan Molloy
 Geri Mulligan
 Roberta Richardson
 Patricia Stearns
 Bob Symons
 Norrine Thompson
 Linda Ward
 Christine Witkowski

Editor - Christine Witkowski
friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org
 Find Us On Facebook

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Anytime I stop by the library, the computer desks are busy, there's a program in the McChesney Room, a

community group

meeting in one of the conference rooms, the reading tables are full and folks are wandering through the aisles with that distinctive "Library Head-tilt". This happens because of you - the Friends of the Schenectady County Library. Your hard work and dedication has helped make our library system a meaningful and important resource for our entire community.

Folks come far and wide for our book sales, the Whitney Book Corner is a go-to destination for book lovers, our on-line book sales continue to exceed all expectations, and ComicCon and Harry Potter Day are growing every year. The Friends are making a difference every single day by being a positive and vital force for our community.

Speaking of forces, while serving as your president, Val Catlin quietly and proactively focused on major and important tasks. She worked hard to bring the Friends into compliance with the New York State Nonprofit Revitalization Act, oversaw a number of our 50th Anniversary celebrations, and started a digital records management system for the Friends.

With a dynamic and engaged team, Val brought an efficiency and professionalism to our board meetings. She worked in a spirit of collaboration with the Trustees, management and staff of the library. We are all grateful for her service, not only to our library system, but to our entire community. I am happy to report Val intends to stay engaged with the Friends. It is good to know I can count on her to share her knowledge and experience as I step into the Presidency.

Madelyn Thorne



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(THURS TIL 7PM)

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UPCOMING SALES

MAY - ADULT FICTION

JUNE - MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

1ST THURSDAYS 4PM-7PM

50% OFF

www.whitneybookcorner.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Now that the exciting first ever Repair Cafe Schenectady

has ended, we are looking forward to our next event from 10-2 on Saturday, July 21 in the McChesney Room of the Central library.

Once again, area residents will be able to bring their beloved but broken items to be repaired with the help of volunteer repair

coaches. And best of all, the repairs are free! Check out [Repair Cafe Schenectady](#) on Facebook to keep up to date on Repair Cafe doings.



There were many busy hands at the April 14 Repair Cafe.

NOON PROGRAMS

Gene Rowland, Coordinator

May 7: **Janesville: An American Story** by Amy Goldstein. Reviewed by Sara Foss, a well-known columnist for *The Daily Gazette*. Goldstein traces the traumatic events that follow from the closing of a major GM assembly plant in a small Wisconsin town and how several families were affected. The book helps us to understand the frustrations suffered by folks who went from \$28/hour jobs at GM to scrambling for a living in a small town that offered few opportunities.

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. Any changes to the schedule will be posted on Facebook, our website and also sent to members via email.

May 14: Special Feature-Dr. Gina C. Gould, new President of miSci, will present a program entitled **Dogs: A Curious Evolutionary Journey**. Generally thought to be descended from wolves, domestic dogs are now the most popular household pets in much of the world. Hundreds of breeds are now recognized in the U.S. alone. Dr. Gould is a scientist and a dog lover who will teach us about their evolution.



A WORD ABOUT BOOK DONATIONS

During the weeks just prior to each book sale, our inventory fills all available storage space, making it difficult to process the incoming donations. For this reason, we ask that you delay book donations until after the sale.

Since we often get books we cannot sell, please read our donation guidelines at <https://whitneybookcorner.org/donation-guidelines/>. Thank you!



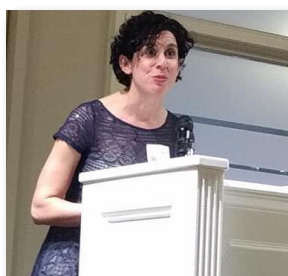
AS SEEN AT THE FRIENDS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



Friends President Madelyn Thorne and her niece, Sarah Carey



Cheryl Cufari and Chris Witkowski announced the One County, One Book Program.



Youth Services Director Kaela Wallman was featured speaker.



Shawn Schultz, Robin Eddy, Tricia Margas and Charlene Roman



Long time volunteer Rudy Dehn

KEEPING UP WITH THE FRIENDS

WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

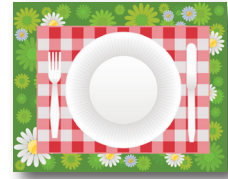
The Whitney has some exciting events coming up in the next few months. We are participating in a Spring Carnival at the end of April, the Schenectady County Recycles Compost Fair & Education Day on Saturday July 28th, ComicCon on July 14th, and will hold our sidewalk sale the weekend of the Italian and Greek festivals.

Sales have been great so far this year. Even with the weather not cooperating, we have total sales of \$15,644.83 through April 2nd. That is an increase of \$3720.79 over last year at the same time.

We are always in need of volunteers! Contact Robin Eddy at rjeddy321@gmail.com if interested.

