

*Friends of the
Port Townsend
Library
Newsletter*



"One World" Teen program is a big hit!

We started the summer teen program with games inspired by "Minute to Win It." Thirteen teens participated with enthusiasm, laughter, and friendly competition. Weekly programs included North American geography twister, making homemade tortillas, origami, making rice balls, creating paper beads, a four day art workshop, "Imagine Your World," an aikido demonstration with Paul Becker and an Iron Chef Port Townsend competition. Movie nights were also popular with showings of the documentary, "Darius Goes West" and "Around the World in 80 Days." Teen Writers met weekly with new voices joining the group this summer. Our annual trip to Seattle included a visit to the Seattle Art

Museum to view the Makah cultural exhibit on the wolf. All of the 13 teens had read the Twilight series and this exhibit was the tribe's response to their portrayal in the books. We also visited Uwajimaya and the Pike Place Market. In the words of one participant, "This was a blast!" The grand prize backpack and water bottle was won by Nicole Delong, a veteran member of the Teen Advisory Board, Teen Writers and Readers Anonymous, and the high school book club. Thanks again to the Friends of the Library for their generous ongoing support of teen programs at the library. We couldn't do it without you!

Jody Glaubman



Fall Book Sale

New Hours!

Saturday, October 8
The Community Center
Uptown, Port
Townsend

8 am for FOPTL
members
9 am - 3 pm for
general public

Can you help?
Volunteers are always
appreciated on Friday
night for set up and/or
the sale on Saturday.
If you're interested,
please contact Macy
Mullarky at 379-1061
or macym@olympus.net

← Teens posed in front of the Seattle Art Museum (SAM) this summer. Top row: Nathan Allen, Maria Morrison, D.J. Price
Bottom row: Calli Winter, Ari Winter, Liz Beacham, Nicole Delong, Shelby Clanton, Jade Delong, Savan Delong, Hannah chute, Hunter Clanton, Brandon Webb



What we are reading...

FOPTL Board members are avid readers. Here's a selection of titles we're reading this fall with our observations, mini-reviews, and quotes or blurbs from the book jackets. Ed.

Cheryl Bentley says the narrator of *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson is a 76 year old preacher who is leaving a letter to his almost 7 year old son as an accounting of his life. Awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2005, the author's prose asks the reader to slow down to the pace of an aging man in Gilead, Iowa in 1956. Robinson takes the story away from being simply the reminiscences of one man and moves it into the realm of a meditation on fathers and sons, on faith and on the imperfection of mankind.

Renee Bush is reading *Busman's Honeymoon* by Dorothy L. Sayer, the master of the "golden age" of detective fiction. This read is fun, witty and erudite with an improbable sleuth--definitely not a slice of realism.

Merilee Clunis is reading *Names on a Map* by Benjamin Alire Saenz. She says, "I was *wowed* when I heard

this author read his poetry at this year's Port Townsend Writer's Conference." In this novel, which Saez describes as a "political novel," he describes how the Espejo family of El Paso Texas is torn apart by the Vietnam War. His prose has been described as "elegant," "lyrical," and "luminous" and is well worth the somewhat dark theme.

Ellen Dustman is reading *The Art of Pilgrimage, the Seekers Guide to Making Travel Sacred* by Phil Cousineau. Ellen says, "I found this to be an engaging book filled with beautiful illustrations, inspiring quotes, and 'exercises' to stimulate imagination, all of which gave me the tools to transform every trip, whether to Mecca or Mercer Island, into a spiritual and transformative journey."

Colleen Freidberg is reading *Abide with Me* by Elizabeth Strout. From the author who created the prickly character of *Olive Kittridge* (reviewed in the Summer 2011 newsletter issue), a similarly dark but poignant story set in 1950's New England. When the young Rev. Tyler Caskey arrives in town with his voluptuous bride, tongues wag and before long Tyler finds himself widowed with 2 young children and an increasingly disenchanting flock. Religion, sex and enough suspense to grab and hold your interest.

Kathleen Hawn had two books on her nightstand, so it was the editor's choice -- *Silver Girl* by Elin Hilderbrand. Kathleen says this was supposed to be her mindless "summer read" escape, but the book manages to offer some intriguing insight. The main character is the wife of a Bernie Madoff-type, and is left adrift in his catastrophic wake. She is left literally homeless, penniless, and--for the most part--friendless. But an estranged childhood friend comes to her rescue, and takes her away from the city to hide. Will she be able to salvage the

rest of her life, and get reconnected with her two grown sons once the threats, investigations and turmoil subside? We'll see...

