

Note: the Monday series of talks are held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street.  
You may bring a sandwich lunch, if you wish; beverages are available. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired.  
Noon programs are broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel on Thursday at 3 and 7 p.m., and on Saturday at 11 p.m.

## BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Fall, 2000

Coordinated by Linda Witkowski

- Sept. 11     **Nathaniel's Nutmeg, or The True and Incredible Adventures of the Spice Trader Who Changed the Course of History**, by Giles Milton  
Reviewed by **Dr. Marvin Garfinkel**, retired, G.E. Research & Development Center
- Sept. 18     **Importance of Historical Fiction with Emphasis on Historical Fiction of Upstate New York**  
Discussed by **Ned Pratt**, architectural historian and local consultant
- Sept. 25     **Fountain of Age**, by Betty Friedan  
The book that explodes the myth of aging  
Reviewed by **Dr. Jane Zacek**, Director of Grant Support, Union College
- Oct. 2        **It's Not About the Bike**, by Lance Armstrong  
Biography of an outstanding cyclist and his triumph over health problems  
Reviewed by **Richard Evans**, retired, History Dept., Niskayuna High School
- Oct. 16      **Sketches in Pen and Ink, A Bloomsbury Notebook**, by Vanessa Bell  
Autobiographical essays by the artist and sister of Virginia Woolf  
Reviewed by **Lily Bartels**, Manager, Book Dept., The Open Door
- Oct. 23      **On the Road with the Archangel**, by Frederick Buechner  
A fable drawn from the apocryphal Book of Tobit by a master of Christian fiction.  
Reviewed by **Rev. Roger Nelson**, Youth Minister,  
First Reformed Church of Schenectady
- Oct. 30      **Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918**, by Gina Kolato  
An out of control virus that killed 40 million people is largely forgotten now  
Reviewed by **Karen Dickson**, R.N./Long-term Care Specialist
- Nov. 6       **Destined to Witness**, by Hans Massaquoi  
Son of a German mother and Liberian father who grew up in a Germany obsessed with racial purity.  
Reviewed by **Maxine Borom**, retired, Language Dept., Niskayuna H.S.

## FALL BOOK SALE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2000

Each Wednesday morning volunteers are busy sorting books, magazines, records and videos for the upcoming book sale on September 23. We already know that there will be lots of good books at bargain prices for adults and children to look over and enjoy.

The Sale begins at 9 a.m. with most adult hardcover books and large paperbacks selling for \$1.00 a book. Regular sized paperbacks sell for fifty cents. Children's books sell for fifty cents and children's paperbacks for 25 cents.

All proceeds of the sale are used to purchase new adult and children's books for the Branches. Our Spring sale earned over \$10,000 – a great help for Branch collections!

No matter how we try to publicize the event, there are always people who come to the library the day of the sale, look around surprised and say "Oh, I didn't know you were having a sale!" We need volunteers willing to put up posters in area stores and to help bring the books downstairs the Friday afternoon before the sale. During the sale we need volunteers to be cashiers at checkout tables and people who will help clear up remainders at the end of the sale. Please call Phyllis Bornt at 393-4228 if you can help. Leave a message with your name, phone number and the job you are willing to help with.

Our dedicated Book Sale chairman, Peter Oldow, cannot be with us for this sale; he has had to undergo difficult and disfiguring surgery this summer. He is progressing well now, and knows the best wishes of many friends are with him.

(continued, over)

### BOOK SALE, cont'd

There will be fewer Better Records at the book/record sale this fall. At the spring sale Fred Thompson announced that a large Classical Collection was being donated and there was a possibility of a "garage sale" at his home for the benefit of the Friends. When the collection was donated, several volunteers including Virginia Thompson, Charles Maneri and Art Harris moved the records to the Thompsons'. Due to the large size of this collection and additional records at the Library, Fred was authorized to call a large Record distributor for a quotation on the entire lot including the better records donated to the Library. That quote included pick-up and transport to NYC and was accepted. A total of 4,500 LP records (including classical, country, folk, pop and rock) will be sold at .50 each bringing over \$2,000 to the Friends. Our experience at the book sales indicates that only 25-30% of the 4,500 would be sold for the usual \$1.00 each.

It is anticipated that our loyal Better Record customers will understand this decision and look forward to next year's spring sale.

### LANDSCAPING AT CENTRAL

If you would like to help in preparing the flower beds at the Central Library for winter and next spring, there will be a Volunteer Day on Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2000, beginning at 9:00 a.m. This will be part of the Schenectady 2000 work activity on that day. If you are willing, please leave your name and phone number at the Reference Desk addressed to me. You will be contacted ahead of time.

