



BOOKWORM

Winter 2009

Books Sandwiched In

Winter 2009

Friday, February 20

Shakespeare - the Thinker, by A. D. Nuttall. A rare attempt to understand the intellect as well as the art of the dramatist. "Nuttall shows us that...Shakespeare proves again and again to be more intelligent and perceptive than his 21st-century readers. This book challenges us to reconsider the relation of great literature to its social and historical matrix." (Amazon.com) Dr. Jerome Whalen, Professor, Elmira College, will review the book.

Friday, February 27

A ***Survey of Books*** for every chapter in your life. Come and hear what's available at your library. Reference Librarian Phyllis Rogan will present how to utilize and make decisions using the reference materials available at the Steele Memorial Library. Owen Frank will introduce the program.

Friday, March 6

Hot Flat & Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution and How It Can Renew America by Thomas Friedman. "...Friedman takes a fresh and provocative look at two of the biggest challenges we face today: America's surprising loss of focus and national purpose since 9/11, and the global environmental crisis, which is affecting everything from food to fuel to forests. In this groundbreaking account of where we stand now, he shows us how the solutions to these two big problems are linked--how we can restore the world and revive America at the same time." (Amazon.com) Our reviewer is Elaine Farwell, Director of Tanglewood Nature Center.

Friday, March 13

Franklin D. Roosevelt, A Rendezvous with Destiny by Frank Freidel. "One of the most loved and most hated figures in U.S. history, Roosevelt has been viewed by opponents as shallow, incompetent and dictatorial. Freidel's... FDR is a man of vision, sound judgment and decisiveness who rescued the nation's economy from imminent collapse and defended democracy not only in the U.S. but throughout the world." (*Publishers Weekly*) Michael Horigan, historian and author, is the reviewer.

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

Reviews will begin at 12:10 in the Steele Memorial Library auditorium.

Sandwich lunches are available for sale beginning at 11:45.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The days now have more sunlight; my wish for you is to enjoy the sun, stand in its light and enjoy each day.

Friends has donated \$30,000 to our regional libraries to assist in adding new books and audio-visual materials, and in developing new programs to aid our community. We anticipate more use of our facilities in the future as our community struggles to stay vibrant in these difficult times. Your membership fees and our book sales continue to be the primary sources for revenue. The libraries will report to us on their use of these funds to help us in decision making plans for future donations.

We are seeking members of the Friends who are interested in being board members. We need active participants who are interested in assisting current programs and establishing new programs. We are especially looking for members who can help in running the annual book sale, as Carol Eberhard and Ralph Moore will be leaving their post as co-chairs. If interested in being a board member, please contact Charles Paone (734-7846), Tony Pucci, Vice President (739-3137) or Lee Kiesling, Secretary (733-1915).

Join us this winter for *Books Sandwiched In*, the annual *Book Sale, Film Festival, and Poetry Festival* along with other special programs at your library.

Best Wishes
Charles A. Paone

2009 FRIENDS ANNUAL BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library will hold its annual book sale at the Arnot Mall over two weekends in February 2009: Thursday February 12 – Sunday February 15, and Thursday February 19 – Saturday February 21. Last year the book sale provided over \$23,000 to for use by the Steele Memorial Library and its branches to purchase materials and develop programs.

Help is needed for sale days, set up days - Tuesday and Wednesday February 10 and 11, and take down day - Sunday February 22. Volunteers for sale days usually sign up for two hour blocks of time and help customers find books, keep tables stacked with books, and collect money from the sale of books. There are always several people working and the experience is enjoyable.

Enclosed is a sign-up sheet for you to complete and return to the Steele Memorial Library if you would like to volunteer. We are unable to confirm volunteer requests so please mark your calendar when you sign up.

The sale location has yet to be determined but will be publicized in the *Elmira Star-Gazette's Time Out* section and *What's Going On* calendar at sale time in February. The location can also be found by going to the mall desk by the escalator.

Please volunteer to help with this important Friends' event.

Carol Eberhard Co-Chair
Ralph Moore Co-Chair

READ OUT LOUD

Read Out Loud meets once a month to celebrate the joy of reading out loud and sharing a passion for the written word. We typically meet at the Steele Memorial Library, 6:30pm in the conference room. Come and join us with your favorite passage.

1/13/09... Children's Literature/Young Adult | 3/10/09... Travel

2/10/09... Historical Readings

Any questions, contact Charles A. Paone, chair

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

**FRIENDS OF THE STEELE MEMORIAL LIBRARY FILM FESTIVAL MARCH 2009
FILM NOIR CLASSICS - STYLIZED HOLLYWOOD CRIME DRAMAS OF THE
40'S & 50'S**

Saturday, MARCH 7, 2009 - 1:30 PM

Keeper of the Flame (1942 MGM) Directed by George Cukor with Katherine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Forrest Tucker. Great National Hero dies in a car crash. Newspaper reporter leaves war torn Europe to cover the story. The hero's widow is acting strangely. WHY?

