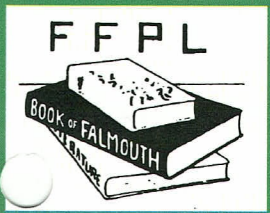


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Friends of the Falmouth Public Library  
**Newsletter**  
 Summer 2010

President:  
 Leonard Miele

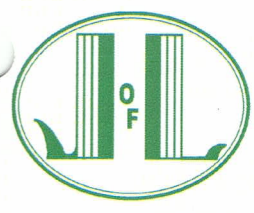
Editor:  
 Marilyn Sanborn

*Even the Youngest **LOVE**  
 the Friends' Booksale!*

*THANK YOU  
 to all the  
 Beautiful Children  
 that posed for these  
 photographs!*



**Friends  
 Raise  
 \$37,000**



*Joy of Learning*  
 FALL SCHEDULE

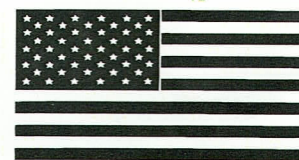
PLEASE SEE DETAILS INSIDE

# Film Program Begins Again at the Library

Featuring in September, three off-beat comedies and in October, in celebration of the 65th anniversary of WWII, the Friends will present a series of films based on the war.

Below is the list of films and their dates:

- Thursday ..... September 9 ..... Court Jester
- Thursday ..... September 16 ..... Waiting For Guffman
- Thursday ..... September 23 ..... Cat Ballou
- Thursday ..... October 14 ..... Battle of the Bulge
- Thursday ..... October 21 ..... Wake Island
- Thursday ..... October 28 ..... Midway
- Thursday ..... November 4 ..... They Were Expendable



All films start at 7:00 P. M. and are shown in the Hermann Meeting Room

Admission Free: Soft Drinks and Popcorn provided

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### *Friends:*

I am so proud to have been part of this summer's annual book sale. Not only did our many volunteers work for hours above and beyond what was expected of them, but the entire Falmouth community embraced the sale with grateful enthusiasm. Over the four and a half days of selling used books on the front lawn of the Main Street library, the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library made \$37,500 to help support library programs. The chairman of the book sale was Bob O' Toole, a past president of the Friends. Without his organizational skills, energy, and dedication, the sale would not have been the success that it was. I extend a heartfelt thanks to Bob and the "passionate" volunteers who made the book sale a memorable community event.

*Lenny Miele*  
Friends President



# Joy of Learning

## Schedule of Courses for Fall 2010

The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer three new courses which will begin Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The classes are free and open to the public.

**Tuesdays: 10:15 - 11:15 am - October 5, 12, 19, 26 at FCTV**

***Movies! Movies! Movies! The Inside Scoop***

What goes on behind the camera with some great directors:

Coppola, Kubrick, Polanski, Pollack, Spielberg

Fred Gitlitz BA Colgate, MA Columbia University, PhD. Columbia University

**Tuesdays: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm - October 5, 12, 19, 26 at FCTV**

***Vignettes in American History***

“Least Known Significant President” who took us from “sea to shining sea.” Then **The Progressive Era** and the two presidents who presided over it: Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson

Fred Gitlitz BA Colgate, MA Columbia University, PhD. Columbia University

**Thursdays: 10:00 am - 11:15 am - October 7, 14, 21, 28 & November 4<sup>th</sup> in the Hermann Meeting Room**

***World War II: The Far Eastern Theater***

This course will trace the development of Japanese expansionism from the Sino-Japanese war of the 1930’s through the outbreak of war with the Western allies in 1941, to the Japanese surrender in 1945. While considerable attention will be paid to the naval war in the Pacific, the contributions of the British, Australian, Indian and Dutch forces in the East Indies and Burma will also receive attention.

Michael McNaught B.A. and M.A. Trinity College Oxford where he specialized in Military History and the Theory of War. M.A. History, Columbia

**Tuesday classes will be held at FCTV: (Falmouth Community Television Studio) on Dillingham Avenue next to the Senior Center. Registration forms are available to the public at the circulation desk at the Main Library and at all the branches.**

CUT OUT HERE

**TO REGISTER:** Send your selections with your name, address and phone number to:  
**Joy of Learning, Post Office Box 480, Falmouth, Massachusetts 02541**

Please keep course descriptions as your record.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to enroll in the following course (or courses):

- (1) **MOVIES! MOVIES! MOVIES! The Inside Scoop**
- (2) **VIGNETTES OF AMERICAN HISTORY**
- (3) **WORLD WAR II: The Far Eastern Theater**