- Charlene Roman, Manager

VOLUNTEER PICNIC JUNE 1



5-7 PM

Niskayuna River Road Park
Sign up sheets at the
Whitney Book Corner and all
library branches.
Catered by Center Stage Deli

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

Your library card and the Museum Pass Program – working for YOU!



Did you know the National Museum of Dance, located at 99 South Broadway in Saratoga Springs, is the only museum in the country dedicated to dance? The Museum offers a Resource Room, open to the public, with books, periodicals, and other dance research items. The many galleries include yearly rotating exhibits and three permanent exhibits including the Hall of Fame honoring dance pioneers of all types – choreographers, composers, writers, dancers, or patrons.

Did you know the Museum has its own dance school, the School of the Arts, which offers dance classes to all ages, levels and interests? Did you know the Museum offers special programs, events, and workshops throughout the calendar year? The Museum Pass admits two adults and two children to the Museum galleries and a 10% discount at their gift shop. (Special events entrance fees and class tuitions are not included in Museum Pass.) Visit <http://www.dancemuseum.org> and plan your visit this summer.

Information on the library Museum Pass can be found here:
<https://friendsofscpl.org/museum-pass-program/>



AROUND THE LIBRARY

HARRY POTTER DAY TO RETURN - BETTER THAN EVER!



October 27th will be the date for our third annual Harry Potter Day at SCPL, Central branch. Due to the overwhelming success of this event, we realized it has become too large for

the Whitney Book Corner to sponsor by itself. It is now sponsored by Friends of The Library.

In 2017, every class was filled and we had a large waiting list and lines at the library. Adults requested classes for older wizards and witches so this year we will have four new classes, with two classes for adults.

Diagon Alley will now be set up in the library. Many of our vendors were excited to return and we have

many new crafters. Friends and Junior Friends had membership tables last year. Everyone dressed up in the spirit of the event.

New this year is The Harry Potter Escape room. Our fantastic beasts, live owls, lizards and snakes will be back. These are a great hit with everyone. Junior Friends will again be making wands and spell books for sale and the Whitney will have a book table.

We could use help with set up and clean up, people to man the membership table and more. If you would like to volunteer email: BookwormT14@gmail.com

- Shawn Schultz and Charlene Roman, Coordinators

THE FOUNDATION FOR MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARIES ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT RETURNS

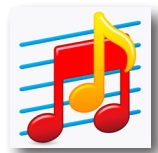
The annual golf tournament sponsored by The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries will be held on May 18th at the Mohawk Golf Club, 1849 Union St., Schenectady. Tee time is 9 a.m. Full information and an entry form can be found here: <https://mvslibraryfoundation.wordpress.com/fundraising/> or by contacting Cheryl Cufari at cufaric@gmail.com or 518-356-0392.

The Foundation helps member libraries of the Mohawk Valley Library System, of which SCPL is a part, by providing small grants for literacy projects. This year the tournament is in memory of Esther Swanker, an original member of the Foundation board as well as the chair of the inaugural tournament 4 years ago.



YOUNG MUSICIANS FORUM

The Young Musicians Forum will showcase Lora Al-Ahmed, piano, on Saturday, May 5 at 2 p.m. at the Niskayuna Branch Library, 2400 Nott St. East, Niskayuna, NY.



The program will feature sonatas by Beethoven, Prokofiev and Schumann, and "Five Anniversaries" by Leonard Bernstein, in honor of his centenary year. The concert is free and open to the public.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RENEWALS AND NEW MEMBERS

SUPPORTING - \$35

Verena Takekoshi

PATRON - \$50-199

Frederick & Sheelagh Baily
Eleanor & Jesse Aronstein
Patricia & Thomas Brady
Rachel Cameron
Anne Christman
Julia Eddy & Dan Mayer
Joe Leonardo
Robert & Mary Liebers
Paul & Deborah O'Brien
Johanna Petersen
Edwin & Jean Reilly
Beryl Rockwell
Pauline Schwartz
Gillian Scott
Louise Steele
Mary Ann Warner

BENEFACTOR-\$200+

George & Joan Gould
Samuel & Carol Wait Jr

NEW MEMBERS

Sara Carey
Maryann Boyer
Patricia & Thomas Brady
Donna & Frederick Doll
Judy Fregoe
Grace Iovinella*
Jaimie Williams-Peterson
Divinia Rambharose*
Will Seyse

**Junior Friend*

DONATIONS

In Memory of Alice
Tepper:
Micael Zisk & Audrey
Tepper
Milton & Joan Boyarsky
Eleanor DeCoursey
Brian Lawlor
The Buff Family
Paula Carosella
Norman & Beverly Francis
Barbara Glick
Ruth Kivitz
Robert Lang
Alfred Buff & Lenore
Nemeth
Susan Meyers
Margaret Moore
Empire State College
Ralph Blackwood
Nancy Nicholas
Marilyn Soffer
Bruce & Janet Wagner

In Memory of Linda
Witkowski:
Nancy Stopera

In Honor of Dorothy Trela:
Dorothy Meyer

In Honor of Linda and
Peter LaPointe:
Thorman Hulse

In Honor of Mary Trivilino
Francesca Durand, Angela
Petitti & Ginger Quinby

Hannaford Bags 4 My
Cause



A Few Items Regarding Your Membership.....

