



Book Clubs Offer More Than a Good Read

board report

By Ann Lee,
Secretary

Despite reports that Americans of all age levels are reading less and are less socially engaged, our Library has noticed a phenomenon that runs counter to both these trends. The La Grange Park Public Library now serves 41 book clubs. These neighborhood book clubs, encouraging both reading and social interaction (though not necessarily in that order), take advantage of the Library's Book Club Service whereby they request multiple copies of a title for members to check out. As Jennifer Westrick of the Bookin' It club explains "We love ordering through the Library because it's an easy (and cheap!) way to get the books. It could not be more convenient. We've been using the book club service for 2 or 3 years now. We love it!" Forest Road Club likes the service because it helps them avoid overdue fines. As member Peggy Ellis says, "We can keep the book as long as we want until our scheduled meeting; it's easy to get enough copies for everyone; and the staff is helpful and pleasant."

Because the Library draws on the tremendous resources of Metropolitan Library System, clubs can explore titles beyond the standard Oprah picks. Before The Ladies of

Kensington started using the Library's book club service, they restricted their selections to titles currently available in paperback. Now they can depend on the Library to obtain a wider variety of titles. They check the SWAN catalog on the Library's website to verify that there are sufficient copies of more



The Ladies of Kensington discuss the *Omnivore's Dilemma*

obscure titles in the system, and they have not yet been disappointed. For example, the group is currently reading *Monkey Wars* which was published in 1995 and is not available in local bookstores.

The Library's book clubs vary in composition, though there is a heavy emphasis largely on the female groups with names such as Lovely Ladies, Lunching Ladies, Moms the World, Cover Girls, and Bad Girls. There have been some mother-daughter book clubs over the years, but no father-son clubs. One of La Grange Park's few all-male book

groups, The Methodist Men's Club, was recently featured in the Chicago Tribune's much sought-after weekly Book Club Profile. Perhaps this group was chosen because of the relative rarity of male book clubs. Member Ron Hursh explains that the club was formed over 20 years ago and was delighted to discover the convenience of the Library's book-ordering service a few years ago.

Some book clubs admitted that intellectual stimulation is only part of their attraction; in fact this sometimes is not at all the major attraction. The meetings also provide an opportunity to socialize with neighbors or colleagues. For one women's club, their favorite get-together is actually a winter retreat where they "...talk and stay up late and drink a lot of wine and eat a lot of good food." In fact, most clubs mentioned that food and drink, whether it's coffee and pie or wine and cheese, play an important role in their meetings.

One club tries to match the snacks with the theme of the book: samosas for *The Interpreter of Maladies* and sausages for *My Year of Meats*, for example. The Library's official club, Books Alive, hosted by librarian Daina

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Summer Reading Program

Children ages 3 through 6th grade are invited to participate in our “SPLISH SPLASH READING BASH” this summer. It will take place between June 1 and July 17. So much is planned. There will be weekly craft activities for grade school students. Thursday Fun Day activities will feature movies, M & M bingo, and other games. Children can also be part of the Lunch Bunch by bringing their lunch and listening to a book being read. They must come each week to find out how the story goes. Of course, the best part of Summer Reading is being able to read, read, read any book the child desires. Registration begins June 1. Come to the Children’s Department to sign up and receive your reading log and book bag.



Babysitting Clinics

The American Red Cross Babysitting course will be offered 4 times during the summer. Students must be 11 years old or entering 6th grade to participate. The course will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 2 to 4pm during the weeks of June 14 and 28 and July 12 and 26. Registration begins Tuesday, June 1 at 10am. Parents may register their students in the Children’s Department or by calling the Library at 352-0100. Cost for the program is \$35. For additional information, please call Meb Ingold at the Library.

Story Times

A six-week series of Story Times will be held from June 7 through July 14. Story Times for preschoolers ages 3 through kindergarten will be held on Monday mornings at 10:15am, Tuesday mornings at 10:15am, and Tuesday afternoons at 1pm. These 30-minute sessions include stories, songs, fingerplays, and a short video story.

Toddler Times, for little ones ages 2 through 3 ½ with their parent or care-giver, will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:15am. These 20-minute sessions include stories, songs, fingerplays, and action activities for little ones with short attention spans.

