

Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library

Chapter & Verse

January/February 2012

Author Debra Brenegan to lead book discussion



The KPL Friends will sponsor their first author-led book discussion group with *Shame the Devil* author Debra Brenegan to lead the event, Saturday, February 18 at 11:30 am. Lunch is included with registration for the discussion, which will be held in the lower level meeting room at the library. Event cost, including a box lunch, is \$12. Books are available for purchase for \$20, which is discounted from its \$25 retail price, and Professor Brenegan will sign copies at the event. A reservation form can be found on page 5. Reservations with book orders are required by Friday, January 27. All reservations must be received by February 14. Reserve early because space is limited.

Shame the Devil tells the remarkable and true story of Fanny Fern (the pen name of Sara Payson Willis), one of the most successful, influential, and popular writers of the nineteenth century. A novelist, journalist, and feminist, Fern (1811-1872) outsold Harriet Beecher Stowe, won the respect of Nathaniel Hawthorne, and served as literary mentor to Walt Whitman. Scrabbling in the depths of poverty before her meteoric rise to fame and fortune, she was widowed, escaped an abusive second marriage, penned one of the country's first prenuptial agreements, married a man eleven years her junior, and served as a nineteenth-century Oprah to her hundreds of thousands of fans. Her weekly editorials in the pages of the New York Ledger over a period of about twenty years chronicled the myriad controversies of her era and demonstrated her firm belief in the motto, "Speak the truth, and shame the devil." Through the story of Fern and her contemporaries, including Walt Whitman, Catharine Beecher, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Jacobs, and Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Shame the*

(see Brenegan, page 5)

Deb Peterson to dish with Friends on Jan. 18

Deb Peterson, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* gossip and society news reporter, will be on hand January 18 at 1pm to fill the KPL Friends in on all the latest happenings during their Winter Program.

Peterson dishes the scoop on the rich and famous, and the hometown power elite, but also writes about the little guy. From charity functions and tony restaurants to neighborhood bashes and hometown affairs, she gets the goods, and the gossip, on them all.

Deb Peterson, columnist for the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, grew up in Chicago, where she attended public schools. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and earned her Master's degree in public affairs from the University of Illinois, Springfield.

She has worked at the *Post-Dispatch* since 1985, and on her way to becoming a columnist in 2003, worked in nearly every section of the newspaper except for sports

and business. She was an editor, a team leader, a film critic, and wrote editorials for a brief time. Prior to working for the *Post-Dispatch*, Deb worked for the *Kansas City Star* and the Associated Press, as an AP writer. She also worked in Chicago, Denver and Springfield Illinois, where she covered the Illinois State legislature.

Ms. Peterson has received a number of awards, but she is most proud of the Pulitzer Prize she won as a member of the staff of the *Kansas City Star* in 1982, for the coverage of the Hyatt Skywalk collapse, in which 114 people were killed. She was on the investigative team assigned to discover why the engineering decision, which caused the collapse, was made.

Today, Deb writes a weekly column for the *Post-Dispatch*, where she writes stories about everyone from the rich, the famous, the power elite to the little guys; from ritzy charity parties and

(see Peterson, page 5)

Donate, remember a loved one, or pay tribute

Tributes offer a way to honor someone and support the Friends and KPL at the same time.

A personalized acknowledgement will be sent to the recipient for each gift or tribute you give.

Celebrate a life event or commemorate a life well lived.

Tributes Received

In honor of Malcolm & Lois Bliss
Malcolm Bliss III

Recent Gifts

Carolyn Karelitz

Alice Bruce

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Liz Walker
Vice President

Barbara Dionne
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Carol Sipes
Treasurer

Chapter and Verse is published six times a year by Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library
Mary Butkus, *Editor*

Reflection on collection selection

Have you ever wondered how we select titles for the library's collection? Selecting books is one of the best parts of being a librarian. We have a team of staff who read pages and pages of reviews of books, movies, music, and more and think about what we should buy. Some staff focus just on one part of the collection (for example, mystery) while several staff select, for example, the nonfiction collection. (Because we read so many reviews, we all have very long to-read lists!)

