

September, 1971

Vol. VII No. 1

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 22 The Frozen World. First film in the complete series, Civilisation, in color to be presented by the Schenectady County Public Library on 13 consecutive Wednesday evenings. Ours is the first library in New York State to show the films for free public viewing. Meeting room, Central Library - 8:00 p.m.
- Sept. 27 Books Sandwiched In sponsored by the Friends of the Library begins its fall series. Lloyd Leake, Educational Opportunity Coordinator, Schenectady Community College will review John Neary's Julian Bond and Black Rebel and Charles Evers (Ed. by Grace Halsell) by Evers. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Sept. 29 The Great Thaw, second film in the Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library, 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 4 Books Sandwiched In. America Incorporated by Mintz and Cohen presented by Leo Jandreau, former business agent, Local 301. IUE-AFL-CIO. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Oct. 6 Romance and Reality, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 13 Man - The Measure of All Things, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.
- Oct. 18 Books Sandwiched In. Mrs. Selden Cray will discuss two books about Emily Dickinson: The Hidden Life of Emily Dickinson by John E. Walsh and After Great Pain by the psychiatrist Dr. John Cody. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Oct. 20 The Hero as Artist, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.
- Nov. 1 Books Sandwiched In. Elizabeth Janeway's Man's World, Woman's Place presented by Mrs. David Hume. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.
- Nov. 3 Grandeur and Obedience, Civilization series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.
- Nov. 8 Books Sandwiched In. The Gerber Report...A Doctor's Diagnosis and Prescription by Alex Gerber presented by Dr. George Graham, director of Ellis Hospital. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Nov. 10 The Light of Experience, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.
- Nov. 15 Table Talks on World Affairs will open its fall series. Pamphlets listing the specific programs for each date will be available at the library. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Nov. 17 The Pursuit of Happiness, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 22 Table Talks on World Affairs. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Nov. 24 The Smile of Reason, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library, 8 p.m.
- Nov. 29 Table Talks on World Affairs. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Dec. 1 The Worship of Nature, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library, 8 p.m.
- Dec. 6 Table Talks on World Affairs. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Dec. 8 The Fallacies of Hope, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon
- Dec. 13 Table Talks on World Affairs. Meeting Room, Central Library - 12 noon.
- Dec. 15 Heroic Materialism, Civilisation series. Meeting Room, Central Library - 8 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE  
SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

President: Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
1st V. P.: Miss Anna Turkalo  
2nd V. P.: Mrs. John Mahar  
Secretary: Miss Ruth Anne Evans  
Treasurer: Dr. Louis Navias

## NEWSLETTER

Editor: Mrs. J. E. Bigelow  
Circulation: Mrs. Raymond Sigsbee

## 'BOOKS SANDWICHED IN' FACTS:

Timing: All Books Sandwiched In programs are planned to coincide with the lunch hour. Programs begin promptly by 12:10 and end by 1:15. Those who must leave earlier are given an opportunity to do so.

Cost: All programs are free. Sandwiches may be brought from home or ordered by telephoning the Central Library between 9 and 10 on the meeting day. The number is 372-4415. The price of sandwiches will change this year because we will have to pay the 'hot-dog' sales tax. The price will be 85¢ for a sandwich and 1 cup of tea or coffee. Those bringing sandwiches may have any number of cups of tea or coffee for 10¢.

Quality: The Friends are fortunate in having so much excellent talent in the community and to have these people willing to give their time and share their views at these programs. Have you ever thought of how much it would cost to buy tickets to programs of this caliber? The large attendance at these programs shows that many of us are taking advantage of this opportunity.

## FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIP GROWS

Dr. Louis Navias, treasurer of the Friends, has compiled the following figures which point to the fine growth of the Friends this year. Our fiscal year runs from April to April. Last year, 1970-71, from April until this time of year, Dr. Navias had received 264 checks. During the same period this year, he has received 359 checks for a total of \$2400. For all of last year, he received 363 checks for a total of \$2200!

Dr. Navias sends his thanks to all for paying their dues promptly and for showing continued support and enthusiasm for the good the Friends are doing.

Help Wanted! Men and Women Take Note! If you have skills as a projectionist and would like to work with fine equipment, the Friends of the Library need you as a volunteer. Those qualified and interested in being called to do either spot jobs or short term assignments at the Library, please contact Mrs. Dale Timberlake, 372-5872.

Help Appreciated. The Library staff sponsored a coffee party at the end of August in honor of the many persons who voluntarily gave so many hours of service to assist in the operation of the library. Approximately a third of the total number of volunteers are 'Friends'. During the past summer several daughters of Friends' were volunteers.

## PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES OPEN BOARD MEETINGS

At our May Board Meeting we heard an excellent presentation on Children's Room services and the Hamilton Hill/Yates Village story telling project. Board meetings are open to the membership and as we have such informative meetings in the future, please consider attending to learn more about our Library. Possible future topics: What is the role of the Trustees. How is the Library Budget Made. How are Library Materials Selected.

This year, program responsibilities have been divided between two committees working closely together. The Program Committee, chaired by Mrs. Ronald Wilson, will be responsible for Books Sandwiched In and the traditional programs in the Library. Mrs. George Gould will serve as chairman of Outreach Programs to develop library services in the community. Our support of the Jail Library and the paperback libraries at the Hamilton Street SCAP office and the Drop In Arts and Crafts Center are examples of current outreach programs. As the committees meet this fall you will hear more of their plans. With over 600 members, it is impossible to know the interest of all members. If you would be interested in serving on a Friends committee or have a project you would like to propose for the group's sponsorship, feel free to call me to talk about it. The Board would welcome your ideas and help.

Karen Johnson

## ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Friends' sixth annual meeting was held last April 15 at the Holiday Inn, and seemed to be a pleasurable occasion for all concerned, thanks to the fascination of the speaker, Union College's Professor William M. Murphy, and the efficiency of the arrangements handled by Mrs. Lyman Johnson and Mrs. Robert Burnett.

Features of the evening - besides Professor Murphy's unforgettable talk on his tragi-comic adventures in gathering material for a biography of John Butler Yeats - were the recognition of 20 years of service to the Library by two staff members, Mrs. Doris Oliver and Miss Arma Rollier, and announcement of the Volunteer of the Year award to Mrs. R. Hosmer Norris. Dr. Louis Navias, our treasurer, announced the Friends' annual gifts to the Library - audio visual equipment for the meeting room, 500 for paperbacks for the summer Stories-on-the Doorsteps program, and 100 for each Library branch - and introduced the heads of the branches, who described their plans for using the money.

The 1970-1971 reports were distributed; they contain summaries from the president, treasurer, program chairman, and Library director, and are available to any member requesting one. Write Mrs. Johnson, 707 Union Street.

--Eleanor Brown

## DOORSTEP STORY PROJECT

Again this summer, the Library had book-carts and story-tellers in the Hamilton Hill area each day, Monday through Friday. The story-tellers stopped on 1,217 doorsteps and told stories to 7,423 children. The weekly reports of Mrs. Janet Hutchison, the staff member in charge of the program, make wonderful reading. A few excerpts:

'We are off to a very good start this year--The children were all very eager to have their stories again.

'A little boy on Duane Avenue claims he ate his book. Whatever happened I never did get it back---!

'A grandfather tried to give us a dollar to buy sodas for doing such a good job. We assured him we enjoyed it and couldn't accept money.'

## REPORT FROM OUTREACH CHAIRMAN

Jail project: The interest and support the Friends of the Library have shown the Schenectady County Jail library has proved timely in the light of recent jail incidents. Newspaper stories about unrest at the jail, as well as comments by candidates for the position of Sheriff, refer to the jail library as an asset representing the only recreational facility presently available to those confined there.

Our present plan is to continue our involvement in this project by providing books, games and volunteers. Hopefully we will soon see it become part of a standard jail recreational and educational program.

Book Lists for inter-racial, pre-school groups. For those of us who have taken for granted the warmth and whimsy of sharing 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit' or 'The Little Engine That Could' with our very young children, it takes a second thought to realize that inner city children know a world quite different from the one traditionally presented in picture books for children. The sheer enjoyment of the experience of being read to comes when the book is written within the identity and conceptual grasp of the child listening. Black children sense the rightness of drawings showing skin the color of theirs. City bound youngsters participate in a story which brings to them the familiar sights of crowded streets and noisy vehicles.

The Library's Children's Department and Schenectady Community Head Start have combined their experiences in using this kind of book with nurseries and day care centers and drafted a list of books especially suited for inter-racial, pre-school groups. The goal of this project is to help teachers and leaders select the most appropriate books to use with their children, and further to find the means to start good libraries in day care centers and nurseries in 'inner-city' Schenectady.

