

SEPTEMBER 1990

VOL XXVI NO. 1

**FALL BOOKS SANDWICHED IN**

We have an exciting schedule for the fall, and hope you can join us!  
All meetings are held at noon in the McChesney Room at Central  
Bring your lunch; coffee and tea are available.  
(Watch the bulletin boards at the entrance for any late-breaking developments.)



- September 10:** PERIL AND PROMISE—A COMMENTARY ON AMERICA - By John Chancellor  
Reviewer **Carl Strock** is well known to us as a Daily Gazette columnist ("The View From Here") and a regular Op-Ed contributor.
- September 17:** MEN AT WORK - By George Will  
Reviewer **Bud Mishkin** is sports announcer with WRGB, Channel 6.
- September 24:** FAMILY PICTURES - By Sue Miller  
Reviewer **Sadie Schneider** worked with children and families throughout her career as a guidance counselor in the Guilderland School District. Now retired, she has continued her involvement as a volunteer with human service organizations throughout the area.
- October 1:** HOLLYWOOD - By Gore Vidal  
Reviewer **Carl Niemeyer**, former Lamont Professor of Ancient and Modern Literature at Union College, is a veteran reviewer at BSI.
- October 15:** CAPTAIN SIR RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON - By Edward Rice  
Reviewer **William Murphy** is also former Thomas Lamont Professor of Ancient and Modern Literature at Union College and a long-time reviewer at BSI.
- October 22:** SOVIET WOMEN—WALKING THE TIGHTROPE - By Francine de Plessix-Gray  
Reviewer **Erma Ruth Chestnut** is a retired administrator at Schenectady County Community College
- October 29:** IN THE NAME OF GOD - By Robin Wright  
Reviewer **Stephen Berk** is chairman of the History Department at Union College.

**FALL BOOK SALE**

Our next semi-annual book sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 22, and it promises to be, as ever, more than just a terrific way to raise needed funds for our library: it's going to be FUN! From 9:00 to 5:00, rain or shine, we will sell, at unbelievable prices, thousands of books and magazines, for children and adults, in fiction and non-fiction, paperback and hardcover.

"How does it all get done?", you may be asking. Well, through the generous efforts of the Friends! Margery Woods most capably leads an army of volunteers and others, through the pre-sale activities and during the lively and companionable day of the sale itself. Here's how you can get involved:

**In the weeks preceding the sale**, help is always needed to sort books for the sale. Sorters are welcome at any time for any length of time, as their schedules permit.

**Friday afternoon, September 21**, we'll be getting set up indoors. We need lots of volunteers to lay out books and put up signs: light work, but plenty of it. (The heavy work is taken care of by men from Social Services, so don't let the muscular-sounding concept of "setting up" drive you away!)

**Saturday morning, from 8:00 to 9:00**, is set aside for our outdoors tables. Again, we'll be needing many hands to arrange books on the tables.

**Saturday from 9:00 to 5:00** in two-hour shifts. We need cashiers and sales helpers (who will guide people to the right areas, rearrange books where necessary, etc.).

**Late in the afternoon**, we'll also begin cleaning up, taking down the tables, etc.

If you can lend a hand at any stage of this very worthwhile and labor-intensive event, please call Central Library at 382-3500 (or stop by the switchboard) and leave your name and telephone number. We'll get right back to you!

**1990: ANOTHER STRONG YEAR FOR THE FRIENDS!**

The Friends' year that ended April 30th was another success, thanks to all of you! Your dues supported a magnificent array of fine programs, which simply could not have been offered otherwise. The increase in membership receipts also allowed us to cover more mundane but necessary expenditures- the increased cost of this newsletter and of mailing our renewal notices, to name just two. Your time (and so many of you give so much of your valuable time!) made possible great strides in the system-wide automation project, the preparation and opening of the Glenville Branch, and other critical activities too numerous to list here.

A condensed operating statement is offered below:

Total Receipts	12,760
Total Expenditures	12,103
Lectures- Literary Lectures, Books Sandwiched In, Table Talks, Science Round The Table	971
Central and Branch Programs- Largely children's programs	1,876
Young Adult Programs	657
Library Week Activities	335
Outreach- Library Link, Jail Library, Literacy Volunteers, Public Relations	2,659
Gifts to the Library- Staff Conferences, Volunteer Lunch, Special Projects, Dixon Memorial Gifts	3,190
Operating Expenditures- Newsletter, Postage, Membership, Hospitality	2,415
Addition to Operating Funds	657

In this newsletter you'll find information on the exciting summer and fall programs in our library. Come and enjoy the programs you make possible!

**WE WANT YOU! and your friends, family, neighbors,...**

Summer is a lazy time and it is all too easy to lose track of time, as our membership records reflect! We're looking for a few good renewals and a lot of new recruits to the Friends to support the fine programs at our libraries. If you did not receive a renewal notice, or have mislaid it, please let Pat Whitney know! Membership information is also available at any branch.

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership, and our special appreciation to members who increased their membership level for the 1990-1991 year.

We welcome the following new members!:

- |                   |                  |                       |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Philip D. Brandes | Jeanne Claps     | Sheryl and Dan Craig  |
| Maxine Dougherty  | Judy Hoff        | Mrs. Bertha P. Lasdon |
|                   | Margaret C. Long |                       |

**LIBRARY BILL PASSES!**

In the wake of a massive letter-writing campaign by library supporters, our friends on both sides of the aisle in the State Legislature forwarded the Library Omnibus Bill to the Governor- he signed it! Thanks to them, and to all of you, public libraries are the better for it.

**FALL LITERARY LECTURES**

Professor Peter Heinegg will present a lecture series on "Twentieth Century Jewish Writers" on three Wednesdays in October at 10:00 A.M. in the McChesney Room at Central Library. On October 10th, 17th, and 24th, he will speak on Franz Kafka, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and Isaac Babel. Check the bulletin boards for details!



## SAFARI IN THE STACKS AND OTHER ADVENTURES

From every Branch Library and Bookmobile has come the question- will we ever have a Summer Reading Club theme to top the SUMMER SAFARI OF 1990?

Creative dramatics, puppetry, storytelling, sing-a-longs, wildlife rehabilitation news, ingenious crafts, jungle decor and costumes- all combined to keep program attendance high throughout the summer and more readers achieving certificates and other incentives than in any reading club yet. Thank you, Friends, for the program funding which brought special guest talent to most SCPL libraries.

For Fall, invited Friends and sponsored guests will be:

- ★ Linda Senn's Stampcraft programs on October 24th at Scotia Branch, October 27th at Glenville Branch, and December 13th at Duane Branch
- ★ Kim Scudera's Holiday decoration program on December 6th at Duane Branch
- ★ Gail Kabir, Guide Dog Trainer presenting "A Dog in the Lead" (with puppy), September 22nd at Quaker Street- Duanesburg Branch

After school, Duane Branch will host many guests:

- ★ Brenda Harden and her puppets from Cooperative Extension in "Yums for the Tum", September 18th
- ★ Sgt. Yager and "McGruff, the Crime Dog" September 27th
- ★ Emily Mobley with the truth about bats in "Bat-a-tat-tat and That's That!" on October 18th
- ★ Kelly from Europa School of Cosmetology demonstrating "Hair Beautiful" on October 23rd.
- ★ Storyteller Lois Foight Hodges with "Hoots and Spooks" on October 30th
- ★ Jay Spaulding explains "Body Beautiful...Tattoos" on November 1st.
- ★ Nancy Gifford with a little "Holiday Happiness" (special stories and snacks) on December 18th

## DANCING (AND READING) THROUGH SUMMER

Through the generous support of the Friends, Young Adult Services at Central offered a series of three Thursday programs on dance for teens and their families. Friends also made possible the purchase of books for Junior Great Books discussion groups at Tryon Secure Center and at Central.

Jo Adams talks about the impact of these programs:

★ ★ ★

We are in the middle of the Young Adult summer programs as I write on this very high summer day. Deborah Wingert spoke at the first program in the Living Dance series, and she charmed everyone in the audience with her first hand account of life with the New York City Ballet. She told us that approximately 25% of the dancers of most professional ballet groups are out with injuries at any one time. Her presentation was possible because she was recovering from a broken foot that happened during her own performance a few weeks earlier. She appeared, not as the stereotypical gaunt dancer, but as the picture of a healthy young athlete. The program was videotaped for the convenience of those who couldn't make the program, and the video will be added to the library's collection. The young adult programs are often action type programs, which are highly appropriate for videotaping. Thanks to the Friends for initiating the arrangement with Mr. Harnden and the Boy Scouts.

The Junior Great Books short story discussions are underway at the Tryon Secure Center campus, with sixteen young women participating. The discipline of the 45-minute classes keeps the "great conversation" moving right along. Some of these teens are challenged by the reading of the stories, and some are such good readers that they've read more than the assigned stories. They asked, in a most spontaneous and sincere way, for me to pass on their thanks to the Friends of Schenectady County Public Library for providing these books. Their counselors told me that they believe the thanks were genuine, and that the gift of books to young people, something that many readers experience in childhood, is not always an experience that these young women have shared.

The Junior Great Books discussion series here at SCPL was cancelled due to lack of interest. However, two teens who were unable to attend the discussions due to their part-time jobs have asked to read the stories on their own. So there will be a set of the books, from grade six through twelve, in the collection for anyone who might be interested in reading them on their own. Young adults will have an opportunity to read some other good short stories again next summer when we link the stories to films that were made from them. This may be a series popular with adults as well as teens.