Walter Grattidge

### MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new members: Janet Altschuller, Lois Bluestein, William Burke, Elizabeth and John Green, Donald and Ann Liebers, Laurie B. Longfield, Mary McCarthy, Deborah Reid, and Judy Zuchero.

As of August 9, 756 members have renewed their memberships. Many thanks to all our generous members. Your gifts make it possible for many programs to be presented throughout our county library branches. Special thanks to all GE members who have given matchable gifts. Many of you increased your gifts to qualify for the match and they are greatly appreciated.

Kabby Lowe, Membership Chairman

### FRIENDS OF SCPL

President	Phyllis Bornt	President Elect	Simon Weinstein
1st Vice President	Walter Grattidge	2nd Vice President	Renie Federighi
Secretary	Ethel Murray	Treasurer	Junice Wusterbarth
Newsletter Circ.:	Mildred Neslin, Rudy Dehn	Newsletter Ed.:	Valerie Catlin
Membership:	Kabby Lowe, Tel. 346-8879		

### NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Our thanks to the circulation volunteers who got out our May newsletter: Laurie Brooks, Doris Clark, Peg Fisher, Dorothy and Bernie Gerberg, Lois and Bill Isles, Alice Kussman, Helena Piotrowski, and Dick Sills, coordinated by Millie Neslin and Rudy Dehn. Jane and Wayne Somers printed the labels.

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The SCPL Outreach Program desperately needs several energetic volunteers who would like to visit senior citizen centers or nursing homes with good books and good conversation. Volunteer Elsie Maddeus, who has visited Baptist Health Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for ten years, is featured in the Summer 2000 issue of their newsletter, *Centerscope* with a friend she met there.

The Outreach program is operated by very devoted volunteers. Over the years, we have lost a few volunteers, and we would like to expand this service to new senior citizen centers. If you are interested and can spare a few hours a month for this very rewarding volunteer job, please contact Wonja Brucker at 388-4522

### YOU'RE INVITED!

Members of the Friends of the Library are invited to attend the Fall dinner meeting of the Hudson-Mohawk Library Association, which will be held on Friday, October 20, 2000 at the Cinnamon Tree Restaurant, 1254 Loudon Road, Cohoes. The speaker will be Dr. Mary Valentis, author of a forthcoming book on anger in the workplace. She has titled her topic "Chill Out: Dealing with Anger and Other Difficult Emotions at Work". Cost for each dinner (choice of Shrimp Scampi, Prime Rib, Chicken Francaise or Pasta Primavera) is \$22.00. Reservations must be made by October 13<sup>th</sup>. Call Phyllis Ochs at 388-4505 for a reservation form. A drawing for copies of Dr. Valentis' book will be held at the meeting.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Sept. 23	Book Sale 9-4
Oct. 24	Friends Board Meeting
Nov. 13, 20, 27	Literary Series
Dec. 4, 11, 18.	Table Talks

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DATED MATERIAL

# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

November 2000

Vol. XXXVI, No.2

Note: the Monday series of talks are held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a sandwich lunch, if you wish; beverages are available. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel.

### LITERARY SERIES

Fall, 2000

Coordinated by Gioia Ottaviano

- November 13     **Gertrude and Claudius**, by John Updike  
A prequel to literature's famous drama of familial dysfunction.  
Reviewed by Henry Bankhead, Adjunct Professor of History and Political Science,  
College of St. Rose
- November 20     **The Fortune Tellers: Inside Wall Street's Games of Money, Media,  
and Manipulation**, by Howard Kurtz  
Reviewed by David Evans, Attorney and CPA, Urbach, Kahn, and Werlin
- November 27     **Shakespeare's Language**, by Frank Kermode  
A landmark literary study of the famous 16th century plays.  
Reviewed by Robert Donovan, retired Professor of English Literature, U. at Albany

### TABLE TALKS

Fall, 2000

Coordinated by Ed Reilly

- December 4     **The Economic Politics of International Oil Flow**  
Gregory P. Nowell, Associate Professor of Political Science, University at Albany
- December 11     **Smoke Gets in Your Eyes: Why Do We Allow This in our Public Spaces?**  
Christine Cioffi, Attorney, Carpenter & Cioffi;  
Minority Leader, Schenectady County Legislature
- December 18     **The Empire Strikes Back: New York State's Struggle with Capital Punishment**  
James R. Acker, Professor and Dean, College of Criminal Justice, University at Albany

### ♪ ♪ MUSICAL PROGRAM ♪ ♪

December 8 at noon in the McChesney Room

The Etude Club will present a program featuring two ensembles and holiday music. Jane Coffey and Emmy Grubb, recorders; Cathy-Jo Brun, cello; and Lillian Roe, piano, will play works by Hendrik Anders. Saint-Saens' Caprice on Russian and Danish Airs will be played by Alison Jacob, flute; Sue Kokernak, oboe; Sally Dewes, clarinet; and Joann Rautenberg, piano. You may bring a bag lunch to the program.

### BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Winter, 2001

Coordinated by Linda Witkowski

- January 8     **Facing the King of Terrors, Death and Society in an American  
Community, 1750-1990**, by Robert V. Wells  
The changing roles and perceptions of death in Schenectady  
Speaker: Robert V. Wells, Professor, History Department, Union College
- January 15     Library Closed
- January 22     **Dream Catcher, a Memoir**, by Margaret Salinger  
A memoir of the author's childhood as the daughter of author J.D. Salinger  
Speaker: Richard Gotti, Professor, English Department, Empire State College

## FALL BOOK SALE

Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, the Friends made over \$13,000 this fall, when pre-sale proceeds were added to day of sale revenues. Pre-sale of a large record collection and other records brought in over \$2000, and we are grateful to the donor of the collection, to Fred Thompson, who arranged the sale, and to the other volunteers who helped him move it. Phyllis Bornt and Simon Weinstein stepped in to organize the sale in Peter Oldow's absence.

## MEMBERSHIP

Reminders for membership which have not been renewed for the year 2000-2001 will be mailed in November. If you haven't renewed yet, please do it now, and save us the effort and postage.

We will all miss Frank Steiner, who died in early September. He was our hard-working program chairman for many years, a faithful member of the newsletter circulation committee, and book sale worker.

Welcome to these new members: Kathleen August, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Becker, Michael Corson, Miriam Jurado, Dr. Ralph Leach, Mrs. Ursula Lennon, Bethany Mancuso, Robert and Ann Perry, Lorinda Kay Spraragen.

## NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

We thank those who helped get our September newsletter out: Florence Bigelow, Annette Billmeyer, Laurie Brooks, Doris Clark, Peg Fisher, Bernie Gerberg, Lois and Bill Isles, Alice Kussman, Kathy Lippett, Gert Schutz, Dick Sills, Helena Piotrowski, Helen and Frank Steiner, and crew leaders Rudy Dehn and Millie Neslin.

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SCPL needs volunteers who can work with librarians on a thorough weeding process. We also need volunteers who can repair A/V materials. Anyone who interested in volunteering should contact Mary Miller, Volunteer Coordinator, at 386-2247.

## LIBRARY GRANT FOR IMPROVEMENTS

A \$100,000 grant has been received through the efforts of Senator Hugh Farley, Chairman of the New York State Senate Subcommittee on Libraries. On Thursday, October 12, Senator Farley presented the check to Charles B. King, president of the library board of trustees and Ronald L. Lagasse, library director. This unrestricted grant for the county library will be applied to the proposed capital improvement program for 2001, which includes the renovation of the 30-year old central library.

Senator Farley has long been a strong supporter and advocate for libraries. He sponsored the law which created the first program of direct state aid to public libraries (Chapter 917 of the Laws of 1991), and was able to obtain a \$5 million increase in library aid as part of the 2000-2001 state budget. Senator Farley is the recipient of the New York Library Association's President's Award in recognition of his dedication to the advancement of libraries in New York State.

R. Lagasse, Director

### FRIENDS OF SCPL

President	Phyllis Bornt
President Elect	Simon Weinstein
1st Vice President	Walter Grattidge
2nd Vice President	Renie Federighi
Secretary	Ethel Murray
Treasurer	Junice Wusterbarth
Newsletter Circ.:	Mildred Neslin, Rudy Dehn
Newsletter Ed.:	Valerie Catlin
Membership:	Kabby Lowe, 346-8879

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# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