- Joan Gould

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

Officers and Committee Chairmen 1971-1972

President:	Mrs. Lyman Johnson
First Vice President:	Miss Anna Turkalo
Second Vice President:	Mrs. John Mahar
Secretary:	Miss Ruth Anne Evans
Treasurer:	Dr. Louis Navias
Community Liaison:	Dr. Walter Grattidge
Finance:	Dr. Louis Navias
Gifts and Endowments:	Mr. David Yates
Membership:	Mrs. George Connelly
National Library Week:	Miss Anna Turkalo
Newsletter:	Mrs. J. E. Bigelow
Nominating:	Mrs. Herbert Poller
Outreach:	Mrs. George Gould
Program:	Mrs. Ronald Wilson
Public Relations:	Mrs. Thomas Seery
Volunteer Services:	Mrs. Dale Timberlake

Friends of the Schenectady County  
Public Library  
Liberty and Clinton Streets  
Schenectady, New York 12305

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Dr. & Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
707 Union St.  
City 12305

December, 1971

Vol. VII No. 2

## FRIENDS TO SPONSOR THREE INTERESTING SERIES BEGINNING IN JANUARY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SAVE THE DATES

AMERICAN LITERATURE COURSE - a new venture in adult education

Dr. Harold Blodgett will conduct a five-session course, The American Classics Revisited. The course, open to the public without charge, will meet Fridays at 3:00 p.m. from January 14 to February 11 in the Community Room of the Central Library. The Friends' Program Committee hopes that those interested will plan to attend all course sessions and do the suggested background reading. Books for this reading are readily available at the Library or in paperback editions.

Dr. Blodgett retired as chairman of the Union College English Department in 1965. Since that time he has been occupied as an editor of the collected writings of Walt Whitman with the New York University Press. Recognized as a leading Whitman scholar, Dr. Blodgett is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Library and a popular speaker at the Books Sandwiched In series.

Dr. Blodgett plans an informal discussion of each author bringing out ideas and questions from the group. Authors to be discussed will include:

January 14 - Edgar Allen Poe

Suggested readings: Poe poems and tales

January 21 - Walt Whitman

Suggested reading: Leaves of Grass

January 28 - Henry David Thoreau

Suggested reading: Walden, Essay on Civil Disobedience

February 4 - Mark Twain

Suggested reading: Huckleberry Finn

February 11- Emily Dickinson

Suggested reading: collected poems, letters

Mrs. Herbert Poller, course chairman, will be glad to answer any questions about the course. To facilitate planning, she would appreciate receiving advanced registrations on the form below. Please mail to Mrs. Herbert Poller, 1148 Rugby Road, Schenectady, 12308.

I plan to attend The American Classics Revisited.

Name

Address

Phone

FRIENDS OF THE  
SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

THREE PROGRAM SERIES IN THE NEW YEAR

President: Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
1st V. P.: Miss Anna Turkalo  
2nd V. P.: Mrs. John Mahar  
Secretary: Miss Ruth Anne Evans  
Treasurer: Dr. Louis Navias

1. The American Classics Revisited
2. Books Sandwiched In
3. Program by the Librarians

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Mrs. J. E. Bigelow  
Circulation: Mrs. Raymond Sigsbee

SAVE THE DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

The winter series of these popular programs will begin on Monday, January 17. All programs are held in the Community Room of the Central Library during the lunch hour. Sandwiches may be ordered by calling the Library or may be brought from home. Tea and coffee are available. More details as to time, price of sandwiches, and how to order will appear in the next Newsletter coming out early in January.

Mrs. T. A. Rich, chairman of the series, has announced the following speakers and books to be reviewed:

- January 17 - Dr. Frank Calabria discussing Skinner, Beyond Freedom and Dignity  
January 24 - Mrs. Richard Haile discussing Brown, Bury Me At Wounded Knee  
January 31 - Dr. Carl Niemeyer discussing E. M. Forrester's Maurice  
February 7 - Rev. Robert Eddy discussing Lash, Eleanor and Franklin  
February 14 - Prof. Harold Blodgett discussing Upstate by Edmond Wilson

LESS FAMILIAR LIBRARY SERVICES EXPLAINED

Librarians will give tours and explanations of some of the lesser known services of the Library. Mrs. R. T. Henke, chairman for this series, will have more details on this for the next issue of the Newsletter coming out early in January. But plan now to save these two Thursday evenings

- January 20 - Community Room, Central Library 8:30 p.m.  
February 3 - Community Room, Central Library 8:30 p.m.