**LITERACY TRAINING RESUMES**

Literacy Volunteers of America-Schenectady will offer two five-session training workshops at Central Library this fall, supported in part by the Friends of the Library. The first will train volunteers to tutor adults in basic reading and writing skills, and will begin at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 8th. The second workshop trains participants to tutor adults in English as a second language, and begins Wednesday, October 10th. No prior teaching experience or foreign language background is necessary: just basic English skills, a modest registration and materials fee, and your commitment to this worthwhile effort.

Pre-registration is required - for further information please call LVA at 372-9819.



**DIXON AND TROMEL GIFTS**

We want you all to know that we are receiving lovely books in memory of Fred Tromel and Ron Dixon, who were such good Friends of our Library. Many thanks!

FRIENDS OF SCPL	
President.....	Frank Steiner
1st Vice President...	Harry Stevens
2nd Vice President...	Eleanor Friedman
Recording Secretary...	Wilma Bradt
Treasurer.....	Junice Wusterbarth
Newsletter Editors	Katherine Dixon and
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Circulation.....	Edgar Brown and
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	1117 Earl Avenue
	Schenectady, 12309

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

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## FALL BOOK SALE BRINGS IN OVER \$5,000!

Another great book sale bringing in \$5,029.74 was the big September event at the library. Lines started forming an hour before 9 o'clock, on the 22nd, and at the end of the afternoon books and magazines were still on their way out in the hands of readers--young and old from near and far.

Its' success depended, as always, on the volunteers who spent so much time and effort in the weekly sorting of the donated books, the setting up, cashiering, selling and cleaning up after the sale. Our great thanks to Pat Whitney, who managed this sale; and she thanks each and everyone who had a hand in handling the books, boxes and money. She reports 839 boxes of books, magazines and records sold, and 130 willing workers.

Our best sellers were children's books, paperbacks, reference books and encyclopedias, adventure and war non-fiction, and books on plants, animals, homemaking, art and music. Keep these categories in mind when bringing in books for the spring sale.

Over \$111,000 has been raised through our semi-annual sales since the first one in October 1973. Proceeds are used to buy books for the branch libraries, and the sales also serve to provide buyers with good books at reasonable prices and to introduce people to our fine library.

Some out-of-state buyers even plan their vacations around the sale! With them (and you) in mind, we announce the dates for the 1991 sales: May 4th and September 28th. Donations are welcome up to two weeks before, and should be dropped off at the loading platform at Central Library, boxed and marked (ring to alert maintenance).

We welcome your help in making the spring sale a success. Volunteers are needed throughout the year to sort books, and in the weeks and days before to distribute flyers and to help set up.



Marjorie Woods' spirit was willing, but her knees were weak, so she turned over the running of the sale to Pat because of an impending operation, which she had ten days before the big day. She threatened to appear in a wheelchair, but had to settle for phoned reports. They cheered her as receipts passed the \$5,000 total. Marjorie has been the book sale's driving force since the beginning.

All was going well at Sunnyview when she was returned to Ellis for emergency surgery, not related to her knees. Marty is a great trooper and is on the mend, but it will take time. She appreciates the cards and calls from you all.

## GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON LIBRARIES

As a prelude to the White House Conference on Libraries scheduled for July 1991, Governor Cuomo is convening a special Conference on Library and Information Services November 28-30, in Albany. Its purpose is to articulate a vision for the future of libraries.

Schenectady County will be represented by Esther Swanker and Harold Wusterbarth, library trustees; Walter Grattidge, library supporter; Rachel Cahill, Scotia Jr. High student representing the general public; and Ronald Lagasse, SCPL director, and Nancy Gifford, library and information professionals. Mrs. Gifford was elected at the regional meeting as a member of the Resolutions Committee. Mrs. Swanker is a member of the working Committee for a Governor's Conference.

Alternates include Albert deAprix, county legislator; Marion Grimes, library trustee; and Barbara Beverly, library and information professional. Additional delegates will be appointed by the Governor to round out the slate of 360 delegates to the Conference, who will have the opportunity to run for seats at the White House Conference on Libraries.

For further information or to support resolutions, please contact one of the elected delegates listed above. Observers will be welcome at the Conference, and if you are interested in being one, call the Conference office at 474-7890 for a registration form.

## MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to our newest members;  
Gwendolyn Deiber, Ms. Theodorus Gounse,  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Langley, Jr.,  
Mrs. Ellen M. Miakisz, and Rosann Jweid.  
Please help keep our member list current

with address changes sent to:  
Pat Whitney, 1117 Earl Avenue,  
Schenectady, 12309. Also check to see  
when you last renewed and save us  
sending a statement in May.

## REPORTS AND NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

BUDGET 1991- On October 1, the County Manager officially released his proposed budget for 1991. It is expected that costs for Medicaid, Social Services and other mandated programs will place a heavy burden on Schenectady County in 1991.

In spite of difficult times ahead, the County Manager is recommending that the existing level of library services be continued. The Library Board of Trustees is appreciative of his recognition of the important role of the public library in our community.

GLENVILLE BRANCH LIBRARY- Recently a group of volunteers implemented the landscaping design for the new Glenville Branch Library. In the course of a single Saturday all of the shrubs were planted, soaker hoses installed and mulch applied. The shrubs add a beautiful finishing touch to the Glenville Library.

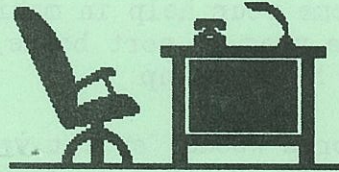
Through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Speanburg, the American Ivy Society is providing experimental ground cover of ivies along the entire length of the back of the library. The lawn has also been seeded and the new grass is growing nicely.

### AUTOMATION OF THE SCOTIA BRANCH LIBRARY-

On Monday, September 17, the Scotia Branch Library converted from manual to automated circulation. The change-over was smooth and occurred without any difficulty. At the present time the Central Library, Woodlawn Branch and Scotia Branch are fully automated.

HISPANIC OUTREACH PROGRAM- The Library recently concluded a year-long outreach program aimed at making the Library a more relevant institution in providing for the informational and educational needs of the Hispanic Community.

This project, funded by a Federal grant, allowed the Library to purchase a collection of library materials in Spanish and provide a series of orientation programs focusing on the Library's informational services such as the Education and Job Information Center and the Health Information Center. During tours of the Library, participants showed a great deal of interest in Children's services, especially the Toddler Center.



## ADELE BROWN AND CATHERINE TOWER TWO SPECIAL LIBRARIAN VOLUNTEERS

Adele Brown and Catherine Tower have been a vital part of the Schenectady Library for 45 years; first as staff librarians, then as volunteers. It is said that no one is indispensable, but, if not indispensable they can never be replaced.

Since their retirement over 15 years ago, they have been devoted volunteers who sort all discarded and donated books for the Friends' Book Sale. This takes time, judgement and physical stamina. They average two mornings a week deciding which books to keep, which to discard, and which to add to the Branches' collections. For three full hours each day, they are standing, bending and shelving books, which is an important link in processing the books for sale.

Both women came here in 1945 from the Pittsburgh Library system. Ms. Tower was hired as head of the Acquisitions and Processing Department, which is now Technical Services. Upon retiring at the end of 1974, she had seen the book collection grow from 108,159 to 300,000 books, and the budget increase from \$26,940 to \$185,000. Ms. Brown came as a branch librarian at Brandywine, which later became the Duane Branch. She was also instrumental in establishing the Bookmobile, became a reference librarian at Central and head librarian at Wingate (now Rotterdam). Adele was promoted to Coordinator of Branches, a position she held until her retirement in April 1975.

In the past 45 years, Adele and Cay have accumulated a fund of knowledge. They have seen and been involved in many changes at the library as well as in the community. Adele continues to substitute at the Reference desk, where she is known to be an expert on British detective stories.

They have had a long friendship, working and traveling together for many years. Retirement has made extensive trips possible throughout the U.S., the British Isles, Western Europe, Egypt and Scandinavia. Beautiful slides have been shared with audiences at the Wednesday noon film series, with Adele narrating the travelogue.

As employees and then as volunteers, their professional ability is highly regarded and appreciated by the staff and administrators. We hope that they are able to continue their commitment to serve the library for many more years. It is quite evident that their knowledge, experience and dedication cannot be replaced.

Roberta D. Berk- Coordinator of Volunteers

### MONDAY NOON PROGRAMS CONTINUE

A series of three lectures on 20th century Jewish writers will begin Monday, November 5th, presented by Professor Peter Heinegg, chairman of the English Department at Union College. Franz Kafka is the author to be discussed for this first meeting. Following dates are November 19th on Isaac Bashevis Singer; and November 26th on Isaak Babel. These literary lectures were originally scheduled to start October 10th.

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TABLE TALKS will follow in December, with the following programs:

- December 3- ARE WE MORTGAGING OUR FUTURE?  
Bradley Lewis, professor of economics at Union College, who writes frequently for the Gazette Op Ed page.
- December 10- SCHENECTADY HISTORICAL ASPECTS  
Larry Hart, City and County Historian, and "Tales of Old Dorp" columnist.
- December 17- TEACHING ENGLISH IN THAILAND  
Cathie Currin, head librarian at Niskayuna High School, who spent seven weeks in Thailand this past summer, sponsored by AFS.

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BOOKS SANDWICHED IN will resume January 7th, beginning a series of six reviews.

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These popular Monday noon-hour programs offered by the Friends are held in the McChesney Room at 12 o'clock, with coffee and tea available. Harry Stevens, Frank Steiner and Jack Ward are on the committee.



"The Art of Gift Giving," "An Adirondack Christmas" and a Lego Building Workshop are special holiday treats to look forward to at Central Library. Ellen Von Wellsheim will show and tell all about "The Art of Gift Giving" on Thursday, November 15th at 7 p.m. in the McChesney Room.