January 2001

Vol. XXXVI, No.3

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### BOOKS SANDWICHED-IN

Winter, 2001

Coordinated by Linda Witkowski

- January 8 **Facing the "King of Terrors", Death and Society in an American Community, 1750-1990**, by Robert V. Wells  
The changing roles and perceptions of death in Schenectady  
Reviewed by **Robert V. Wells**, Professor, History Department, Union College
- January 15 Library Closed
- January 22 **Dream Catcher, a Memoir**, by Margaret Salinger  
A memoir of the author's childhood as the daughter of author J. D. Salinger  
Reviewed by **Richard Gotti**, Professor, English Department, Empire State College
- January 29 **Nothing Like it in the World**, by Stephen Ambrose  
Men who built the transcontinental railroad  
Reviewed by **Harold Wusterbarth**, Trustee of the Schenectady County Public Library and retired G.E. accountant
- February 5 **A Dangerous Profession: A Book About the Writing Life**, by Frederick Bush  
Part memoir, part criticism, and perhaps a warning to all future novelists  
Reviewed by **Patrick Kurp**, lecturer and free lance writer
- February 12 **Guns, Germs, and Steel**, by Jared Diamond  
Human history from an evolutionary biologist  
Reviewed by **Philip Adams**, G. E. Power Systems, Region Manager, Pacific projects
- February 19 Library Closed
- February 26 **Bruce Chatwin**, by Nicholas Shakespeare  
Biography of the English author  
Reviewed by **John Rowen**, free-lance writer, and former president, Friends of the Albany Public Library

### SCIENCE SERIES

Winter, 2001

Coordinated by Walter Grattidge

- March 5 **Geological Research in Deep Antarctica**  
Speaker: **Molly Fritz Miller**, Professor of Geology, Vanderbilt University
- March 12 To be announced- please see March Calendar of Events or call the library for information
- March 19 **The Origins of Life Project - Geochemical Constraints**  
Speaker: **John Delano**, Ph.D., Distinguished Teaching Professor, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University at Albany
- March 26 **The Origin of the RNA World: The Postulated First Life on Earth**  
Speaker: **Jim Ferris**, Research Professor of Chemistry and Director of the N.Y. Center for Studies of the Origins of Life at RPI

## GREAT DECISIONS 2001

Great Decisions, the National Nonpartisan Foreign Policy Association Discussion Series, will be held at the Schenectady County Public Library and will begin on Tuesday, February 6, 2001 at 10 a.m. and continue for eight successive Tuesdays. The public is invited to participate in these sessions free of charge.

The topics to be discussed this year are as follows:

Feb. 6	Trade and Globalization
Feb. 13	China and Taiwan
Feb. 20	Missile Defense
Feb. 27	U.S. and Iraq
Mar. 6	International Health Crisis
Mar. 13	Mexico
Mar. 20	European Integration
Mar. 27	Conflict Resolution in Africa

For more information, call Richard Mehan, 374-7886.

## POETRY GALA

The Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library will once again celebrate National Poetry Month on Sunday, April 1 (no fooling!) with poetry recitations and readings. We will hear an interesting variety of poems in the McChesney Room. Light refreshments will be available at 2:00 p.m., preceding the poetry at 2:30-4:00 p.m. If you would like to be a reader or reciter, please call Linda Witkowski at 374-7904, or Simon Weinstein at 377-6638.

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS** of the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library. These changes will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting on April 3.

Article VIII: Elections Section 5

Present Reading At each annual meeting, six Directors shall be elected for terms of three years. Directors may not serve for more than two full terms consecutively.

Proposed Reading: At each annual meeting, new Directors shall be elected for terms of three years. Except for the Treasurer and the Book Sale chairman, Directors may not serve more than two full terms consecutively.

Article IX: Committees Section 1

Present Reading: The standing committees shall be Membership, Program, Public Relations, Finance, Gifts and Endowment, and Nominating. There may be other standing or ad hoc committees as deemed necessary from time to time by the Board of Directors. The duties of the committees are described in the committee guidelines.

Proposed Reading: The standing committees shall be Membership, Program, Public Relations, Finance, Book Sale, and Nominating. There may be other standing or ad hoc committees as deemed necessary from time to time by the Board of Directors. The duties of the committees are described in the committee guidelines.

## MEMBERSHIP

**G.E. FRIENDS:** If you qualify for GE Matching Funds for the Friend's contribution, it's not too late to notify the company of your gift (of \$25 or more). Just call them at 800-462-8244 and give them the zip code of the library: 12305.

Welcome to new members: John and Ellen Hubbard, H. D. Sefcovic, Scott Simmons, Shelley Weed. Our total of renewals and new memberships is 829.

If you'd like to join the Friends, you can pick up a form at the library or from the library's web site: [www.scpl.org/friends](http://www.scpl.org/friends).

## NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to the November newsletter crew: Florence Bigelow, Doris Clark, Peg Fisher, Dot & Bernie Gerberg, Lois and Bill Isles, Alice Kussman, Helena Piotrowski, Helen Steiner, and leaders Rudy Dehn and Millie Neslin.