If we ever miss something or need to improve a section of the library, don't ever hesitate to let us know. We consider all recommendations carefully and want to have the materials that interest you! We place orders twice a month so new items are always arriving. We also try to order multiple copies for popular titles – for every four Kirkwood holds, we purchase an additional copy! But don't fret if you're on a long waiting list! Be sure to check out our Hot Read collection. These hot reads aren't listed in the catalog and are catch as you can. Swing by and see if you can grab a copy of titles everyone is reading!

And one quick story for you! I attended the Winter Missouri Public Library Director conference in early December. During one meeting, we were discussing Friends groups and what Friends groups do for the different libraries. When I mentioned a few of the things you all do, someone in the room said, "Sarah has a Friends group we would kill for!" Another librarian asked if you all had any siblings you could send their way. Just another lovely reminder about how lucky we are to have such an outstanding group!

See you at the library!

*Sarah Erwin
Library Director*

"One Book, One Kirkwood!" starts Summer 2012

While we're in the midst of cold winter days, we wanted to give our Friends an advance look at a new summer program we hope will interest you all: One Book, One Kirkwood! We will encourage all Kirkwoodians to read the new novel, *The Coffins of Little Hope* by Timothy Schaffert. The goal of this program is for residents to simply enjoy a good book together. The library will have numerous copies of the title available for checkout and we encourage you to read with us. In June, the library will sponsor book discussions and will wrap up the program at the end of the month with a visit from the author. We're delighted to offer this program in Kirkwood—a home of many readers. Be on the lookout for more details soon!

A summary of the book: "When a young country girl is reported to be missing, perhaps whisked away by an itinerant aerial photographer, Essie (an octogenarian obituary writer for her family's small town newspaper) stumbles onto the story of her life. Or, it all could be simply a hoax, or a delusion, the child and child-thief invented from the desperate imagination of a lonely, lovelorn woman. Either way, the story of the girl reaches far and wide, igniting controversy, attracting curiosity-seekers from all over the country to this rural town. And then it is revealed that the long awaited final book of an infamous series of gothic novels is being secretly printed on the newspaper's presses. *The Coffins of Little Hope* tells a feisty, energetic story of characters caught in the intricately woven webs of myth, legend and deception even as Schaffert explores with his typical exquisite care and sharp eye the fragility of childhood, the strength of family, the powerful rumor mills of rural America, and the sometimes dramatic effects of pop culture on the way we shape our world."

*Sarah Erwin
Library Director*

Readers' Circle Meets March 1

Gala opera evenings. Sudden wealth and fame. Dangerous undercover missions into the heart of Nazi Germany. Standing up to the perils of the Blitz. No one would have predicted such glamorous and daring lives for Ida and Louise Cook—two decidedly ordinary Englishwomen who came of age between the wars and seemed destined never to stray from their quiet London suburb and comfortable civil service jobs. But in 1923 a chance hearing of an aria from *Madame Butterfly* sparked a passion in the sisters that became a vehicle for both their greatest happiness and the rescue of dozens of Jews facing persecution and death.

And it is the opera theme that sets *Safe Passage: The Remarkable True Story of Two Sisters Who Rescued Jews From the Nazis* by Ida Cook apart from the many others in this genre.

We hope that you will also be intrigued and join us in the lower level conference room at KPL on Thursday March 1, 2012 at 7 pm. We do not ask any commitment of you, other than to come and enjoy the discussion, and to accept the premise that no one view is right or wrong; all views are valid.

We anticipate thoughtful discussion under the direction of Mary Pat Sullivan.