Saturday, MARCH 14, 2009 - 1:30 PM

Shadow of a Doubt (1943 Universal) Directed by Alfred Hitchcock with Teresa Wright, Joseph Cotton, Macdonald Carey, Hume Cronyn. Uncle Charlie is coming for a visit. His niece and namesake Charlie is thrilled. A detective shows up posing as a photographer. Could Uncle Charlie be the Merry Widow Murderer? Suspense by Hitchcock.

Saturday, MARCH 21, 2009 - 1:30 pm

Arsenic and Old Lace (1941 Warner Bros.) Directed by Frank Capra with Cary Grant, Priscilla Lane, Josephine Hull, Jean Adair, Raymond Massey. Bridegroom stops to visit his maiden aunts on his wedding night. Mayhem, murder and a charge up San Juan Hill follows in this delightful murder mystery farce.

Saturday, April 4, 2009 - 1:30 PM

On Dangerous Ground (1952 RKO) Directed by Nicholas Ray with Ida Lupino, Robert Ryan, Ward Bond, Ed Begley. Big city detective roughs up too many suspects and gets sent north to a small town on a murder case. He finds the murderer and redemption.

The Friends welcome new board members, Tom Rupp and Lynda Brand

Tom Rupp – I was born and raised in the Buffalo area. I moved to Elmira in 1979 after graduating from New York University. I was never too interested in reading until I was in grad school. I did not have a television, so on winter nights in New York City, I would read books. I heard about the Friends of Steele Library from Charlie Paone, while attending the 2008 book sale at the mall. I knew Charlie from many years, having worked with him at St. Joe's Hospital. My hobbies include woodworking, gardening, and the manly art of cross stitch, as well as traveling with my wife. I also would still rather read a good adventure book, or murder mystery, than watch the television.

Lynda Brand - I grew up in Elmira and did undergraduate and graduate work at Elmira College. After living in Ithaca for 2 years, I returned to Elmira, where I taught Sixth grade and Gifted and Talented classes at Hardy and Hendy Avenue Schools. I have two grown daughters and families in Boston where I travel frequently. My volunteer work has included Board of Directors Junior League of Elmira, Board of Visitors for the Elmira Psychiatric Center for 10 years, founding Board member of the United Cerebral Palsy and Handicapped Children's Association, Chemung County Mental Health Board, Board of the Friends of Woodlawn Cemetery, and for many years chair and member of the Trustees at the Park Church. I enjoy gardening, interior decorating, tennis and platform tennis, traveling abroad and making new friends, and am happy to be on the Friends' Board.

In this issue: Volunteer sign up sheet for the **Book Sale**, information about the **Poetry Festival**, dates for the winter 2009 **Books Sandwiched In** series, and a *killer* **Film Festival**. Don't miss any of them!

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

Friends of the Steele Memorial Library
Presents
The 33rd Annual
Poetry Festival Contest & Weekend
March 28 & 29, 2009

Poetry Festival Contest

The Friends Poetry Festival Contest is well underway, with submissions arriving daily at the Steele Memorial Library. Categories are available for youth and adult. Entry deadline is 6:00 p.m., February 23rd. For **Contest** rules, please visit

http://www.cclld.lib.ny.us/poetry_rules_2008.htm

or visit pages below

Poetry Festival Weekend

Festival Workshop

Featuring Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet

Dr. Carl Dennis

Saturday, March 28th

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Auditorium,

Steele Memorial Library

101 E. Church Street

Elmira, NY

Festival Reading & Awards Ceremony

Featuring Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet

Dr. Carl Dennis

Sunday, March 29th

Reception to Follow

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

This event is free and open to the public.

Steele Memorial Library

101 E. Church Street

Elmira, NY

These events are funded in part by Poets & Writers, Inc. with public funds from The New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

Festival Poet

Dr. Carl Dennis

*The difference between what is
And what could have been will remain alive for him
Even after you cease existing, after you catch a chill
Running out in the snow for the morning paper
Losing eleven years that the god who loves you
Will feel compelled to imagine scene by scene.*

—from “The God Who Loves You,” *New and Selected Poems: 1974-2004*.

In his 2004 review of *New and Selected Poems: 1974-2004*, David Orr wrote: "In 'The God Who Loves You,' his strongest poem in this vein, Dennis avoids bathos by deftly changing the focus from our own anguish at missed opportunities to the grief of the god who loves us. Dennis's language here is so quiet and straightforward that when he alters course yet again to imagine the transformation of a god in the mind of his reader, the change seems natural. This is public poetry that sounds private—an achievement that's easy to underestimate" ("Poet on Main Street," *The New York Times*: May 16, 2004).

