

*Friends of the
Port Townsend
Library
Newsletter*



**Community Read 2011:
*The Forest Lover***

by Linnea Patrick

Port Townsend's sixth annual Community Read will feature the novel, *The Forest Lover*, by Susan Vreeland. The program begins March 5 with an Opening Reception at Northwinds Arts Center and continues through March 24 when the author presents at Port Townsend High School. Vreeland will read from her book and be available to sign copies purchased at the event. *The Forest Lover* is now available for loan from the Port Townsend Public Library and for purchase at William James Bookseller.

The Forest Lover is Susan Vreeland's fictionalized account of the life of Canadian artist Emily Carr. Leaving her home in Victoria, she painted at a time when her native British Columbia was being industrialized and the Canadian government was actively trying to eradicate Indian cultures. Rebellious against the Victorian restrictions of the era, Carr spent much time in the forest trying

to capture a way of life that was quickly disappearing. Her paintings paved the way for other modern women artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe and Frida Kahlo. In *The Forest Lover*, Emily Carr seeks to encounter and understand the British Columbian wilderness, and struggles to find a way to express her profound and complex feelings for it. In defying public scorn and hypocrisy by painting Native villages and totem poles, she is caught in a dilemma of appropriating the very culture she reveres.

Raffle for an overnight visit to Emily Carr sites in Victoria: For the whole month of March, the Friends of the Port Townsend Library will be selling raffle tickets at the library. Author Susan Vreeland will draw the name of the winner at her presentation March 24.

For Vreeland's description of the *The Forest Lover*, and how she came to write it, go to: <http://www.svreeland.com/gen-fl.html>



For information on FREE related special events, pick up a copy of the brochure at the Library or go to the Library WebPages and click on the [Calendar of Community Read Events](http://ptpubliclibrary.org/ResearchTools/CR%20Brochure%20.pdf) <http://ptpubliclibrary.org/ResearchTools/CR%20Brochure%20.pdf>

SPRING BOOK SALE!

Saturday March 12
At the Port Townsend
Community Center (Uptown)
Members 8-9 am
General public 9 am – 2 pm

Can you help? We invite you to join us, Friday night at 5 pm for setup, or Saturday, for book lover opportunities. If you are interested, call Macy Mullarky at 379-1061 or Email macym@olympus.net

The Friends of PT Library Annual Report 2010

by GERALYNN RACKOWSKI

In 2010, the Friends teamed closely with the staff and Foundation and Advisory Boards on the capital campaign. This strengthened all of our enthusiasm for our library. It deepened the understanding of how much our library contributes to the fabric of community life in Port Townsend.

While working on the capital campaign we have also pursued the Friends of the Port Townsend Library goal to raise money in support of the Port Townsend Public Library. Through the gracious generosity of community members, the Friends add substantially to the services our Library provides each year. We work diligently to extend the value of city residents' tax dollars by providing money for programs not covered or anticipated in the municipal budget. Book Sales, Membership dues, community grants and special fund raisers during the year help keep the Friends coffers producing wonderful programs for all ages.

Here are some of the programs these funds supported in 2010:

* The Community Read where everyone is encouraged to read, discuss and attend programs about a single book and the ideas it generates- the book for 2010 was Linda Greenlaw's *The Hungry Ocean*. The library partnered with the NW Maritime center.

The book for 2011 is Susan Vreeland's *The Forest Lover* and new for 2011, a special community read for teens.

- * Author readings for both children and adults
- * Summer reading programs
- * Teen Programs
- * Homework help
- * Story tellers
- * Baby, wobbler and toddler story hours

- * Adult book groups
- * Books on Wheels
- * Knitting program
- * Job Hunting and Entrepreneurial Skill Programs
- * Healthy eating series with Jefferson County Library
- * Treats for patrons at various holiday and volunteer celebrations

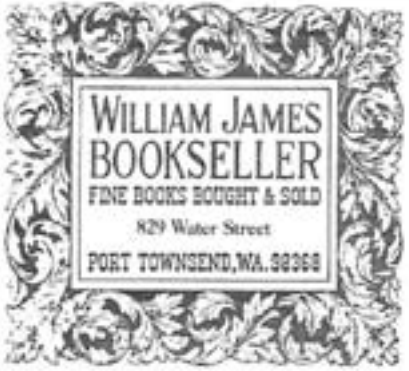
Suggestions for programs can be made to the Librarians or to the Friends.