Friends of the Schenectady County  
Public Library  
Liberty and Clinton Streets  
Schenectady, New York 12305

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Jr. and Mrs. L. Johnson  
707 Union St.  
City 12305

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 14 American Classics Revisited. The first in this five session course sponsored by the Friends of the Library and taught by Dr. Harold Blodgett. More detailed information on the course may be found in this newsletter. The first author to be discussed is Edgar Allen Poe and the suggested reading is Poe's poems and tales. Meeting Room, Central Library. 3:00 P.M.
- January 17 Books Sandwiched In sponsored by the Friends of the Library begins its winter series. Dr. Frank Calabria will discuss Beyond Freedom and Dignity by Skinner. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- January 21 American Classics Revisited. Walt Whitman will be the subject of this class; suggested reading, Leaves of Grass. Meeting Room, Central Library. 3:00 P.M.
- January 24 Books Sandwiched In. Mrs. Richard Haile will discuss Brown, Bury Me At Wounded Knee. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- January 28 American Classics Revisited. Henry David Thoreau is the subject of this class; suggested reading, Walden, Essay on Civil Disobedience. Meeting Room, Central Library. 3:00 P.M.
- January 31 Books Sandwiched In. Dr. Carl Niemeyer discussing E. M. Forster's Maurice. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon
- February 2 First of two meetings to be held on how the library works. Details of these meetings on a later page of this newsletter. Central Library. 8:30 P.M.
- February 4 American Classics Revisited. Mark Twain will be discussed at this class; suggested reading, Huckleberry Finn. Meeting Room, Central Library. 3:00 P.M.
- February 7 Books Sandwiched In. Rev. Robert Eddy will discuss Eleanor and Franklin by Lash. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12:00 noon.
- February 11 American Classics Revisited. At this final session of the course taught by Dr. Harold Blodgett, the subject will be Emily Dickinson and suggested reading is her collected poems and letters. Meeting Room, Central Library. 3:00 P.M.
- February 14 Books Sandwiched In. Prof. Harold Blodgett will discuss Upstate by Edmond Wilson. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- February 16 Second of two meetings to be held on some of the lesser known services of the library. Details on a later page of this newsletter. Central Library. 8:30 P.M.

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FRIENDS SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL GROUPS

Mrs. Lyman Johnson, president of the Friends, has announced the following appointments:  
Mrs. Peter Ipsen as a representative to the Schenectady Arts Council; and as representatives to the Citizens Convention for the Schenectady School Board, Mrs. Robert Liebers with Mrs. Benjamin Coe serving as alternate.

TWO MEETINGS TO BE HELD ON HOW THE LIBRARY WORKS

The dates have been changed for two evening meetings being planned to give an opportunity to see the inside workings of the library. The new dates are both Wednesdays, February 2 and February 16 at 8:30 p.m. Members of the Friends and the public are invited to meet in the Meeting Room of the central library with the librarians for tours and explanations of some of the lesser known services of the library.

This will be an opportunity to see what happens on the inside, what resources are there, and a chance to ask questions. The Friends' program committee hopes that you will contact others who may also be interested and who have questions about the library. Especially remember high school students.

Meeting I - February 2, 8:30 p.m. Adult Reference and Information Services and Resources. Included will be explanation of the type of questions that can be handled by phone; visits to the Schenectady Collection and Information File (histories, authors, directories, ordinances, school budgets, biography, politics and government, calendar of events); Business Reference Sources (Moody's use for history of a company, Thomas register, Trade Mark Lists and New York State Industrial Directory); Reference Desk (almanacs, Auto repair, college guides, index to handicrafts, SCPL special indexes, city directories and telephone books); Microfilm and General Reference Collection (Newspapers, scholarly journals, census, map file, bibliographies, pamphlets, college catalogs and reference books); Periodical Indexes and Periodicals (card catalogs to stacks and microfilm, use of periodicals in reference for new subjects, how to use the Readers Guide).

MEETING II - February 16, 8:30 p.m. - ADULT USES OF THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

For enrichment and enjoyment -

- for basic condensed information on a new subject.
- easy reading materials such as for learning a foreign language.
- simple 'how to do it' books for the adult who is all thumbs.
- books illustrated by creative and talented artists.

A resource for information -

- supplementary source of non-fiction books
- many magazines of interest to adults
- bibliographies on a variety of topics
- information on folk lore, Indians and New York or Schenectady history
- record collection, nature sounds, folk dancing or special rhythm or sound effects.

A resource for adults who work with children

- numerous bibliographies and books about children's literature
- helpful information for teachers, Scout leaders and anyone interested in children.

Friends' co-chairmen for these programs are Mrs. R. T. Henke and Mrs. J. Hasslacher. These programs are an opportunity that many Friends will want to take advantage of for themselves and also share with their friends, especially young people who will find this extra information about the library most helpful.



