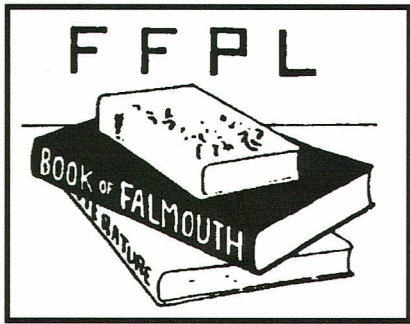


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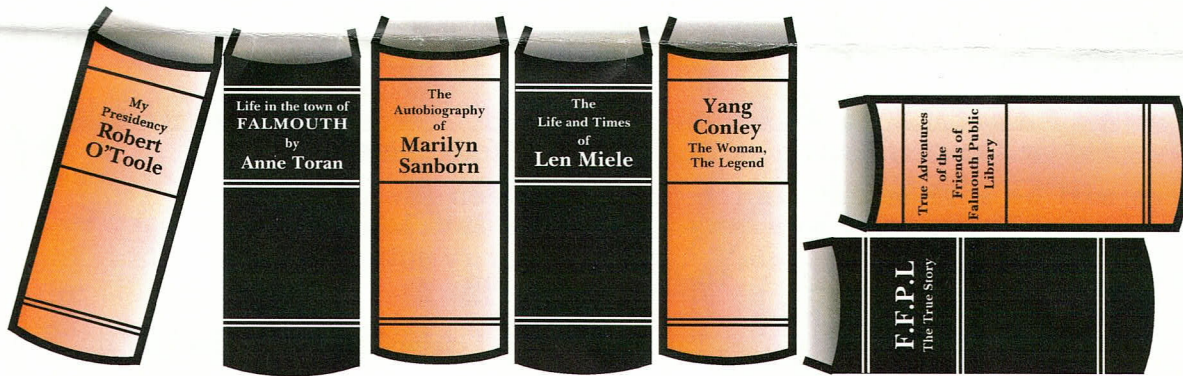
Friends of the Falmouth Public Library

# FOCUS on the FALL 2008

President: Robert O'Toole • Editor: Marilyn Sanborn

## Friends earn \$24,000 for the library at Summer Booksale

The weather held up and gave us five days of sunshine and did we ever make hay, excuse me, money. It was wonderful to see the enthusiastic turnout from the Falmouth community as well as summer people from far and near. We are such an institution now that people can almost set their calendars by us. We hope all you purchasers will agree that the choice of books was excellent and all due to the very large number of donors during the year. Our Friends Room on the ground level of the library gives all of you a good opportunity to slide your books through the specially designed slots into boxes below. We thank you so much.



We know that most of you have discovered the Friends beautiful Book Nook in the Katherine Lee Bates lobby. With the large donation of books we are getting presently, we are keeping the shelves of the Book Nook as full as possible, and the funds in the safe which you provide on the honor system are mounting everyday. Did you hear about the patron who, when told how the Book Nook worked, grinned from ear to ear and said, "Isn't Falmouth a wonderful town?" We couldn't agree more.



### **Friends Announce** **NEW Joy of Learning** **Schedule for October 2008**



This is a FRONT PAGE ALERT!! Inside you will find the Schedule



# Joy of Learning

## Schedule of Courses for Fall 2008

The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer seven new courses which will begin Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Classes will meet one hour per week for four weeks. The classes are free and open to the public.

### COURSES

**Tuesdays ~ October 7, 14, 21, 28 ~ 9:30 am - 10:30 am**

**Movies! Movies! Movies! #4 The Inside Scoop**

Brand New! Learn how great movies are made by the masters: Copolla, Kubrick, Spielberg, Pollack, Hitchcock, etc. An inside look into the decisions and techniques used in the art of making movies.

**Fred Gitlitz B.A. Colgate, M.A. Columbia University, Ph.D. Columbia University**

**Tuesdays ~ October 7, 14, 21, 28 ~ 11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

**Victory in the West: Vicksburg and Chattanooga**

Many Civil War historians believe that the Union's victories in the West were of far greater significance than the more highly visible campaigns of the armies in Virginia. This course will examine in some detail two of Ulysses S. Grant's greatest achievements, his campaigns to capture Vicksburg & Mississippi and Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1862 - 63. It is these two campaigns that led Abraham Lincoln to elevate Grant to command of all the Union armies in 1864.

**Michael McNaught has a B.A. and M.A. degrees in History from Oxford University . where he specialized in Military History and the Theory of War and an M.A. in History from Columbia. During a forty year teaching career in independent schools, he led more than 25 student trips to Civil War Battlefields.**

**Tuesdays ~ October 7, 14, 21, 28 ~ 1:15 - 2:15 pm**

**Sherman's Campaigns: The Atlanta Campaign, The March to the Sea & The Invasion of the Carolinas 1864 - 1865**

This course will examine General William Tecumseh Sherman's independent campaigns after his elevation to command of the Union's Western armies in 1864. Sherman was hailed as a military genius in the North but vilified as a ruthless tyrant in many parts of the South; the course will attempt to provide a balanced picture of a General variously considered by his contemporaries to be a lunatic or a genius.