Carl Dennis is the author of ten books of poetry, including, most recently, *Unknown Friends* (Penguin 2007) and *New and Selected Poems 1974-2004* (Penguin 2004). His previous book, *Practical Gods* (Penguin 2001), received the **2002 Pulitzer Prize** in poetry. A recipient of fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts (2000), Dennis was awarded the Ruth Lilly Prize from *Poetry Magazine* and the Modern Poetry Association for his contribution to American poetry. Carl Dennis lives in Buffalo, where for many years he taught at SUNY Buffalo.

Dr. Dennis will preview one poem per poet before the March 28th Workshop, for participants to review during the Saturday session. Individuals interested in attending are asked to please pre-register (call 607.733.8607) and deliver one poem to the Steele Library Circulation Desk by March 16th. No fee is required, but space is limited. Thank you.

Friends Poetry Festival Contest Rules

Contest Awards Ceremony

March 29, 2009

1. Poems 50 or fewer lines are eligible. Poems must be typed, double-spaced, in a standard font, using 12-point pica.
2. One entry per applicant is allowed.
3. Previously entered poems are not eligible.
4. Poems must be the original work of the entrant.
5. Poet's name should not be included on poem. On a 3 x 5 card, please write entrant's name, home address, grade, phone number, category and school, when applicable.
6. Categories:
 - A. **Catherine Connelly Award** – Top prize open to adults (18+ years old)
 - B. **Adult** (18+ years old)
 - C. **High School Students**, grades 9 – 12
 - D. **Ellen McTiernan Outstanding High School Poet Award**
 1. **Award** is open to high school students grades 11 & 12.
 2. Entrants are to submit a portfolio of five (5) poems.
 3. **Award** is judged separately from other categories.
 4. Students may enter both the **Ellen McTiernan Award** and regular **High School Student** (grades 9 – 12) categories.
 5. Some years there may not be a winner in this category.
 - E. **Ellen Tiftt Outstanding High School Poet Award**
 1. **Award** is open to high school students grades 9 & 10.
 2. Entrants are to submit a portfolio of three (3) poems.
 3. **Award** is judged separately from other categories.
 4. Students may enter both the **Ellen Tiftt Award** and regular **High School Student** (grades 9 – 12) categories.
 5. Some years there may not be a winner in this category.
 - F. **Middle School Students**, grades 6 – 8
 - G. **Elementary School Students**, grades K – 5
7. Entrants should bring or send poems to the Steele Memorial Library, 101 East Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901. **No poems will be returned.**
8. **Monday, February 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m. is the deadline for all entries.**
9. Winning poems will be announced **Sunday, March 29, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., at the Steele Memorial Library, 101 E. Church Street, Elmira, NY.**

For additional *Festival* details, please visit <http://www.steele.lib.ny.us/friends.htm>.

Poetry Festival Contest Awards Descriptions

Catherine Connelly Award – Adult

Catherine Connelly enjoyed an especially active civic life in Elmira as a member—as a leader—of numerous area organization Boards, such as Community Chest and the Steele Memorial Library. In particular, Catherine made significant contributions to the development of area libraries, guiding the system from city to county jurisdiction. Further, she possessed remarkable confidence, drive and persuasive eloquence in working with the legislature, achieving consistent and substantive progress towards community-minded goals. While President of the Steele Board of Trustees, Catherine partnered with Thelma King, then Head Librarian of the Steele, to establish the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library, who held its first meeting in 1958 and continues to thrive to this day, providing programs and events that enrich the lives of area residents. Ultimately, Catherine Connelly was highly renowned, highly respected, for her commitment to improving Elmira. In honor of her vital contributions to the quality and opportunity of local life, the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library established the ***Catherine Connelly Award*** in her name to recognize the positive impact individual creativity coupled with community involvement can produce.

Ellen McTiernan Award – High School Portfolio (Grades 11 & 12)

Ellen McTiernan spent her career teaching English at Elmira Free Academy (EFA High School). Following her retirement, she volunteered at Notre Dame, where she continued to challenge and inspire students and colleagues alike. Throughout her professional and volunteer work, Ellen was highly regarded for the exceptionally intense standards of excellence she set for students. Ellen herself was a poet and, leading by example, won the ***Catherine Connelly Award***. In the spirit of striving for one's absolute best, only a truly outstanding portfolio that presents a tight, well-developed body of work will receive the ***Ellen McTiernan Award***.