## OUTREACH PROJECTS UPDATED

The second adult paper back book collection that the Friends are financing opened last week at the Hamilton Hill Arts and Crafts Center, 421 Schenectady Street. This library is somewhat similar to its companion in the SCAP office at 711 Hamilton Street but has the appropriate addition of art and craft books.

Board member, Leo Jandreau, is serving as chairman of a committee exploring opportunities for the Friends' future participation in the jail library project. The Board allocated \$100 for the jail library for the current year, which is being used for new books, replacements, subscriptions and other contingent expenses.

Hard cover editions of select children's books have recently been ordered for Schenectady Community Head Start day care centers. The Board of the Friends approved \$100 for this project which is being judiciously handled by Betty Fleming, a Friend of the Library, who is proprietor of the Open Door book store on Jay Street. She is giving us full advantage of her dealer's discount plus donating her time as a personal contribution.

Joan Gould, chairman  
Outreach projects.

## BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Mrs. T. A. Rich, chairman of the Books Sandwiched In series, announces that the winter, 1972, series of these popular programs will begin on Monday noon, January 17, in the Meeting Room of the central library. Programs begin promptly at 12:10 and end by 1:15. Those who must leave earlier are given an opportunity to do so.

All programs are free. Sandwiches may be brought from home or ordered by telephoning the central library, 372-4415, between 9 and 10 on the day of the meeting. The price for a sandwich and one cup of tea or coffee is 85¢. Those bringing sandwiches may have any number of cups of tea or coffee for 10¢.

Books Sandwiched In programs are automatically cancelled if the Schenectady schools are closed for a snow day. If in doubt as to whether the meeting is cancelled or not, call the library.

## AMERICAN LITERATURE COURSE

A new venture in adult education, a 5 session course, the American Classics Revisited, will begin on Friday, January 14. Taught by Dr. Harold Blodgett, retired chairman of the Union College English Department, the course will meet Fridays at 3:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the central library. This series is sponsored by the Friends of the Library and is free and open to the public. Authors to be discussed and suggested reading may be found listed in the calendar of events on the first page of this newsletter.

The course chairman, Mrs. Herbert Poller, 1148 Rugby Road, will be glad to answer any questions and to take registrations for the course. Mrs. Poller has announced that 27 people had already registered for the course by the first of the year.

## SCULPTURE AT THE LIBRARY

Persons passing the court on the Liberty Street side of the central library will notice a piece of iron sculpture by Arline Schulman. Mrs. Schulman has named the piece Ishmael from the character in 'Moby Dick'. The work has been on exhibit at the Schenectady Museum and is being lent to the library for exhibition until June 1972.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Mrs. George Connelly, membership chairman for the Friends, announces a new high in members of the Friends - 645 members! This year the Friends are especially fortunate in having three patrons, members who contribute \$100 or more. The Friends have 7 different classifications for members:

Individual membership	\$ 2.00
Family membership	\$ 4.00
Contributing membership	\$ 10.00
Organization membership	\$ 15.00
Supporting membership	\$ 25.00
Business membership	\$ 25.00
Patron	\$100.00

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by Betty Fleming  
Public Library  
Schenectady and Clinton Streets  
Schenectady, New York 12305  
Friends of the Schenectady County  
Public Library  
John Gould, chairman  
Outreach projects

BOOKS SALES IN

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All programs are free. Services  
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relating to the central library, 375-4115,  
between 9 and 10 on the day of the meeting.  
The price for a sandwich and one cup of  
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March 1972

Vol. VII No. 4

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 10 Books Sandwiched In sponsored by the Friends of the Library begins its spring series. Dr. Michael Shinagel reviews Our Gang by Philip Roth. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- April 17 Books Sandwiched In. Mrs. Phyllis Ochs reviews Living the Good Life by Helen and Scott Nearing. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- April 18 Annual Meeting, Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library. Woodlin Club. Dinner at 6 p.m., Program at 8:15 - Reservation blank in this newsletter.
- April 24 Books Sandwiched In. Werner Feibes reviews Van Gogh's Diary edited by Jan Hulsker. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 Noon.
- May 1 Books Sandwiched In. Mrs. Harold Martin reviews Collected Stories by Flannery O'Connor. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- May 8 Books Sandwiched In. Dr. Hans Rozendaal reviews The Chinese Art of Healing by Stephan Palos. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- May 15 Books Sandwiched In. Glory by Nabokov will be discussed by Mrs. Selden Crary. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.
- May 22 Books Sandwiched In. Prof. Willard Roth reviews In the Shadow of Man by Jane v. Lowick-Goodall. Meeting Room, Central Library. 12 noon.

