

Books Sandwiched In

Winter 2007

presented by The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library

Reviews will begin at 12:10 in the Steele Memorial Library auditorium. Sandwich lunches are available for sale beginning at 11:45.

Friday, February 2

The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century by Thomas L. Friedman, foreign affairs columnist for *The New York Times*. The playing field is being leveled, says globalization guru Thomas Friedman - from Shanghai to Silicon Valley, from al Qaeda to Wal-Mart. (Daniel H. Pink, *Wired*). James Orsillo, reviewer

Friday, February 9

March Into The Endless Mountains: The Beginnings of War on the Western Frontier of America by Ray Ward. The author, a resident of Waverly, will discuss his novel about the Revolutionary War during 1778. All major characters are drawn from real life, including the beautiful Seneca Queen Esther Montour of French and Indian descent, and the college educated Mohawk Chief, Joseph Brant, who led the warring Indian nations. (*Independent Publisher*)

Friday, February 16

The Lady and the Unicorn by Tracy Chevalier, author of *Girl with a Pearl Earring*. The author ...takes full creative advantage of the mystery that shrouds an extraordinary collaborative work of art - the Unicorn tapestries - made in 15th century Brussels. (*Publishers Weekly*). Marian Ruttly, reviewer.

Friday, February 23

The Beecher Sisters by Barbara A. White, professor of women's studies at the University of New Hampshire. There's Catherine the educator and advice columnist, Isabella the ardent suffragist, and Harriet, the abolitionist author whose *Uncle Tom's Cabin* galvanized the anti-slavery movement. Mark Fleisher, reviewer.

NOTE: Books Sandwiched In will be canceled on days when schools are closed because of bad weather.

<http://www.steele.lib.ny.us/friends.htm>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2007. May the year be healthy and prosperous for you and your family.

The year 2006 was productive. Our new board members have quickly acclimated to the board and are using their energy and interests to assist in established programs and provide new ideas for the future.

I wish to thank the over *one hundred volunteers* who made the Fall Weekend Book Sale a success. Without your help, "Friends" could not produce the revenue for the community libraries for special programs that we all look forward to each year.

As always, this time of year is busy. The next edition of the Film Festival will begin in late January, "Books Sandwiched In" continues with serious and light hearted topics, the Poetry Festival will produce a new "burst" of creativity and the annual Book Sale will provide us with further money to assist the libraries in developing new programs for the year ahead.

Best Wishes,
Charles A. Paone
President

THE 2006 KINDERBOOK PROGRAM

The Kinderbook Program of the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library just completed its fourth year. The program encourages the parents of kindergarteners in our community to sign their children up for public library cards and visit public libraries to learn about the existing children's programs.

This year volunteers from the Friends Children's Committee and the Family Reading Partnership of Chemung Valley visited all the public elementary schools in the community at kindergarten orientation or registration. Kindergarteners' parents were told about the program and asked to sign their children up for the program. Four hundred sixty-one library card application forms were completed by parents and 210 kindergarteners visited public libraries to pick up their own library card. This means that 21% of the county's kindergarteners have their own library card.

Reminder calls were made to parents of children who did not pick up their library cards. Also, Kinderbook Day was held at the Steele Memorial Library on Saturday Nov.18 to encourage kindergarteners who had not picked up their cards to do so. On Kinderbook Day volunteers read stories, Booker (the library mascot) visited, refreshments were served, and gift packages were given to children who received their cards.

This year the kindergarteners' use of their library cards will be monitored for the first time.

The percentage of kindergarteners having their own public library card has increased from 8% to 21% over the four year existence of the program. Plans are currently being made to improve the program.

Ralph B Moore
Chairman, Children's Committee

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FILM FESTIVAL 2007

The theme this year is literature (plays and novels) that have been made into films. Please join us on the following dates at the Steele Memorial Library auditorium. All films start at 1:30 PM.

1/21/07 *To Have and Have Not*
1/28/07 *The Little Foxes*
2/11/07 *Streetcar Named Desire*

2/18/07 *The Odd Couple*
2/25/07 *Fried Green Tomatoes*

Renee Gross, Chair

MEMBERSHIP

As of January 1, 2007, The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library has 335 members who have contributed \$7,635 in dues. To all who have joined and made contributions, thank you for your interest and generosity. Last year at this time, The Friends had 394 members with contributions totaling \$9,260. If you have not joined The Friends yet, please consider doing so as your membership will support the programs offered by the Steele Memorial Library. Thank you.

Diane Wilbur
Membership Committee

READ OUT LOUD

Read Out Loud has enjoyed the following experiences in 2006:

September - Summer Reading. We learned the "summer reading should not be serious! It may contain sharks, murder and cardboard characters and should not have moral dilemmas." In summary, summer reading should be fun!

October - Scary Stories. Stories by Poe, Thurber, etc. were read with passion, fear and a little laughter sprinkled between the words.

November - Travel. Our group traveled to a local pub and read stories, poems and journals on travel. "It's sweet to dream of and study far away places ... But when it comes to living there is no place like home." (Henry Van Dyke)

December - Holidays. We read holiday stories including The Other Wise Man by Henry Van Dyke, The Power of Light by Isaac Bashevis Singer and The Gift of the Magi by O'Henry. We also learned about the Philadelphia Mummers Parade and unusual customs and foods for New Year's Day.