**Michael McNaught has B.A and M.A. degrees in History from Oxford University where he specialized in Military History and the Theory of War and an M.A. in History from Columbia.**

**There will be a 45 minute lunch break between the two classes  
If you wish you may bring your lunch**

**Wednesdays ~ October 8, 15, 22, 29 ~ 10:00 - 11:00 am**

**Back by Popular Demand! The 60 Year Inferno**

Traces the history of this turbulent area (Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran) for the past 60 years. Class includes film and discussion.

**Fred Gitlitz B.A. Colgate, M.A. Columbia University, Ph.D. Columbia University**

**Wednesdays ~ October 8, 15, 22, 29 & November 5, 12 ~ noon - 1:30 pm**

**Contemporary (20th Century) Russian Plays**

Those who enroll in the class will be given ample notice of the titles before class meets.

**Robert Szulkin Professor Emeritus Brandeis University. Taught Russian Literature for 40 years. M.A. Harvard University, Ph.D. Harvard University**

**Thursday ~ October 9, 16, 23 ~ 11:00 am - Noon**

**The Messiah**

This three week course is an introduction of the Messiah; how it came to be written, how it is organized and, of course, the music.

**John Schlee has degrees from the University of Michigan, UCLA and John Hopkins**

**Fridays ~ October 10, 17, 24, 31 ~ 11:00 am - Noon**

**History and Culture of the Wampanoag**

The last two hundred years of tribal history, adaption of new settlers, language, plantings, use of herbals, discussion of rituals and political developments are among the topics that will be covered in this course.

**Earl Mills and Guest Speakers**

# Joy of Learning Registration Form

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(1) Movies #4

(5) Russian Plays

(2) Victory in West

(6) The Messiah

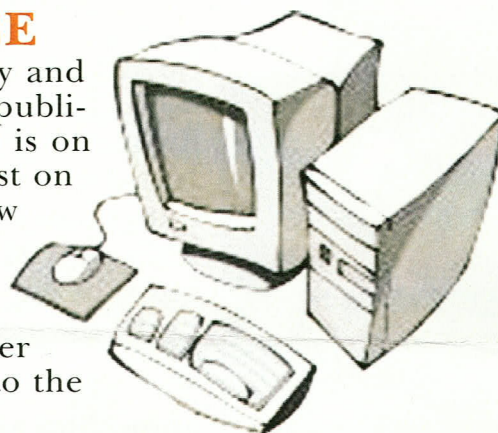
(3) Sherman's Campaigns

(7) The Wampanoags

(4) 60 Year Inferno

## CONNECTING WITH REFERENCE

If you would like to know what is going on at the library and you have a computer, it is simple. Just type in [falmouthpubli-library.org](http://falmouthpubli-library.org) and when it comes up, look for **Blog** which is on the left and in bold print. Up will come a page with a list on the right of all the different things you might like to know about. Click on whatever. I went through them all just to see what was available and you can do the same. If you do not have a computer you can come to the library and use one. If you do not know how to use a computer you can ask for help in Reference. They will get you into the Blog.



## LOOKING FOR A BOOK THAT IS OUT OF PRINT?

You've tried Amazon? The books are overpriced and in poor condition? Try CLAMS and if they don't have it, try the Virtual Library. You can get into the Virtual Library by way of the library's website. Your request will go out to a whole system of libraries in Massachusetts and a copy of the book you want will be sent to your library if someone has it. You may keep it for close to a month but they are finicky about renewals.



## WANTED

**Treasurer:** to handle the finances of the Friends.  
Required: Knowledge of keeping accounts including assets and liabilities plus the budget. Also, to pay all bills.  
Please call 508-540-1825 if you are interested.

## ALSO WANTED

New members for the Friends Board who would be interested in:

- ★ Working on programs for the year
- ★ Helping with our Hospitality Committee
- ★ A photographer to record our events.

Please call 508-548-7791 if you are interested.



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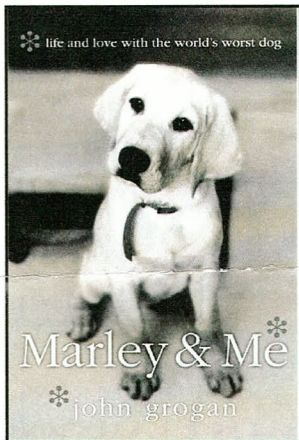
## NEW CHILDRENS' LIBRARIAN ARRIVES

With a sigh of relief the library is thrilled to announce that our new children's librarian has arrived. Her name is **Karen Arnold** and she hails from the Brockton Public Library where she was the branch librarian for the last four years. As a branch supervisor Karen brings lots of well-rounded experience including planning children's programs, supervising staff, grant writing, reference, collection development and cataloging skills.