Registration begins Monday, May 24. Parents may register in person in the Children’s Department or may call the Library at 352-0100.

Junior Volunteers

The Children’s Department needs students in junior high to help with the summer reading program this year. The commitment is for only 2 hours per week on the day of the volunteer’s choice. Duties include registering readers and recording their reading progress, as well as helping with craft activities. Please stop in the Children’s Department to sign up. Your help is needed.

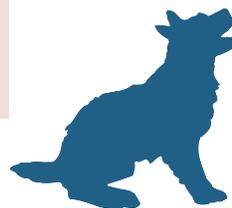
Reading Fun for Beginners

It is well known that children who read all summer maintain their reading skills and return to school ready to learn. Beginning readers benefit most from this activity. The Children’s Department has two programs to help these students.

Read to the Dogs

Read to the Dogs is an opportunity for young readers to sit with a dog and read. Service dogs, who normally visit hospitals and nursing homes, are happy to come listen to children on Friday mornings at 10:30am. Registration is

always one week in advance.



Book Buddies

Book Buddies is a program in which beginning readers are matched with students in 5th grade and older. Each pair of buddies meets once a week to read together. Younger students have a chance to practice their reading and make a friend at the same time. Please register in the Children’s Department by June 2, so matches can be made and readers can begin reading together.

Make Waves at the La Grange Park Library
Join the Young Adult summer reading program from June 7 – July 16. Read three books from the YA or Adult collections to be entered into a drawing for one of our fantastic prizes.

Sign up begins Monday, June 7 at 1pm.

**Make Waves Summer Reading Party
Monday, July 19, 3pm**

Celebrate the end of Summer Reading with a scuba and snorkeling presentation by Deanna LaSusa-Hotchner. Prizes and snacks will follow the presentation.

Video Game Olympics

Think you can out-sing your friends in Rock Band? What about maneuvering down a river on the Wii Fit? Test your skills in this dizzying round of video game fun!

Every Wednesday through Summer Reading, 7-8:30pm

**Senior Book Buddies
June 7 – July 16**

Book Buddies is a 6-week program that gives teens and beginning readers the opportunity to share books and the fun of reading. Junior and Senior Buddies are paired together and meet once a week for 30 minutes in the Children's Department.

Sign up by Tuesday, June 1.

**Annual Anime Night
Thursday, July 8
7-8:30pm**

Japanese-inspired snacks and anime – what more can you ask for? Stop by the Reference Desk to sign up and make your viewing suggestion.

Pixel Club

Pixel Club has branched out into a multi-system club. With three laptops, an XBOX 360, a Wii, and a PS2, there's always something for everyone. Since this club meets on alternate Fridays after the Library closes, you must have a permission slip to join.

Check out some of the new materials in the YA Department!

Books

Chronicles of Vladimir Tod: Eleventh Grade Burns – Heather Brewer
Incarceron – Catherine Fisher
The Sweet Hereafter – Angela Johnson
Gone – Lisa McMann
Lord Sunday – Garth Nix
Witch and Wizard – James Patterson
A Conspiracy of Kings – Megan Whalen Turner

CDs

Ke\$ha – *Animal*
Gorillaz – *Plastic Beach*
MGMT – *Congratulations*

DVDs

Angus, Thongs, and Perfect Snogging
New Moon
The Vampire's Assistant

Video Games

Little Big Planet – PSP
Mario & Luigi: Bowser's Inside Story – DS
Smackdown vs. Raw 2010 – XBOX 360

For a complete list of new materials, visit www.lplibrary.org/teens/whatsnew.php or stop by the Young Adult Department for a print copy. Updated monthly.

Thank you to the La Grange Park Friends of the Library for generously donating a digital photo frame!

Please stop by the Reference Desk to see the new frame, which will feature Young Adult Programming.

All programs are for grades 7-12. Please sign up with Sam at the reference desk.

YA art corner



Dominique Lambert
7th grade

Don't have time to stop by the Young Adult Department? Visit us online instead.

