

off the shelves



spring 2007 volume 22 number 1

board report

By Mary Dominguez,
Library Trustee

Spring is a time for renewal. The Board would like to take this opportunity to remind the community of some of the Library's latest accomplishments, improvements and make the community aware of all the wonderful services the Library has to offer.

The Board finalized revising all of the Library's policies and personnel manual. Each policy is a statement outlining the responsibilities and general objectives of the Library. We as a Board are very proud of this accomplishment. The policies range from Emergency Procedures to Investment of Public Funds to the Library Bill of Rights. All of the policies are online so check them out at our website at www.lplibrary.org.

The policies are in accordance with Illinois law, up to

date with current safety issues, technological advances and the freedom to read and view. The Board acts as a steward for the community which is building a strong and forthright entity that is working hard for the community.

The Library has expanded its hours of service effective July, 2006 to better accommodate our patrons. The Library's schedule of hours is: Monday through Thursday 10am to 9pm; Friday and Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 1pm to 5pm.

The Library is a diversified entity: from providing services for young children to senior citizens; from the Arts to Genealogy; from Brookfield Zoo passes to notarizing a document; from old time radio programs to

Wi-Fi. It's amazing how much the Library has to offer.

The Library also offers delivery service to the homebound in La Grange Park. If you can't visit the Library due to a disability, the Library will bring the books to you. This service is brought to you by the Library's wonderful volunteers! If you are interested in this delivery service, please call the Library at 708-352-0100.

The Board would like to extend an invitation to the community to take time to reacquaint itself with the Library through the website and/or by coming into the newly remodeled building and asking for information regarding any of the wonderful services of the Library.

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Communities Come Together @ Your Library: National Library Week, April 15 – 21

Join us as we kick off National Library Week a little early with our 2nd Knit-a-thon. It will be held Friday, April 13 from 10am to 5pm. This is our Knitting Group's regular meeting day.

We will be knitting child sized blankets throughout the day. The Library has all the yarn and needles for the project, we just need some people to knit. Stop in, knit a

little, chat a little and help those less fortunate in our community. You can also bring previously knitted items to be donated to a local charity.

Anyone who's interested is invited – all ages, all skill levels. If you can't knit, someone in the group can help you get started. Kids - get together a group of your friends and join us after

school. Snacks will be provided throughout the day.

This event is part of a "Bridging the Gap Between Community and Collection" grant the La Grange Park Library received from the Illinois State Library using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

Story Times

The seven-week series of Spring Story Times will begin the week of March 26. Story Times for Preschoolers, ages 3 through 5, will be held on Monday and Tuesday mornings at 10:15am and Tuesday afternoons at 1pm. Each story time will last approximately 30 minutes.

Toddler Story Times for little ones ages 2 through 3 1/2 will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:15am and again at 11am. These sessions last approximately 20 minutes.

Parents may register their children in the Children's Department or by calling the Library beginning Monday, March 12.



Spelling Bee News

Our 4th annual Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee competition was held on Saturday, January 20. Thirty-one spellers tested their memories and phonics knowledge. The winner was Ben Lambert, a fifth grader who attends Ogden School. Ben will go on to compete in the Central Suburban Cook County bee in February.

Crafty Capers

Students in 1st through 3rd grade are invited to monthly Crafty Capers days. Each session is held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4pm.

Nifty Knitters

Thursday afternoons at 4pm is the time for grade school knitters to meet in the Children's Department. Students of many levels of expertise meet to ply their craft. Lessons are given to those who need them. No registration is needed, just come and knit.

A Special Gift

The Friends of the La Grange Park Library gave the Children's Department a wonderful gift. It is an Early Literacy computer station loaded with 27 programs designed for preschoolers and early readers. The keyboard and mouse are even designed for little hands. Stop by the Kids Computer Room and give it a try.

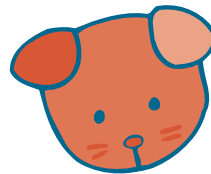
Books & Brownies

Monthly Books and Brownies programs are held on the first Monday of each month at 4pm. Children in 1st through 4th grade make a batch of brownies. While they bake, students listen as a chapter book is read. Warm brownies are enjoyed as the last chapter is finished. Students should register one week in advance of the program.

Books and Brownies will meet on March 5, April 2, and May 7. Please come to the Children's Department or call the Library at 352-0100 to register.

Babysitting Clinics

The American Red Cross Babysitting course will be offered for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students during Spring Break. The classes will meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 2 to 5pm. The session for students attending public schools will be held on March 27, 28, and 29. The session for students attending the parochial schools will be on April 10, 11, and 12. Students must be able to attend all three class meetings to be certified. Cost of the course is \$30. Please register beginning March 19 in the Children's Department or by calling the Library at 352-0100.



