



FRIENDS of FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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<http://my.execpc.com/~berrestr/friends.html>

See Franklin Public Library and Friends' links at <http://www.libdex.com>

An insert to Franklin Public Library's "Check It Out"

March-April, 2003



Happy Spring

Spring is coming, the mornings will be brisk yet for a month or two and then we will have glorious spring, with its blooming flowers, leafing trees and chirping birds. We may have lucked out this winter in not getting much snow, but we have been cold! Spring officially arrives this year in SE Wisconsin, on Thursday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. CST (*The Old Farmer's 2003 Almanac* by Robert B. Thomas).

*March is a boisterous fellow,
And undeterred by fear,
With many pranks proclaims himself
The tomboy of the year!*

Writer Unknown.



St. Patrick's Day

Wear Green and Wish you were Irish.

Easter is April 20 -- the first Sunday following the ecclesiastical full moon that occurs on or following the spring equinox (March 20 or 21). So Easter is a "movable" feast day, which can occur as early as March 22 or as late as April 25.

Calendar / Going Out Our library doings are getting so plentiful that it would take a daily newspaper to keep up with them all. The library staff and Friends' Program Chair, Judy Roberts, have posted many of the programs with displays. Check the kiosk often as new programs are always popping up! Sign up early when a program is offered, or you may be sorry.

Friends Love Library

My favorite part of the new library is the Fadrow Meeting Room. I say that not as a library patron, but as Chair of the Friends' Annual Used Books Sale Committee (held Thurs-Sunday after Labor Day). In the old library, the annual sale would find us with thousands of books stuffed under the sales tables, sometimes in boxes stacked three high. People had to squeeze past each other in the aisles like they were in coach class on an airplane. During the busy times, the room would get a little warm and the air a little stale. Now, in the comparatively vast expanse of the Fadrow Room, our customers can see the books displayed on tables and have fresh air to breathe and room to inhale. **Terrence Berres**, a Friends' Past President, Foundation member, Bibliophile, Counselor, Dad and long-time resident of Franklin.

My favorite spot in the Library is the Cookbook section. Did you ever know anyone who actually "reads" cookbooks? That's me! I love to check out new recipes and give them a try. That's probably why we don't lose any weight!!! **June Jensen**, Friends' Director, Cook Extraordinaire, Traveler, Senior Citizen, Volunteer.

My favorite area of the Library is the front desk/staff work area. There I can visit all my friends, the wonderful people who staff our library. **Char Rod**, former library employee, Friends' member, photographer, Radiology Tech.

My favorite place - the fireplace and fireplace reading area. This sets our library apart from all the rest. Even though it is stately and picturesque, it still manages to promote the idea of taking your favorite reading material to a comfortable chair near the window or fireplace. Remember the old library, where we had only seven chairs for 27,000 people. We have really come a long way. **Jackie Ignatowski**, Library Board member, Friends' member, Law Librarian, Mother and served on the Interiors Committee of the Library.

Favorites (continued)

Our new library has been open for ten months and my favorite area is the spacious Fadrow Meeting Room. It is well equipped to host groups with varied interests, from children's crafts to seminars, and the kitchen facilities are wonderful. **Marcia Zientek**, Friends' member, Master Gardener, Retired Teacher, Neighbor to Legend Park, Volunteer.

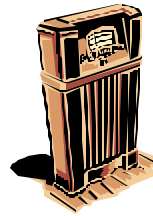
At this moment, my current favorite "service" of the library is the no-cost movies! I can watch old and new movies, and besides that, watch the wonderful children's videos that my grandkids talk about! **Julia Lyon**, Library Board member, Friends' member, retired Asst. Principal at Forest Park Middle School, Mom and proud Grandmamma.

My favorite area is the fireplace seating area and adjacent newspaper/periodical collection. The fireplace seating area is a wonderful, relaxing place to enjoy the ambiance of the entire library. I am especially pleased with the wide selection of periodicals that are available. I subscribe to several magazines, but the collection at the library allows me to read articles from many magazines I don't routinely get. And, you can't beat the price! **Terri Lawler**, President of FPL's Foundation, Business Woman, one of the most organized people in the World and shares her home with her husband, her Mom and her father-in-law!



My favorite area of our new library is the audio book section because I like to listen to books on tape when I am walking. **Karen Brehm**, Friends' Treasurer, Franklin Public Schools teacher, Mom, Reader and Walker.