Linda Martin is reading *The Snowman* by Jo Nesbo. Nesbo is another Scandinavian crime writer and recipient of the "Glass Key Award" for best Nordic crime novel (previously awarded to Stieg Larsson and Henning Mankell). Nesbo lives in Oslo. Martin was also inspired by Michael Connelly's book jacket blurb: "Jo Nesbo is my new favorite thriller writer and Harry Hole my new hero."

Macy Mullarky is reading *The Hare with the Amber Eyes* by Edmund de Waal. Macy says it is a tough book to describe, so she quotes the *New York Times Book Review*. "There is much wit and dramatic instinct to relish in these pages. But the intelligence and creativity with which de Waal constructs a family history are what make this special book so supremely winning."

Geralynn Rackowski is reading *Distant Hours* by Kate Morton. A long lost letter arrives in the post and Edie Burchill finds herself on a journey to Milderhurst Castle, a great moldering old house, where the Blythe spinsters live and her mother was billeted 50 years before as a 13 year old child during WWII. The elder Blythe sisters are twins and have spent most of their lives looking after the third and youngest sister, Juniper, who hasn't been the same since her fiancé jilted her in 1941. Inside the decaying castle, Edie begins to unravel her mother's past. But there are other secrets hidden in the stones of Milderhurst, and Edie is about to learn more than she expected. The truth of what happened in 'the distant hours' of the past has been waiting a long time for someone to find it.



Photo by Barney Burke

Since the Jefferson County Library bond failed at the polls, we have had to adjust our capital campaign plan and approach each phase in isolation, to be completed on a “pay as you go basis.” Our first phase will be the interior renovation of the Pink House. The second will

From the Library Director: Theresa Rini Percy

be the seismic retrofit of the historic Carnegie Library and renovation of its exterior envelope, which will require the Library to relocate to a temporary space. The funding for the first two phases is in place so long as there are no other delays. However those phases alone will not result in the additional 12,700 square feet we need to fully serve the community.

The third phase would be a re-organization of the existing interior library to allow us to continue to serve in that space until the addition can be built. In theory, the Library operations could return from its temporary relocation space when this phase is complete. This interim phase would not be necessary if the project were completed as originally planned, so there is an economic cost to the delay. The fourth phase would be the South Site Renovation which includes the Lawrence Street frontage with infrastructure improvements.

The fifth and most important phase, when funds are available, is construction of the new addition and interior renovation of the existing library. Obviously, at that point the

Library operations would have to relocate for a second time. While the FEMA grant funds will cover the first relocation caused by the seismic retrofit, they would not cover this second relocation, thus increasing the project costs. However, the project phases can change as funding becomes available.

The first Phase of the library campus project was launched at the end of August with a major celebration highlighting the new role of the Pink House as a library learning center for programs and workshops. At this event, library foundation president, Cameron McPherson, presented a check for \$149,000 from the capital campaign to Mayor Sandoval for the renovation of the Pink House. The construction will begin in October and will be completed by the end of the year.

Thanks to all who have contributed both big and small to the campaign. We are on our way, pressing on with the capital campaign fundraising with an eye on the prize -- the new wing! If you want to be part of this exciting dream please contact me at the library. 360-344-3054.

Fire Levy's impact on City Services

Library support groups need to be aware of the importance of the upcoming city Fire Service Levy measure on the November 8 election ballot. As the City fire department has been gradually merging with Fire District 1 to operate as the East Jefferson Fire Rescue, a disparity has arisen between what city residents are paying in taxes to support emergency services and what Fire District taxpayers pay.

Without the additional levy, there is about a \$625,000 annual shortfall in what city taxpayers cover, despite the fact that more than half the calls for service (about 60%) occur within the city. The city is required by contract to pay its share of emergency costs. The November levy lid

lift measure would fill this gap. If the city becomes fully annexed to the fire district, the levy would end (“sunset”) and City residents would become voting members of the Fire District.

If the levy fails, the City will need to make up to \$625,000 in service cuts to police, public works, parks and other programs in order to cover necessary payments to the Fire District. Since our library expansion project is an upcoming city capital project, we need to be aware that there are implications for us in the outcome of this levy.