READ TO THE DOGS

The second Thursday of each month at 7pm is the time for beginning readers to come read to one of our special four-footed friends: Zuzu, Angeu, and McKenzie, who are regular listeners. They will be waiting for readers on Thursday, March 8, April 12, and May 10. Please register in the Children's Department one week before the reading session.

Pet First Aid

The American Red Cross Pet First Aid class will be offered on Saturday, May 5 at 1pm. This class is for older students and adults who are interested in pets and their well-being. General first aid and pet CPR will be taught in this class. Cost of the class is \$20. Please register beginning April 23. You may register in person at the circulation desk or by calling the Library at 352-0100. For more information, please call Meb Ingold.



Read For A Lifetime

For those who have signed up for Read For A Lifetime, you will need to have read your four books by Sunday, April 1, 2007. A list of the titles is available in the YA Department.

Anime Club

Thursday, March 29, 4-5:30pm
Thursday, April 26, 4-5:30pm
Thursday, May 24, 4-5:30pm

All programs are for grades 7-12. Please sign up with Sam

Check out the YA web pages at www.lplibrary.org/YoungAdult/index.html



The Boleyn Inheritance

by Philippa Gregory
Once again Philippa Gregory has brought a vanished world to life.

The Cat Who Had 60 Whiskers

by Lillian Jackson Braun
A master of mystery who knows exactly when to let the cat out of the bag.

The Hunters by W.E.B. Griffin
Punchy prose that connects like a right hook.

The Suspect by John Lescroart
This legal thriller is filled with memorable characters and accelerating action.

Extraordinary People by Peter May
A tale that satisfies as a mystery, a romantic adventure, and a fascinating look at the new China.

Everything Must Go by Elizabeth Flock
A deeply moving, tragic story. It keeps you more than hooked.

The Crimson Portrait by Jody Shields
Unusual and intriguing... the layered mystery is revealed slowly.

Childe Morgan by Katherine Kurtz
Exquisitely detailed... will keep fans of fantasy novels turning the pages.

Master of Souls by Peter Tremayne
Rich with Irish lore, the action is gripping... a compelling, enjoyable adventure.

Grave Surprise by Charlaine Harris
A knuckle-gnawing tale with well-developed, edgy characters.

young adult programs

Teen Advisory Board

Monday, March 26, 6-6:30pm
Monday, April 23, 6-6:30pm
Monday, May 21, 6-6:30pm

Video Game Evening

Thursday, March 29, 7-8:30pm

Consider this your invitation to join the Books Alive Book Discussion Group. Whether your favorite book is a romance, thriller or a classic from the past or some contemporary fiction, this is the place for you to come and share the experience of reading.

Our discussions are enjoyable and stimulating, join us at an upcoming discussion, who knows you may become a regular.

The group meets every third Tuesday of the month in the Conference Room at 2pm. Books may be picked up at the circulation desk.

Upcoming Titles

March 20 *An Unfinished Season* by Ward Just
This coming-of-age novel is set in and around 1950's Chicago. Wilson Ravan spends his days with the middle classes and his nights with high society debutantes. This novel weaves the political and historical atmosphere of the time, without sacrificing the intimacy of a young man's loss of innocence.

April 17 *The People's Act of Love* by Jim Meek
A fable set in 1919 Siberia. The main characters of this novel are the thousands of Czech soldiers marooned there after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian empire, utopian cult members and cannibals.

May 15 *The Book of Fate* by Brad Meltzer
This thriller opens with an assassination attempt on the President. The reader then experiences the behind-the-scenes politics of our nation's capitol, a conspiracy, and a 200 year old secret code invented by Thomas Jefferson.

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel, read only a page."

St. Augustine

First Monday Morning Movies 10:30am in the Community Room

March 5 – The Quiet Man
John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara

April 2 – The Philadelphia Story
Cary Grant, Katharine Hepburn, and James Stewart

May 7 – Casablanca
Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman

Using Maps in Genealogical Research

*Presented by
Jeffrey A. Bockman
Monday, March 5 at 7pm*

In this program, Jeff Bockman will present an overview of both physical and online maps including: Historical Atlases: State and County, Plat (Land ownership), inside details on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, along with Panoramic, Migration, Topographical, and others. He also looks at using maps with other records and using them to help find additional records. Jeff Bockman is a well-known and respected genealogical lecturer. He has been president of the Du Page County Genealogy Society and vice president of the Illinois State Genealogy Society. He has also lectured at the National Genealogical Society Conference, the Polish Genealogical Society Conference, and teaches classes for the Du Page County Genealogy Society. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Rain Gardens