Holiday surprises for the children begin with "An Adirondack Christmas" with musician/storyteller Christopher Shaw on Thursday, December 20, at 7 p.m., also in the McChesney Room. Families and Friends will laugh and sing-along during a celebration in story and song. A regional entertainer, Shaw celebrates an old-fashioned home-spun holiday of Adirondack traditions.

Another Friends-sponsored December event is a Lego Building Workshop, conducted by guest Barbara Bennett on Friday, December 28 at 2 p.m. in the Children's Room. Pre-registration is required for this school vacation-week program.

### NOON PROGRAMS NEED HELP--CAN YOU?

We need Friends to help with the vital noontime programs sponsored by the Friends of the Library. You would take part in selecting books, reviewers, topics and speakers, and meet with and contact interesting people. If you would be willing to be a co-ordinator, or help a coordinator for a single set of programs (4-6 sessions) in winter, spring or fall, please call Frank Steiner (399-7032) or bring in the form below to one of the noon programs.

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	Coordinator	Helper	Season
BOOKS SANDWICHED IN	_____	_____	_____
TABLE TALKS	_____	_____	_____
SCIENCE	_____	_____	_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

JOE MARAS - A VERY GOOD FRIEND

Joe Maras loved our library and used and served it well. He died September 17th. We will greatly miss him. Joe was a member of the Board of the Friends of the Library for four years, having to resign in 1989 because of ill health. During his terms he chaired the Ethnic programs, and was liaison for the Great Decisions and World Federalists programs. He was well known for his many years at Union College.

Mildred Maras, his wife of 48 years, was in the hospital with a broken hip when he died, and is now recuperating at home. Mildred was an active member of the Board for three terms, ably serving on many committees and chairing the nominating committee for several years.

Gifts in Joe's memory are being received by the Friends. What's better than a book to remember a very good Friend!



VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Volunteers and volunteer hours are increasing at SCPL as reported by Roberta Berk, Coordinator of Volunteers, at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon held in the McChesney Room June 12th. The total number of hours was 14,127 for 1989-90, an increase of 1100, and the average number of volunteers rose from 99 to 110 per month.

The Special Service Award was presented to Jack Ward for his outstanding service. He has donated over 2400 hours in four years to the Technical Services Department and has worked on many other projects that benefitted the entire library system. Jack is also a member of the Friends of the Library Board.

"Deciding About Death," was a provocative talk given by Professor Robert Baker, Chairman of the Philosophy Department at Union College.

Seventy-six volunteers attended the luncheon, with staff, Board of Trustees members and Friends of the Library there to honor them.

"A JOURNEY IN PROGRESS"

Young Adult Services is offering two special programs this fall for teenagers and their families.

"A Journey in Progress," describing her experiences in trying to become an Episcopal Priest, will be presented by Patricia Jones, Deacon at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Sunday December 16, at 2 p.m. in the Ronald Dixon Room at Central Library.

On October 30, Jeanne Jenkins, Senior Associate Dean of Undergraduate Admissions at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, demystified the writing of the college entrance essay.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We need help for many clerical jobs including sorting, shelving books, filing, typing and computer input at Central and the Branches. Technical Services has many books and periodicals to mend. There is training and supervision for all positions. For information, call Roberta Berk at 382-3521.



BETTY MATHES, who willingly and efficiently typed the Newsletter for many years, became ill in the spring. She was still concerned with getting it out and ran some final labels for us before her death June 20th. She will long be remembered and missed.

FRIENDS OF SCPL

- President.....Frank Steiner
- 1st Vice President...Harry Stevens
- 2nd Vice President...Eleanor Friedman
- Recording Secretary..Kathryn Scudera
- Treasurer.....Junice Wusterbarth
- Newsletter Editors Katherine Dixon and  
and Production..... Kathryn Scudera
- Circulation.....Edgar Brown and  
Mildred Neslin
- Membership.....Patricia Whitney  
1117 Earl Avenue  
Schenectady, 12309

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library  
Corner of Liberty and Clinton Streets  
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JANUARY 1991

VOL XXVI NO. 3



BOOKS-SANDWICHED-IN  
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1991

Coordinated by Frank Steiner

- January 7 Parting with Illusions by Vladimir Posner  
Reviewed by: JOSEPH BOARD, Professor of Political Science at Union College. He is knowledgeable about the USSR as well as other countries, and has reviewed more books for us than we can count.
- January 14 Legacies by Bette Bao Lord  
Reviewed by: DONALD THURSTON, Professor of Political Science and History at Union college, where he is Director of the East Asian Studies Program. He's travelled extensively in the Far East and Middle East, about which he has written.
- January 28 The Book of J interpreted by Harold Bloom  
Reviewed by: DR. CHARLES SLAP, Minister, Schenectady Unitarian Society and BSI reviewer.
- February 4 Rabbit at Rest by John Updike  
Reviewed by: MARY ARENSBERG, Professor of English at SUNYA. She last reviewed for us Cat's Eyes in 1989.
- February 11 Lucy by Jamaica Kincaid  
Reviewed by: KATE WINTER, Professor of English at SUNYA. She reviewed Emily Dickinson for us in 1987 and Tracks in 1989.
- February 25 The Politics of Rich and Poor by Kevin Phillips  
Reviewed by: MARTIN EDELMAN, Professor of Political Science at SUNYA.



RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS BY BOOKS

The Friends have long been in the business of supporting volunteer efforts at our library. Last month three dedicated volunteers -- Adele Brown, Catherine Tower and Jack Ward -- were the first to be recognized as recipients of a new and very special award underwritten by the Friends: the Special Service Book Award.

Under this new program a book will be purchased for the library's permanent collection in a subject area of interest to the honoree. A bookplate will bear the volunteer's name and an inscription stating that the book is given to the library in recognition of dedicated service. What better way to honor a library volunteer?



Schenectady County Public Library was recently cited for its involvement in the year-long Schenectady 300 Celebration. The library played an important role in the Colonial Winter Festival held in February.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

"Variety" describes the Friends' sponsored programs for children this winter;

January 12 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Glenville - WINTER STORYTELLING - Bill Cliff  
 January 19 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Glenville - ORIGAMI ANIMALS - Barbara Bennett

During Schenectady's Colonial Festival the following Branch programs;

Feb. 5 (Tues. 3:30 p.m.) Hamilton Hill - VALENTINE STORIES & CRAFT - Frances Brown  
 Feb. 6 (Wed. 3:30 p.m.) Niskayuna - COLONIAL HEARTS AND FLOWERS - Frances Brown  
 Feb. 7 (Thurs. 3:30 p.m.) Woodlawn - COLONIAL HEARTS AND FLOWERS - Frances Brown  
 Feb. 9 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Glenville - HERITAGE FESTIVAL FOLKSINGING - Terri Roben

And warming the following cold winter weeks we present;

Feb. 13 (Wed. 3 p.m.) Mont Pleasant - VALENTINE STORIES & CRAFT -  
 Frances Brown  
 Feb. 16 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Scotia - HERITAGE FESTIVAL FOLKSINGING - Terri Roben  
 Feb. 23 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Central - CELEBRATE JAPAN AND LEARN ORIGAMI - Barbara  
 Bennett  
 Mar. 9 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Glenville - STRING FAMILY FLING - Nancy Blaufuss  
 Mar. 9 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Central - CELEBRATE ENGLAND AND MEET BEATRIX POTTER -  
 Charlotte Stearns  
 Mar. 12 (Tues. 3 p.m.) Hamilton Hill - MUSICAL FUN WITH CATHY WINTER  
 Mar. 13 (Wed. 3:30 p.m.) Mont Pleasant - MUSICAL FUN WITH CATHY WINTER  
 Mar. 14 (Thurs. 3:30 p.m.) Woodlawn - MIKE McCREA - JUGGLER  
 Mar. 16 (Sat. 2 p.m.) Scotia - STRING FAMILY FLING - Nancy Blaufuss  
 Mar. 20 (Wed. 3:30 p.m.) Niskayuna - MIKE McCREA - JUGGLER  
 Mar. 26 (Tues. 3:30 p.m.) Duane - BUNNY FUN WITH ASTRO THE CLOWN AND HOUDINI  
 Mar. 30 (Sat. 1 p.m.) Quaker Street-Duanesburg - CREATIVE MOVEMENT PLUS -  
 Scotia-Glenville Children's Museum

Thanks to the Friends' generosity, a delighted Children's Department has stretched dollars to bring the County's children a wide range of talent. *You all come too!*

### BRANCHING OUT

The Duane Branch will soon be converting out to automated circulation. The entire collection has been barcoded and inventoried in preparation for this event. As soon as a piece of the circulation desk which is now on order is received, Duane will be ready to go on line. Mont Pleasant is scheduled to get started January 8th. Rotterdam Branch is about halfway through their barcoding project and will be ready to go on line this summer. Woodlawn and Scotia are already automated.

Community contributions have paid for Glenville's beautiful landscaping pro-

ject. Volunteers planted the trees and shrubs in September, top soil was spread in the front area and grass seed sown. It should look lovely come spring. Soon the meeting room at Glenville will have new aluminum blinds paid for by gifts from the Scotia-Glenville Senior Citizens and the Scotia-Glenville Rotary Club.

Dorothy Mancini, the Branch librarian at Rotterdam, Quaker Street and Extension, will be retiring January 5th. She and her husband will be heading south for three months in Florida.

### EAGER READERS NEED YOU

One of our most successful volunteer programs is at nursing homes, where bi-weekly visits are made to deliver books and magazines to the residents.