Linnea Patrick, Vice-President
Port Townsend Public Library Foundation



Read around the World! Summer Reading Program

Thanks to the generous support of our wonderful Friends of the Library, we held another very successful summer of reading activities for youth. Over a thousand children participated in more than 50 program offerings throughout the summer. New this summer, and to the delight of kids and parents alike, the science classes offered by the Museum of Flight and the Pacific Science Center were a big hit. What kid doesn't get excited about building robots and blowing up volcanoes? *World Crafts*,

Book Chat and Snack, and *Read to Rover* were also popular weekly programs. One of the highlights at the end of the summer was our root beer float party at the new downtown Cotton Building. During the party we held the drawing for the winners of the three mountain bikes donated by the Port Townsend Masonic Lodge#6. Pascale, Emerald, and Ella were thrilled with their new bikes, making this a very special summer.

We heard many positive comments about our reading program this summer. An enthusiastic grandmother thanked us for all the engaging programs in which her visiting granddaughter participated, especially the *Just Right for You* reading readiness program for preschoolers entering kindergarten and kindergartners entering 1st grade. Grant Street Reading Specialist Mary Sepler was our partner in this school/library collaboration. This year we received a Cultural Literacy

grant from the Thrive by Five Washington Foundation to help fund this special reading program. We gave away over 300 free books to more than 160 enthusiastic readers, purchased board books for babies, and hired Mirandy Cook to develop math/science lesson plans to incorporate in our weekly reading readiness activity sessions. One participating parent said she found the learning strategies presented for teaching her kids to read very helpful. Another said that her child became motivated just by coming to the Library and participating in the program's group activities.

We appreciate all the support we receive from our community of library friends. We look forward to the remodeling of the new Library Meeting House and the exciting potential for existing and new programming for youth.

Jean-Marie Tarascio
Youth Services Librarian

FALL BOOK SALE -- NEW HOURS

The final book sale for 2011 will be held **Saturday, October 8**, at the Community Center in Uptown. We are going to increase the hours to **3pm** to give the public more time to buy bags of books for \$2.50. If we can generate enough interest and income during this additional hour we will increase our hours for future sales.

Would you like to help? Volunteers are always appreciated on Friday night for set up and/or the sale on Saturday. If interested, please contact Macy Mullarky at 379-1061 or (macym@olympus.net)

Reminder: Memberships for the Friends' of the Library expire May 31st each year. If you have not yet renewed, come early, renew and have "first dibs" at the books.

Individual membership: \$10.00
Family membership: \$20.00



It's not too late to donate your "gently used" books for the upcoming sale. Bring these books to the Library by October 6 or to the Uptown Community Center between 5 and 6 pm Friday, October 7.

NOTE: *If you love books and like supporting the library, there are several important volunteer opportunities available between book sales. Interested? Contact Macy.*

“USEFUL KNOWLEDGE”

by Dick Conway

When “a small group of local women” gathered in 1898 to found what was to become our Port Townsend Carnegie Library, they called for a library that would provide for the “dissemination of useful knowledge.” We can only guess what the ladies would have considered sufficiently useful. Books on sailing, no doubt. Perhaps a volume on Victorian manners or architecture. Surely a work on English usage by Webster or McGuffey.

But my guess is that Port Townsend’s serious and far-sighted society ladies had something deeper in mind, something useful for the spirit as well as the brain. What books, they must have asked, would enable our citizens to understand themselves and the past in the context of a new state in a new century?

Once the answer was simple: the Bible contained all the stories, the history, even the science that medieval persons needed to know. It was of course written in Latin, “the language of God.” After the Renaissance, knowledge of the literature of Greece and Rome became a necessary part of one’s education. As the twentieth century dawned, Western society began to perceive itself in a new way. The

medieval worldview, which had been essentially that of the ancient world, had been shattered by new concepts in every field of learning.

On the other side of America from Port Townsend, the president of Harvard College, Charles Eliot, addressing the same problem of “useful knowledge,” declared that “the elements of a liberal education could be obtained by reading 15 minutes a day from a collection of books that could fit on a three-foot shelf.” And thus in 1909 were born the Harvard Classics, a distillation of the world’s greatest literature into 51 volumes. At almost the same decade, John Dewey designed a model curriculum for public school students that was adopted so widely that for 40 years students from Maine to Minnesota and from Alabama to Arizona were reading Longfellow in 8th grade, *As You like It* in 9th, and *Silas Marner* in 10th, to cite but a few examples.

