A quarterly publication of Macomb Public Library's Friends of the Library



DECEMBER 2011

Download E-books and Audiobooks for Free

It's cold outside...but you don't have to leave the warmth of your home to read or listen to a new book from your library. Grab your Macomb Public Library card and log onto the Alliance Digital Media Library (http://alliance.lib.overdrive.com/) to download e-books and audiobooks for free! Browse our collection of best sellers, mysteries, nonfiction, biographies, and even children's books, and "check out" up to two titles at once. You can transfer e-books to a Kindle, iPad, Nook, or other e-reader, or transfer audiobooks to an mp3 player. No need to worry about overdue fees, either — titles expire automatically when your checkout time is up.

To download e-books and audiobooks from the Alliance Digital Media Library, you will need your library card number and PIN. If you keep your library card on file with us or can't remember your PIN, stop by the information desk and we can look these up for you. To protect your account, we do not give this information out over the phone.

Questions? Contact the library anytime at 309-833-2714, or attend our upcoming e-book and audiobook workshop on Wednesday, January 18th at 7pm for a full overview of how to use the Alliance Digital Media Library. Happy reading!

MYSTERY & NOVELS BOOK SALE

Back by popular demand, the Friends of the Library will once again help you fight the winter doldrums with a good book at a good price. The sale will be only mysteries and novels and are all "better book" quality with prices starting at 75c for paper backs and \$2 for hard bound books.

This is a Members Only book sale but new members are welcomed and can join during the sale. The book sale is on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Library Annex, 109 E. Jefferson St.



Face to Face with Becky Parker

My father's reprimand of "Stop reading! Go out and do something" may have subconsciously, been the impetus for me to rebel and get a degree in library science. I've always loved reading, but from my East European immigrant, work-driven father, this was not the most productive use of my time.

Looking back on what influenced me, reading was the great escape into new worlds outside of my small rural community of 900 people in north-west central Wisconsin. My English teacher, Mrs. Marvelene Butterbrodt, (whose rendition of The Tale of Two Cities is still with me) not only talked my family into letting me go to college, but got me a scholarship in speech at Eau Claire. My Aunt Mercedes Leibzeit's advice to pursue a library science degree to expand my job opportunities turned out to be very useful. My first five professional

years were that of a high school librarian and as a librarian/teacher at Western Illinois University. After that, I went back to school in Speech Communication and spent 30 years teaching communication at Western.

Life has gone full cycle as now I'm spending a great deal of time doing "library" work in connection with the Friends of The Library. I've thoroughly enjoyed coordinating the annual book sales for ten years and have been on the board nearly as long. The beauty of it all is, I've been able to fulfill my father's demands of "do something" without giving up the reading. However, a big part of my enjoyment is sharing much of the book sale work with my husband, Sam. His mother was a librarian and he spent major blocks of time throughout his childhood and youth at the library as a result. Together, we are both back where we started.....and it feels just right!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends.

At this time of the year, most of us are caught up in the activities that center on the December holidays. Let us not forget, however, that the end of the year is a good time to contemplate gifts, not gifts to friends and family, but to those institutions that nourish our spirits and enrich our lives throughout the year. Please consider making a year-end donation (perhaps a memorial or tribute to a loved one) or including the Friends organization or the library in your estate planning. Come tax time, you will be happy you did.



Preserving the library's role as the community's guardian of public access to information requires the support and efforts of many. We welcome your financial donations as well as your ideas, your labor, and your advocacy. In the words of Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity, "I have tried raising money by asking for it, and by not asking for it. I always got more money by asking for it."

> Happy Reading, Kate Joswick

Enjoy the Convenience of MPL's Online Catalog

Have you used the Macomb Public Library's online catalog? From any comput- comes back and is ready for you to check er with internet access, you can:

- the book. DVD. or CD vou want
- Check whether a particular item is on the shelf or currently checked out
- Request a book from another library in our system
- Review a list of items you have checked out, see when they're due, and renew for another two weeks if no one's waiting for them

You can reach the Macomb Public Library's catalog at http://rsacat.alsrsa.org/.

Scroll down on the page and click on "Macomb PLD" in the list of libraries to search our library's collection. Type in a title, author, or keyword to see what items we own. The result screen will give vou basic information, including the title and call number; click on the title for more detailed information or to place a hold. If the item you want is currently checked out, click on the "Place Hold" button on the left side of the screen and log in with your library card number and PIN. (If you don't have this, stop by the Information Desk and we can look it up for you. To protect your account, we don't give this information out over the

phone.) We'll contact you when the item out.

See if the Macomb Public Library has If the book, DVD, or CD you want isn't at the Macomb Public Library, you can request it from another library in our system. Go to http://rsacat.alsrsa.org/ and type your search in the box by

> "Traditional Search (all RSA libraries)". If you find a copy at another library (such as Galesburg or Peoria Public Library), click on the "Place Hold" button on the left side of the screen. The request will be sent directly to the other library, and they'll send it to the Macomb library for you to pick up.

From any screen in the catalog, you can also log into your account and see all the items you have checked out and when they are due. Click on "My Account" along the top of the screen, and type in your library card number and PIN. "Review My Account" will show items you have checked out, or click "Renew My Materials" to renew items for another two weeks. Note: you can only renew an item one time online, and only if no one else has placed a hold on it.

Questions? We are happy to walk you through the process. Stop by the Information Desk, or give us a call at 309-833-2714.

