

# News of the Friends of Schenectady County Public Library

November/December 2023 | Volume LIX No. 2



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## Fall Book Sale Raises more than \$18,000

The weekend of September 30-October 1 was the perfect weekend for the Friends of SCPL Fall Book Sale. The weather was great (with just a few drizzles on Saturday) and the number of people who came to shop was amazing!

With the help 188 volunteers, we raised a total of \$18,130.76, including \$780 in generous donations! This money will be directed towards the Friends' mission to "assist and support our county library system in fulfilling its role as an essential institution dedicated to meeting the literacy, technology, and cultural needs of all members of our community."

A special thanks goes to our sorting, scanning, transporting, and online selling volunteers who come in every week to help with the book donations.

And lastly, our Fall Sale couldn't have run as smoothly as it did without the help of our volunteers from our SCPL Friends, MVP, Schenectady High School's National Honor Society, Union College, community members who saw our plea for volunteers, and new this year, students from Clarkson University's Grad School (on Nott Terrace). We thank you for your help.

— Robin Eddy, Lisa Esperti, Dave Bradley, Joan Molloy, Sylvia Curley, John Ferlazzo





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### Contact Us

[friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com)

[www.friendsofscpl.org](http://www.friendsofscpl.org)

### Follow Us



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Thanks to all that participated in our Fall Book Sale. It was one of the most successful sales in recent years.

As most of you know, we are not able to take donations for the past few weeks. The work at the Central Library is expected to go on until mid-November. We have some overstock that can still be transported to the stores for now. Hopefully this will not go on too long and we can stock up for the

holiday season and everyone can get back to normal. Please check our website, Facebook page, or the library's website for updates.

We canceled October's First Thursday and Sunday sales and will probably have to do the same for November. Changes will be posted to our website and Facebook page. We do plan on having our 50% off Black Friday/Small Business Saturday sale at both stores.

— Charlene Roman

## SALES

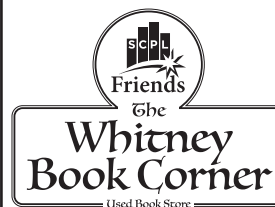


### **BOTH stores 50% off!**

Whitney Book Corner: Fri 10 to 4; Sat 10 to 2

A Second Look: Fri & Sat 11 am to 3 pm

### **Free Book with Paid Parking!**



Show your paid parking receipt or Passport app and get a free book with the purchase of one or more books. Whitney Book Corner only. See store for details.

## NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX

Sign up to receive our newsletter by email! Reading all the news from the Friends of the Library can be just one click away. To change your delivery preference, send an email to [friendslibrary12305@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary12305@gmail.com).



## FRIENDS ENJOY “DISCOVERING POLAND” TRIP

The Friends' trip to Poland was everything we hoped it would be and more. After two cancellations, the third time was a charm for the 20 Friends who left for Warsaw on September 15.

We visited Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw and Kraków. Some of the highlights of our tour included a visit to the Zabinski Villa at the Warsaw Zoo, the setting of the book and movie *The Zookeeper's Wife*; a tour of the amazing Malbork Castle on the way to Gdansk; and an in-depth look at the labor and solidarity movement on a visit to the Gdansk shipyards.

In Wroclaw we searched for some of the 600 gnomes that are scattered around the city and in the beautiful Market Square. We visited the countryside to see the beautiful Church of Peace and a local vineyard. On the way to Krakow we stopped in Czestchowa to see the famous Black Madonna at the shrine. In Krakow we enjoyed their beautiful Market Square and a visit to the famous Wieliczka Salt Mine to marvel at the amazing statues, chapels and murals all carved from salt. We learned of the horrors of the concentration camps on a visit to Auschwitz and Birkenau.

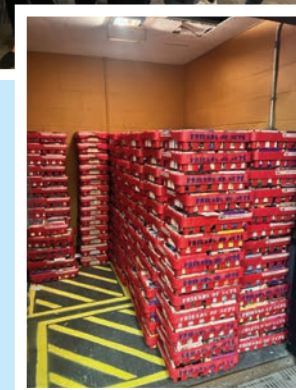
We enjoyed great weather, delicious food, and met a lot of wonderful people. We hope you'll join us on one of our future trips!



— Gail Denisoff & Sue Crawford

## FALL BOOK SALE PHOTO GALLERY

A little drizzle didn't deter crowds from the Fall Book Sale on Saturday, September 30. See more photos on our website.