*Presented by Sue Cubberly,
Rain Garden Network
Monday, March 19 at 7pm*
Spring is just a few days away and now's a great time to start planning your garden. Rain Gardens are a growing trend in gardening. They help to relieve flooding and pollution by allowing water to naturally infiltrate into the ground. Sue Cubberly of Rain Garden Network will explain how to create a rain garden in your yard. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Understanding Long Term Care Options

*Presented by Louise Starmann
Monday, March 26 at 7pm*
People are living longer than ever and many will need assistance at some point in their lives. Louise Starmann, Social Services Director, Southwest Suburban Center on Aging, will discuss the choices for long term care.

Do You Know Your American Roots?

*Presented by
Gloria Perkins Flathom
Monday, May 7 at 7pm*
Can you trace your family back to the American Revolution or before? If so, you may be eligible to join the Daughters of the Revolution or Sons of the Revolution. Gloria Perkins Flathom, Past State Organizing Secretary of the Illinois State Organization, NSDAR, will explain what records are needed to prove your heritage and how to fill out the forms. Even if your ancestors didn't immigrate that early in history, this program can help you with the requirements for other certificates. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Around the World in Sixty Minutes – A Journey to Sacred Places on Six Continents

*Presented by Bill Helmuth
Monday, April 9 at 7pm*

Bill Helmuth has visited more than 100 countries and traveled 4 million miles to bring this informative, visually stimulating program of memorable Sacred Places and Natural Wonders. Bill's descriptive experiences will take you to 25 countries around the world on both sides of the equator to explore monumental architectural treasures, intimate shrines and religious rites and festivals. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Easy Flying

*Presented by Al and Gail Popowits
Monday, April 16 at 7pm*

Flying overseas is at best a stressful experience. The keys to minimizing stress are strategizing in advance and then implementing that strategy. The purpose of this talk is to give you the insights you need to develop your own personal plan for dealing with problems inherent in overseas flights. It includes information about minimizing security check point hassles; forbidden and allowed travel items; selecting the best airline seats; and what to do if your luggage is lost or delayed. Al and Gail Popowits are veteran travelers and excellent speakers. Their tips will help you make your next flight much smoother. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Healthcare Decision Making: Power of Attorney and Living Will

*Presented by Louise Starmann
Monday, April 30 at 7pm*

Do you need a Living Will? Who should you designate as Power of Attorney for your healthcare and how? Louise Starmann, Social Services Director, Southwest Suburban Center on Aging, will explain what you need to know to make these important decisions.

Undiscovered Wales

*Presented by Frank Klicar
Monday, May 14 at 7pm*
Lying on the West coast of Britain, Wales is, perhaps, the least known part of the United Kingdom. From the coal fields of the south to the historical castles of the north, in this program, you'll learn the culture and history of this fascinating principality. Frank Klicar is an award winning travel filmmaker and lecturer. A member of the Travelogue Hall of Fame, he has more than 35 years of travel experience. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Art Displays
March – Jacqueline France
April – Paul Gorman

Featured Library Volunteer

It is my privilege to introduce and tell you a little about one of our many Library Volunteers, Tom Ryan. Tom has been volunteering at the Library since 2003. During those years Tom has given the Library a total of almost 800 hours (799.5 to be exact). Tom has lived in LaGrange Park for a number of years where he raised his family and worked as a pharmacist.



Tom was instrumental in helping the Library get re-opened after our construction project. He spent many many hours getting books put back on the shelves and getting all the DVDs and videos reprocessed so that we could do away with the old notebooks used to select the movies. The next big project will involve reprocessing all the CDs and we know Tom will give 110% effort into that project as well. Each week Tom is the person you can thank for having all the current magazines ready to be put on the shelves for your enjoyment. No project is too big or too small for Tom. He is more than willing to help wherever he is needed and we are very lucky to have him at our Library.

Besides Tom's Library work you might also find him volunteering at the hospital or at church. It is very evident that Tom enjoys people and helping them. We are so glad that Tom chose the Library to be one of those places.

Thank you from the whole Library staff and board.

Friends of the Library

Friends Book Shop will be 2 years old in July 2006. How time flies! Here, for the first time ever, are some statistics for the 2006 calendar year:

- 26 Member volunteers staffed our shop over 97% of Library hours.
- Hours worked to keep the shop open: 3,017
- 2006 Book Shop earnings: almost \$25,000

Are you a "people person"? The Friends Book Shop needs you!