1. Library website – www.lplibrary.org/teens
2. Instant Messenger – screen name “lplya”
3. Facebook – by searching for “La Grange Park Public Library,” you can become a fan and keep up to date on the happenings of the Young Adult Department.
4. MySpace – www.myspace.com/lagrangeparklibrary
5. Twitter – for micro-updates related to all things YA twitter.com/lplya
6. YouTube – for fun videos of previous and current YA programming. www.youtube.com/user/lplibrary

Water Your Mind – Read! Adult Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading – it's not just for kids! Anyone 18 and over can also enjoy the benefits of spending time with a good book.

All we ask is that you read 3 books between June 1 and July 18. That's one every other week and it can be any book you'd like. If you listen to audiobooks, those count too. Then fill out a reading log and let us know about your favorite book. When you turn in your reading log, you'll receive a small gift and an entry into our gift basket raffle.

Don't forget to come to the program "Flower Garden and Stetson Banks Coral Reefs" on Monday, July 19 at 7pm in honor of all your hard work.

Travel Photography

*Presented by William Ruting
Monday, June 7 at 7pm*

Find out how to take better travel pictures from William Ruting, an avid amateur photographer and member of the Salt Creek Camera Club. You will learn how to choose digital camera accessories and plan a trip with photography in mind. He will also explain what to do with the pictures when you return home. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



Maximize Your Travel Dollars with Smart Packing Tips

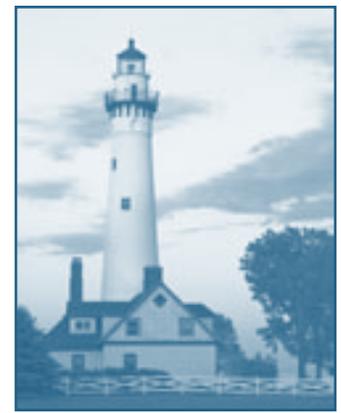
*Presented by Mayflower Tours
Monday, June 14 at 7pm*

Many airlines now charge for checked baggage and overweight baggage. Mayflower Tours will share their knowledge and experience on what you need to know to save both your money and your time by demonstrating how to pack a suitcase more efficiently. They will also explain security regulations regarding what you can pack. Mayflower's suggestions will help make packing fun for a great beginning to your travels.

Calling All Artists!

Have you been working hard creating beautiful art pieces and have nowhere to show them off? Why not display them at the Library? The Library has a display system on the second floor and we are always looking for great art to fill it. The system consists of 2 small glass cases and 8 panels. Additional space is also available. If you're interested, please contact Kate Zdenek at the Library.

In order to provide ample seating and refreshments, we ask that you register for our programs. Visit www.lplibrary.org, stop by or give us a call at 352-0100 to register.



Enchanting Door County

*Presented by Nancy McCully
Monday, July 12 at 7pm*
The "Cape Cod of the Midwest" charms visitors with its 300 miles of coastline, state parks, orchards, and artists' colonies. Join us as we explore the wonders of Door County, Wisconsin. We'll tour historic lighthouses, discover picturesque communities, and sample a few of the outdoor recreational opportunities enjoyed by visitors. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Flower Garden & Stetson Banks Coral Reefs

*Presented by
Deanna LaSusa-Hotchner
Monday, July 19 at 7pm*
Where are these unique coral reefs? Few people are aware there is a marine sanctuary right in US waters! There are beautiful coral reefs inhabited by beautiful creatures in the Gulf of Mexico. Inside the sanctuary are oil platforms and artificial reefs, which are unique dive sites. Come learn about these unique sites from Deanna LaSusa-Hotchner, a volunteer interpreter and diver at John G. Shedd Aquarium, and an underwater videographer. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Books Recently Added to our Fiction Collection

The Boys from Santa Cruz by Jonathan Nasaw
Sensual and chilling, not for the faint of heart.

Anthill by E.O. Wilson
A powerful tale of ant empires and a boy determined to save them.

Drink the Tea by Thomas Kaufman
Fast and funny with a huge heart.

The Book of Spies by Gayle Lynds
A modern classic... rich with history, breathtaking in plot.

Death by the Book by Lenny Bartulin
A witty, clever debut, full of in-jokes and colorful characters.

Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-eyed Stranger by Lee Smith
These stories pull you back to read them again.