Maryetta White, former coordinator of newsletter circulation, passed away recently, and will be missed.

## LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The library is looking for energetic volunteers for Central and branches. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 386-2247. If you are particularly interested in working with the elderly, contact Wonja Brucker at 388-4522.

## HMLA MEETING: YOU'RE INVITED

The Hudson Mohawk Library Association will hold their Spring dinner on Thursday, April 19, 2001. The topic will be "New Initiatives for Libraries" featuring a panel of speakers. For more information, contact Phyllis Ochs at 377-4246.

## LOOKING AHEAD:

March 16	Musical program
March 25	Etude Club Spring Recital
April 2-9	Literary Series
April 3	Annual meeting
April 16-30	Table Talks

## FRIENDS OF SCPL

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President Elect	Simon Weinstein
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# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

March 2001

Vol. XXXVI, No. 4

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### SCIENCE SERIES

Winter, 2001

Coordinated by Walter Grattidge

- March 5 **Geological Research in Deep Antarctica**  
Speaker: **Molly Fritz Miller**, Professor of Geology, Vanderbilt University
- March 12 **Mapinfo at the Heart of a Growing Tech Valley**  
**Barbara Pilliord**, Director, Corporate Communications & Public Relations, Mapinfo
- March 19 **The Origins of Life Project - Geochemical Constraints**  
Speaker: **John Delano**, Ph.D., Distinguished Teaching Professor,  
Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University at Albany
- March 26 **The Origin of the RNA World: The Postulated First Life on Earth**  
Speaker: **Jim Ferris**, Research Professor of Chemistry and  
Director of the N.Y. Center for Studies of the Origins of Life at RPI

### ♪ ♪ MUSICAL PROGRAMS PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ♪ ♪

- March 16 Members of the Etude Club will perform compositions by Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart and  
Friday, noon others for piano, voice, recorder, cello and bassoon. Bag lunches are welcome.  
Beverages will be available.
- March 26 The Etude Club Annual Concert will include music for woodwinds, voice and piano by  
Sunday, 2:00 Shostakovich and others. Of special interest are works by local composer and pianist  
Elizabeth MacFarland. Refreshments will follow.

### POETRY GALA FOR NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

Please join us as National Poetry Month starts on **Sunday, April 1** with poetry recitations and readings sponsored by the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library in the McChesney Room. Light refreshments will be served at 2:00 p.m., preceding the poetry at 2:30-4:00 p.m. If you would like to read, please sign up with Linda Witkowski at 374-7904, or Simon Weinstein at 377-6638. Whether you are a writer who wants to share your work with others, or you love the sound of poetry and want to read someone else's work, we would like to hear from you.

### LITERARY SERIES: PLAYS AND PLAYERS

Spring, 2001

Coordinated by Gioia Ottaviano

- April 2 **Echoes Down the Corridor: Collected Essays 1944-2000**, by Arthur Miller  
The playwright's reflections on his 40-year theatrical career.  
Reviewed by: **William "Bill" Hickman**, capital region thespian,  
retired from General Electric advertising and public relations department
- April 9 **You're the Reviewer: Share your thoughts on a play or musical**  
you've seen this spring with **Paul Lamar**, theater critic for The Daily Gazette,  
and other theatergoers. Mr. Lamar will also speak about his "life on the aisle".  
Mr. Lamar suggests these plays: contact the theaters for more information.  
Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde March 9-25, Albany Civic Theater, 462-1297  
Having Our Say Feb. 23-March 18, Capital Repertory Company, 445-7469  
A Couple of Blaguards March 16, The Egg, 473-1845  
A Tale of Cinderella March 23-25, Proctor's Theater, 346-6204  
After-Play March 16-25, Schenectady Civic Players, 382-2081  
The World Goes Round March 9-18, Schenectady Light Opera Company, 393-5732

**FIND IT @ SCPL:  
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK PROGRAMS    APRIL 1-7, 2001**

In celebration of National Library Week, SCPL will introduce its newly installed Technology Room. Acquired through a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the facility provides twelve new PCs and the opportunity to receive training in the most recent technology. The library will also host additional programs to celebrate National Library Week.

**Find Technology @ SCPL**

One-hour "Introduction to the Internet" and "Introduction to e-mail" classes.  
Sign-ups will be taken at the Central Library Reference Desk beginning March 19th.  
For more information, call the Reference Desk at 355-4511.

