



BOOKWORM

Fall 2010

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

FALL 2010

October 15th

Queen City Adventure - readings from the diary (1902) of Emma Latier along with a showing of authentic photographs of old Elmira. The diary will be published in the *New York History Review* this fall. Presenters will be Diane Janowski and Denny Smith.

October 22th

Freedom by Jonathan Franzen. Heavily publicized, this galvanic new novel showcases the author's impressive literary toolkit. It is a story of a dysfunctional middle class family living in this nuclear age and dealing with socio-economic-political plight. Presenter will be Ron Shaw, Director of the Chemung County Library District.

November 5th

A Cooking by the Book by Neil O'Donnell. Are cookbooks still viable? What is modern day cooking really like? An expert looks into your pantry, kitchen, and table service. Presenter will be Neil O'Donnell.

November 12th

Game Change: Obama and the Clintons, McCain and Palin, and the Race of a Lifetime by John Heilemann and Mark Halperin. Learn the secrets of the Iowa Caucus, Hillary and Bill Clinton's subterfuge, and why McCain and Palin are hanging in there. Michael Horigan will be the presenter.

All reviews are held Fridays from 12:00 - 1 PM in the Steele Memorial Library Auditorium.

A light sandwich lunch may be purchased for \$3.50, or you may bring your own.

In the event that schools are closed due to weather, the book review will be rescheduled.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings.

Once again our streets are filled with buses taking children to school where they will begin the adventure of a new academic year. It is also time for activities of the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library to commence. *Kinderbook* is already hard at work on plans to present hundreds of kindergarteners with their first library card. *Books Sandwiched In* has a wonderful slate of presenters for our fall book reviews. Later this year, we can look forward to another quality *Poetry Festival* as well as what we hope will be our biggest and best *Book Sale* ever.

We extend a warm welcome to the new director of the library, Ron Shaw. We look forward to supporting him in his efforts to improve library programs and acquire new materials. To that end, the Friends recently approved funds for the purchase of *Tumblebooks*, a software program, and two computer stations for early childhood literacy (see article below).

This should be another busy and rewarding year, but we could use your help to make it even better. If you have not already done so, please use the form that you will find in this newsletter to become a member of the Friends. Encourage your friends and neighbors to consider a membership that can be obtained for as little as five dollars. Your support helps us make the library a better resource for the benefit of the entire community.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Friends.

Best,
Anthony J. Pucci
President

Recognizing that literacy opens the door to a lifetime of learning, the Friends Board approved the purchase of two items on the "Library Wish List" during the September meeting. Both items, presented by CCLD Director Ron Shaw, will support the library's early literacy initiatives and will cost around \$7500.

The first, TumbleBooks (<http://www.tumblebooks.com/>), is an online collection of animated, talking picture books that promote literacy. Picture books have long been used to teach kids the joy of reading in a format they love. TumbleBooks are created by adding animation, sound, music and narration to existing picture books in order to produce an electronic picture book which a child can read, or have read to them.

The TumbleBook Library collection will be available online from every computer in the libraries with Internet connection, or from home through a direct link on the library website.

The second purchase will be two Early Literacy Stations (ELS) targeted for kids, pre-K through 4th grade and grows and change as the child ages. Each ELS includes 50 educational software programs that cover seven curricular areas such as social studies, science and math. The website is <http://www.awe-net.com/els.asp>.

According to Ron, literacy is "the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate and compute using printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. We want our kids to be knowledgeable and educated because we know this will enrich their experience of the world and expand their opportunities for success. And now, thanks to this generous support given by the Friends, our children will have that opportunity."

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2009 – 2010 KINDERBOOK PROGRAM

The Kinderbook Program completed its 7th year in June 2010 with 592 kindergarteners in Chemung County receiving their first public library card during their kindergarten year.

The Children's Committee of the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library started the Kinderbook Program in 2003. The goals of the program have been to encourage parents of kindergarteners in Chemung County to obtain public library cards for their children and to take their children to public libraries to participate in children's programs and borrow books.

With time the program evolved to include elementary schools taking their kindergarteners on field trips to public libraries. During the field trip the kindergarteners were taken on a tour of the library, listened to a book read to them by a Kinderbook volunteer, were given the gift of a new book, and received their first library card.

During the 2009 – 2010 school year 12 of 13 elementary schools participated in the field trips and 592 kindergarteners received a public library card.

The Children's Committee thanks the elementary school kindergarten teachers and librarians and the public library librarians for their important role in this program and hopes this experience starts the community's kindergarteners on a lifelong use and love of public libraries.

Ralph Moore
Kinderbook Committee

Book Sorting

Need exercise? Like to problem solve? Interested in bending your knees and not breaking your back? Want a good laugh? Help the Friends with book sorting!

This is a year round activity. We need people who will give 2-4 hours a week to help sort books for the annual book sale. Sorting books into categories assists the book sale by making the sale easier and more organized.

Call Charles Paone, 734-7846, after 5pm and get physical and literal all at the same time. Thank you in advance.

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

STEELE'S *GREEN* ROOF

Visitors to the library have probably noticed the activity surrounding the installation of our new “green roof.” We’ve had many questions about the and why of the project so I thought I’d take a few moments to shed some light on the subject.

Simply put, a green roof (also known as a “living roof”), is a roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproofing membrane. As part of the trend towards environmentalism they serve several purposes- absorbing rainwater, providing insulation, creating a habitat for wildlife, and helping to lower urban air temperatures and combat the heat island effect. On a green roof, plants intercept and delay rainfall runoff and the peak flow rate, reducing the erosive potential of storm water and eventually returning water to the surrounding atmosphere by evaporation and transpiration.

A green roof provides additional insulating qualities that are not found with a conventional roof, keeping the building warmer in the winter and much cooler in the summer. Our roof is known as an “extensive” or “shallow” type as it is covered with a light layer of vegetation and is lighter than the “intensive” type. The roof membrane will also last longer as ultraviolet light exposure is the greatest cause of degradation. The vegetation blocks the ultraviolet light and keeps the temperature more constant, which reduces expansion and contraction of the roofing materials. Less wear and tear means a longer roof life.

It is planted with several varieties of sedum plugs, all common to our region. Sedums are hardy succulents that can thrive for six to eight weeks without additional water. Our roof will hopefully have full coverage within two growing seasons. The growing medium is two inches of soil, a special blend that includes shale, sand, and less than 20% organic material.

Best of all, as far as the taxpayers of Chemung County are concerned, is the fact that 90% of the costs of the roof are funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Green Innovation Grant Program. Under this program 90% (\$821,527) of the total cost of \$912,808 will be covered- leaving the library to pay only \$91,281.

I think the importance of the project is also reflected in its forward thinking approach. I firmly believe that in five to ten years people are going to have to find a reason not to use a green roof. It’s the environmentally responsible thing to do.

Ron Shaw
Director
Chemung County Library System