Glendale, Kingsway Arms, and Baptist Retirement Center are now being served but we would like to include more area homes. All we need are volunteers. The regular, eager readers are very grateful to have someone visit them, bring them reading material and fill requests.

This rewarding service takes only two to

three hours every two weeks. A car is necessary. Those now participating are Oliver and Ethel Murray, Esther Swanker at Glendale Home; Elsie Maddaus at Baptist Retirement, and Karen Powell at Kingsway Arms.

If you are interested in making more happy readers, please contact Phyllis Bornt or Roberta Berk at the Central Library. They will arrange to have you visit with one of the present volunteers to see whether or not you might like to help.

## LIBRARIES FOR DEMOCRACY, PRODUCTIVITY AND LITERACY

There was excitement in the air as more than 300 librarians, trustees, elected officials and members of the general public gathered in the Empire State Plaza in Albany on November 28th for the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services. Its purpose was to assess the future role of libraries; and "Library and Information Services for Democracy, Productivity and Literacy" was the theme.

The Governor's opening remarks spoke eloquently of the need for a literate citizenry, and Commission Chairman Richard Wade continually emphasized this point. Governor Cuomo cited the importance of libraries in a democratic society and also noted that libraries in New York State are cost effective and the flagship in the library world. He concluded his presentation by stating that libraries are "essential and a civilizing element." Author William Kennedy and Commissioner of Education Thomas Sobol were among other speakers.

Attending from Schenectady County were Al deAprix, member of the County Legislature; Harold Wusterbarth, Esther Swanker, and Marion Grimes, Library trustees; Ronald Lagasse, Library Director; Nancy Gifford, Library professional; Rachel Cahill, a Girl Scout; and Walter Grattidge, a library supporter. At the conference, Miss Cahill was also elected as a delegate representing District 23, to the White House Conference on Libraries that will be held July 9-13, 1991, in Washington, D.C. Mr. Grattidge was chosen as alternate.

Nancy Gifford, as our representative on the Resolutions committee, labored into the first night of the conference to produce, with the other committee members, a book of 40 "floor" resolutions (those which would be debated on the floor at the final plenary session) and a book of resolutions called the "paper ballot" which delegates were given to vote during the final session.

Over 920 resolutions were considered, and 200 voted on, with 30 of these debated on the floor. Among the resolutions adopted were those concerning increased library support, literacy efforts and universal library service. Familiar resolutions called for strengthening school library networks, mandating a librarian in every school, unrestricted access to all public libraries, and a State and National information policy.

The Conference was directed by Marion Crouse, a resident of Niskayuna; and Esther Swanker served with the Working Group which helped plan and carry out the conference. Schenectady's excellent printing facilities were called on frequently to assist in reproducing conference documents and delegate mailings, as turn-around time at the State Education Department was too slow for the volume of material required.

Members of the Friends served as volunteers on several occasions, helping with mailings and pre-conference activities. Junice Wusterbarth and Kim Scudera were among the helpers.



### RACHEL IS GOING TO WASHINGTON

A thirteen-year-old Girl Scout is going to the White House Conference on Libraries next summer to represent us. Rachel Cahill is a Cadet Girl Scout in Scotia Troop No. 432, Mohawk Council. She is going because, when asked by Esther Swanker if she would like to attend the regional meeting last August, she said "yes." And then when she was chosen to attend the Governor's Conference from the general public at that meeting, she said "I'd like to."

Rachel, an 8th grader at Scotia-Glenville Junior High, is a library user. At school she frequents it for class projects and recreational reading. At Union College she accompanies her mother, Mary, a librarian there, and does research on her special interest in the Civil War.

She also cares enough to involve herself in the adult world of committees, caucuses, meetings and voting, which took place in Albany at the Governor's Conference on Libraries in November.

Wearing her Girl Scout uniform, she directed the color guard of Niskayuna Brownies and led the Pledge of Allegiance, opening the conference. As a member of the youth forum, she was their spokesperson in presenting the resolution supporting freedom of use of library materials for everyone. To be voted on as a delegate she had to circulate a petition, receiving 36 signatures. In her category she was outpolled only by two well-known state regents. So Rachel is going to Washington, along with her proud family.

## ENRICH YOUR LIFE WITH TEACHING

Tutoring an adult in basic reading and writing skills is a guaranteed challenge! Would you like to try it? The Schenectady chapter of Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA) is looking for volunteers interested in teaching basic literacy skills to adults. A training workshop will be held in the McChesney Room on these dates:

January 30 (Wed.) 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
 February 2 (Sat.) 9:15 - 3:15 p.m.  
 February 9 (Sat.) 9:15 - 1:15 p.m.  
 February 13 (Wed.) 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.  
 February 27 (Wed.) 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

New volunteers are asked to attend all training sessions, have the equivalent of a high school education, be available to tutor one adult student at least one or two hours a week, and pay a registration and materials fee of \$20. No prior teaching experience is necessary. Interested individuals should contact the LVA office, 372-9819, for further information. Pre-registration is required.

Volunteers wishing to teach adults how to speak and understand English might want to consider LVA's English as a Second Language training, which begins on March 19th. No foreign language background is required! Call the LVA office for details.

### LVA - A NATURAL PARTNERSHIP

LVA-Schenectady moved its office from Zion Lutheran Church to the second floor of SCPL two years ago. Since that time, the Literacy Volunteers program has been greatly enhanced by its uniquely cooperative relationship with the Library, reports program director Jan Rose.

Library support includes: office, meeting and training space at Central; private tutoring space at Central and all Branches; adult literacy materials collections at Central and Branches; space for LVA's private material collection at Central; literacy software for use on the Apple IIGS at Central, Duane and Hamilton Hill.

Jo Adams, reference librarian and LVA tutor, serves as the Library's liaison with Literacy Volunteers. In that ca-

capacity, she oversees the purchase of literacy materials and software, conducts Library tours, and, along with Andy Kulmatiski, computer orientations for LVA tutors and students. Recently Jo began facilitating a monthly "Reading Circle" for adult literacy students. Participants read a pre-assigned short story and discuss it at the meeting. In this format, the pleasure of reading can be shared with others pursuing the common goal of becoming more fluent readers.

Literacy Volunteers owes much to the Library's cooperation and support. Libraries and literacy-- what could be a more natural link? And LVA receives annual support from the Friends which helps to make all this possible.



### LIBRARY ANIMALS GO TO SCHOOL



Library Link is still a thriving outreach program, funded jointly by the Friends of the Library and NYS Division for Youth. Over the years, Children's librarians have presented story programs to thousands of pre-school and school-age children. Recently we have tried to encourage library use by the teachers of children. This effort has been met with positive responses as teachers learn about the numerous resources of the public library.

This past summer, NYS Division for Youth granted the program additional funds to implement another step. We are in the process of assembling story program kits

for teachers to borrow. The actual kit is a brand-new style of Tough Traveler bag which will hold 3-4 books, a puppet for the teacher, a smaller puppet for student use, and a set of presentation ideas including related songs and finger plays. Each kit will have a theme such as dogs, cats, or elephants.

These materials have been selected by Children's librarians for their universal appeal and sure-fire success. Teachers and children are now able to enjoy these SCPL "instant" story-hour programs.

- Nancy Gifford

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year 1990 was another good year as far as the Friends organization is concerned. Activities in support of the Library programs continued and were appreciated. We made some changes; for instance, the Literary Lectures that used to be presented on Wednesday mornings, were shifted to Monday noontime, and the attendance more than tripled over last year's. In April we will have a series on contemporary Latin American literature.

All the 1990 noon programs have been videotaped and were shown over Channel 16 at 2:30 p.m. the following Tuesdays. Copies of all of these are or will become available at Central for checking out. Check at the Reference Desk.

The ever-popular book sales provided record funds for the purchase of new books for the Library Branches. At these events one sees the largest number of our members participating in needed activities. Marjorie Woods' operation prevented her from running the Fall sale, but Pat and Roger Whitney took over and did a great job.

Among new Board members I want to mention especially two; Jack Ward organized the Fall Book-Sandwiched-In series that attracted record numbers (people had to be turned away from the Steve Berk talk); and Kim Scudera stepped in as Secretary of the Board, published one of the newsletters and has provided assistance whenever needed. I also thank Kay Dixon who produces informative and entertaining newsletters.

I want to encourage even more of you to participate in our programs during 1991. We need new people to coordinate the popular Monday noon adult programs. You will find these activities provide satisfaction and fun and you meet very interesting people. Volunteers are a great asset in the community and the FSCPL organization is no exception.

- Frank Steiner

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT EJIC

The Education and Job Information Center at Central has bulletin board displays to attract and inform potential users of this important service. We need someone with some art background to work on them.

Volunteers are also needed to assist in fund-raising for EJIC. It would involve

doing some research to find organizations or companies who give out grants for educational purposes.

For further information call Roberta Berk at 382-3521 or 382-3500. Training and supervision are provided.

## GIFTS



A Friends' gift, the brochure rack for the Children's Room, is in place near the Toddler's Center. Also, the Friends' gift of a diemaker is being used to make bookmarks, which Roberta Berk included in holiday cards sent to our volunteers.

## COUNTY JAIL PROGRAM - MAGAZINE DONATIONS

Magazine donations for the County Jail program are welcome. Undelivered magazines are being picked up at the Albany Post Office, but there are fewer available since some are now being sent to our troops. Sports magazines and Ebony are especially welcome, says Jean Sampson, coordinator. Anyone having contributions may call her at 393-3093. Ed Brown has now joined the ranks of faithful volunteers.