Ellen Tift Award – High School Portfolio (Grades 9 & 10)

Ellen Tift was a life-long resident of Chemung County, earning her education, raising her family and writing, writing, writing in Elmira. Among her creative pursuits, poetry was foremost. Ellen drew inspiration for her poems from every perception, thought, feeling, observation, musing and question she experienced. In return, her words—spoken, written, imagined—inspired the life around her. Thus, writers who receive the ***Ellen Tift Award*** will have submitted portfolio work that reflects the passion with which Ellen lived, embracing life and releasing it through poetry.

Ellen Tift once said, “Days are better when I work with words.” The Friends of the Steele Memorial Library wishes that joy to all writers in the community and extends special gratitude to those who have participated in past Festival Contests. Thank you all for your energy, voice and creative passion.

FRIENDS' DONATIONS to the STEELE MEMORIAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

\$184,575.00 from 1999 - 2008

March 2, 1999 - \$10,000 divided equally among the Steele and its four branches to acquire book and materials and provided programming.

April 5, 1999 - \$500 to the Steele's Children's Services for use in encouraging elementary school children to use the library.

May 2, 2000 - \$10,000 divided equally among the Steele Memorial Library and its four branches to acquire books and materials and provided programming.

June 2001 - \$15,000 divided equally among the Steele Memorial Library and its four branches to acquire books and materials and provided programming.

June 3, 2002 - \$20,000 divided equally among the Steele Memorial Library and its four branches to acquire books and materials and provided programming.

June 9, 2003 - \$15,000 divided equally among the Steele Memorial Library and its four branches to acquire book and materials and provided programming.

May 3, 2004: - \$27,000 (Steele Memorial Library: \$12,000 for materials; \$1,500 for programs; Big Flats Library: \$6,000 for materials, \$750 for programs; West Elmira Library: \$6,000 for materials, \$750 for programs).

June 8, 2005 - \$22,500 divided equally among the main library and the two branches to acquire books and materials and provide programming.

May 1, 2006 - \$17,100 divided equally between the main library and the two branches. Each receives \$5,700; \$5,000 for books and \$700 for programs.

June 20, 2007 - \$7,500: \$2,500 to each of the libraries - Steele, Big Flats, West Elmira - for programs.

September 10, 2007: \$9975 as follows:

- \$975 – Southside Community Center for transportation to the Steele Memorial Library for visits coordinated with the Youth Services Director.
- \$1250 – Steele Bookmobile for programming and materials directed at children.
- \$500 - \$125 each to Steele, West Elmira, Big Flats and Bookmobile to assist in replacing lost books.
- \$6750 - \$2250 each to Youth Services at the Steele, West Elmira, Big Flats for acquisition of materials and funding special programs.
- \$500 – for Adult programming (computer education, special programs) at Steele.

December 2008 - \$30,000 with \$7500 each to Adult and Children's Services at Steele, and West Elmira and Big Flats for books/materials and programming.

Other Friends' programs - the Poetry Festival, Books Sandwiched In, the Film Festival, Read-Out-Loud, Kinderbook – are also supported with additional funds.

Where does the money come from?

The money comes from our annual Book Sale and your generous donations to the Friends. In 1999, the Book Sale raised \$11,000; in 2008, the Book Sale raised \$23,000.

Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As 2008 comes to a close and 2009 begins, the Membership Committee would like to thank all of you who have joined the Friends for the first time and all of you who have renewed your memberships for your continuing support. The Friends of the Library currently has 326 members who have generously donated \$8985 through their membership dues. These monies support programming and materials for the Steele Memorial Library and its branches. If you have not joined the Friends or renewed your membership yet, we encourage you to do so. Again, thank you for your support and Happy New Year.

Diane Wilbur
Membership Committee

Just in case you have not joined the *FRIENDS* for 2008-2009, 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. _____ Telephone _____
Mrs. _____

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>>



2009 BOOK SALE

Volunteer Sign Up Sheet

*To ensure another successful Book Sale, we need your help. Your commitment of TWO hours of your time, **anytime** during these 10 days, will make a difference. Thank you.*

Set up Dates: Tuesday February 10, 10 AM - 5 PM
 Wednesday February 11, 10 AM - 5 PM

Sale Dates: Thursday February 12, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Friday February 13, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Saturday February 14, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Sunday February 15, 11 AM - 6 PM

 Thursday February 19, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Friday February 20, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Saturday February 21, 10 AM - 3 PM (BAG SALE)

Take down date: Sunday February 22, 1 PM

Name	Phone #	Date/day of week	Hours

Unless notified, you will be expected to work as noted above. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Please sign up and return no later than January 31, 2009 to:
The Friends Book Sale Committee
c/o The Steele Memorial Library
101 East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901