My favorite area is the Del Sievert Conference Room. It is an elegant, comfortable room for meetings and reflects the aura of our new library! **Anita Nickerson**, Friends' Secretary for numerous years, a young retired 8th grade teacher, Houdini fan, and Lady with an Infectious Smile.



Chapter A Day - On Wisconsin Public Radio, 90.7 on your FM dial in Franklin -- Read Monday-Friday, at 12:30 pm and repeated at 11:00 pm

Monday, Feb. 24 through Friday March 14 ***Unless*** by *Carol Shields*, read by Judith Strasser. Reta Winters, 44 years of age, has started a new sort of life. She has discovered the meaning of loss for the first time. Reta's peaceful and happy world is shattered when her eldest daughter drops out to sit on a street corner with a sign around her neck that says "GOODNESS." Reta's attempt to understand becomes a meditation on meaning and hope.

Monday, March 17 through Friday, March 28 ***Backbone of the World*** by *Frank Clifford*, read by Norman Gilliland. A journey along the Continental Divide, exploring the unforgiving landscape and a disappearing way of life.

Monday, April 7 through Friday April 11 ***The Souls of Black Folk*** by *W.E.B. DuBois*, read by Jim Fleming. Excerpts from the most influential work of one of the foremost black intellectuals of his time.

Monday, April 14 through Friday, April 25 ***Great Dream of Heaven*** by Sam Shepard, read by Karl Schmidt. Sam Shepard won a Pulitzer Prize for his work on Broadway, and brings that understanding of human striving for connection to this collection of stories.

<http://www.portalwisconsin.org/> Be sure to check out the new website of Wisconsin Public Radio -- wonderful links!

Editor's note

If you have any comments, trivia, events, criticisms or news items to add to the FOFPL's newsletter, please communicate them to anyone on FPL's staff or to your editor, Judy Beine, 421-3490. Email is fine too: jbeine@wi.rr.com

LITERARY DATES

March 12 - Jack Kerouac (1922, died October 21, 1969) was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, and published his first novel in 1950, titled The Town and the City. He was strongly influenced in his writing by the beat generation* writers Wm. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg. His best-known work, On the Road (1957) was inspired by cross-country trips taken while under the influence of drugs/drink, as Kerouac was purported to be for most of his life. His novel The Dharma Bums (1958), which describes a mountain climbing trip he and poet Gary Snyder took in Yosemite, contributed to popularizing Zen Buddhism as a philosophy for Bohemian artists in the U.S. In all, Kerouac published over 20 books. *The Beat Generation is a name given to American artists and writers of the 1950s who tended to reject traditional social and artistic forms. Instead they sought artistic expression through multiple intense experiences and gained inspiration through eastern religions such as Buddhism.

March 16, 1850 Nathaniel Hawthorne's story of adultery and betrayal in colonial America, The Scarlet Letter, was published.

March 24, 1955 Tennessee Williams' play Cat on a Hot Tin Roof opened in New York, two days before his 44th birthday. The play would win Williams his second Pulitzer Prize

March 26 Robert Frost (1874; d.1963), who variously wrote sonnets, lyrics, and philosophical poems, and who was much in demand as a speaker. He appeared at JFK's inauguration, attempted to read a poem but the sun was too bright on his paper. Vice Pres. Johnson tried to shield the paper with his top hat. He then recited his poem "The Gift Outright" from memory.

March 30 birthday of English writer Anna Sewall (1820), author of Black Beauty Her book was the first significant children's story in the English language to focus on animal characters and established the precedent for countless other works. Anna Sewall wrote the book during the last seven years of her life, when she became an invalid confined to her home. The book was published shortly before her death in 1878 and became one of the best-loved children's classics of all time. The book was made into a movie three times, in 1946, 1971, and 1994.

April 1, 1816 Jane Austen responded to a letter from the Prince Regent (George III's son) suggesting she write a historic romance, saying, "I could not sit down to write a serious romance under any other motive than to save my life."

April 3 birthday of American writer Washington Irving (1783; d.1859), author of Rip Van Winkle and The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

April 4 birthday of Missouri-born (Arkansas-raised) novelist poet, dramatist, and performer Maya Angelou (1928), born Marguerite Johnson.

April 8 birthday of Annapolis (MD)-born novelist Barbara Kingsolver (1955), who wrote The Bean Trees (1988), Animal Dreams (1990), and The Poisonwood Bible (1998).

April 10, 1906 O. Henry's second short story collection, The Four Million, was published and included one of his most beloved stories, The Gift of the Magi, about a poor but devoted couple who each sacrifice their most valuable possession to buy a gift for the other.