### BOOK SALE NOTES

Marjorie Woods is back on her feet after her knee operation and back at the library, attending Monday noon as well as Trustee's meetings. Her presence has even been reported in the book sale sorting area. Her dedication and determination were even challenged by having to side-step the stairs down from the second floor when the elevator refused to run. Fortunately a strong arm was there to assist her. Cheers to you, Marty!

A note of thanks and appreciation to Roger Whitney from volunteers at the fall sale who were warmed on that cold, blustery day by his thoughtful offers of hot drinks and general helpfulness.

We are looking ahead to next year's sales, scheduled for May 4th and September 28th. Book donations are welcome -- bring them in clearly marked boxes to the loading platform at the Central Library, and ring the bell. Our good friends in Maintenance will carry on from there.

### CONFERENCE EXHIBIT

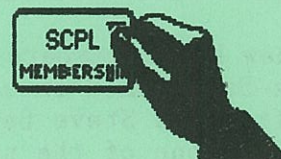
One of the exhibits at the Governor's Conference receiving a lot of attention and praise was coordinated by Margery Beeler, Assistant Director. It highlights the life-long services of SCPL to everyone in the community, from toddlers to seniors. Look for it in the Central Library. It will make you even prouder of all we do!

### MEMBERSHIP NOTES

We welcome our newest members;

- Mrs. Robin T. Blood
- Miss Helen J. Lamberson
- Dr. Nathan Paul
- Dorothy Roessle
- Joann and Ted Rautenberg

Work is nearly complete on a new Friends membership flyer, which should be available at Central and the Branches this month. Although the holiday season is behind us, why not pick up a copy for a friend?



#### FRIENDS OF SCPL

- President.....Frank Steiner
- 1st Vice President...Harry Stevens
- 2nd Vice President...Eleanor Friedman
- Recording Secretary..Kathryn Scudera
- Treasurer.....Junice Wusterbarth
- Newsletter Editors   Katherine Dixon and  
and Production..... Kathryn Scudera
- Circulation.....Edgar Brown and  
Mildred Neslin
- Membership.....Patricia Whitney  
1117 Earl Avenue  
Schenectady, 12309

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

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MONDAY NOON PROGRAMS CONTINUE

WITH SCIENCE, LATIN-AMERICAN LITERATURE AND TABLE TALKS

There will be opportunities to hear about more Schenectady Contributions to Science and Technology at the March Monday programs beginning on the 4th. This Spring Science Series has been coordinated by Dr. Walter Grattidge and Dr. Herbert Strong, who have been planning these for five years. The meetings will take place in the McChesney Room from 12 noon to 1:15 p.m. The speakers are all from GE Corporate R & D.

March 4 - PCB BIO-DEGRADATION IN THE HUDSON RIVER  
John F. Brown Jr.

March 11- CHEMICAL VAPOR DEPOSITION OF DIAMONDS  
Steven M. Gasworth

March 18- CHEMISTRY IN THE LIVING BODY  
Paul A. Bottomly

March 25- SCHENECTADY CONTINUES TO BE THE HOME OF  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS  
Walter L. Robb

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Following this series, Prof. Alberto Carlos of SUNYA will present two lectures sponsored by the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library. Prof. Carlos has given a number of BSI reviews of Latin American novelists in the past that have been well received.

April 8 - Prof. Carlos will discuss contemporary  
Latin-American Literature in general.

April 15- He will deal with recent Latin-American  
Nobel Prize winners in Literature.

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Then come three Table Talks:

April 22- THE ALBANY COURT MEDIATION SERVICE  
Walter Goodwin, retired G.E. Engineer

April 29- HOW THE CAPITAL DISTRICT MEMORIAL SOCIETY  
HELPS TO ARRANGE AND PRE-PLAN FUNERALS  
Len Dietz and Ed Dahlstedt

May 6- CHANGING NEEDS IN OUR AGING POPULATION  
Dr. Rudy Nydegger

Frank Steiner has arranged the above Literature and Table Talk Programs.



Katie Rich and Mildred Maras are again lining up an interesting series of six BOOKS-SANDWICHED-IN programs beginning May 13th. Flyers will list these, and books and reviewers will be announced at the Annual Meeting.

## AIDS FOR AIDS IN HEALTH INFO CENTER

Information packets about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome are being completed by Serena Butch, Head of the Children's Department, and Jo Adams, Young Adult Services librarian, and will be available in the Health Information Center at the Central Library soon for parents to use as a focus for discussions with their children about AIDS.

The information for the three packets has been chosen and reviewed at three levels for discussions with elementary age children, middle school age children, and high school age young people. The packet format is helpful because, although the same information can be found in other sections of the library, there will be the convenience of having books, pamphlets, and a video browsing card replica in one place.

The work of creating information packets that contain up-to-date, concise material in different forms, for parents with children of all ages, started last fall, when Serena and Jo met with Priti Irani, of the Cornell Cooperative Extension program, who speaks to community groups on this topic. When Priti's audiences ask where they can find information, she will be able to refer them to

the most logical place, their public library. A final announcement of the availability of the packets will be in the Daily Gazette when the new video, "What is Aids?" arrives in the Library.

## STAUNCH SUPPORTER SENATOR FARLEY

Senator Hugh Farley was very much involved in the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services held in November, though his name was not listed with those other Schenectady County delegates in the last Newsletter. We are very sorry, Senator, and thank you for representing us so well.

This is an opportunity, however, for us to express our deep appreciation to the Senator who is such a staunch supporter of libraries. In his role as Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Libraries, he has worked tirelessly to secure increased State Aid for all types of libraries. It was through his efforts in the Senate that our library received a grant to purchase the computer catalogs that have replaced card catalogs at the Central Library and Branches. Senator Farley will also be a delegate to the White House Conference on Libraries this summer.

## MORE IS BETTER

Circulation at SCPL increased by 53,060 items, from 857,731 in 1990 to 910,791 in 1991. This represents the fourth straight year of increases in circulation and the largest circulation since 1981, reports Ronald L. Lagasse, Director. A big surprise was the Glenville Branch Library which circulated over 46,000 items in a 10-month period. This exceeded our most optimistic predictions by 100%.

The number of questions answered at the Central reference desk also increased dramatically by over 20% - from 64,000 to 77,000. A few other interesting statistics: 14,252 overdue notices were sent out and 14,000 reserves were processed.

Added to the Scotia and Woodlawn Branches, as well as the Central Library, the Mont Pleasant Branch converted to automated circulation on January 11, 1991.



## MARCH IS...MAGIC, MUSIC AND MERRYMAKING



In March, Friends' program funds will provide these special treats for children:

Saturday	3/9	2:00 p.m.	at <u>Central</u>	"Celebrate England and Meet Beatrix Potter" with guest Charlotte Stearns
		2:00 p.m.	at <u>Glenville</u>	"String Family Fling" with music instructor Nancy Blaufuss
Tuesday	3/12	3:30 p.m.	at <u>Hamilton Hill</u>	"Musical Fun with Cathy Winter"
Wednesday	3/13	3:30 p.m.	at <u>Mont Pleasant</u>	"Musical Fun with Cathy Winter"
Thursday	3/14	3:30 p.m.	at <u>Woodlawn</u>	"Mike McCrea, Juggler"
Saturday	3/16	2:00 p.m.	at <u>Scotia</u>	"String Family Fling" with Nancy Blaufuss
Wednesday	3/20	3:30 p.m.	at <u>Niskayuna</u>	"Mike McCrea, Juggler"
Tuesday	3/26	3:30 p.m.	at <u>Duane</u>	"Bunny Fun with Astro the Clown and Houdini"
Saturday	3/30	1:00 p.m.	at <u>Quaker Street</u>	"Creative Movement Plus," program of the Scotia-Glenville Children's Museum

Please drop in at any program to enjoy the special experiences the Friends are providing for children.

— Lois Hodges



## BOOKS, BOOKS, AND MORE . . .

Our next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, from 9:00 to 5:00. Following their great success last September, Pat and Roger Whitney have been appointed co-chairmen of this semi-annual event. Here's a guide to the big day:

Right now, and until two weeks before the sale, we are accepting boxed or bagged books, records, and magazines at the loading platform at Central Library--just ring the bell to alert maintenance. Books and magazines on nearly every subject are welcome; our perennial best sellers are childrens' books, paperbacks, reference books (though not textbooks) and non-fiction works covering adventure and war, plants, animals, homemaking, art and music. Professional and trade journals, weekly news or financial magazines and bulletins, and National Geographics are not needed--don't forget our local hospitals and nursing homes.

If you have books of greater than average value, please bring them in marked "Better Books". Adele Brown and Cay Tower are evaluating them with experienced librarians' eyes. Recently a fine set of volumes was sold to a book dealer for several hundred dollars to add to the book sale fund.

Help is needed up to the day of the sale to sort books; the better they're sorted, the easier it is for buyers to find them. Come anytime for as long as you can! Volunteers are also needed soon to put up flyers announcing the sale. On Friday afternoon, May 3, we will set up indoors. We need lots of volunteers to get everything downstairs and on the tables, and to put up signs.

Saturday morning, from 8:00 to 9:00, many hands will be needed to set up the outdoor tables. From 9:00 to 5:00, in two-hour shifts, we need cashiers and sales assistants (to help buyers, rearrange books, etc.). The half-price sale will begin at 3:00, the bag sale (at \$1.00 per bag) at 4:00, and the giveaway at 4:30. During this time we'll also begin the process of cleaning up and taking down the tables.

If you can lend a hand, please call the library at 382-3500 or Pat Whitney at 374-2120 (or stop by the switchboard) and leave your name and telephone number. We'll get right back to you. See you there!



### MARJORIE WOODS RETIRES

Friends of Schenectady County Public Library book sales have evolved over a period of years from the vision of its founders into a cherished tradition. "Book Sale" started before I became involved in Friends' activities and will continue into the future.