Welcome our new Friends of KPL Winter 2011

Publisher

Carolyn Becker

Ruth Ann & Wayne Baldwin

Author

Ann & John Bedwinek

Jean Mueller

Event Calendar

For Children----

Winter/Spring Storytimes start the week of Jan. 10-April 25

Toddler Storytime – Tuesday, 10 am

Preschool Storytime - Wednesday, 10 am

Books for Babies – Thursday 9:30 am - 6-24 mths /caregivers

First Steps Storytime – Thursday, 10:30 am 2 year olds/caregivers

NEW- Special Storytimes: The Breakfast Club, 2nd Saturday of the month, 10:30 am. Enjoy stories and a healthy breakfast snack. Coffee for parents

After School Specials – Wednesdays, 4-5 pm

Family Book Club Junior – 6:30 pm, Grades 2-3/parents. Jan. 9, Feb. 13

Family Book Club – 7pm, Grades 4-6/parents - Jan. 23, Feb. 27

CHAMP Reading dogs@KPL – 3-4 pm, Jan. 15, Feb. 5

Special Events:

Lego Celebration- 10am, Jan. 28

My Weird School Party- 11am, Feb. 4

Internet Safety for Children- 6:30pm, Feb. 6

Pioneer Days- 1:30-3pm, Feb. 25

For Teens---

Teen Anime Night –Jan. 27, 5:45-8:15pm; Feb. 24, 5:45-8pm

Teen Game Night – Feb. 17, 1-3:30pm

Cookie Decorating – Feb. 13, 7-8:30pm

For Adults---

Life Journaling – Mondays, 7pm

Mystery Reader's Book Group - 2pm, Jan. 18; Feb. 15

Saturday Morning Perks – 10 am, Jan. 21; Feb. 18

KPL Cinema - Tuesdays, 1:30 pm

ShowMe Missouri Series—

Book Discussion: New Madrid: A Mississippi River Town in History & Legend. Jan. 14, 1:30pm

Hometown St. Louis, Feb. 21, 7pm

Special Programs —

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Jan. 21, 1:30pm

Civil War Series —

The Battles of Fredericksburg, Antietam and Gettysburg, Jan. 23, 7pm;

Your Brother in Arms: A Union Soldier's Odyssey, Jan. 29, 7pm

World War II Series —

Campaigns in Africa, Sicily and Italy, Jan. 28, 1:30 pm

Music of the War Years, Feb. 22, 7pm

Special Books* for members only

Various authors. Book Trails series. Shepard and Lawrence. Collection of stories from around the world. Black and white, color illustrations. Blue boards with paste-on colorful scene on cover. Condition of books varies from fair to good.

Book Trails Through the Wildwood, Vol. 2, 1928. Binding is loose. \$10.00

Book Trails to Enchanted Lands, Vol. 3, 1928. \$5.00

Book Trails at the Crossroads, Vol. 6, 1928. \$5.00

Book Trails Winding Westward. Vol. 7, 1928. \$5.00

Book Trails of Trail Blazers, Vol. 8, 1929. Binding is loose. \$10.00

Author unknown. *Train And Bank Robbers Of The West: A Romantic But Faithful Story Of Bloodshed And Plunder Perpetrated By Missouri's Daring Outlaws, Frank And Jesse James and the Younger Brothers*. Belford and Clarke. 1882. Judging from published date and poor condition of book, this appears to be a first edition. Hardback with imprint picture of robber on mustard colored boards. A definite collectible. \$75.00

Benton, Caroline French. *A Little Cook Book for A Little Girl*. Dana Estes. 1905. Hardcover. White boards with picture of girl in red dress at table with mixing bowls. Boards are soiled due to age. Interior is good. Scarce. \$18.00

Cohn, Amy L. *From Sea to Shining Sea: A Treasure of American Folklore and Folk Songs*. Publisher: McDowell, Obolensky, New York, 1959. Hardcover. Ex-libris. Illustrated by eleven Caldecott Medal and four Caldecott Honor Book artists. Celebrates and explores our unique nation and its folk lore. A true bargain at \$4.00

Cunningham, H. H. *Doctors in Gray*. Louisiana State University Press. Second edition. 1960. Hardcover with dust jacket. A vigorous human history of the Confederate Medical Service. Black and white illustrations. Dust jacket is chipped, boards and interior in good condition. Personal penciled notes and a family chart of soldier/drug-gist George T. Mattingly included. \$15.00

Faherty, William Barnaby. *The St. Louis Portrait*. Continental Heritage. 1987. Brown leatherette covers with gold lettering. Very good condition. A pictorial and entertaining commentary on the growth and development of St. Louis, MO. Two color prints by George Caleb Bingham. \$10.00