# Membership News

## NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

### Benefactor — \$200+

- Walter & Wendy Berninger
- Robert & Susanne Doyle
- Donald Gavin & Joan Ham
- Helen MacDonald

### Patron — \$50+

- Sally & Charles Bauer
- Stephen & Roberta Berk
- Ruth Clayman
- Arthur & Margaret Coats
- Elizabeth Cole
- Sanjay Correa
- Cheryl Cufari
- Gay & Alden Doolittle
- Joan Elliott
- Bob & Lisa Esperti
- Blanche Fischer
- Jamie Gearon
- Karen & James Gonda

- John & Lucy Halstead
- Leonard Herman & Hon. Guido Loyola
- Analine Hicks
- Judy & Larry Hoff
- Claudia & Stanley Jakubowski
- Christine Anne Katchmar
- Michelle Ostrelch & Harold Schlossberg
- Donna Pace
- Karen & Joseph Schell
- Carol Troost
- Sandra & Harry Willis
- Brian & Liz Yanoff
- Paul & Sharon Zalewski

### Supporting — \$35+

- Wonja & Jeff Brucker
- Dr. & Mrs. Salvatore Belardo
- Barbara Cardwell

- D. Clarke Dimond
- Celeste Furchak
- Stephanie Olson
- Linda Post
- Lynn Purcell

## DONATIONS

### In Memory of Harald Pels

- Arlene & Dom Patierno
- Jill & Ronald Bucinell

### Recurring Monthly Donation

- Anthony Carota III

### Other Donations

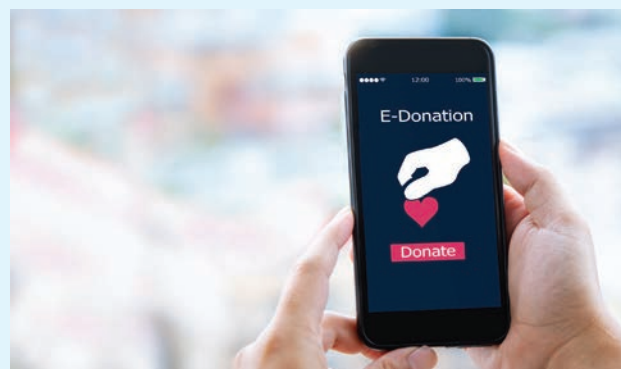
- Felix Cruz

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS

Great news! You now have the option to join, renew, and/or donate right from our website. This will enable you to pay via credit or debit card; set up recurring annual renewals and/or donations; and confirm your contact information and communication preferences.

Visit the Support section of our website to take advantage of our new online membership and donation forms.

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends of SCPL. We look forward to embracing these exciting changes with all of you!



## JUNIOR FRIENDS PROGRAM



If you are a teen ages 13 to 18 who is passionate about books, come volunteer with the Junior Friends! This is a great way to get the required volunteer hours needed for many school groups or organizations and a chance to connect with other teens.

Junior Friends volunteers will help with library and bookstore special events, book sales, and work in our two bookstore locations.

Visit the Friends website to apply.



## WHAT DO YOU USE AS A BOOKMARK?

I am certain that if you were to ask 10 people you would get 10 different answers.

As you might imagine, the book sorters find some very interesting things used as bookmarks that are left in the donated books. Here are a few of the most recent finds:

- Starburst wrapper
- Puffy, sticky, white dolphin
- Bobby pin
- Coupon
- Bookstore receipt
- Greeting cards
- Health insurance card
- Bank check
- The book's jacket (Vicki's personal vexation)
- Money



We actually haven't found any money lately. Dave Bradley was the last one to find some about a year ago. I have been sorting for a long time and have never found a dime. But I'm hoping to very soon!

— Lisa Esperti

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## YOUNG MUSICIANS FORUM: FREE CONCERT

**Sunday, Nov 12**  
**2:00 pm**  
**McChesney Room**  
**Central Library**

Young Musicians Forum presents Daniel Moreno, classical guitarist, Sunday, November 12, at 2:00 pm in the McChesney Room at the Central Library.

Daniel received his Master of Music degree from the Mannes School of Music in New York City, and has performed in several of the city's finest venues. He is on the faculty of the Vienna (VA) Music School and also works with the non-profit organization El Circle de la Hispanidad where he directs a guitar ensemble and teaches group lessons.

His program will include works by Albeniz, Tarrega, Piazzolla, and Villa-Lobos.