April 1  
Sunday

**Find Poetry @ SCPL**

See front page for more information

April 3  
Tuesday

**Find your Friends @ SCPL**

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library annual dinner meeting. See p. 3

April 4  
Wednesday

**Find the World @ SCPL**

Travelogue with guest speaker, at noon in the McChesney Room

April 4  
Wednesday

**Find your Ancestors @ the SCPL web site**

at 7 p.m. with Robert Sullivan in the McChesney Room

April 7  
Saturday

**Find Magic @ SCPL**

Local favorite Chad Currin, magician, at 2 p.m.

**TABLE TALKS**

Spring, 2001

Coordinated by Ed Reilly

April 16

**How to End the Drug War**

Warren Redlich, Esq., Law clerk to Fulton County Supreme Court Judge Robert Best

April 23

**Energy Deregulation: Could California Happen Here?**

Honorable Paul Tonko, Assemblyman, 105<sup>th</sup> District, Assembly Committee on Energy

April 30

**The First 100 Days of the Bush Administration**

Susan Arbetter, Paul Elisha, and Joe Donahue, WAMC Roundtable hosts

**BOOKS SANDWICHED-IN**

Spring, 2001

Coordinated by Linda Witkowski

May 7

**The Nothing That Is: A Natural History of Zero**, by Robert Kaplan

Reviewed by: Edwin D. Reilly, Jr., Emeritus Professor of Computer Science, University at Albany

May 14

**Let it be a Dance**

Frank Calabria, Emeritus Professor of Psychology, Union College, will discuss "Humor and Autobiography" and his own autobiography

**GREAT DECISIONS 2001**

Great Decisions, the National Nonpartisan Foreign Policy Association Discussion Series, continues at the Schenectady County Public Library on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The public is invited to participate in these sessions free of charge. For more information, call Richard Mehan, 374-7886.

The topics are:

Mar. 6            International Health Crisis

Mar. 20          European Integration

Mar. 13

Mar. 27

Mexico

Conflict Resolution in Africa



**Friends of Schenectady County Public Library**  
**Annual Dinner Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 2001 at 6:15 p.m. in the McChesney Room**

John Falco, Superintendent of Schools, Schenectady City School District, will be our guest speaker, on  
**"Schenectady Schools, Today and Tomorrow"**

Classic Caterers of Burnt Hills will provide a Hot & Cold Buffet with:

Boneless Chicken Breast with Sun Dried Tomatoes and Mushrooms		
Risotto	Fresh Fruit Bowl	Homemade Sourdough Bread with Garden Herbs
Bean Salad	Tabouli	Romaine with Garlic Vinaigrette
Fudge Pudding Cake		

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY MARCH 26**

A brief business meeting and elections will follow dinner.

**ELECTIONS**

The Nominating Committee will propose the following people for election as officers and directors at the annual meeting on April 3, 2001:

**Board of Directors: first three-year term, 2001-2004**

Naomi Bristol Naomi is a retired librarian and former Friends Board member. She volunteers with the Adirondack Research Library and is program chairperson of the Friends Monday noon programs.

Bernard Gerberg Bernard "Bernie" is a retired General Electric engineer and for 15 years has been chief book repairer for the Schenectady County Public Library. He has formerly served on the Friends Board.

George C. Gould III George retired from General Electric 11 years ago, where he worked in Power Systems and Large Steam Turbine and Generator managing the study of corrosion. He is currently on the board of Troy Music Hall and has served as President and member of the Board of Directors of the Ballston Spa Golf Club. He has been working with the Friends book sale for several years.

Gretchen Savage Gretchen is a retired librarian from the Niskayuna school system. She serves on the board of Schenectady Access Cable and volunteers at the Rotterdam Branch of SCPL. She has formerly served on the Friends Board.

Howard L. Sheffey Howard is a minister at Friendship Baptist Church. He was formerly the affirmative action officer for the NYS Department of Transportation and before that a New York City police officer for 25 years. Among local community activities, he is treasurer for the Mohawk Pathways Girl Scouts Council and serves on the Human Rights Commission.

**Board of Directors: second three-year term, 2001-2004**

Renie Federighi, Geri Gallagher-Lopez, Ethel Murray, Fred Thompson

**Board of Directors continuing in office:**

Doris Bauman, Anne Marie Brown, Jeannette Gerlaugh, Edwin D. Reilly, Grace Riccobono, Eleanor Rowland, Jean Wildgrube

**Board of Directors terms expiring:**

Phyllis Bornt, Trudy Carpenter, Doris Clark, Faith Donovan, Walter Grattidge, Katherine Lowe, Ann Stamm

**Officers:**

President	Simon Weinstein	President Elect	Linda Witkowski
Vice President	Naomi Bristol	Secretary	Ethel Murray
Treasurer	Junice Wusterbarth		

**Nominating Committee:**

Renie Federighi, Chairman; Doris Bauman, Naomi Bristol, Elsie Maddaus, Esther Swanker

Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library      Annual Dinner Meeting Reservation  
Tuesday, April 3, 2001 @ 6:15 p.m. in the McChesney Room

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$13.00/person)  
Attendee names: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Friends of SCPL, and mail to:  
Trudi Carpenter, 817 Sanders Ave., Scotia, N.Y. 12302

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS** of the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library. These changes will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting on April 3.