# What a Treasure the Library Blog Can Be (and a source of humor too)

Here's one of those stories that people, particularly librarians, love to read about

## ON THE LIBRARY BLOG

July 8, 2010 Posted by Jill Erickson, Reference Librarian

Yesterday I asked you what you had found at the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library Book Sale and today I'm going to tell you what I found. The first book I found was *Ice Breakers: Games and Stunts for Large and Small Groups* by Edna Geister, published by The Woman's Press in 1918. (United States entered WW I in 1917)



I quote from the foreward:

"Wanted: the most advantageous methods of mixing the sexes in social amusements giving relaxation and rightful pleasure. Since it has been charged that the social dance has in recent years been too often inoculated with forms of suggestion which have wreaked havoc, some of its former advocates are now looking seriously for other methods".

"In the preface, the author writes that all the games have been tested 'under war-time conditions... with hundreds of soldiers, sailors, girl uniform-makers, and the girls of the communities' in Charleston, South Carolina".



Posted by the Staff on Aug. 28, 2010 (excerpted from the Falmouth Library Blog article Second Annual End of Summer Carnival). Quite a number of kids and their parents enjoyed the carnival atmosphere! This year we introduced two new games: a traditional sack race, and the suitcase race.

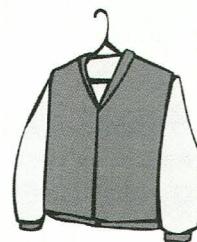


It was hilarious to watch the suitcase contestants! The inspiration for this game was a small book bought at the Friends Annual Book Sale over July 4th weekend. *Ice Breakers: Games and Stunts for Large and Small Groups* by Edna Geistner, published for the "express purpose of meeting the many requests for successful recreation for large and small groups of men and girls, in which round dancing has no part".

**SO THERE YOU HAVE IT - THE FRIENDS, THE LIBRARY, AND THE INTERNET, WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP MAKE A FUN TIME FOR A LOT OF CHILDREN.**

Here is the way the suitcase game is played for any of you who would like to use it at a gathering of children:

"Each contestant has a suitcase and an umbrella. In the suitcase are a hat, a coat, gloves and any other clothing desired so long as the contents are uniform. At a given signal all run to the goal, open suitcases, put on clothes, close suitcases, open umbrellas, and run to starting point".



"Several kids said it was their favorite game and I'm sure the spectators felt the same".

*Editor's Note: The Friends hope that the library plays it again at the Summer Carnival next year so we can come and watch. Congratulations to Reference Librarian Jill Erickson for finding the book, using the game, and writing about it on the library blog. The game sounds like a lot more fun than Pin the Tail on the Donkey. And what would those 1918 folks think of the way young people dance today! Mercy!*

## The Greatest Generation Speaks to Falmouth

**Rich Miner of the Falmouth Historical Society** is organizing a town event called "*The Greatest Generation Speaks to Falmouth.*" Lectures, art exhibits, and music programs will be offered during the months of October and November to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the ending of World War II. In conjunction with Rich's committee to honor local veterans, the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will sponsor a World War II film series and offer a Joy of Learning class relating to the war.

**The film series will begin** on September 9 at 7:00 pm in the Hermann Meeting Room at the Main library and continue on consecutive Thursdays: September 16, September 23, October 21, October 28, and November 4. Four of the films to be shown are *Battle of the Bulge*, *Wake Island*, *Midway*, and *They Were Expendable*. Drinks and popcorn will be available.

**The Joy of Learning class** is called "World War II: The Far Eastern Theater." This course will discuss Japanese expansionism, the naval war in the Pacific, and the conflicts in the East Indies and Burma. Classes will be held in the Hermann Meeting Room from 10:00 to 11:15 am on Thursdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28 and on November 4. The instructor is Michael McNaught who has a BA and a MA degree from Trinity College, Oxford.

**In addition to the film series** and the Joy of Learning class, the Friends' Book Nook in the Katharine Lee Bates lobby of the Main library will be stocked with many books pertaining to World War II.