Cat of the Century by Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown
It takes a cat to write the purrfect mystery.

Pearl of China by Anchee Min
A heart-grabbing novel... an exotic tale filled with historical insight.

Haunt Me Still by Jennifer Lee Carrell
An exciting, entertaining, and surprisingly educational read.

Claude and Camille by Stephanie Cowell
A lyrical novel about the great love of Monet's life.

"The best moments in reading are when you come across something - a thought, a feeling, a way of looking at things - which you thought special and particular to you. Now here it is, set down by someone else, a person you never met, someone who even is long dead. And it is as if a hand has come out and taken yours."

(The History Boys,
a play by Alan Bennett)

Classic Movies in the Evening

This group will show classic films and lighter family fare on the last Monday evening of the month.

June 28 – *Laura*
Starring Gene Tierney and Dana Andrews

July 26 – *State Fair*
Starring Jeanne Crain and Dick Haymes

August 30 – *High Noon*
Starring Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly

Green Corner: Plants in the Library

The Library is more than just books. If you look carefully you'll see a variety of plants on all levels of the building. These plants, while decorative, also have other benefits. Plants can improve the air quality of buildings by adding oxygen and cleaning the air of dust and pollutants. They also raise the humidity of the air around them.

Bringing nature indoors with plants can provide a relaxing environment, have a de-stressing effect, and absorb noise. It is also said that plants improve the creativity and productivity of those around them.

Did you know our large trees on the second floor were donated to us by Bethlehem Woods? They outgrew the space available there. Here they continue to thrive. We believe they are Buddhist pine (*Podocarpus macrophyllus*) native to the mountains of China and Japan.

If you are looking for more information about growing your own houseplants, try these books:
37 Houseplants Even You Can't Kill by Mary Kate Hogan (635.965/Hog)
The Complete Houseplant Survival Manual by Barbara Pleasant (635.965/Ple)
Ortho: All About Houseplants (635.965/Ort)
What Houseplant Where by Roy Lancaster (635.965/Lan)

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

News from the Friends of the Library

Spring is here and summer is not far behind. Beautiful perennials are coming into bloom and everything is turning a little greener. Why not stop in the Friends of the Library Book Store and check out our selection of books and magazines on gardening and lawn care? If travel is in your future, the store has books on places to visit both here and abroad. Looking for a great summer read? We have a wide variety of mystery, romance, biography, and children's books.

If you are starting your "spring cleanup" the Friends accepts donations of gently used books, magazines, DVDs, VHS tapes, and CDs. For additional information or to arrange pickup of materials you would like to donate, please contact the Friends at friends@lplibrary.org.



Two patrons enjoy a spirited game of chess at our new chess/backgammon table. The table was donated in memory of Jerry Reavley, one of the founders of La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

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

Margaret "Marge" Ogden

This is a special year for Marge Ogden. She has been an active volunteer at our Library for 21 years. On April 30, the Village of La Grange Park honored Marge by planting an oak tree on Oak Avenue and Robinhood Lane. This is the perfect tree to honor Marge. An oak is strong and stately like Marge that holds firm to the ground.



Marge is a great asset to the Library and we have been fortunate to have her volunteer for us throughout the years. She continues to take care of filing and at the age of 94 can still get down to the bottom drawers to put those cards away. Marge is an avid historical fiction reader, and is always looking for something new to get started on. Marge has contributed many, many hats, mittens, scarves, and pet blankets to our Library Knitters. To know Marge is to know someone who truly embraces each day as an opportunity to do something for someone.

Books Alive

For many of us, summer may mean more time to read. Our summer selections will take us from the tree-shaded streets of Oak Park, to the broad expanse of the Great Plains, and finally to the rough and tumble of a growing United States.

We meet in the second floor Conference Room on the third Tuesday of every month at 2pm. Copies of the book are available at the Circulation Desk one month before the meeting. Please join us.

June 15 *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan

This work of historical fiction chronicles the clandestine love affair between Mamah Cheney and American icon Frank Lloyd Wright. Their scandalous and tragic relationship shocked Chicago society.