April 21 birthday of English novelist Charlotte Bronte (1816; d.1855), author of Jane Eyre, sister to Anne and Emily, sometimes writing under the name Currer Ellis, best known for novel Jane Eyre (1847).

April 24 birthday of English journalist, essayist, political tract writer, and novelist Daniel Defoe (1659; other sources say Sept. 1660; d.1731), born Daniel Foe.

April 25, 1719 Daniel Defoe's fictional work The Life and Strange Adventures of Robinson Crusoe was published. The book, about a shipwrecked sailor who spends 28 years on a deserted island, is based on the experiences of shipwreck victims and of Alexander Sleeker, a Scottish sailor who spent five years on a small island off the coast of South America in the early 1700s.

April 28 birthday of Alabama-born [Nelle] Harper Lee (1926), who wrote To Kill A Mockingbird.

Booknotes seen at 7:00 pm Sundays on C-Span Ch. 99 on Time-Warner Cable

March 9 Dana Priest, [The Mission: Waging War and Keeping Peace with America's Military](#)

March 16 Michael Howard, [The First World War](#)

Encore Booknotes on C-Span2, Ch. 8 Saturdays at 6:00 pm & repeated Sundays at 10:00 pm

March 8 Michael Paterniti, [Driving Mr. Albert: A Trip Across America with Einstein's Brain](#)

March 15 Sam Roberts, [Who We Are: A Portrait of America](#)

March 22 Suzanne Garment, [Scandal: The Culture of Mistrust in American Politics](#)

Writers on America

Choosing 15 writers who have attained a certain stature for their work, with the group as a whole reflecting the considerable diversity of American writing today, the U.S. State Department commissioned each to write an essay. The assignment: In what sense do you see yourself as an American writer? This site <http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/writers/> presents the essays.

Watch for American Library Association's Baseball Literacy Initiative

The Campaign for America's Libraries is working again in 2003 with major league baseball on a 21st century literacy initiative called "Join the Major League @ Your Library." The initiative will center on an online baseball trivia contest. Players who answer a series of questions correctly are eligible for a grand prize drawing of tickets to the 2003 World Series.

INTERNET SITES YOU'D LIKE

<http://www.mysterynet.com/nancydrew/> In 1930, an American heroine was born -- a teenage detective named Nancy Drew. In the nearly seven decades that have since passed, Nancy has matured from sixteen to eighteen years old while solving over 350 mysteries. This Nancy Drew site features an interactive mystery, chapters from selected books, a Shockwave game, discussion board and Nancy Drew lesson plans. (Surfing the Net with Kids, 02/17/03 -- from Monday Memo -- Arrowhead Library System.)

The Essential Vermeer Lover

<http://essentialvermeer.20m.com/index.htm> Created by painter Jonathan Janson, this website consists of over 250 pages of information on the Dutch artist Johannes Vermeer, broadly categorized into his art, his life, and related research. Examples from the art area are: an illustrated list of Vermeer's paintings in chronological order that includes both thumbnail-size black & white and larger color images, dimensions and locations of the originals, and descriptions excerpted from various art historical texts. In the life section, visitors will find timelines and a biographical sketch of Vermeer. Also at the site are links to additional Web-based and printed resources, a list of international Vermeer events, recent novels and movies inspired by Vermeer, the Vermeer Newsletter, an audio guide to correct Dutch pronunciations, and a children's corner with puzzles, where you can see how fast you can re-assemble Woman in Blue Reading a Letter. (From Arrowhead Library System Monday Memo.)

Schwartz Bookshops

http://www.schwartzbooks.com/authorapps_set.htm Be sure to keep up with the many author appearances at Schwartz' website. Your favorite author may be in town!

Friends of Franklin Public Library are also on line. Be sure to go to Terrence Berres' link <http://my.execpc.com/~berrestr/friends.html> Terry has linked relevant news stories to the website. The Washington Post reports on library budget problems around the country. And, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel publishes some of its items on books on-line. Keep it in your favorites as you can readily link to the County Cat and other reference sites.

FRIENDS NEED MORE FRIENDS:

Our dues are structured as follows:

\$ 5.00 Individual

\$10.00 Family

\$50.00 or more Benefactor

\$25.00 Organization or Business

Bring or mail your dues with your name, address and telephone number to

Friends of Franklin Public Library

Virginia Pete, Membership Chair,

9151 West Loomis Road, Franklin, WI 53132