~ Len Miele

## People often ask how the Friends spend their money

Last year with funds raised from membership dues, book sales and the Remembrance Fund, the Friends were able to support the following gifts and services to the Library and the community of Falmouth:

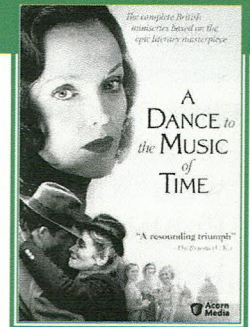
- Joy of Learning academic classes covering a wide range of subjects
- Purchase of museum passes
- Videos for the children's room and the branch libraries
- CD collection for the Main library
- Purchase of fine art books and foreign language audiobooks
- Computer and printer for both the children's and adult rooms
- Book rentals for those who are eager for the latest best sellers
- Special programs for children and adults throughout the year

*Becoming a member of the Friends is easy. Pick up a membership form and brochure at the Main Library or at the North and East Branches or print out our web site membership form and mail it or drop it off at the Library.*

# DVDs at the Library *by M. Sanborn*

## A DANCE TO THE MUSIC OF TIME

*Based on the novels of Anthony Powell*



There are 12 Powell novels, all of which are considered autobiographical, and it could not have been easy to condense them down to just four disks, but they managed it with good results.

*A Dance to the Music of Time* is considered British Drama at its best. It will remind you of *Brideshead Revisited*, but is most often compared with Proust's *In Search Of Time*.

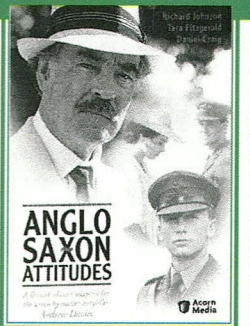
However, dear reader, if you find the British upper classes hard to take, this is not for you. Remember *Gosford Park*? Did you like it? No? Well forget this, but if you did, you are in for a treat.

The story centers around Nicholas Jenkins and begins with his school years. This is of course mandatory. All books about upper class Brits begin in their Public School (prep school to Americans) days. The reason is simple: where they go to school seems to stamp them for the rest of their lives. Notice how often Nick says, "Oh, he was at school with me".

His friends from school and what happens to them is not a happy story, rather tragic actually, except for Nick who remains a spectator rather than a participant much of the time. He made me think of Nick Carraway watching Daisy and Tom Buchanan go through their antics in *The Great Gatsby*. He falls in love with a married woman, but ultimately marries a woman who could have played Mrs. Miniver. They have children, but their part in the drama is not memorable. Nick and his wife manage to avoid infidelity and divorce, but the rest of the characters make up for it. If these novels are autobiographical, the author may have painted himself a bit above the crowd.

Second only to Nick is a thoroughly repulsive character with the name of Widmerpool, and he pops up constantly throughout the series. The idea came to me that he is perhaps a composite of all the obnoxious men that Powell had ever known. It is hard to believe that one man could be that revolting. He always shows up at the parties, of which there is a constant stream, accompanied by constant drinking and smoking. Nick gives Don Draper a run for his money with his cigarette always there ready to be lit. Could the writers of *Mad Men* have watched this saga before they wrote their script? Probably not, but there are similarities, the hats for instance. Don Draper and Nick both look great in theirs. Too bad President Kennedy ruined that fashion forever I guess. Hats made men look so much more dignified and important than they really were. ~ AVAILABLE IN CLAMS ~M. Sanborn

## ANGLO SAXON ATTITUDES ~ Based on the novel by Angus Wilson *Adapted for the screen by Andrew Davies*



The year is 1912, and Gerald Middleton, at age 60, is disillusioned with academia, and seeks to change his life by looking back over his past and perhaps making amends for any mistakes he may have made with his family.

He spends time with each one; his wife, his daughter and his two sons. To say they were unreceptive would be an understatement. Rather, they are nasty, insulting and uncooperative.

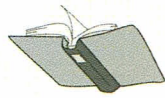
His wife, Inge, a saccharin fawning person with her children, turns vicious and accusatory with her husband, and screams out all her complaints about what living with him has been like.

The daughter, another unpleasant character, sides with her mother and tells her father to get lost. One son begins to move toward his father, but then, thinking better of it, retreats. His other son, a homosexual not yet out of the closet, hates his father and ends up living with his doting mother.

6

Gerald has but one card left to play and that is Dolly, his long lost love, who had been his best friend's fiance.

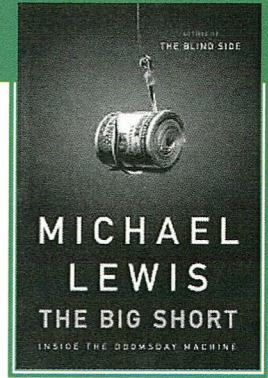
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



# Book Review



## The Big Short INSIDE THE DOOMSDAY MACHINE by Michael Lewis



**Early in his career** on Wall Street, Lewis wrote a book called *Liar's Poker*, hoping to convince college students not to become financiers. Instead, he was deluged with letters from Ohio State University students asking for more secrets about Wall Street. They had read his book as a how-to-manual.