Now I must step down as chairman and turn the leadership over to others. My enthusiasm is still there and I plan to continue active participation in book sales throughout the year and in my work as a member of the Board of Trustees of Schenectady County Public Library.

"Book Sale" has been the best fun I have ever had.

— Marjorie Woods

### TWENTY SEVEN YEARS OF BOOK SALES

The book sales began in the fall of 1973 and continued as an annual event through 1984. Receipts during this period began at \$1,780 and increased \$5,000 until they reached \$6,626. In May 1985, a semi-annual program was started, with \$7,820 collected that year. Since then the Branch book funds have been supplemented annually as follows:

1986-\$9,505; 1987-\$9,969; 1988-\$9,100;  
1989-\$8,818; 1990-\$9,475.

### COLONIAL FESTIVAL

The library once again was a full participant in Schenectady's Colonial Festival, celebrated this year from February 1 to February 10. At Central, programs included an illustrated talk by Dr. Susan Staffa, "How to be an Old House Detective," and two by Wayne Harvey "The Dubious Pleasures of Colonial Travel" and "Sticks and Bricks." Allan Cross gave an afternoon of lessons on learning to read the writing of the Colonial era. Spinning and weaving demonstrations were held at various times throughout the week by Margaret McKinley, Angelique Weyts, Renee Green and Maria Hull.

Story and craft programs for children at Central included "Celebrate Canada" and "Celebrate China". Six Branch programs were attended by 125 people. Four of these were presented by Frances Brown, one of SCPL's valuable roving part-time librarians. Folksinger Terri Roben entertained at Glenville. Friends of the Library funding made four of these programs possible. The Library was happy to be able to contribute to this important community event which each year helps to focus attention on Schenectady's history while providing a wide variety of activities for all ages. Margery Beeler served as the Library's representative to the Festival planning committee.

## "READ -- SUCCEED" DURING NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - APRIL 14-21

The challenge of "Read--Succeed" is the National theme set by the American Library Association for this year's National Library Week, April 14-21. The Schenectady County Public Library will emphasize this theme, with a variety of its own sub-themes ranging from "Open Your Mind," to "Your Library--Your Community Treasure-House." Phyllis Ochs and Junice Wusterbarth are co-chairmen of the week's events.

Among the activities planned is a program by local psychologist Norman Goldman on Sunday, April 14, from 1:30-3:30. Central will also offer tours of the reference, technical services and children's departments, called "Backstage at the Library" during the week. There will be a session on "Using Your Library in Your Job Search."

Branch and Central programs planned for this week include:

TUESDAY	3:30 p.m.	<u>Hamilton Hill</u>	Story Telling - Nancy Gifford
	6:15 p.m.	<u>Central</u>	Friends Annual Dinner, McChesney Room - Connie Large, speaker
WEDNESDAY	12 Noon	<u>Central</u>	Wednesday Noon Films - Ribbon Project
	3:30 p.m.	<u>Mt. Pleasant</u>	Story Telling - Nancy Gifford
	3:45 p.m.	<u>Scotia</u>	Jam Session Story and Crafts (pre-reg. required)
	7:00 p.m.	<u>Central</u>	"Great American Read Aloud" McChesney Room
	7:30 p.m.	<u>Glenville</u>	Program on Literacy - Christy Multer
THURSDAY	3:30 p.m.	<u>Duane</u>	Read and Snack with Grandparents
	7:00 p.m.	<u>Central</u>	"How and Why" Story Writing Contest Finale
SATURDAY	2:00 p.m.	<u>Glenville</u>	Creative Movement Plus (Pre-reg. req.) Scotia/Glenville Children's Museum
	1:00 p.m.	<u>Quaker St.</u>	Age of Dinosaurs



### PRE-SCHOOL EVENTS

Pre-school Films will be shown at Woodlawn Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

Pre-school Story Hours will be held at:

<u>Central</u>	Monday and Tuesday	10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
<u>Quaker St.</u>	Tuesday	10 a.m.
<u>Rotterdam</u>	Tuesday	10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
<u>Duane</u>	Wednesday	10:30 a.m.
<u>Glenville</u>	Wednesday	1:30 p.m.
<u>Mt. Pleasant</u>	Wednesday	1:30 p.m.
<u>Niskayuna</u>	Wednesday	10 a.m.
<u>Scotia</u>	Wednesday	1:30 p.m.

**VOLUNTEERS** are urgently needed at Central and all the Branches to shelve books, and at Woodlawn to repair books. A volunteer to work on the bulletin board once a month at the Education and Job Information Center at Central would also be appreciated. Supervision and training are provided. If you can spare some time to help out at our library, please call Roberta Berk at 382-3521.

## ANOTHER YEAR WITH NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

At the Annual Meeting the Nominating Committee will propose the following slate of 1991/1992 officers and directors for the approval of the membership:

### Officers

President	Jane Somers
1st Vice President	Frank Steiner
2nd Vice President	Eleanor Friedman
Secretary	Gwen Deiber
Treasurer	Kathryn Scudera

### Board of Directors

<u>First Three-Year Term</u>	<u>Second Three-Year Term</u>
Gwen Deiber	Katherine P. Dixon
Helena B. Piotrowski	Wilma Bradt
Don Schein	Jean Sampson
Virginia Laumeister	
Walter Grattidge	

Other continuing Board Members are John Belton, Roberta Berk, Edgar Brown, Bernard Gerbert, Sara Michener, Jack Ward, Pat Whitney, Roger Whitney and Eugene Zola.

Retiring are Jan Ludwig, Millie Neslin and Junice Wusterbarth. Resigning are Mary Burch and Harry Stevens.

The Nominating Committee was headed by Junice Wusterbarth, with Millie Neslin, Roberta Berk and Harry Stevens as other members.

The Annual Report will be presented and distributed at the Dinner meeting. The Treasurer's Report to date will be given by Junice Wusterbarth. It will be posted at the end of the fiscal year, April 31st, on the Friends' bulletin boards in the main library--one on a column behind the video tapes and the other up-stairs near the copy machine in the lounge area.

The next Board meeting will be held March 26th at 7:30 p.m. in the Ronald C. Dixon Room at Central Library.

## FRIENDS COME DINE!

That tasty annual dinner is set for Tuesday, April 16th, at 6:15 p.m. in the McChesney Room at the Central Library. Come hear Constance Large talk about ways to encourage your own creative thinking, look at the book exhibit, visit the lobbying table, and eat the delicious food served by Classic Caterers. Jane Somers is chairman of the evening, with Wilma Bradt and Jean Sampson assisting her.



Tickets are \$9.00 payable to the Friends of SCPL. Mail your check using the coupon below. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, April 11th.

## MEET OUR BOARD NOMINEES

Gwendolyn Deiber has had 25 years of library experience in various capacities at SUNYA, and since 1982 has been Principal Library Clerk there. She was CSEA representative for the Library from December 1974 to June 1979, and received the 1984-85 University Award for Excellence in Support Services. We are fortunate to have her as our new secretary.

Dr. Walter Grattidge Born and educated in England, Dr. Grattidge earned his PhD in physics from Manchester University. In 1953, he came to Schenectady from MIT and since 1965 has been involved in information science and information services. Since his retirement from GE in 1985, he has been a co-owner of an information services company. He was a delegate to the recent New York State Governor's Conference this summer. Dr. Grattidge became involved with the Friends at the time the new library was conceived and built, and has been active with us ever since.

Virginia Laumeister was Director of the Southern Vermont College Library in Bennington for nine years, and previously had been its Reference Librarian. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Bennington Public Library. Virginia received her MLS from Rutgers Library School. She has recently moved back to Schenectady and recalls her association with the Friends at their first book sale in 1973.

Helena B. Piotrowski is well known to library users as a very active volunteer at Central and the Branches. She creates special displays and programs on holidays, birds, Alaska and other themes. Helena has served on the Ethnic Heritage Committee, and is a National Director of the Polish National Alliance. She comes to us with prior experience as a Board member.

Don Schein has contributed much to the community as President and General Manager of WMHT. Retiring after 32 years with the station, he came to the aid of Proctor's Theater when Dennis Madden left. He has many interests including being a ham radio operator. We are glad he can bring his wide experience to our Board.

## IRENE DAYTON IS REMEMBERED

Retired librarians make wonderful volunteers for the library! Irene Dayton, who many of you may remember, started sorting paperbacks in the early days of the Friends' book sales, when she was in her eighties. She continued into her nineties and then gave up reluctantly.

Irene was born May 25, 1890 in Stuyvesant Falls, N.Y. and died in September 1990. A graduate of Drexel Institute Library School, she started her library career in New York City. Then she spent 37 years as a Naval Librarian throughout the United States, retiring in 1957.

Now a memorial book fund has been set up through the SCPL Special Staff and Gift Fund, requested by her family. She will be long remembered in our library, and you may want to give a gift in her name.

### FRIENDS OF SCPL

President.....	Frank Steiner
1st Vice President...	Harry Stevens
2nd Vice President...	Eleanor Friedman
Recording Secretary..	Kathryn Scudera
Treasurer.....	Junice Wusterbarth
Newsletter Editors	Katherine Dixon and
and Production.....	Kathryn Scudera
Circulation.....	Edgar Brown and
	Mildred Neslin
Membership.....	Patricia Whitney
	1117 Earl Avenue
	Schenectady, 12309

JUNE-JULY 1991

VOL. XXVI NO 5

## BOOKS GALORE GO OUT THE DOOR

The spring book sale on May 4th topped all records with a grand total of \$6,600 taken in to provide lots more books for the branches. This is always a monumental effort by many dedicated Friends and volunteers, culminating in bringing the boxes of books down from the storage stacks and setting up the tables in the McChesney Room on Friday afternoon. And then, under the supervision of Pat and Roger Whitney, co-chairmen, with Marjorie Woods on hand to give invaluable advice and encouragement, Saturday starts with line of eager buyers waiting for the 9 o'clock starting signal.

