

The Bookworm

Winter 2010

Books Sandwiched In

Friday, February 19

True Compass: A Memoir by Edward M. Kennedy. "Based on 50 years of notes and journal entries, this monumentally moving memoir illuminates nearly every aspect of the late senator's personal and public life and times. With incomparable wit and candor, Kennedy offers up his perspective on Senate colleagues, Presidents past, and most of all himself, revealing the tarnish along with the triumphs . . . Deeply affecting on the subjects of grief, his battle with brain cancer and his devotion to family, sailing and the Senate, this is an astonishingly intimate self-portrait of a man whose belief that 'if you persevere . . . you have a real opportunity to achieve something' was born out by his extraordinary life." (People). Dr. Jerome Whalen, Professor, Elmira College will review the book.

Friday, February 26

Teenager Life in the 1800s: First Person Narrative. Reviewers Diane Janowski and Denny Smith will read excerpts from Ms. Janowski's personal collection of New York State diaries from this time. Featured will be the writings from the diaries of two girls and one boy.

Friday, March 5

5 C Hero: the Joel Stephens Story by Michael D'Aloisio. This is the story of a high school athlete "who lived the values of Christianity, Courage, Compassion, Character, and Commitment. With the brightest of futures ahead of him, Stephens lost his battle with a rare form of cancer in 1998 at the age of 22. D'Aloisio, ...coach, mentor, and friend, ...chronicles the record-setting athletic exploits of Joel throughout his high school years as well as his professional career ...and his decision to accept a scholarship to play Division I football for Syracuse University... This tragic story is told with humor, intensity, and great warmth."(dust jacket). Reviewers will be Michael D'Aloisio and Anthony Pucci.

Friday, March 12

Nothing to Fear: FDR's Inner Circle and the Hundred Days That Created Modern America by Adam Cohen. "Cohen zeroes in on the five Roosevelt aides-de-camp whom he rightly sees as having been the most influential in developing FDR's wave of extraordinary actions... This group, Cohen emphasizes, did not work in concert... the vital foundation for FDR's New Deal was crafted through a process of rigorous argument within the president's innermost circle rather than ideological consensus. Cohen's ...book provides a vital new level of insight into Roosevelt's sweeping expansion of the federal government's role in our national life." (Publishers Weekly) Michael Horigan is the reviewer.

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.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, JANUARY, 2010

Each January, the President of the United States reports to Congress on "The State of the Union." If I may use that analogy, as President of the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library, I am pleased to report that the state of our organization is strong. I say this for two reasons. First, we have wonderful Board members who graciously give of their time and talents. In this newsletter, you will read about several of our newest members. Overall, our paid membership stands at 356, up from 335 at this time last year. Second, we offer the community excellent programs and activities, including the Kinderbook Program, Books Sandwiched In, Poetry Festival, and Mall Book Sale. In this newsletter, you will find the spring lineup for our book reviews as well as dates for the poetry contest, and the much-anticipated book sale.

As you may know, the book sale is, by far, our most important source of revenue. It enables us to make significant monetary contributions that support programming and acquisitions for the Steele Memorial Library and its branches. The book sale is also our most labor intensive event. Much of the work is done in February as we set up for the sale, run the sale itself, and do the take down afterward. However, an extremely important activity for the success of the sale is the sorting of books that are donated to the library throughout the year. As we prepare for this year's sale, I would encourage you to consider volunteering a few hours of your time in the sorting of books as well as in the sale itself. Your help is vital to our success.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for your support in the past. I look forward to working with you in the new year.

Best wishes,
Anthony J. Pucci
President

2010 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 2010 - Thursday February 11 through Sunday February 14, and Thursday, February 18 through Saturday, February 20. Last years sale raised over \$22,000 with some of this money going to the Steele Memorial Library's fundraising drive for a new Bookmobile.

Help is needed for the sale days, and set up days, Tuesday and Wednesday February 9 and 10, and take down day, Sunday February 21. Volunteers for sale days usually work for two hour blocks of time and help customers find books, keep tables stacked with books, and collect money from the sale of the books. There are always several people working and it is a good way to meet new friends, and share the experience with old friends.

If you would like to volunteer to help, enclosed is a sign-up sheet for you to complete and return to the Steele Memorial Library. 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 it will be published in the Elmira Star-Gazette's *Time Out* section and the *What's Going On* calendar at sale time in February. The location can also be found by going to the Mall information desk by the escalator.

Please volunteer to help with our largest fundraising event of the year. We are sure that you will find the time both rewarding and enjoyable.

Tom Rupp, Chair
Karen Nisco, Chair
Dean Butts, Chair

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

The Friends welcome the following new board members:

Bridget Wilson:

I was born in Elmira and have lived here most of my life. I graduated from D'Youville College with a master's degree in Physical Therapy. I currently work as a Physical Therapist. I have always enjoyed reading and books and I usually have a book nearby wherever I go. My other interests include martial arts and competing in triathlons.