This issue of the Newsletter, coming just before the annual meeting, summarizes some of the activities of the Friends in the past. All members of the Friends of the Library can be proud of the accomplishments of their organization. Our increasing membership allows us to provide more funds for the library and to support it with greater strength.

## HAVE YOU ASKED A FRIEND TO BE A FRIEND?

Our library needs our support and will continue to need it. Consider this item from the Mohawk Valley Library Association News. The headline reads: 'The Nixon Budget for Libraries in 1973 is Reduced' and the article quotes from Publishers' Weekly.

"Overall support for libraries will be reduced in the 1973 budget," according to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's budget summary for 1973.

"Federal support for construction of public libraries and for the extension of public library service was instituted in order to stimulate the development and improvement of public libraries. Today, states and localities consistently over-match Federal contributions. Recognizing this increased state and local support, a reduced appropriation for public library programs will be requested in 1973." The budget request for public library services was cut \$16,479,000 from the fiscal 1972 level of \$49,209,000 to \$32,730,000.

Trustees and librarians will have to fight even more tenaciously for state and local municipal funds!

...WHILE UP GO PRICES

Publishers' Weekly further reports that the average price of a hardcover book in 1971 was \$13.25 as compared to \$11.66 in 1970 and \$9.50 in 1969. The average price of a novel in 1971 was \$5.98, an increase of 8 1/2%; for a juvenile book \$4.23, an increase of 4 1/2%.

HAVE YOU ASKED A FRIEND TO BE A FRIEND?

LTT6

FRIENDS OF THE  
SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

President: Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
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NEWSLETTER

Editor: Mrs. J. E. Bigelow  
Circulation: Mrs. Raymond Sigsbee

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Mrs. T. A. Rich, chairman of the Books Sandwiched In series, has once again planned a stimulating series of book reviews for these popular programs. The first program in the spring series will be held on Monday, April 10. This will be the first in a series of 7 programs to be held on consecutive Monday noons through May 22. All programs are held in the Meeting Room at the Central Library. Discussions are over by 1:15 but those who must leave earlier are given an opportunity to do so.

All programs are free and open to the public. Sandwiches may be brought from home or ordered by telephoning the central library, 372-4415, between 9 and 10 on the day of the meeting. The price for a sandwich and tea or coffee is 85¢. Those bringing sandwiches may purchase tea or coffee for 10¢.

MEETINGS HELD ON HOW THE LIBRARY WORKS

During February, 2 programs were held in the evening at the library to help people use the library more effectively. The librarians who gave the programs were most gracious and were gold mines of information. Every one who attended the sessions got a great deal out of them.

Mrs. G. J. Hasslacher and Mrs. R. T. Henke were co-chairmen for these programs sponsored by the Friends. They report that they were disappointed that more students did not take advantage of this learning opportunity. Letters of invitation were sent to 18 junior and senior high school principals asking them to let students and faculty know of the programs. The sessions were so helpful that the Friends will probably want to repeat them in the future. Any suggestions as to how to better involve the public will be appreciated.

HELP NEEDED

Several clerical volunteers are needed at the Central Library for a couple of hours a week on a regular basis. No typing necessary. Call Mrs. Dale Timberlake, 372-5872, if you can help in this way.

FRIENDS ASSIST PETITION DRIVE

At the request of the Library trustees, Friends sought signers in a petition drive to support increased state aid to public libraries. Library users were approached at the library the week of March 6-11. Over 500 signatures were collected. Soliciting signers were Mrs. E. T. Frankel, Dr. Louis Navias, Mrs. Wesley Vermelyea, Miss Anna Turkalo, Mrs. George Hasslacher, Mrs. Arthur Germer, Mr. and Mrs. William Williams, Mrs. John F. Brown, Jr., Mrs. John D. Young, Mrs. Lyman Johnson, Mrs. Fred N. Anibal, and Mrs. Herbert Poller.

AMERICAN CLASSICS REVISITED A SUCCESS

During January and February, Dr. Harold Blodgett taught a series of 5 classes in literature which were sponsored by the Friends. This was a first for the Friends and, thanks to Dr. Blodgett, it was an unqualified success.

At each of the 5 sessions, there were 30 to 35 people in attendance most of whom were regular attendees. Each session was extremely well received. As a token of appreciation, the group gave Dr. Blodgett a special new edition of Whitman's Specimen Days.