Anyone who has a few hours to spare and wishes to help support the Friends' Book Shop can drop in and speak with a volunteer staffer. Applications for both Friends of the Library membership and Book Shop Volunteers are available at the shop. Once you have completed your application (including \$10 annual dues) a senior staffer will contact you to schedule a time to teach the basics – routine for opening, closing, handling money and donated books and tapes.

News from the Library Knitters

We are so proud and excited about of Library Knitters. The group began to meet in November of 2005. There have been faithful knitters since day one that have made a total of 277 items!!!! This included 23 blankets, 177 hats, 22 pairs of mittens and gloves, 21 scarves, 20 sweaters, 7 pair of slippers, 4 ponchos and 3 purses. The great majority of these items were created by yarn that was donated to the Library. We also have had extra events added to our calendar because of a Grant that was received to expand this service. We have contributed our items to the Community Nurse Health Association and the Head Huggers Association that distributes hats to chemo patients. This past holiday season our donations were distributed to over 913 children in our area. The Library Knitters meet the second Friday of each month on the second floor of the Library in the East Bay. The light is great, the people are even better and our results are fantastic. If you would like to join us, please mark you calendars and be part of this friendly group of people.

visit the friends' book shop in the library

Donated Books, Magazines, CDs, DVDs,
and Tapes are for sale at low prices!

Proceeds help support Library programs
and special services

Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10 am - 9 pm
Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 1 - 5 pm

Located on the first floor (directly behind the elevator).

For more information: 708-352-0100 or 708-352-1690

Nadine's Festival of the Arts Enjoyed by Many

Nadine's Festival of the Arts at the La Grange Park Library was a great success. The celebration of the arts, which included an art exhibit, music, storytelling, and theater, enchanted the many who attended. The Library is especially grateful to the Kawalek Family for its generous support of the festival, which was held during February.



Community Art Project



Pocket Circus



Jan's Clan Puppets



Face painting by About Faces



High Tea with Gerri



The Blues Seance
Director and Cast



Riverside Brookfield
High School Madrigals

Thank you to all those who made this event a success:

- The Kawalek Family
- Friends of the La Grange Park Public Library
- Staff of the La Grange Park Public Library
- La Grange Park Public Library Board of Trustees
- La Grange Park Public Library Volunteers
- La Grange Park Teen Advisory Board
- Target
- Cathy Bogigian and the Lyons Township High School Artists
- Diane Marelli and the Riverside Brookfield Madrigals
- Mindy Hart and the Riverside Brookfield Repertory Dance Company
- Melissa Heil of the Village of La Grange Park
- Paul's Pizza
- Rainbow Press
- Red Street Studio
- Nadine's Festival of the Arts Advisory Committee
Andrea Barnish, Nancy Green, Carol Melnyk, Kim Heilenbach, and Mary McCormack
- Nadine's Festival of the Arts Executive Board
Lorraine Kawalek, Nina Kawalek, Andrea Barnish, Samantha Farruggia, and Dixie Conkis

Library Volunteers

The Library has been fortunate again this past year to have a dedicated group of volunteers. What really adds to our program now is the Friends of the Library Volunteers. With many thanks to Barb, Gini, Jerry, Jane, Don, Bill, Karen, Jackie, Katherine, Joanne, Ruth, Phil, Grace, Kimberly, Mary Lou, Gene, Linda, Martha, Chris, and Grace the Friends of the Library Books Shop is able to be open most all of the Library Hours. These faithful volunteers clocked in 3,017.5 hours this past year!!!! Congratulations and Thank You!

There is another group of loyal volunteers that help in all the other operational functions of the Library on a weekly basis. These men and women clocked in 1,515.5 hours. Genna, Mahel, Arlene, Margaret, Betty, Ellie, Mary, Lida, Dorothy, Sharon, Kim, Kathy, Barb, Jane, Julie, Marge, Norb, Pat, Tom, Lindsey, Lee, Rose, and Eleanor help us at the Library doing daily tasks from dusting to data entry.

With a grand total of 4,533 volunteer hours, all of you have broken all previous Library records. We are so appreciative of all your efforts to make our Library a successful Community Information Center. The Library Staff and Board will be looking forward to celebrating these achievement with our Volunteers this coming Spring at our annual Volunteer Luncheon in April.

If you would like to join this caring group of people, please call Sharon at the Library for more information.