MEMBER'S STORY HELPS FIND DONATION

Twenty new fiction Alzheimer'sthemed books are in the library due to a note that was included in a recent Friend membership renewal. A daughter stated she was renewing the membership for her father, who now had Alzheimer's, because the library and Friends organization have always been important to him. The Friends contacted Outreach Specialist Missy Kolowski at the Alzheimer's Association Central Illinois Chapter to recommend titles, specifically in the children's area, to be added to the collection in honor of this member

To our library's good fortune, Missy had worked on a six month project under a grant provided by the "Caterpillar Foundation" compiling a library of fiction books using this disease as a theme. She not only provided recommendations but donated these books to the library under this grant. From a read-to-me book "Grandpa's Music; A Story About Alzheimer's "by Alison Acheson to a youth book "Rudy's Memory Walk" by Gloria Vesquez the selection of books covers all young reader levels and ethnic points of view.

These books are a window into the world of Alzheimer's for a child who may have a family member struck by this disease. Thank you Missy and the Caterpillar Foundation for this donation.



Recommended Reading for the Book Lovers on Your Christmas List

LACE

 $READ\widetilde{E}R$

The American Library Association distributes a list of the books that are most commonly being read and discussed in Friends of the Library sponsored book clubs nationwide. The works in this list promise to lend themselves to great reading and stimulating discussion. Consider giving a copy as a gift or reading one yourself.

The Lace Reader. by Brunonia Barry The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake. by Aimee Bender

Alice I Have Been. by Melanie Beniamin

Secrets of Eden, by Chris Bohjalian Rock Paper Tiger, by Lisa Brackmann *Caleb's Crossing*, by Geraldine Brooks **The Weird Sisters.** by Eleanor Brown Among the Wonderful, by Stacy Carlson *Stiltsville*, by Susanna Daniel **Theodora:** Actress, Empress, Whore, by Stella Duffy The Old Man and Me, by Elaine Dundy

Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter, by Tom Franklin

The Love of My Youth, by Mary Gordon **Secret Daughter**, by Shilpi Somaya Gowda Little Princes, by Conor Grennan **The Wrong Mother**, by Sophie Hannah

The Sand Fish, by Maha Gargash

Friendship Bread, by Darien Gee

Alice Bliss, by Laura Harrington **The Bells**, by Richard Harvell *Up from the Blue*, by Susan Henderson Saving CeeCee Honeycutt, by Beth Hoffman The Stranger's Child, by Alan Hollinghurst The Unit, by Ninni Holmqvist **A Map of Home**, by Randa Jarrar The Air Between Us, by Deborah Johnson Girl Trouble, by Holly Goddard Jones

Russian Winter, by Daphne Kalotay The Brightest Star in the Sky, by Marian Keyes Death in the City of Light: The Serial Killer of Nazi-Occupied Paris, by David King

Hector and the Search for Happiness, by Francois Lelord

The Glass Room, by Simon Mawer The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey, by Walter Mosley

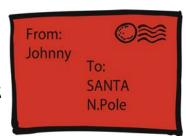
Velva Jean Learns to Fly, by Jennifer Niven

Wench, by Dolen Perkins-Valdez **The Well and the Mine**, by Gin Phillips Goldengrove, by Francine Prose *Rooftops of Tehran*, by Mahbod Seraji *Man in the Woods*, by Scott Spencer The Little Stranger, by Sarah Waters

Do You Have A Letter for Santa? Let the Library take care of it!

We'll help Santa's Elves by collecting letters for Santa until December 23rd.

> We'll get them to Santa in time for Christmas.







Special Library Holiday Hours

Saturday December 24 CLOSED • Sunday, December 25 CLOSED Saturday, December 31 CLOSED • Sunday, January 1 CLOSED Monday January 16, CLOSED - Martin Luther King Day

The Great Reads Book Club Schedule for 2011-2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Discussion leader</u>	
No Meeting in December				
Jan. 11	Jacobson, Howard	The Finkler Question	Marian Swisher	
Jan. 11 Feb. 8	Delany, Sarah & Elizabeth	Having Our Say: The Delany	Kim Cunningham	
		Sisters' First 100 Years		
Mar. 14	Simonson, Helen	Major Pettigrew's Last Stand	Becky Parker	
Apr. 11	Weber, Katharine	Triangle	Sandy Shearer	
Mar. 14 Apr. 11 May 9	Smith, Alexander McCall	La's Orchestra Saves the World	Martha Norcross	

Great Reads is an adult reading/discussion group sponsored by the Friends of the Macomb Public Library. From September through May (except for December) it meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Library. All books are available at the Reserve Desk of the Macomb Public Library and can be ordered at New Copperfield's Book Service.

Mystery Book Club Schedule for 2011-2012

<u>Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	Discussion leader	
No Meeting in December				
Jan. 25	May, John	White Corridor	Lois Ganyard	
Feb. 22	James, P.D.	The Murder Room	Margene Weiss	
Mar. 28	Burley, W.J.	Wycliffe and the Cycle of Death	Bill Burton	
Apr. 25	O'Connell, Carol	Mallory's Oracle	Charlie Mayer	
May 23	Innes, Michael	An Awkward Lie	Diana Allen	

The Mystery Book Club meets in the Macomb Public Library from 7-8 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month (*except November). It is a discussion group of reading adults who read the books ahead of time and come to share views. A member serves as a discussion leader. There are no dues, just conversation and occasional treats.