This year there were 1,215 boxes of books to be gone through by 15 sorters upstairs, starting right after the fall sale. On sale day, 76 cashiers, helpers and money counters were kept very busy. Others involved were 18 volunteers who did the heavy work Friday in getting the books down, 19 who delivered 300 posters announcing the sale, and the helpers with refreshments. More hard work went into moving everything out and cleaning up after 5 o'clock Saturday. Other contributions were tables from Glendale Home, Emanuel Baptist Church, State Street Presbyterian Church, all moved by county trucks; 10 social service helpers for Friday afternoon; and coffee and doughnuts supplied by Dunkin' Donuts, Price Chopper and Grand Union.

Already looking forward to the fall book sale, scheduled for September 28th, we need more younger (the old faithfuls are getting older!) strong arms and backs for Friday's move; more book sorters who can set their own hours; and more books, magazines and records brought in not later than September 14th.

The Whitneys want to thank everybody who helped and everyone who came and bought. They are so grateful for the helpful attitude and enthusiasm of all the volunteers.

## POEMS AT A DISTANCE

Dr. Carl Niemeyer is well known to Friends for his many Literary Lectures and BSI reviews over the years. Now he will be even better known for his volume of poems just published by the Friends in recognition of his long dedication to our library and the community it serves. Most of these deal with impressions during his travels and are entitled Poems at a Distance.

The production of this soft-cover book was made possible through the dedicated volunteer efforts of Frank Steiner, Junice Wusterbarth and Kim Scudera, who spent many

long hours preparing the copy. An edition of 300 copies was printed. Proceeds are being used by the Friends for additional library projects. Copies of Poems can be obtained by writing to Frank Steiner, 105 St. Stephens Lane, Scotia, NY 12302, or by calling him at 399-7032. (\$5 plus \$1 for mailing)

Members also hosted a lovely book autographing reception in the McChesney Room on May 13th after Carl's book review of Opera and Its Symbols. The enthusiastic, capacity audience were served refreshments by Friends Helen Steiner and June Scoville.

## MORE GIFTS... MORE GIVERS

The Friends are applying for inclusion in the General Electric's "More Gifts... More Givers" matching gifts program. We must demonstrate widespread interest among GE employees and retirees in the support of our organization. If you or your spouse are connected to GE, please take a moment to fill out and send this form to our Secretary, Gwen Deiber, at 831 Parkside Avenue, Schenectady, N.Y. 12309. Thank you for making this possible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

GE Employee \_\_\_\_\_ or Retiree \_\_\_\_\_

Self \_\_\_\_\_ or Spouse (name) \_\_\_\_\_

## LOOKING FOR A JOB OR COLLEGE?

An alcoholism counselor brings his group to the Library for an orientation tour, and with the help of the Education and Job Information Center testing facilities understands his dissatisfaction with his career. A former housewife prepares for and finds her first job through EJIC and now returns whenever it's time for a job change or a promotion. Employees of Carl Co. come to EJIC for transitional counseling and placement assistance.

From women returning to the work force to white-collar professionals facing layoffs, the Center has something for everyone. Whether you prefer to scan the listings, pamphlets and files yourself or with the help of Phyllis Ochs, librarian in charge, the Center resources are available whenever the library is open.

In response to the economic downturn, EJIC services have expanded to include a Job Search Support Group and several micro-computer programs, including skills and temperament assessment, career planning, resume preparation and college selection. Regularly offered services--consultation, information, referral and resume evaluation--continue to be available.

The Library's EJIC services are now publicized in the Wall Street Journal's National Business Employment Weekly. Many people (managers, engineers, etc.) who were unaware of the Library's EJIC services have joined the Job Support Group and have begun to use our services because of this publicity. Job listings from the N.Y.S. Job Service are available as are Civil Service exam announcements. The EJIC has also cooperated with the Bethlehem Library to publish a Directory of Employment Agencies in the Capital district.

As befits its location--just to the right of Central Library's front entrance--EJIC is more than just a way into a new job. It also serves as a jumping-off point to all the services that SCPL offers.

## BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

The spring series of Books-Sandwiched-In is in full swing and has been well attended as usual. It runs through Monday, June 24th, and the fall programs will begin September 16th. Katie Rich and Mildred Maras have coordinated these. Books reviewed in this series include:

Opera and Its Symbols, by Robert Donnington  
Reviewed by Dr. Carl Niemeyer - May 13

Possession, by A. S. Byatt  
Reviewed by Dr. Randall Craig - May 20

On the Law of Nations, by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Reviewed by Dr. Jean Stern - June 3

Breaking Barriers, by Carl Rowan  
Reviewed by Judge Vincent Reilly - June 10

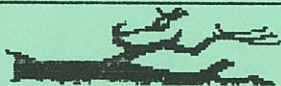
Hamlet's Mother and Other Women, by Carolyn G. Heilbrun  
Reviewer - Prof. Malcolm Willison - June 17

My Son's Story, by Nadine Gordimer  
Reviewer - Hester Shapiro - June 24

## LOBBYING FOR LIBRARIES

On Library Day at the State Capitol, March 12th, SCPL Friends and Board members met for orientation and proceeded on to appointments with Senator Farley and Assemblymen Tedisco and Tonko. These library supporters and friends told us the sad tale of the discouraging six billion dollar deficit and advised us to keep telling our story throughout the year with personal, handwritten letters. The day's mission was, with the larger NYLA group, to save the new Library Omnibus Bill which contains the first funding increase for libraries in five years.

Emphasizing that libraries "are not part of the problem, but are part of the solution," SCPL representatives and spokespersons pointed out the importance of the book collections, children's programs, job information center, and literacy training at the Library. You can help us in this effort any time of the year by calling or writing the Governor or members of the legislature to tell what the library means to you. Join us in stressing the importance of public libraries in Schenectady County.



## NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

### BOOKMOBILE RETIRED

The library's bookmobile neighborhood and school stops will become memories after July 1st. This extension service, begun 40 years ago, had about 60 stops at its peak. The annual circulation stood at 80,000 in the late 1970's, but was less than 14,000 in 1990, as more branch libraries opened. Taking the bookmobile off the road will release about 2,500 books and periodicals which will be divided up between the Rotterdam, Quaker St./Duaneburg and Glenville branches.

### MORE NURSING HOME READERS

More books, mostly large print, are now being read in more nursing homes, thanks to our volunteers. They are bringing books to patients at Glendale Home, Baptist Retirement Center, Kingsway Arms, Silver Haven and Hallmark. Leah Murray, 16-year-old granddaughter of Ollie and Ethel Murray, has been cheering them up at Silver Haven. She was inspired by her grandparents, who are long-time Glendale book visitors. Another new volunteer is Mrs. Roberta Smylie, who began going to Hallmark in April.

### REPAIRS AT SCOTIA

Work will start this month to repair the Scotia branch building, an historical landmark as you cross the Mohawk River. Because of its age, work needs to be done on the roof, chimney, porch and in other areas. This was budgeted by the county last year. The village is leasing the library building to the county for 99 years, with the county responsible for its maintenance.

### QUAKER ST/DUANESBURG OPEN SATURDAYS

It's good news that the Quaker Street/Duaneburg branch library will be open Saturdays during the summer, thanks to the generosity of the Quaker Street Cooperative Club, which has recently donated \$1,000 for this purpose. The hours will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The club has had a long interest in making books available to their rural readers. In 1942, it opened a library in the old post office, and in 1950, Quaker Street Station became part of SCPL. A new building for the branch on Route 7 and Bull Road was opened in 1984.

### NISKAYUNA BRANCH MOVE

In late summer, the Niskayuna branch will move from its present mezzanine location in the Van Antwerp School to two rooms on the first floor in the community services area, while the main part of the building is put into shape for use as classroom space again. Planning is underway for a permanent home which may be in the new Niskayuna Town Municipal Center. This move will require packing, transporting and unpacking of many boxes of books. It will also require a team of volunteers. Those helping at the Glenville branch move did it in record time. This aid from the Friends makes a big job smaller and easier.

### BOOK SALE BOOKS

Without book sale funds, the nine branches would not be able to buy any books this year. One-third of the \$6,600 will be used to purchase children's books and the rest will buy adult titles.



**Needed-** Child-sized chairs and table for programs at Duane branch. Call Harriet Gussin at 382-3504 if you have any to spare.

**Volunteers Needed!** Teens and adults, for summer work, mostly shelving of books. Training and supervision are provided. Please call Roberta Berk, coordinator of volunteers, at 382-3521 or 382-3500.

**Circulation increased** by 17,000 items January through March 1991, compared to the same period in 1990, or 7% more. This is the fourth year such gains have been made, and Reference desk requests have doubled in the last six years.

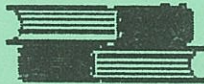
~~~~~  
**Betty Bean** will be remembered by many as a hard-working and long-term member of the County Board of Representatives as well as a vocal and visible library supporter. Gifts of books to the library are being given in her name. You may also want to contribute in her memory.  
~~~~~

**The White House** Conference on Libraries, to be held in Washington July 9-13, will have as representatives from our district Sen. Hugh Farley and Rachel Cahill, with Dr. Walter Grattidge as alternate. They were elected delegates at the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services held in Albany last November.