Graf, Dr. Alfred Byrd. *Exotica Series 4 International: Pictorial Cyclopedic of Exotic Plants from Tropical and Near-Tropical Regions*. Roehrs. 1982. 11th edition. Two very hefty volumes. Hardcover with dust jacket. A lavishly illustrated and comprehensive survey of exotic plant life known to horticulture. Very good condition. Call 314-821-5770. ext. 1023 for appointment to inspect. \$300.00

Hotchner, A. E. *The Boyhood Memoirs of A. E. Hotchner*. Missouri Historical Press. 2007. Softcover. Includes King of the Hill and Looking for Miracles. Signed by the author who tells a story about coming of age in the Midwest during the Depression. Very good condition. \$10.00

O'Casey, Sean. *Autobiographies 1 and 2*. Carroll and Graf, 1984. First editions. Blue boards. Very good condition. *Autobiography I* includes: *I Knock at the Door*, *Pictures in the Hallway*, and *Drums Under the Windows*. *Autobiography II* has a chipped dust jacket. Includes: *Inishfallen*, *Fare Thee Well*, *Raised and Crowned*, and *Sunset and Evening Star*. A masterpiece of writing. Two volumes. \$16.00

Parkman, Francis. *The Oregon Trail*. Doubleday. 1946. Hardcover. Striking reproductions by Thomas Hart Benton. Light green boards with imprint of rifle and cow skull on front cover. Many of the chapters are illustrated. \$8.00

Pease, Howard. *Heart of Danger*. Doubleday. 1946. Hardcover with dust jacket. A Tod Moran mystery story about occupied France during and after World War II. Dust jacket is chipped, otherwise book is in good condition. DJ is illustrated by Lawrence Beall Smith. \$25.00

Phillips, Lance. *Yonder Comes the Train: The Story of the Iron Horse and Some of the Roads It Traveled*. A. S. Barnes. 1965. Lots of illustrations, photos and drawings. This is a factual, fond and fascinating account of railroads and trains. With dust jacket. \$7.00

Roosevelt, Theodore. *Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail*. Readex Microprint Corp. 1966. (reprint of the 1899 Century Club edition). Illustrated by Frederic Remington. Dark blue boards, very good condition. \$5.00

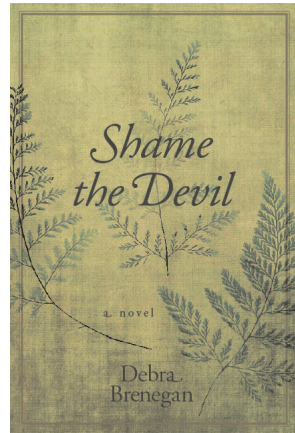
Smith, Emma. *Emily, the Traveling Guinea Pig*. McDowell, Obolensky. 1959. Hardcover. Charming illustrations by Katherine Wigglesworth. Eight full-color plates with cute sketches throughout. A collector's treasure. \$10.00

*A "special book" is old, rare, a first edition, out of print, or in some way "special." These books are researched on the Internet and offered to members first at exceptional values - prices that are half or less than half of the normal retail price. The special 10% member discount does not apply because the books are already heavily discounted. These books are available to Friends only during the month offered and then will be available to the public. If you are interested in purchasing any of these special offerings, call (314) 821-5770, Extension 1023 and leave a message. A member of the Book Fair Committee will call to arrange a time for you to see the book(s).

Brenegan (con't from page 1)

Devil brings the intellectual and social ferment of mid-nineteenth-century America to life.

Debra Brenegan has a Ph.D. in creative writing from The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is an Assistant Professor and director of the Women's Studies Program at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. For her fiction, she has received a Ragdale residency, the Ellen Hunnicutt Fiction Award, and was a recent finalist for the John Gardner Memorial Fiction Prize, *The Cincinnati Review's* Schiff Prose Prize, and the *Crab Creek Review* Fiction Prize. She has recently had work published in *Calyx*, *Tampa Review*, *Natural Bridge*, *The Laurel Review*, *Cimarron Review*, *Milwaukee Magazine*, *Phoebe*, *RE:AL*, *The Southern Women's Review* and elsewhere. SUNY Press released her novel, *Shame the Devil*, about nineteenth-century American journalist and novelist Fanny Fern in July, 2011.