College students in the 1950s remember the Modern Library Series, “The Best of the World’s Best Books.” These compact, hardbound volumes were handsome and sturdy—and best of all, cheap. Conceived in 1923 by Clifton Fadiman as an alternative to the Harvard series, the Modern Library priced each book at 95 cents in an admirable attempt to bring the canon into every home, or at least into every college student’s room. And

the price stayed at 95 cents for 23 years! When the series ceased in 1963, the books were still a mere \$1.95 each, or about \$12 in today’s dollars, still a bargain. Jumping into the canon fray at mid-century—and eventually supplanting the good old Modern Library—were the Penguin Classics from Great Britain and the Great Books series from the University of Chicago. The Penguin Classics first appeared in 1946 and now number over a thousand volumes. Dr. Eliot claimed his classics could be contained by a five-foot shelf (he had to revise upward from his original claim of three feet); and the Great Books project that came out of Chicago in 1952 was only 54 large volumes. But the Penguin Classics would now require almost 80 feet of shelf space, filling every row of two very large bookcases in your living room.

The founding ladies could never have imagined their library would eventually hold 48,581 books and 5,574 periodicals and still need room for more. Nor could they have foreseen a willingness to read books on a computer screen from an “Anytime Library.”

But I’m quite sure they would heartily endorse our new capital campaign. I picture them in a quiet, book-lined room in Heaven, whispering, “Go for it, Port Townsend!”



Sarah Muirhead

Editor · Proofreader · Wordsmith

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360.385.6706 wordfiddler@olympus.net

合氣道

A Japanese Martial Art

290 10th St., in Boat Haven,
across Sims Way from Henery
Hardware, Port Townsend.

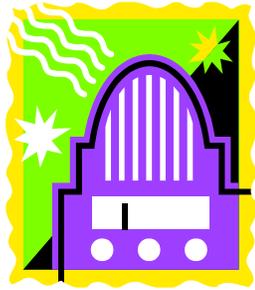


(360) 385-1457

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Book Lover's Cafe on KPTZ Radio

by Cris Wilson



The Port Townsend Public Library has partnered with the new community radio station KPTZ 91.9 FM to produce a radio show of book reviews and interviews. It is called Book Lover's Cafe and is hosted by Collections and Programs librarian Cris Wilson. It is produced and edited by long time library volunteer and friend Colleen McCaffrey. The first show aired on opening weekend May 15 and featured an interview with author Jay Asher. The June show discussed Historical Fiction and featured an interview with Susan Vreeland author of *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*. In July, Cris interviewed 5 local residents as well as local author and garden educator Mary Robson. In August and September one show interviews Doug Rose, local fishing author, and several Port Townsend fishermen as well as Holly Hughes, our fishing poet! The interviews are saved as podcasts on the library website. As well as interviews, Cris lets everyone in on the hot new releases and what is high on the bestseller lists. The radio station has not developed a program schedule so the program is aired after the 12:00 Community Calendar sometime during the 2nd week of the month! The Community calendar does announce library events at 8 am and 12 pm. We have also taped a program with the library architect

Jim Cary, Director Theresa Percy, and Historical Preservation Committee member Gee Heckscher to discuss the Port Townsend Library Expansion project and the renovation of the Library Meeting House. It aired several times in August.

Coming events at the Port Townsend Library

Book Lover's Café meets on the first Monday of every month at 2:30 at the Community Center Lounge. Everyone welcome -- call Cris Wilson for more information. 379-4441

Sept. 12 "Cutting for Stone"

Oct. 3 " My Stroke of Insight"

Nov. 7 "People of the Book"

Dec. 5 "The Big Burn"

Author Talks

Claire Dederer, author of "Poser: My Life in Twenty-Three Yoga Poses"

Thurs. Sept. 22, 7 pm - Port Townsend Library

Jonathan Evison, author of "West of Here"

Tues. Oct. 18, 7 pm Port Townsend Library

Ross Chapin, author of "Pocket Neighborhoods"

Tues. Nov. 15, 7 pm.

Letter from the President

Geralynn Rackowski

(This is an excerpt of an article by Bob Greene for CNN on-line.
http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/08/21/greene.books/index.html?hpt=hp_c2)

Are you a person who loves to read books? If so, you're set for life. It's one of those things most of us seldom pause to think about...The digital revolution, as exciting as it is, has made the publishing industry exceedingly nervous about the economics of its enterprise, and about what will become of traditional books, the ones printed on paper and bound between covers. Stand-alone book review sections in newspapers have, with a few exceptions, all but disappeared.