## SATURDAY HOURS RESTORED

Starting June 1st, the Main Library has had a reprieve, allowing it to remain open Saturdays, 9 to 5, through the 15th, and reopening Saturdays in September beginning September 7th. This is through the generosity of SEFA (Schenectady Area State Employees Federated Appeal Committee), a part of United Way of Schenectady, which recently donated \$4,711 for this purpose. These extra June hours will help high school students in studying for their final exams, and the job placement center will also remain open. Announcement had been made that these hours would have to be cut because of budget restrictions.

The Sunday closing, which started March 31, will continue until October 13th, but the library will be open on Friday nights until 9 during the time that the Saturday and Sunday closings are in effect, to meet the mandated 60 hours a week, set by the State Education Dept. There are also reduced hours at the Woodlawn, Rotterdam and Scotia branches, with revised schedules in the others. All branches except for Quaker St./Duaneburg, will be closed Saturdays through September 28th. Sunday hours will resume at the Main Library October 20th. The library is traditionally closed Sundays during July and August.



## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK



This year's National Library Week theme was "Read-Succeed," and started off with words of wisdom on "Why Some People Drive Us Crazy," offered by Schenectady psychologist Dr. Norman Goldman. Almost 100 attended this humorous Sunday afternoon program which was funded by the Friends. Other adult programs and talks during the week were on the topics of creative thinking, the Peace Ribbon, Literacy Volunteers, the Great American Read Aloud, learning styles, and writing non-fiction for a living. The Friends also funded a very successful children's program, "The Songs and Stories of the Ivy Vine Players."

The Central Library and branches displayed the Peace Ribbon during the month of April. Central also had a NLW exhibit in the adult display case as well as American Library Association celebrity "READ" posters hung on the concrete pillars. A special feature of the week was one-to-one instruction in the use of the computer catalog at Central provided by 18 dedicated volunteers. Tours and talks scheduled during the week offered a chance for the public to go "back-stage at the library." Tracy Egan, Channel 6 TV news anchorwoman, came to the library and took on the role of both children's and reference librarian. Her "Tracy is a Librarian" segment was shown on the 6 o'clock news.

In all, the week of April 14-20 was deemed successful in introducing many to the wonders of both the library and reading. The diversity of these events underscores the fact that our library is our community treasurehouse, which offers a wealth of resources to help our community residents enrich, enliven and expand their worlds. Friends' support is invaluable in these endeavors. Thanks to all of those staff, friends and volunteers whose efforts helped make the week a success.

## HARRIET ROBINSON

Not many of us live to be 106, but Harriet Robinson is and looks back at 42 years working for the Schenectady Library with fond memories. She celebrated her birthday with her Heritage Home friends on April 23rd, after 41 years of retirement. Harriet was born in 1885 in Albany and remembers when the Capitol was being built. She graduated from the Girls Academy in 1903 and later took a six-week summer library course.

She started on the loan desk in 1908 when Henry Glen was director of the old public library on Seward Place. He had nursed the library from its beginnings in 1894 until 1940 when he retired. Then came Harold Hamill who was there a year, when Miss Bernice Hodges became director. In 1953 she was succeeded by Miss E. Leonore White, who retired in 1977, and she was succeeded by Ronald Lagasse at the present library, built in 1969.

Harriet retired in 1950, ending up in the reference department after working in many capacities. These were good years shared with her sister on Union Street. One special memory was buying her first Ford, with a rumble seat, for \$900 -- and she kept driving until she was 91. She moved to the Heritage Home 16 years ago, and sits in the same room, playing solitaire, visiting with friends and keeping cool in the summer with a fan. She cheerfully says, "I manage." However she regretfully remembers old Schenectady and old friends who are no more--and all the changes in all these years.



## FOR THE CHILDREN

### FROZEN TREATS

The Summer Reading Club's ALASKAN ADVENTURE will have extra frosting thanks to Friends' program funds.

Karen Pandell will present "Alaskan Animalgrams" at Schenectady County Public Libraries on these dates. June 26 at Rotterdam; July 16 at Scotia; July 17 at Glenville; July 18 at Mont Pleasant and Hamilton Hill; July 24 at Niskayuna, July 31 at Quaker Street/Duanesburg; August 1 at Woodlawn; and August 7 at Central. Local author Pandell will show slides of Alaskan animals and will guide her audience in the writing of messages to or descriptions of the animals.



Guest singer Cathy Winter will give a special program of songs and instrumental music for "Winter in

Summer" on July 3 in the Children's Room at the Main library. Singer Paul Straussman will perform at the "End of the Trail party" at Scotia on August 13 and at Glenville, August 14. Barbara Bennett will teach "Origami of the Arctic" at Scotia on August 6.

Storyteller Nancy Gifford will capture "Arctic Animals" in tales at Scotia on June 25; Glenville on June 26; Duane on July 23; Children's Room on July 24; Niskayuna on July 31; Hamilton Hill on August 8; on August 14 at both Rotterdam and Quaker Street/Duanesburg; and on August 15 at Mont Pleasant.

Other Alaskan Adventures Friends may want to attend will include "Eskimo Escapades"--storytelling by Lois Foight Hodges--at every branch; and story and craft programs by branch children's librarians. Call branches for times and drop in to enjoy these cooling summer treats from the Friends.

### LETTER FROM LOIS FOIGHT HODGES Coordinator of Children's Services

*"The first of the new children's titles ordered with the Friends' gift of \$3,000 have begun to arrive. I want you all to know that it is a joy to have them. With this fund I have been able to order new, highly recommended children's books that the SCPL would otherwise not acquire in the foreseeable future. All have a special gift bookplate attributing them to the Friends' generosity. Many children's books go out of print within a year and I believe some of those we are receiving would never be available if our order were delayed until next year. The staff of the Children's Department and the children all thank you for coming to our rescue in this time of special need. This gift is going to make the difference in our ability to maintain our tradition of providing the best in children's literature."*

### GENERATIONS MEET AT GLENVILLE

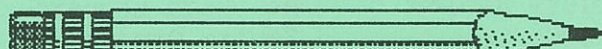
Friends may want to register for a first-time-ever intergenerational family storytelling workshop series on July 2, 9, and 16 at the Glenville branch from 7-9 p.m. these Tuesdays.

The series, entitled "Some Books + Some Stories = Somebodies!" will be presented by storyteller and teacher Jeannine Lavery of Saratoga Springs. They will pair a parent or grandparent with a school-age child, and enable these partners to hear family stories and to recall, shape, tell and record stories of events in their own lives.

The workshop programs have been made possible by a grant from the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, Inc. which honors the late beloved author-illustrator of children's books. Participants must commit to all three sessions of the series. Registration is required by June 28 at Glenville, phone 382-3306.

### DRAWING WORKSHOPS

This summer, Friends will again volunteer time in order to present a delightful program for our children, when Bruce Hiscock joins us for drawing workshops at Central and the branches. Mr. Hiscock is the author and illustrator of Tundra; The Arctic Land; The Big Rock; and The Big Tree. He will invite participants to draw with him on June 27 at Duane and Woodlawn; July 2 at Scotia and Quaker Street/Duanesburg; July 10 at Niskayuna and Central; August 1 at Mont Pleasant and Hamilton Hill; and August 7 at Rotterdam and Glenville. Mr. Hiscock's books will be available for purchase at these events. Pre-registration is required.



## ANNUAL MEETING

We thank all the Friends for making our 25th year so successful. During this year attendance at noon programs was greatly increased, with 35 offered. We published a book of Dr. Carl Niemeyer's poetry in gratitude for his dedication to the library and its Friends. A new flyer was developed in order to pursue a membership campaign in the opening months of our 1991-1992 year. Our two book sales were very successful, bringing in over \$10,000 total. Jail circulation increased dramatically. Gifts to the library included \$2,900 for children's programs, a die maker, support of Library Week and staff conferences, and book donations in honor of volunteers and retiring staff.

A condensed form of our 1990-91 operating statement appears below:

Total Receipts	\$12,406
Total Expenditures	12,508
Noon programs	1,203
Central and Branch programs	2,817
Young Adult programs	650
Library Week activities	380
Niemeyer book	1,047
Outreach	2,540
Gifts to the Library	2,040
Operating Expenditures	2,831

We are also delighted to report that we've made a fine start on the current year, with a \$3,000 gift to the library for book purchases at Central and a full slate of new members.



### GIVE A GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Looking for the perfect gift but nothing seems to fit? Give a gift of membership in the Friends, which of course includes the Newsletter. Individuals may join for only \$5, and families for \$8. Share our good news and good works. Membership flyers can be obtained at any branch and at Central, or through Pat Whitney.

Welcome to:

- |                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Laurenzo |                  |
| Margery Beeler               | Ms. Leah Leonard |
| Lois Bezio                   | Sandra Orminski  |
| Achreve Condos               | Sr. Helen Peddle |
| Susan Herron                 | Charles Rupsis   |
| Mrs. Fridtjof                | Grace Thielpape  |
| Ann L. Karl                  | Carolyn Walsh    |
| Charles King                 |                  |
| Fred and Winnie Wilhelm      |                  |

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be August 27th. If you are unable to attend, please let the secretary know.

The Newsletter is published in  
September, November, January, March  
and June

#### FRIENDS OF SCPL

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| President.....         | Jane Somers  |
| 1st Vice President...  | Frank Steiner  |
| 2nd Vice President...  | Eleanor Friedman   |
| Recording Secretary... | Gwen Deiber  |
| Treasurer.....         | Kathryn Sculera  |
| Newsletter Editors...  | Katherine Dixon &<br>Kathryn Sculera                       |
| Membership.....        | Patricia Whitney<br>1117 Earl Avenue<br>Schenectady, 12309 |

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Schenectady, New York 12305

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