The Illinois Collection

This collection contains materials relating to Illinois. Some examples are: books written by Illinois authors, histories of the state or of counties, cities, towns or villages; genealogies of Illinois residents or materials dealing with genealogical research in Illinois; politics; environment; architecture; sports and recreation; gardening and cooking.

All of the materials in this collection are in any format and any reading level. The materials are designated by a special label and bookplate, but shelved throughout the general collection.

Materials added to this collection are selected by the staff to honor those individuals who have made important contributions to the community of La Grange Park and the State of Illinois.

2006 Honorees:

Margaret Buhler - Library Volunteer
Textiles in the Art Institute of Chicago

Greg Christoff - Former Library Trustee
The Red Grange Story: an Autobiography, as told to Ira Morton by Red Grange

Friends of the La Grange Park Public Library
Fort Dearborn: a novel by Jerry Crimmins

Lorraine Kawalek – Community Leader and Library Benefactor
Within the Fairy Castle: Colleen Moore's Doll House at the Museum of Science and Industry

Michael Sheehan – Former Library Trustee
Hometown Architect: the Complete Buildings of Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park and River Forest, Illinois by Patrick R. Cannon

Art and Architecture in Illinois Libraries

This special traveling exhibit will be visiting the Library in June. Make sure you stop by and see this display that celebrates the rich architectural and artistic heritage of Illinois libraries.

New Non Fiction

Here are some of the books that have been added to our collection as part of the "Crafty Materials" Grant.

The Braided Rug Book – Norma M. Sturges (746.73/Stu)
The authors give easy to understand instructions for you to create your own piece of American folk art.

Felt It! – Maggie Pace (746.0463/Pac)
Felting is the newest trend in knitting. This book has creative patterns for turning wool into felt.

Knitting With Ribbon Yarn – Tracy Chapman (746.432/Cha)
Here you'll find 28 unique patterns – from tops to socks to cushions – to knit using ribbon yarns.

Mason Dixon Knitting – Kay Gardiner and Ann Shayne (746.432/Gar)
If you're a fan of their blog – you'll love this book. If you haven't experienced their hilarious stories and fantastic knitting, this is the place to start.

New Paper Quilling – Molly Smith Christensen (745.54/Chr)
Quilling is having an upsurge in popularity. This book presents the basics of this craft.

Simply Beautiful Beaded Jewelry – Heidi Boyd (745.582/Boy)
Here are 50 quick and easy projects for you to start making your own jewelry.

Not Your Mama's Crochet – Amy Swenson (746.43/Swe)
You'll find easy to follow instructions for nearly 30 projects in this book.

Are you a movie lover? Join the library's film discussion group!

Films are presented on alternate Friday evenings at 7pm
with lively discussions following the screenings.

Why pay to go to the theater? Movies are projected from DVDs onto a large 100" screen and feature, when applicable, digital surround sound.

For more information contact Gabe at the Library 352-0100

La Grange Park Friends of the Library
555 N. La Grange Road
La Grange Park, IL 60526-5644

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Library Hours

Monday through Thursday 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Friday and Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Phone 708-352-0100 • Fax 708-352-1606 • TDD 708-352-1970

E-Mail Address: info@lplibrary.org

Web site: www.lplibrary.org

Library Board meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at
7:30 pm. Visitors are welcome.

Board of Library Trustees: Mary Lou Hurley, President; Karl Matuszewski,
Vice President; Jeff Kraus, Treasurer; Mary Dominguez, Secretary; Susan
Fagan, Cathy Foster, and Domenica Stephenson, Members.

Dixie Conkis, Executive Director & Newsletter Editor
Andrea Barnish, Red Street Studio, Newsletter Design
Jane Reavley, President, La Grange Park Friends of the Library

Bequests: Those who wish to help assure the continuation and growth of
our programs, collections and services by means and mention in your will
should contact the Executive Director for more information.

Disability Accommodation: If you or your child needs an accommodation
for a disability to attend any program, please phone the library at least five
working days prior to the scheduled program.

We Deliver!

If you can't visit the Library due to a disability, we'll bring
books to you!

The Library offers delivery service to the homebound in La
Grange Park. Volunteers deliver library materials to the
homes of those who have a temporary or permanent
disability.

If you are interested in participating in this delivery service,
please call the Library at 708-352-0100.

Library Closings

April 8 Easter
April 20 Staff In-Service & Volunteer Luncheon
May 28 Memorial Day

Check our Blog – **Off the Shelves** – for updated news and information



<http://www2.sls.lib.il.us/LPS/offtheshelves/>

Add the Library Blog
to your aggregator with our RSS feed

<http://www2.sls.lib.il.us/LPS/offtheshelves/index.rdf>