If you have any questions, please call the Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library at (314) 821-5770, ext. 1023

Peterson (con't from page 1)

restaurants to neighborhood parties and teen activities. We will hear about some of her best or most interesting interviews, as well as, perhaps, some of her worst.

The program is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. Reservations, required by Jan. 14, can be made by signing up in Books & Beyond or by calling (314) 821-5770, Ext. 1023, and leaving your name and phone number.

Keeping up with your Friends

Fundraiser. Our second annual Holiday Kickoff Event on November 20 was quite a success. Seventy people attended and just under \$2,500 was raised for the Friends and KPL. Congratulations to the committee for a job well done and our thanks to the attendees for their support.

Afghan raffle. The hand-knit cabled Aran afghan raffled on December 3 was won by Susie Brown of the Circulation Desk. Susie tells us she wanted to win the afghan to give it to a friend. Congratulations, Susie, and our compliments on your generosity.

Santa Letters. Santa's helpers worked very hard this year to keep up with a 75% increase in letters, as compared to 2010. The result was gross revenues of over \$4,600, with 764 letters mailed out.

Luncheon and Book Discussion of *Shame the Devil* Led by Author Debra Brenegan

Saturday, February 18, 11:30 a.m. at Kirkwood Public Library in the Lower Level Meeting Room

Reservations with a book order required by January 27. All reservations required by February 14.

Complete the form below and make your check payable to Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library.

Mail the form and your check to us at 140 East Jefferson Avenue, Kirkwood, MO 63122

BOX LUNCH CHOICES (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

Chicken Salad Sandwich (all white meat with lemon dressing and lettuce) on Nine Grain Bread. Fresh Fruit. Walnut Brownie

Smoked Turkey Breast Sandwich (with lettuce and durkee mayo) on Nine Grain Bread. Fresh Fruit. Lemon Macaroon Bar.

Egg Salad Sandwich (with lettuce and sliced tomatoes) on Sourdough Bread. Vinaigrette Pasta Salad. Apricot Crunch Bar.

I would like to make reservations for _____ people at \$12 each.

My check includes \$20 each for _____ copies of *Shame the Devil*. Books may be picked up at the Reference Desk after February 3.

Name(s) _____

Address _____
Street address City State Zip

Email address _____

Telephone _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library

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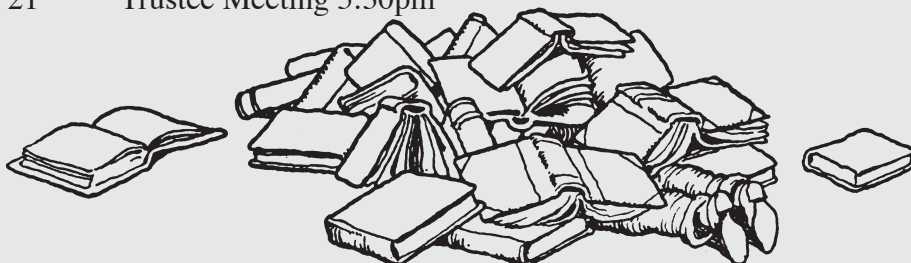
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Shame the Devil luncheon
with author Debra Brenegan

Reservations needed by
February 14
Book orders required
by January 27
See pages 1 & 5

Calendar of upcoming events

January 16	Library closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 18	Winter Program, Deb Peterson 1pm
January 18	Trustee Meeting 5:30pm
February 13	Friends Board Meeting 1pm
February 15	Trustee Meeting 5:30pm
February 18	<i>Shame the Devil</i> Luncheon With Author Debra Brenegan
February 20	Library closed for Presidents Day
March 1	Readers' Circle Book Discussion 7pm
March 21	Trustee Meeting 5:30pm



Visit KPL at kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org-- Visit the Friends at kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org/friends_home.asp

Contact us: Phone-(314)821-5770, Ext. 1023

E-Mail-KPLFriends@kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org