So what, exactly, is there to be cheery about if you're a book lover? Just this: There are so many wonderful books that have been written over the centuries, books that will thrill you and make you cry and change you and bring laughter to you and keep you up all night. Even if you did nothing else for the rest of your life but read, you would only be able to get to the most infinitesimal percentage of books that you would be destined to adore. They're just waiting for you -- waiting to be found, right now.

And in most cases, even in these rugged and scary economic times, they're free. "The serendipity, the discovery inherent in finding books on a public library shelf," Molly Raphael, president of the American Library Association, was saying to me the other afternoon. "The act of walking alongside a shelf of books

with their spines facing out toward you, and reaching for one and starting to look through it...."

The cult and culture of newness in our society has made us too willing to believe that "new" automatically equates to "good." A book that was stirring and lovely when it was written -- whether 15 years ago or 60 years ago or 150 years ago -- does not lose its power just because it sits on a library shelf for decades at a time with no one pulling it out. The great majority of books in any city or small-town public library are not currently being discussed on television or radio talk shows; the authors are not on tour. But, years ago, someone decided for a reason that those books were meant to be bound between hard covers. The reason was that the writing inside was intended to last.

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- NEW MEMBER
- RENEWAL

If you would like to volunteer, we'd love to have you. Please indicate your area(s) of interest:

- Book sales
- Membership drives
- Fundraising events
- In-library service
- Newsletter / publicity
- Rhody parade
- Special events/Advocacy
- I have an idea, call me!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RUNS FROM JUNE 1ST UNTIL MAY 31ST. DUES MAY BE PAID AT THE LIBRARY, AT THE BOOK SALE OR BY COMPLETING THIS FORM AND SENDING IT WITH YOUR CHECK, MADE OUT TO "FOPTL" OR, "FRIENDS OF THE PORT TOWNSEND PUBLIC LIBRARY," TO:

FRIENDS OF THE
PORT TOWNSEND LIBRARY
1220 LAWRENCE ST.
PORT TOWNSEND, WA 98368

Welcome New Friends!

Since our last newsletter was published, the following people have joined as new members of the Friends of the Port Townsend Library:

Tim Black
Paula & Jay Clark
Kathy & Ken Dane
Tom Dannenfelser
Alice Duffy & Beth Aspedon
Mike Hamilton
Anthony & Betty Harriman
Barbara Larsen
Teresa & Tim Lawson
John Miller
Sheryl Morgenstern
Dean Murphy
Mary & Rick Sepler
Pam Street

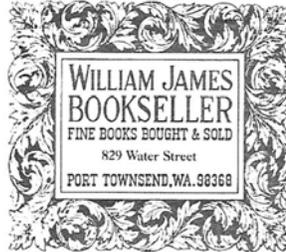
Many thanks to all our continuing members and our newest members for supporting our local library programs through your dues.

UPTOWN
PHYSICAL
THERAPY

SPORTS / ORTHO / INDUSTRIAL
MANUAL THERAPY
PILATES BASED EXERCISE / REHAB

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SVEN SOLVIK, PT, CSCS, OCS
GAIL MACIEJEWSKI, MSPT, OCS
SARAH GROSSMAN, MSPT
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Port Townsend, Wa.

**Friends of the
Port Townsend Library
1220 Lawrence St.
Port Townsend, WA
98368
360.385.3181
www.ptpubliclibrary.org**

Library Hours:

**Monday thru Thursday
10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**



Friends of the Port Townsend Library (FOPTL)

provides services, programs, and materials for the library that are beyond the means of the city budget, for the cultural and educational enrichment of the community. FOPTL publishes three newsletters each year -- spring, summer, and fall. Members may receive their newsletter via email or post. Any library patron can read the publication at www.ptpubliclibrary.org or pick up a printed copy at the Port Townsend Library.

If you want more detailed information on the Friends, please attend an FOPTL Board meeting, held on the second Wednesday each month, 4:30 pm, at the Charles Pink House (next to the Library, at the corner of Lawrence and Harrison.) The next meeting is Wednesday, October 12, 2011. If you are interested in a Board position, or any other volunteer activity, please phone Geralynn at 385-1206.

Board Members

President: Geralynn Rackowski
Vice President: Cheryl Bentley
Secretary: Merilee Clunis
Treasurer: Phyllis Mareckworth

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Membership: Cheryl Bentley
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Kathleen Hawn

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