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Steele Memorial Library at 6:30pm for *Read Out Loud*. The topics for 2007 are:

1/09/07 Beach Stories
2/13/07 Love Stories

3/13/07 Weather Stories
4/10/07 Mark Twain Stories

Charles Paone
Chair

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Just in case you have not joined the Friends for 2006-2007, here is a membership form.

I would like to become/remain a **Friend of the Steele Memorial Library**.

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

I can help on Book Sale Publicity Newsletter Other _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dickinson \$5 Austen \$10 Twain \$25 Joyce \$50 Dante \$75 Shakespeare \$100

Mr.

Mrs. _____ Telephone _____

Miss

Ms.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Steele Memorial Library, 101 East Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901. *Dues and contributions to the Friends are tax deductible.*

<http://www.steele.lib.ny.us/friends.htm>

Here, these leaves
release a shower of scarlet feathers, as everything starts to
let go. Oh, how this world burns and burns us,
yet we are not consumed.

from "Burning Bush"

writes Barbara Crooker, this year's Festival poet. Her recent book, *Radiance*, was a finalist for the 2006 Paterson Poetry Prize, of which the reviewer Sibyl Estess writes, "*Radiance* is an inspiring volume, from which Garrison Keillor has twice read poems on his radio program *The Writer's Almanac*." Mr. Keillor has read her poems eleven times more since this review appeared in *The Texas Review* in 2006. "This poet knows how to make poetry sing" writes Diane Lockward for the *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, "and she knows how to arrange individual poems into a single work of art as unified and stunning as the painting that graces the cover of her book." *Radiance* is a prize winning collection of poetry published by Word Press in 2005.

Barbara Crooker has received eleven poetry fellowships from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Her poetry has appeared in *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Smartish Pace*, *The Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Nimrod*, *The Denver Quarterly*, *The Cream City Review*, *Poetry International*, *The Christian Century*, and *America*. She lives in Fogelsville, Pennsylvania.

This year's Poetry Festival will take place on March 31st and April 1st in the auditorium of the main library. The workshop moderated by Barbara Crooker will be held from 2-4 PM on Saturday. Her reading and the award ceremony will begin at 2 PM on Sunday. Refreshment will be served. The rules for the contest are printed in this Bookworm and are available at all library branches. The deadline for entries is March 19th.

Our poet will preview one poem per poet before the workshop. Please submit poems for review by March 19th by email to mjmahoney@elmira.edu.

We're looking forward to our annual Festival in the Southern Tier.

MaryJo Mahoney
Poetry Chairperson

Poetry Contest and Festival

MARCH 31 – APRIL 1, 2007

POETRY CONTEST RULES

1. Poems 50 lines or less are eligible. Poems must be typed, double-spaced.
2. One entry per applicant.
3. Previously entered poems are not eligible.
4. Poems must be original work of author.
5. Poet's name should not be included on poem.
On 3 x 5 card, write name, address, grade, phone number, category, and school when applicable.
6. Categories
 - A. 18 and over.
 - B. High School Students, grades 9 – 12.
 - C. Middle School Students, grades 6 – 8.
 - D. Elementary School Students, grades K – 5.
 - E. Ellen McTiernan Outstanding High School Poet Award.
 1. Open to High School Students, grades 11 & 12.
 2. Submit portfolio of five (5) poems.
 3. Judged separately from other categories.
 4. Student may enter both Ellen McTiernan and regular high school 9 - 12 categories.
 5. Some years there will be no winner in this category
7. Poems are to be brought or sent to Steele Memorial Library - Main Branch, 101 East Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901.
8. Monday, March 19, 2007 is the **deadline** for entries.
9. Winning poems will be announced Sunday, April 1, 2007.
10. **NO** poems will be returned.

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2007 Friends Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library will hold its Annual Book Sale at the Arnot Mall in February over two weekends—Thurs. thru Sun. February 15—18 and Thurs. thru Sat. February 22—24. The sale will be set up Tues. and Wed. February 13 and 14 and taken down Sun. and Mon. February 25 and 26. The site of the sale at the Mall will be publicized once it has been determined.

Volunteer help is always greatly needed, especially on set up days February 13 and 14. Volunteers usually sign up for 2 hour blocks of time. During the sale they keep the tables stocked with books, help customers find where different categories of books are located, and collect money from the sale of the books. There are several volunteers for every shift and the experience is enjoyable.

Enclosed is the volunteer sheet to complete and return to the Steele Memorial Library as soon as possible and no later than by January 31. Please indicate the days and times you can help and mark your calendars (we do not make confirmation calls).

The quality of books for this sale will be the best we have had for years. We have been sorting all donated books for the last several months and keeping only books in good condition for the sale. We continue to encourage your generous contributions of books for future sales but ask that the books be in good condition and not be text books, encyclopedias, Readers Digest Condensed Books or magazines.

The extra book sale we had last September resulted in a profit of \$10,766 which will be used for library materials and programs as well as to promote literacy in our community.

We thank all our contributors, volunteers, and customers and look forward to what we hope will be another successful sale in February.

Carol Eberhard
Ralph Moore
Book Sale Committee Co-Chairs