Friends Membership forms are available at the library checkout desk.

	Income	Expense	Net
Book Sale	\$9,948	\$1281	\$8667
Fund Raisers	\$1,171	\$1100	\$71
Membership	\$6,718	\$ 235	\$6483
Other Income	\$ 558		
Designated Income*	\$16,035	\$17,273	\$1238
Library Programs		\$7506	
Office Supplies,			
Newsletter, Misc		\$920	
Grant to PTL			
Foundation**		\$3000	

* Designated Income is from grants and money raised for a specific program; e.g., Community Read, Summer Reading, Books for Babies Program, Healthy Eating Grant, Hard Times Grant for job search and work related resources. The Net is this year's income minus expenses. There was income carried forward from 2009 to cover the expense, not a deficit.

** The first priority of the Friends is supporting library programs, some money raised over and above that need is granted to the Library Foundation for library purchases that are outside the scope of city budget.



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From the Library Director: Theresa Rini Percy



Photo by Barney Burke

Welcome to the Next 100 years: The Capital Campaign for the Port Townsend Public Library! Let's Rebuild Our Carnegie Library!

The year 2010 launched the Port Townsend Public Library's capital campaign to support the restoration of the historic Carnegie building and the construction of a new expanded wing for the library's ever expanding collections, programs and services. Today, public libraries make our communities enlightened, enriched, caring, and compassionate places to live and work. They are also "anchor" institutions that have stepped up to meet critical community needs. The Port Townsend Public Library is one such library which serves and benefits its community by providing help for job

seekers and the unemployed, access to grant and funding resources, strong youth programs that foster early childhood and teen literacy, dynamic thematic adult programs that encourage learning and energetic discussion as well as just plain entertainment, and seven day- a-week access to computers and to diverse collections of print, media, and digital resources. It is the success of these programs and services that can no longer be contained in the existing square footage. It is this very success that underscores the capital expansion and improvement project and is the driver of this enormous community effort to rebuild this library for the future of the Port Townsend. I invite all of you to participate in this campaign by

making a pledge and/or volunteering your time and resources. Together we can succeed and give the community the library it needs and deserves.

In May, the City Council voted to approve the library capital project through the design development phase and sanctioned the beginning of the "quiet phase" of the private portion of the fundraising campaign. With great success and some trepidation, the Port Townsend Library Foundation launched the official kick off of the capital campaign with a preview event honoring past and current donors and featuring Susan Hildreth, City Librarian at the Seattle Public Library and soon to be the Director of the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. Ms Hildreth presented an exciting vision of the future of libraries and their expanded role in the communities they serve. This event was followed by a public unveiling of the new design by project architect Jim Cary and a

forum for public comment and questions. With the official campaign ceremonies completed, the library community is energized to join forces with the city to successfully complete the project fund raising goal in time to cut the ribbon on the 100th anniversary of the Carnegie building, October 14, 2013.

Another highlight of the year was the Port Townsend Public Library and the Port Townsend School District's innovative partnership to collaborate and share resources for the improvement of library services for students and for the community. Through a regular planning process which promises to maximize and leverage resources of both organizations, efforts are underway to coordinate in the areas of programming, collections, and professional development. In addition, the library as part of a joint application submitted by the Washington State Library, received a federal stimulus award for greater broadband which will dramatically increase the library's capacity to provide expanded and faster internet service that can handle digital downloads and other online services such as teleconferencing.

Check out our new and improved website!!!! The recreation and updating of the library website was a significant accomplishment of the year. With funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation the website was not only given a new look but a new purpose. By investing in this new look the website was reconfigured to provide easier access and designed to be the "go to" place for library events programs, and services. Please check out all of the easy to use features on the website including searching the catalog for new bestsellers, finding out about all

(continued on next page)

(From the Director, continued)
of the exciting programs for babies, teens, and adults, and learning about our new centers for job seekers and grant research, and much, much more. www.cityofpt.us

Finally, the library, once again, finished the year with over the top numbers. Circulation rose from 263,290 to 275,522, continuing to place the library as one of the top two libraries in the state of Washington for highest circulation per capita. In attendance, the library continues to average over 500 people

entering its doors each day or more than 5 percent of the city's total population. Other impressive usage statistics include: 44,711 people used the library's computers; presented 656 free public programs, with over 13,153 adults, teens, and children attending; and conducted 190 retirement-home deliveries, serving 2,813 individuals. These figures reflect the critical role the library continues to play in peoples' lives and gives credence to the role of the library for the next 100 years s one of providing free and equal access to unlimited opportunity and learning.