# November/December Programs & Events

Register for these programs and more on the Events & Class Registration page at [www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org)

## CULTIVATING A GRATITUDE PRACTICE

**Wednesday, Nov 8, 6:30 pm**  
**McChesney Room**  
**Central Library**

Join positive educator and life coach Anita Andersen to learn how to cultivate the positive psychology practice of gratitude and its benefits.

Workshop participants will gain an understanding of the science behind how cultivating gratitude works and how it can improve well-being with continued practice. Participants will be introduced to multiple ways to introduce gratitude practice into your daily routine.

Registration required. Ages 18+

## LOCAL HISTORY SERIES

Local History Series programs are held at Noon in the McChesney Room at the Central Library. Schenectady County Historian and former Daily Gazette reporter Bill Buell will sit down “In Conversation” with some of the most prominent figures in the Capital Region’s writing and history community. No registration required.

**November 13** Eric Schnitzer, author and interpretive ranger at the Saratoga National Park and Battlefield, will discuss the summer of 1777 and talk about preparations for the Sesquicentennial of the American Revolution. He co-authored the 2019 book, “Campaign to Saratoga – 1777: The Turning Point of the Revolutionary War in Paintings, Artifacts and Historical Narrative” with nationally known artist Don Troiani.



Photo: provided

**November 20** Paul Grondahl, a former Albany Times Union reporter, will discuss his long career as a feature writer, as well as his books about Theodore Roosevelt and Erastus Corning, and his latest role as director of the New York State Writers Institute. His books include “Mayor Corning: Albany Icon, Albany Enigma” (1997) and “I Rose like a Rocket: The Political Education of Theodore Roosevelt (2007). He co-edited with Suzanne Lance, “Bootlegger of the Soul: The Literary Legacy of William Kennedy” (2018).

**November 27** Michael J. Burgess will discuss his 2022 book, “Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt in Albany: Governing New York.” He also wrote “A Long Shot to Glory: How Lake Placid Saved the Winter Olympics and Restored the Nation’s Pride,” and “Keeper of the Olympic Flame: Lake Placid’s Jack Shea vs. Avery Brundage and the Nazi Olympics.” He spoke about his book on the Roosevelts at the FDR Library and Museum in 2022, a presentation covered nationally by C-SPAN.

**December 4** Program TBD at press time. Please visit the Events page at [www.scpl.org](http://www.scpl.org) for updates.

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## ADULT COLORING

**Tuesdays, Nov 14 and Dec 12**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Central Library**

Adult coloring nights are the perfect opportunity to unwind by yourself or with friends over a cup of coffee and colored pencils. Bring your own coloring books or use our fun stash of books, pens, markers, and colored pencils. No registration required. Ages 14+



## TELLING YOUR STORY: MEMOIR WRITING

**Tuesdays, Nov 21 and 28,**  
**Dec 5 and 12**  
**6:00 pm**  
**McChesney Room**  
**Central Library**

Join Janine De Tillio Cammarata, an award-winning author of seven books ranging from middle grade and young adult fantasy to non-fiction. She has more than 30 years of experience with personal journaling and has been teaching creative writing and journaling for the past 20 years.

In this workshop, she teaches journaling in order to access memoir — moments in time that tell your story. Whether it's family history or writing about specific life events, this workshop provides a space to tell the only story that matters — yours. When you tell your story, you understand your ancestors, view your life with perspective, and if you choose, to provide a gift to loved ones that only you can give. No matter what brings you to this workshop, you'll leave with a positive journaling practice and techniques to write memoir.

No experience is needed. Please bring pen and paper. Must be able to attend all 4 classes. Registration required. Ages 18+

## “BEAT THE SNOW CONCERT SERIES” RETURNS

**Sunday, Dec 17, 2:30 pm**  
**McChesney Room**  
**Central Library**

Our free Beat the Snow Concert Series is just about set for a new season of hour-long concerts every Sunday from January to March in the McChesney Room at 2:30 p.m. We will have a delightful array of talented local performers representing a variety of musical styles: Musicians of Maalwyck, Young Musicians Forum, Musicats Duo, Don Hyman, music from musicals, and music from classics.

A special holiday sing-along is planned for Sunday, December 17, with Malcolm Kogut. Since opportunities to sing holiday songs and Christmas carols is much less often than in the past, join us and get into the holiday spirit! Questions, contact Janice Walz at [jmdwalz@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jmdwalz@nycap.rr.com).



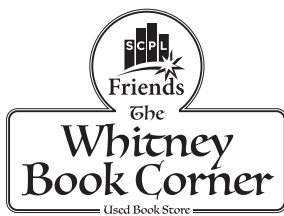


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