Mrs. Herbert Poller was chairman of these classes. If you would be interested in other similar courses, let a member of the Board of Directors hear from you.

MRS. CONCORDIA ELECTED

At its recent elections, Mrs. Charles Concordia was chosen president of the Mohawk Valley Library Association. Mrs. Concordia is a past president of the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library so we know the efficiency and dedication she will bring to this new position.

HEAD START PROJECT COMPLETED

On March 9 the presentation of 36 hard-cover children's books to the assembled teachers and aides of the Schenectady Head Start Program brought a happy ending to the last incomplete outreach project of the 1971-72 year. Mrs. Hutchison and Mrs. Reeves, SCPL children's librarians, were there to help with a discussion of a film on picture books and story telling, and Mrs. Gould of the Friends gave nine books, in colorful plastic book-carrying bags, to each of the four day-care center teachers.

## GOOD NEWS AT THE JAIL

The book collection at the jail has recently been moved from boxes stored in the dining area to steel shelves located in a room designated especially for library purposes. A desk, table, and chairs complete the furnishing of the room, while a typewriter and other library supplies have been promised. Of equal importance is the sheriff's appointment of a young man, who is serving time in the jail, as care-taker of the library.

Leo Jandreau, chairman of the Friends' Jail Library Committee, comments: 'There is no reason to believe we shouldn't make more progress; we've done so well this far.' It is hoped that ultimately we will have governmental assumption of responsibility for the administration and financing of the county jail library. Meanwhile, the improvements this far, largely due to the cooperative attitude Sheriff Waldron has shown since he took office at the first of the year, represent all of the initial goals set for this project, except for the designation of county funds for jail library purposes.

Outreach programs seem to succeed when circumstances in the community, librarians, and Friends of the Library volunteers combine in just the right manner. The jail library in particular brought together two major county agencies and flourished under the influence of their directors, Miss White and Mr. Waldron. Steady assistance has been given by Adele Brown, Director of Branch Libraries, and Dorothy Smith of the Extension Service. Mrs. Cooper of the Duane Branch gave magazines and Dorothea Brown of Scotia and Bertha Kreigler of the Reference Department gave expert advice in the selection of books. Mrs. Hicks made the bookplates and handled messages back and forth between workers. All of these people helped make the jail library a success.

The true heroine of the jail library, however, is a Friends of the Library volunteer of uncommon perseverance. Alice Niedrach agreed to be jail library coordinator about 2 years ago when its founders moved on to use their organizational talents in other areas. Alice started out with 300 used books, names of a few people who might help her, and a purposeful concept of her role as the person who would do her utmost to get books to the inmates for reading recreation.

The library was always subject to the vicissitudes of life in the Sheriff's Department, but with polite persistence, Alice and the volunteers almost always got in for their couple of hours two times a week. Much of the time, when Alice is not actually at the jail, she is working on improving the book collection by finding new sources of books in the most economical way. She communicates an interesting picture of the jail situation which has found warm response in most of her efforts. She has received books, money, games, magazines, and magazine subscriptions for the jail, and the unexpected, exciting donation of three units of steel shelving. A consistently impressive part of Alice's nature is her sincere expression of appreciation for each offering, large or small.

Another advantage of Alice Niedrach's association with the jail is the trust and interest she has shown in the men and women who serve time there. Library day is more than book day; it is a time for sharing with people from outside, for finding a bit of perspective in the limited life of an inmate.

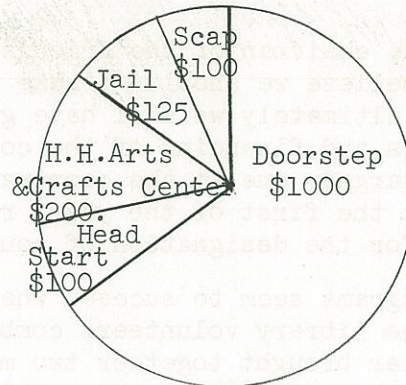
Weathering the political storm during the campaign for Sheriff, and then the change in jail administration, as well as working into what is now a close and smoothly operating relationship with the Schenectady County Library are further examples of Alice's unassuming ability. In short, great respect and praise are due this fine volunteer.

## OUTREACH HISTORY

Although the appointment of a chairman of Friends of the Library outreach projects was a new idea this year, special programs outside the library walls have been going on for some time. The following facts in the recent history of library outreach programs were taken from annual reports, treasurer's reports and minutes of Board of Directors' meetings.