Membership renewal mailings will now be sent out 3 times a year instead of 4. The labels on renewal mailings will have an expiration date printed on them.

Included in the renewal package is a reminder to update addresses and email information. We have begun to use a new email service and ask for your patience while we work out the kinks!

BOOK SALES

Fantastic! Amazing! These two words were often heard to describe the Winter Book Sale. Whether it was partly cabin fever or the great book selection, hundreds of readers came together at the library on February 3 and 4. It was a great success for both the readers in our community and our library.

As always, this huge organizational masterpiece would not be as great without the orchestration abilities of many volunteers. The group is relentless in its pursuit of a successful sale. Endless hours of sorting done

throughout the year prior to the actual sale, organizing the many helpers to push, pull, stack, lift, and then set up the signs, the tables, and then finally the books on the tables. Thousands of books on the tables. After which all of it has to be taken down at the end of the sale!

Each of our dedicated volunteers are delighted with their accomplishment and with knowing their hard work provides the people of our community the tools to become greater through reading. Be sure to come to the Spring sale on May 5 & 6!

- Lisa Esperti

AROUND THE LIBRARY

REELS



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

May

May 2: **Murder on the Orient Express** Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz, Willem Dafoe, Daisy Ridley, Johnny Depp, Michelle Pfeiffer. From the novel by Agatha Christie, what starts out as a lavish train ride through Europe quickly unfolds into one of the most stylish, suspenseful and thrilling mysteries ever told.

May 9: **Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri** Frances McDormand, Abbie Cornish, Woody Harrelson, Lucas Hedges, Sam Rockwell. After months have passed without a culprit in her daughter's murder case, Mildred Hayes makes a bold move, painting three signs leading into her town with a controversial message directed at William Willoughby, the town's revered chief of police.

May 16: **Lady Bird** Saoirse Ronan, Odeya Rush, Kathryn Newton, Laurie Metcalf. The adventures of a young woman living in Northern California for a year.

May 23: **The Shape of Water** Sally Hawkins, Octavia Spencer, Michael Shannon, Richard Jenkins. An otherworldly fairy tale, set against the backdrop of Cold War-era America circa 1962.

May 30: **Call Me by Your Name** Armie Hammer, Timothee Chalamet. In Northern Italy in 1983, seventeen-year-old Elio begins a relationship with visiting Oliver, his father's research assistant, with whom he bonds over his emerging sexuality, their Jewish heritage, and the beguiling Italian landscape.

June



June 6: **The Man Who Invented Christmas** Dan Stevens, Christopher Plummer, Jonathan Pryce. The journey that led to Charles Dickens's creation of *A Christmas Carol*, a timeless tale that would redefine the holiday.

June 13: **Star Wars The Last Jedi** Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Mark Hamill. Having taken her first steps into the Jedi world, Rey joins Luke Skywalker on an adventure with Leia, Finn, and Poe that unlocks mysteries of the Force and secrets of the past.

June 20: **Phantom Thread** Vicky Krieps, Daniel Day-Lewis, Lesley Manville. Set in 1950s London, Reynolds Woodcock is a renowned dressmaker whose fastidious life is disrupted by a young, strong-willed woman, Alma, who becomes his muse and lover.

June 27: **The Post** Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks, Sarah Paulson, Bob Odenkirk, Tracy Letts. Determined to uphold the nation's civil liberties, Katharine Graham, publisher of the Washington Post, and hard-nosed editor Ben Bradlee join forces to expose a decades-long cover-up. However, the two must risk their careers and their freedom to bring truth to light.



VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE



Book Sale - May 4 - setup;
May 5 & 6 - cashier, cleanup
Email Robin Eddy:
rjeddy321@gmail.com.

Membership Mailings -
Email Norrine Thompson:
madmillyknits@gmail.com

Online Books - shipper to work Wednesdays, morning or afternoon. Some lifting of books and walking to the Post Office is required. Computer skills helpful. Training provided. Email Shawn Schultz: bookwormT14@gmail.com



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DATED MATERIAL

SPRING BOOK SALE MAY 5 & 6

**CENTRAL LIBRARY
99 CLINTON STREET
SCHENECTADY**

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

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



FREE COMPUTER CLASSES Central Branch

Microsoft Excel 2013: Basic, Wednesday, May 2, 6-7:30 pm

iPad: Get to Know Your iPad, Tuesday, May 8, 6-7:30 pm

iPad, Part 2: Useful Tips, Tuesday, May 15, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Excel 2013: Intermediate, Wednesday, May 16, 6-7:30 pm

Microsoft Excel 2013: Advanced, Wednesday, May 23, 6-7:30 pm



Register online at www.scpl.org,
at any library location, or by calling
518 388-4511. Registrants must
have a valid SCPL card. The classes
are funded by the Friends of the
Library.