July 20 *Great Plains* by Ian Frazier

This engaging and humorous story takes us on a journey of 25,000 miles from the Dakotas to Texas. It is part history, travelogue, western adventure, and geography lesson.

August 17 *Thirteen Moons* by Charles Frazier

An epic tale of frontiersman Will Cooper, a Cherokee adoptee, white chief, and successful businessman, who witnesses the events of 19th Century America.

Note to Parents:

Summer offers plenty of time to do special things with children. The Children's Department has a large collection of Science Boxes that were created at the District 102 Science Center. Stop by to get the list and check one out.

Book Clubs

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Aukstuolis, has formed a close bond over the years and some members even meet for lunch before their lively discussions. New members are always welcome to their daytime meetings.

If your group would like to sign up for the Book Club Service, just call or stop by the Circulation Desk.

Here are some of the books cited as favorites by La Grange Park Library book clubs:

Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafón
The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
The Most Beautiful Book in the World (a collection of short stories)
What is the What by Dave Eggers
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
The Invisible Wall by Harry Bernstein
Path Between the Seas by David McCullough
The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

First Monday Movies 10:30am in the Community Room

First Monday movies are older movies you probably haven't seen in many years. At the Library you'll be able to view them on a large screen – not quite as large as a theater, but larger than television. Join us to relive these classic movies.

June 7 – *In the Good Old Summertime*
Starring Judy Garland and Van Johnson

July 5 – No movie – Library Closed

August 2 – *African Queen*
Starring Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn

German Language Program for Kids at the La Grange Park Library

Learning a second language can expand your child's horizon and open the doors of opportunities in a rapidly evolving global society. Children have the innate ability to acquire a language. Give your child the opportunity to develop the enthusiasm for a foreign language. We provide a fun and easy learning experience with games and videos. Classes for children ages 5-10 will be held from 1-2pm every Wednesday from July 7 through August 25. Sign up at the circulation desk. Please call 708-352-0100 if you have any questions.

Volunteer and Staff Appreciation Luncheon Carnival 2010

The Library recently honored volunteers and staff at an "in-door carnival". A great time was had by all 51(!) guests. We began our celebration by handing out tickets to play games and buy treats. Each guest was given tickets equal to the number of volunteer hours served over the past year.



The day started with a performance by a magician and was followed by games, popcorn, cotton candy, hot dogs, fried chicken, pizza, and root beer floats to satisfy

our hunger. A live fortune teller gave us a peek into the future.

This annual celebration is a great way to visit with each other and share stories. Most of our volunteers have a set schedule and therefore don't have the opportunity to visit with their fellow volunteers. The same is true for Library staff. This day gives us all that opportunity. It is great fun.

If you would like to become part of our volunteer group, just go to our web site and you can print out an application on the volunteer page. Or, just stop in the Library to inquire.

Volunteering is the best way to stay in touch with your community, make new friends, and help your local Library maintain its excellent service.

Things To Do This Summer

1. Relax – Read a book
2. Enjoy the Great Outdoors – Sit under a tree and read
3. Take a Trip – Audiobooks are great in a car or on a plane or train
4. Sip lemonade – A glass in one hand, a book in the other
5. Sit by the Pool – Reading helps the time pass
6. Go to the Beach – Romances and mysteries are great beach reads
7. Start a New Hobby – Read up on knitting, scrapbooking, antique collecting, and many more things to do
8. Catch Up on Missed Movies – Check out DVDs or Blu-Rays
9. Explore New Music – Try a CD you normally wouldn't listen to
10. Enjoy Your Kids' Games – You can browse a magazine between plays



Where can you find all this great material?? The La Grange Park Public Library!!
Just Remember to Take Time to Read!

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

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

E-mail: info@lplibrary.org • www.lplibrary.org

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

Board of Library Trustees: Mary Lou Hurley, President; Susan Fagan, Vice
President; Ann Lee, Secretary; Cathy Foster, Treasurer; Mary Dominguez,
Jerome Kaminski, and Rick Cavaliere, Members.

Dixie Conkis, Executive Director
Andrea Barnish, Red Street Studio, Newsletter Design
Joan Marino, 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.



Library Closings

May 31 Memorial Day
July 4 & 5 Fourth of July