Article VIII: Elections Section 5

Present Reading At each annual meeting, six Directors shall be elected for terms of three years. Directors may not serve for more than two full terms consecutively.

Proposed Reading: At each annual meeting, new Directors shall be elected for terms of three years. Except for the Treasurer and the Book Sale chairman, Directors may not serve more than two full terms consecutively.

Article IX: Committees Section 1

Present Reading: The standing committees shall be Membership, Program, Public Relations, Finance, Gifts and Endowment, and Nominating. There may be other standing or ad hoc committees as deemed necessary from time to time by the Board of Directors. The duties of the committees are described in the committee guidelines.

Proposed Reading: The standing committees shall be Membership, Program, Public Relations, Finance, Book Sale, and Nominating. There may be other standing or ad hoc committees as deemed necessary from time to time by the Board of Directors. The duties of the committees are described in the committee guidelines.

**SPRING BOOK SALE:  
PLEASE VOLUNTEER**

The spring Book Sale will be held on Saturday, May 19. Volunteers are needed to move books down on Friday, and for the sale on Saturday. Please sign up with Phyllis Bornt at 393-4228 or Simon Weinstein at 377-6638.

**NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS**

Our January newsletter crew were: Florence Bigelow, Laurie Brooks, Doris Clark, Peg Fisher, Dot Gerberg, Alice Kussman, Helena Piotrowski, and Bill White, coordinated by Rudy Dehn and Millie Neslin. Labels were produced by Jane and Wayne Somers. Thanks to all of you!

**MEMBERSHIP**

916 members have renewed or newly joined the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library since April 2000. We welcome these new members: Millie Fitzpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Squillace, and Barbara Young-Gibson.

Our membership year begins in April after our Annual Meeting. We hope library patrons in all the branches will join the Friends. Much of our money is used in the branches and all the money made at the Book Sale both Spring and Fall goes to the Branches. This year the Sales made more than \$20,000 for branch books and programs.

Memberships start at \$5.00 for single and \$10 for family. GE members have been very generous and given \$25 to qualify for the GE match. Send your contribution to: Junice Wusterbarth, Treasurer, Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton St. Schenectady NY 12305

The local library world will miss two people who contributed greatly, and who passed away recently: **Ruth Ann Evans**, who was active in both the Friends and Literacy Volunteers, and **Charlie King**, who served on the boards of both the SCPL and the Mohawk Valley Library Association.

**FRIENDS OF SCPL**

President	Phyllis Bornt
President Elect	Simon Weinstein
1st Vice President	Walter Grattidge
2nd Vice President	Renie Federighi
Secretary	Ethel Murray
Treasurer	Junice Wusterbarth
Newsletter Circ.:	Mildred Neslin, Rudy Dehn
Newsletter Ed.:	Valerie Catlin
Membership:	Kabby Lowe, 346-8879

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# Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library

## NEWSLETTER

May 2001

Vol. XXXVI, No. 5

Note: the Monday series of talks are held at 12:00 noon in the McChesney Room of the Central Library on Clinton Street. You may bring a sandwich lunch, if you wish; beverages are available. The room is equipped with special devices for the hearing-impaired. Noon programs are also broadcast on the Schenectady Public Access channel on Thursdays at 3 and 7 p.m., and Saturday at 11 p.m.

### BOOKS SANDWICHED-IN

Spring, 2001

Coordinated by Linda Witkowski

- May 14      **Let it Be a Dance**, by Frank Calabria  
The humorous life story of a second generation Italian-American in the Big Band era.  
Discussed by the author, Emeritus Professor of Psychology, Union College
- May 21      **Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference**, by Malcolm Gladwell  
How we try to make sense of the world.  
Reviewed by Dr. Steven Sargent, Professor of History, Union College
- May 28      Library Closed
- June 4      **Fanny Kemble's Civil Wars**, by Katherine Clinton  
The tempestuous life of an actress, and anti-slavery activist married to a slave owner.  
Reviewed by Frances Ingraham Heins, Feature writer, Sunday Times Union.
- June 11      **Journey to the Center of the Mind: Toward a Science of Consciousness**,  
by Susan A. Greenfield  
On consciousness, science, and neuroscience.  
Reviewed by Manny Aven, Fellow of the American Physical Society
- June 18      **The Inextinguishable Symphony: A True Story of Music and Love in Nazi Germany**,  
by Martin Goldsmith  
The host of NPR's Performance Today, and son of German Jewish musicians who escaped  
the  
Holocaust tells their story of love, courtship and marriage within the "Kulturbund".  
Reviewed by Meme Pittman, Violist in the Schenectady Symphony