1968-69 and 1969-70

\*\*\*SCPL Children's Department creates the Doorstep Project, a summer program in the Hamilton Hill-State Street area using paperback children's books; funds come from the library budget; Friends of the Library provide volunteer helpers.



Outreach  
Expenditures  
1970-1972  
\$1525

1970-71

\*\*\* Doorstep Project is expanded to include the children of Yates Village as well as Hamilton Hill-State Street; Friends of the Library provide \$500 for paperback children's books.

\*\*\* Committee of SCPL librarians start a paperback book collection for adults in the Hamilton Hill area, about 200 general interest and black experience paperbacks, located in Schenectady Community Action Program Neighborhood Center at 711 Hamilton Street; funds come from the library budget.

\*\*\* SCPL Extension Service provides the Schenectady County Jail with a rotating collection, and fills inmates specific requests for books; Friends of the Library donate \$25 worth of books to the Jail Library, 36 paperbacks mainly black experience and current fiction.

\*\*\* Miss White asks the Board of the Friends of the Library for funds to start a second Hamilton Hill area adult paperback collection; Friends Board votes \$200 for this purpose.

\*\*\* Children's Room librarians cooperate with Schenectady Community Head Start in drafting an Inter-racial Book list for day care centers.

1971-72

\*\*\* Doorstep Project is expanded again, taking in the children of Steinmetz Homes; Friends of the Library again provide \$500 for paperback children's books.

\*\*\* SCAP Neighborhood Center collection needs new books and replacements; Friends of the Library provide \$100 for more adult paperback books.

\*\*\* Board of Friends allocates \$100 to Jail Library for new books, replacements, magazine subscriptions and miscellaneous expenses.

\*\*\* Second adult paperback outlet opens at Hamilton Hill Drop-In Arts and Crafts Center, 421 Schenectady Street, composed of over 200 titles emphasizing art and black experience.

\*\*\* Friends of the Library donate \$25 each to four Schenectady Community Head Start day care centers for hard-cover children's books in black experience and basic concepts from the Library-Head Start Inter-racial Book List.

ALL MEMBERS INVITED TO APRIL 18 ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER  
AT THE WOODLIN CLUB

Appropriately, the annual meeting of the Schenectady Friends of the Library will occur during National Library Week this year. It will be held at the Woodlin Club on Glenridge Road. A social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00. Mrs. Lyman Johnson, Friends' president, urges all members to attend this seventh anniversary meeting.

Featured speaker will be the editor of the Union Star editorial page, Duane LaFleche. Mrs. Barnet Fowler, a member of the Friends' program committee, made the arrangements for Mr. LaFleche to be our speaker. Many Friends will be familiar with the column he has written for many years, 'Literary Taste', and will know him for a man of broad literary tastes and of wit and humor.

Other events of the evening will include:

- ...election of officers and new members of the Board of Directors.
- ...the honoring of a most distinguished Volunteer of the Year.
- ...recognition of library staff completing twenty years of service.
- ...presentation of gifts to the Library and its staff from the Friends.

Report of the Nominating Committee:

President: Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
First Vice-President: Mrs. George Gould  
Second Vice-Pres. Dr. Harold Blodgett  
Secretary: Mrs. Peter Ipsen  
Treasurer: Mrs. Dale F. Timberlake

Nominees for the Board include:

Renominated - Mrs. Lyman Johnson  
New Members -  
Owen Begley, lawyer, former mayor, former State Senator, active in many community projects.  
Dennis T. Connelly, principal of Elmer Ave. School.

Mrs. Peter Ipsen, who has a degree in library science and is working on information retrieval for the Environmental Clearinghouse.  
Lloyd A. Leake, Economic Opportunity Coordinator at Schenectady Community College.  
William McColl, Planner for the State Department of Transportation.  
Mrs. Thomas Seery who has served as Public Relations Chairman for the Friends for the past year.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Rebekah Poller, Chairman  
Eleanor Brown, Clair Connelly,  
Virginia Laumeister, James Pemberton

Please make reservations on the form below by April 13. If you cannot attend the dinner you are most welcome to join the group for the program at 8:15. No reservations needed.

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Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places in my name for the Friends of the Library dinner, (roast beef), on Tuesday, April 18, at the Woodlin Club.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.40 per person.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

Mail to: Mrs. George Gould, 108 Spring Street, Scotia, N.Y. 12302

Reservation Deadline: April 13

ALL MEMBERS INVITED TO APRIL 13 ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER  
AT THE WOODLIF CLUB

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Public Library  
Liberty and Clinton Streets  
Schenectady, New York 12305

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