**His newest book, *The Big Short***, can be read as a how not to book. His subject this time is the big banking institutions, Goldman Sachs, J. P. Morgan, Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch, all names that we have been hearing in the news a great deal for the past year or two.

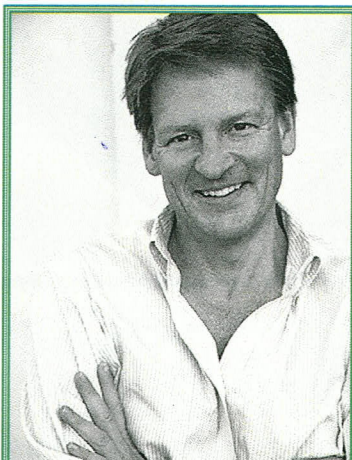
**The book, in spite of a conglomeration of terms** you may have never heard before, is fun to read. It is arranged by personalities, most of whom make up a comparatively short list of people who actually did predict the catastrophic meltdown of 2008 which came very close to destroying our entire banking system.

***The Big Short*, even though you may know the outcome**, is still filled with suspense waiting for the ball to drop. Lewis compares what went on to a giant gambling game, but this game is unique because both the winners and the losers wound up rich. Those on the short side of the subprime mortgage market had gambled with the odds in their favor, and the other side, the financial system, had gambled with the odds against them!

**And what was the bet?** Put simply, it was whether or not the system would fail, and those on the short side were betting on failure. They had seen what was coming, tried to warn the rest, and finally gave up and bet on Armageddon. They made a fortune, but oddly enough, the losers made money too. How could that happen? How could the CEOs of every major Wall Street firm, most of whom were on the brink of bankruptcy, manage to get rich? Who saved them? The United States government saved them!

**Lewis says that the incentives on Wall Street were all wrong, and they still are. He contends that from the moment Wall Street learned of the profits to be had from smart people making complicated bets, it was goodbye to servicing customers and allocating capital to productive enterprises.**

**You need to thank me** in this review for not mentioning what the bets were all about because then I would have had to explain credit default swaps, tranches, subprime mortgage bonds and collateralized debt obligations to name a few. If you would like to know more, read the book. It is a page turner except for all those acronyms that you are supposed to have remembered and you never do.



Author Michael Lewis

**Here are two questions** that came to my mind after finishing the book:

**Would you have ever dreamed** that intelligent people could possibly have been gambling over paper which was worth only what they thought it was worth?

**What is happening now** to all the people who lost their homes and their jobs as a result of what could be called a game of roulette? Unfortunately for them, their number never came up.

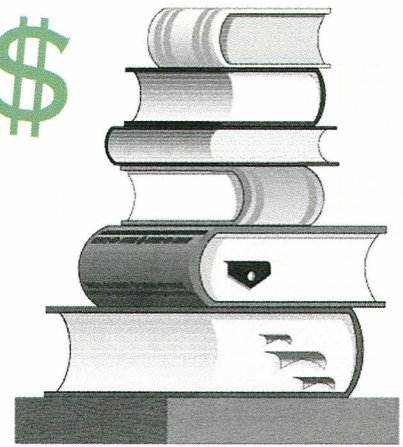
~ AVAILABLE IN CLAMS

~M. Sanborn

**Did you see how much  
money the Friends  
made on the Book Sale?**

**\$37,000**

**THANK YOU ALL!**



## DVDs at the Library *by M. Sanborn*

### ANGLO SAXON ATTITUDES ~ (continued from page 6)

She is living contentedly in a quaint little cottage in a quaint little town and Gerald hopes to be invited to join her. She is gracious to him, but her answer is "No, you cannot move in with me, but you can come whenever you want".

**If the author was asking his readers** to take sides in the plight of this dysfunctional family, it is not easy. The wife is impossible, but it is hard to sympathize with the husband either. You want to shake him and tell him to get a life.

**There is also a mystery running through the story** having to do with an archaeological dig and the recent discovery of a phallic symbol in the excavated grave of a medieval bishop. I am not sure what it was supposed to symbolize, but perhaps some of you mystery fans can figure it out. Your eyes will widen when they hold up the symbol!

**Oh, by the way, I should tell you** it contains "nudity and sexual situations". It must not have been too titilating because I can't even remember it. Oh wait a minute. They must mean the phallic symbol. Sexual situation? That's stretching it a bit.

**This is not one of the great British dramas** but it is worth watching if you like this genre.

**The film is based on the novel of the same name and both can be found in CLAMS.**

~ M. Sanborn

*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

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Joy of Learning

New Courses starting October 5, 2010

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