### ♪ ♪ MUSICAL PROGRAM- JUNE 2 ♪ ♪

Thomas Wei, Violin, and Judith Esch, Piano, will present a recital including works by Handel, Saint-Saens, Wieniawski, Elgar, Schubert and Sarasate on Saturday, June 2, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. in the McChesney Room. A reception will follow.

### SPRING BOOK SALE- MAY 19

The Spring Book Sale will take place, rain or shine, on Saturday, May 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Central Library. A half-price sale begins at 2:00 p.m., and a \$2.00 bag sale at 3:30 p.m. Books of all kinds, audio and video tapes, records, CDs, and magazines will be for sale. They have been selected from donations by area readers, and withdrawals from the library's collection..

Prices for adult items: \$ 1.00 for a hardcover or large paperback book; 50 cents for a paperback book; 15 cents for most magazines, LIFE magazines at \$1.00; 50 cents for many records with better records at \$ 1.00 or slightly more. 78 RPM sets are individually priced.

Prices for children's items: 50 cents for a hardcover book., 25 cents for a paperback book, 10 cents for magazines, and 25 cents for a record.

Better Books will be sold at varying prices. Better Books in all categories and for all ages are as new and popular, or classic, or good editions, or very large and all in top condition.

(continued, over)

(Book Sale, continued)

All proceeds of the sale are used to purchase additional books and materials to enhance the collections in the nine branch libraries. Last year, over \$20,000 was earned from the book sales and sale of records.

Please join us for this popular spring event by volunteering and shopping. To volunteer, please sign up with Phyllis Bornt at 393-4228 or Simon Weinstein at 377-6638.

The Friends of SCPL and many others will greatly miss Peter Oldow, who died recently. He served on the Board of Trustees and gave many hours as Book Sale Chairman, along with his wife Nancy. He also worked in the community and beyond in many other ways.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The slate of officers and directors as proposed by the Nominating Committee was elected. Changes to the bylaws establishing a standing Book Sale committee and extending the term on the Board of Directors for the books sale chairman was approved.

### MEMBERSHIP

The Friends are pleased to welcome these new members: Wilifred Balz, Barbara and Paul Cockerham, Priscilla Kline, Krystyna Kusielewicz, Virginia Laumeister, George Marzocchi, Anita and Arthur Merims, Howard Sheffey, Lorraine Sosnowski, the Trela family, Beth and Jose Velasquez, and Gloria Zampini.

Memberships start at \$5.00 for single and \$10.00 for family. Many GE members have been generous and given at least \$25 to qualify for the GE match. Send your contribution to: Junice Wusterbarth, Treasurer, Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library, 99 Clinton St. Schenectady NY 12305

Kabby Lowe, our Membership Chairman for quite a few years, is taking a well-deserved retirement from these duties. We are grateful to her for her fine record-keeping and long service.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

SCPL Outreach would like volunteers to work with the elderly or home-bound people at a senior citizen center or adult living center. If you are interested in this rewarding work, please contact Wonja Brucker at 388-4522.

### REFERENCE DEPARTMENT RETIREMENTS

The Reference Department saw the departure recently of three long-standing reference librarians. Full-timer Phyllis Ochs, part-timer Bertha Kriegler, and substitute Joan Ipsen, whose combined experience totaled over one hundred years of service, retired at the end of 2000. Their zeal for librarianship, research skills and dedication to public service were greatly appreciated by the library and their loss will be deeply felt. Happy retirements to them all!

Timothy McGowan, Head of Reference

### LOOKING AHEAD:

May 22	Board meeting
June 7	Volunteer luncheon
August 24?	next newsletter deadline
August 28	Board meeting

### FRIENDS OF SCPL

99 Clinton St., Schenectady, NY 12305

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President Elect	Linda Witkowski
Vice President	Naomi Bristol
Secretary	Ethel Murray
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Mrs. Kenneth E. Fritz  
2232 Fairlawn Parkway  
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