Postscript:

The library could not possibly operate at such a high level of service without the hard work of all of its individual volunteers and support groups including the Friends of the Library, Port Townsend Public Library Foundation, and Library Advisory Board. Thank you one and all. Together, we can succeed in expanding the library for the next 100 years!

Theresa Rini Percy




First Teen Community Read comes to Port Townsend

by Jody Glaubman


Thanks to a generous grant from the Paul Allen Family Foundation, Port Townsend Library is launching its very first Teen Community Read March 21st. The Library will distribute 400 copies of *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher to Port Townsend teens. Besides reading and discussing the book, teens will be invited to submit written responses to the story, participate in one of the open art workshops, or immerse themselves in a theater experience related to the book. Twenty teens will be chosen at random to read their work at Undertown during

Gallery Walk on May 7. All writings will be compiled into a zine; teen art will be shown at Undertown, The Boiler Room and Jefferson Community School; and the theater presentations will be happening around PT during April. The Read concludes May 6 when author Jay Asher speaks at Port Townsend High School. This Teen Read is made possible by a grant from the Paul Allen Family Foundation's new library initiative, "Making Connections." With this project, PT library continues to reach out to teens, not only to inspire them, but also to learn from them. Questions about the Teen Read? Call Jody at 385-3181.



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The Friends of PT Library Support the Library Capital Campaign

Our beloved library is bursting at the seams. As one of the most frequently used libraries in this state, the Port Townsend Public Library has outgrown its spaces; program, patron, and shelf space. Books – the historic mainstay of libraries, are squeezed on the shelves. Many



popular and dynamic library programs are held in other city locations, since there is minimal seating available here.

Yes, the printing of paper books is continually decreasing, which makes adaptation to new formats and technology more vital.

Library and personal computers are extensively used at our facility. For many patrons, today's hard times have increase the need for Internet connection outside the home – for informational, occupational and network access.

The Library supports all ages, incomes, ideologies, educational levels and interests. It is truly the place that serves all people, and supports our democracy. Library

use for an ever-widening variety of service expands. Librarians play an important, evolving role at our library, helping patrons (of all ages) search for employment opportunities, and to aid in deciphering fact from opinion on the Internet.

“When our schools are in such need, why expand the Library?” is an oft-asked question. Our librarians are collaborating with PT public school librarians and paraprofessionals to ensure that our children and youth have the necessary skills and resources to succeed in their lifelong pursuit of learning. Our public library wholeheartedly supports our public schools through special programs, and future collaboration between the school and public library catalogs.

While the Friends of the Library board focuses, as always, on the Friends' mission to raise funds for Library programming, each Board member individually has supported the PT Library Foundation's Capital Campaign financially with small to large contributions, believing this to be a worthy and necessary endeavor. In addition, many Board members also volunteer in various aspects of the Capital Campaign, including fundraising, events planning and staging, publicity, architectural review and input.

We encourage our membership to support the Port Townsend Public Library Foundation Capital Campaign. Give now so our library will continue to serve our community for the next 100 years.

Geralynn Rackowski

President, Friends of the PT Library

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The Passion of Artemisia

by Susan Vreeland

Reviewed by Dick Conway

The most valuable class I ever took was simply called “Humanities.” It was a year-long course, surveying the human expression in art and literature, from the caves of Lascaux and the myth of Gilgamesh to the postmodern worlds of Picasso and Pirandello.

To cover both literature and art, the college had to employ two teachers, a specialist in each. That wouldn’t have been necessary had Susan Vreeland been on the faculty.

Ms. Vreeland, this year’s Community Read author, majored in literature in college and taught it for 30 years in San Diego. She has made no formal study of art, but—perhaps even better—after a transformative experience in the Louvre at 25, she began to live in the world of the Great Masters. Eventually she wrote novels about them, first Vermeer, then Artemisia, Renoir, and in 2004 our Community Read book about Emily Carr, *The Forest Lover*.