Barbara Friedman:

I grew up in Maryland and graduated from Towson State College. I moved to the Elmira area in 1971 and taught elementary school in the Elmira City School District for more than 30 years. I completed my graduate work at Elmira College. I am a recent graduate of the Literacy Volunteers training program and have enjoyed being a tutor in the program for about a month. I've always loved reading. I heard about the Friends of the Steele Memorial Library from a friend Charlie Paone. I'm excited to be on the Friends Board because of the wonderful activities in which they are involved. In addition to reading, I enjoy gardening, traveling and listening to music.

Elena Sorci:

I was born and raised in the south suburbs of Chicago, IL. I lived in Chicago while completing my bachelor's degree at UIC and post-graduate work at Northwestern University. I moved to Cleveland in 2007 for a year and a half to work at the Cleveland Clinic and moved farther east to Elmira in 2008. I have always been an avid reader. When I was younger, I could read an entire book in a day, during summer vacation. In college, the best way to pass the time on public transportation was by reading a book. I heard about the Friends of Steele Library from Tom Rupp, a coworker of mine. When I am not reading, I enjoy traveling, sewing, exercise, and spending time with family.

The *Friends* need
HELP SORTING BOOKS

The annual BOOK SALE is our big fund raiser, but before the sale, there's a lot of work to do. The donated books need to be sorted and boxed for storage until the BOOK SALE. We need *Friends* to help us sort and box these books at the Steele Memorial Library. If you can spare a couple of hours a week for just one month, please call **Charlie Paone (734-7846)** and volunteer.

Sage Daughters of the Muses: a gentle concord of poetry, music and art, is a joint project of the Arnot Art Museum and the Friends of the Library to celebrate Women in the Arts Month. We invite all Friends to join us at the museum on Tuesday, March 9th from 6-8PM for an evening of poetry, music, art and light refreshments.

Bobbie Curran, Chairperson

Friends of the Steele Memorial Library

Presents

The 34th Annual

Poetry Festival Contest

Deadline Monday, March 1, 2010

Awards Ceremony Sunday, April 25, 2010

Poetry Festival Contest

Categories are available for youth and adult.

Entry deadline is 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 1, 2010.

For **Contest** rules, please visit http://www.cclld.lib.ny.us/poetry_rules_2008.htm.

Hardcopy of rules available at any CCLD Library.

Poet Ellen Tifft 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. We extend special gratitude to those who have participated in past Festival Contests and encourage all area poets to participate this year. Thank you all for your energy, voice and creative passion.

Friends Poetry Festival Contest Rules

1. Poems 50 or fewer lines are eligible. Poems must be typed, double-spaced, in a standard font, using 12-point pica.
2. One poem per applicant is allowed, unless applicant is submitting a high school portfolio in addition to a high school poem.
3. Previously entered poems are not eligible.
4. Poem 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. **Adult** (18+ years old), including **Catherine Connelly Award** – Top prize open to adults (18+ years old)
 - B. **High School Students**, grades 9 – 12
 - C. **Ellen McTiernan Outstanding High School Poet Portfolio 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 Portfolio Award** and regular **High School Student** (grades 9 – 12) categories.
 5. Some years there may not be a winner in this category.
- D. **Ellen Tift Outstanding High School Poet Portfolio 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 Tift Award** and regular **High School Student** (grades 9 – 12) categories.
 5. Some years there may not be a winner in this category.
- E. **Middle School Students**, grades 6 – 8
- F. **Elementary School Students**, grades K – 5

7. Entrants should bring or send poems to the Circulation Desk, Steele Memorial Library, 101 East Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901. **No poems will be accepted via e-mail or fax. No poems will be returned.**

8. **Monday, March 1, 2010, 6:00 p.m. is the deadline for all entries.**

9. Winning poems will be announced **Sunday, April 28, 2010, 1:00 – 3:00 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 Tifft Award – High School Portfolio (Grades 9 & 10)

Ellen Tifft 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 Tifft Award* will have submitted portfolio work that reflects the passion with which Ellen lived, embracing life and releasing it through poetry.

Just in case you have not joined the *FRIENDS* for 2009-2010, 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

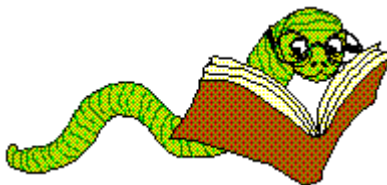
Ms.

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>>



2010 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 9, 10 AM - 5 PM
 Wednesday February 10, 10 AM - 5 PM

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

 Thursday February 18, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Friday February 19, 10 AM - 9 PM
 Saturday February 20, 10 AM - 3 PM (BAG SALE)

Take down date: Sunday February 21, 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, 2010 to:
The Friends Book Sale Committee
c/o The Steele Memorial Library
101 East Church Street
Elmira, NY 14901

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