One can only imagine how she must have made the works of literature come alive for her students. But to see how she brings the works—and the painters—of art alive for the reader, you have only to open one of her books.

If you choose *The Passion of Artemisia* (as I did at our editor’s urging), you will soon be walking the streets of 17th century Rome and Florence with Artemisia Gentileschi, the first great woman painter of the Renaissance. You will meet Galileo, Michelangelo the Younger, and Cosimo de’ Medici. You will learn the craft and the hardships of a painter’s life in an age when art was venerated but the artisan was a second-class citizen. And in every facet of Artemisia’s experience 400 years ago, you will feel both the peril of a woman’s life and the exaltation of an artist’s. Her female subjects, such as Judith or Susanna (which you may see for yourself with one click on Wikipedia), are bold, confident, not intimidated by the masculine world.

In the book, as in life, Artemisia suffers disgrace at the hands of a rapist, is forced into a marriage of convenience, moves to Florence from Rome, and there achieves unprecedented success, becoming the first woman elected to the Academia dell’ Arte. She moves eventually to Genoa, Naples, and London (in England the historical Artemisia was in great demand as a portraitist). Wherever she goes, Artemisia, our narrator, paints a word picture for the reader; we hear the streets of Rome, see the magnificence of Florence, and smell the putrid ooze of the Arno in summer.

Best of all, Artemisia articulates the existential feeling at the heart of an artist, what stirred Vermeer, Renoir, Emily Carr, and the young Vreeland in the Louvre.



Detail from “The Martyr”

“We’ve been lucky,” Artemisia says to her artist father at the end of his life. “We’ve been able to live by what we love. And to live painting, as we have, wherever we have, is to live passion and imagination and connection and adoration, all the best of life—to be more alive than the rest.” More, I take it, than those who never took Humanities.

Dick Conway is a retired college English professor. A native of Western Pennsylvania, he spent most of his life in Colorado before moving to Port Townsend in 2000. He has published essays, fiction, memoir and poetry. In 2004 his one-act play was produced in the Port Townsend Playwright Festival. Ed.

Spring Book Sale – 2011

by Macy Mullarky

It’s that time of year again! Our first used book sale of 2011 will take place on Saturday, March 12, at the Port Townsend Community Center.

8 am for FOPTL members

9 am -2 pm for the general public

Thanks to the generous contribution of Saxon McClelland’s book collection (ninety boxes of great craft books and mysteries); we outdid ourselves at the last sale, bringing in more money for library programs than ever before! Some of her books were held back for this upcoming sale, so come and see what you can find.

Even though we had a large quantity of books to set up for the sale, a great volunteer turnout accomplished the task in about an hour. If you have never helped with the book sale, I invite you to join us, either on Friday night at 5 pm for setup or on Saturday, for various book lover opportunities! It’s fast, fun and, afterwards, six books can be purchased for a dollar apiece. If you are interested give Macy Mullarky a call at 379-1061, or email her at macym@olympus.net.

We can always use more Friends of the PT Library

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- 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!

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New Friends of the PT Library!

Since our Fall 2010 newsletter was published, the following people have joined as new members of the Friends of the Port Townsend Library:

Jodie Barbour	Bruce & Michelle Fleet	Nancy Johnson & Bob	Nancesca & Ray
Joan Broughton	Sharon Garrels	Walthers	Schroff
Dan & Lys Burden	Carol Graves	Peggy Myre & Tony	Richard Seizer
Donna Coffey	Sue & Jon Griffin	Petrillo	Pat Stanley
Alberdina de Boer	Kathleen Holt	Michael Pruden	Diane & Bob Threlkeld
Shawn & Jamie Dehner	Mary Jacobson	Liz Reutlinger	Marzee Wade
Kathy Edwards	Amber Jeppesen	Bev Rosenow	

Thank you to all our continuing members and our newest members for supporting our local library programs through your membership dues.

Friends of the
Port Townsend Library
1220 Lawrence St.
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www.cityofpt.us/library/

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.cityofpt.us/library/ 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, March 9, 2011. If you are interested in any of the vacant Board positions, or any other volunteer activity, please phone Geralynn at 385-1206.

Board Members:

President: Geralynn Rackowski

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Secretary: (vacant)

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Hospitality: Gwen Lovett

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