**Karen grew up in Brockton** in a large family that included three sisters, a brother and several "sibling" cats. She obtained a degree in anthropology from Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire, followed by internships in various libraries. She graduated from Simmons College in 2004 with a master's degree in library and information science. In addition to a love for libraries, Karen likes to travel. She has seen most of Europe, spent a semester abroad in London, enjoyed Oktoberfest in Munich, and completed the 60th Anniversary D-day tour with her Dad.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### MARLEY & ME by JOHN GROGAN

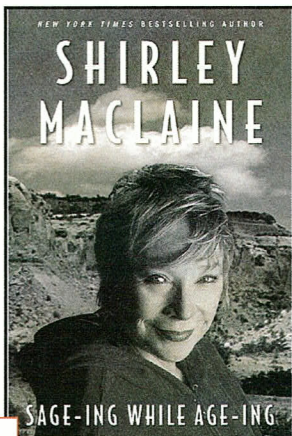


"MARLEY AND ME" is the love story of a man and a (very difficult) dog. Two years ago my daughter gave me a puppy which was a first for me. My dog's name is Dancer because that's what he does a lot. It did not take me long to fall in love with this sweet little dog so I immediately identified with John Grogan's passion for Marley. Although Marley tried John's, and everyone else's patience to the limit, he never gave up. Even the vets who took care of Marley gave up thinking he would ever be a normal dog.

This book was very easy to read and very well written. If you are an animal lover and have not read it, you are in for a treat, but also, be prepared to cry. John Grogan impressed me with his love for Marley and that love extended to his family. He impressed me as an extremely admirable human being.

### SAGE - ING WHILE AGE - ING by SHIRLEY MACLAINE

Interesting Book! "I've been a questioner all my life," is how Shirley MacLaine begins her book. Does other life exist on this planet? Her way of getting her readers to think is interesting. At no time does she push her beliefs on her reader. Always she questions her own thinking. Her mind is open and ready to accept change and growth. She is a spiritual woman.



The following paragraph is from her book jacket, and truly explains her. "Having grown older, she is increasingly concerned with the potential pitfalls of modern medicine. She shares insights into nutrition, acupuncture, homeopathy and alternative medicine. Moving beyond the physical, Shirley explores what has interested her most - those things that are unseen - -

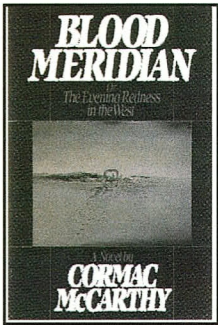
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**SAGE - ING WHILE AGE - ING** was well worth reading and makes you think. This book offers many convincing reasons to believe other life could and does exist. I myself have always been a doubter but Shirley makes me question those doubts.

~ANNE TORAN

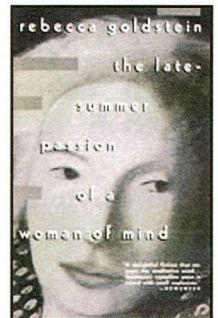
# BOOK REVIEWS

*My home overflows with books and sometimes I go shopping on the shelves looking for old favorites and I carry them back to my room to look over. Recently I did just that and I came up with a list that I will share with you.*

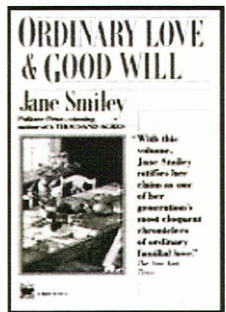


**Blood Meridian** by Cormac McCarthy. His name may be familiar to you due to two of his books that have been recently made into films, **All The Pretty Horses** and **No Country for Old Men**. Why filmmakers didn't choose his critically acclaimed masterpiece, **Blood Meridian**, is obvious to all who have read it. Major sections would have had to be cut out and even then it would not have been palatable for any but the most selective audience. But for those who do read it, they will be overwhelmed with writing that has been compared with Shakespeare, Faulkner, Melville and the Bible.

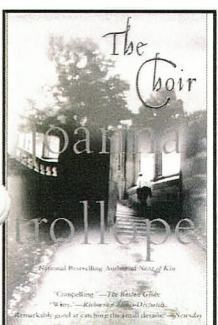
**The Late Summer Passion of a Woman of Mind** by Rebecca Goldstein. I found this remarkable novel many years ago, read it, loved it and sought out Goldstein's first novel, **The Mind Body Problem** which is just as much of a page turner. It is no surprise that the author attended Barnard College and Princeton University where she earned a Ph.D in philosophy. Her books might be labeled sex in academia but on a very intellectual and philosophical level. They are also funny, clever, perceptive and a delightful read.



**Ordinary Love and Good Will** by Jane Smiley. I never was a fan of novellas until I read these two. Both are about a marriage, one bitter and one loving. **Good Will** concerns a family living on a farm in an idyllic Pennsylvania valley, the husband dedicated to making it on his own, or self-sustaining as we call it today, and a long suffering wife who struggles to keep up. They have one child, Tommy, and it is he who provides the chilling drama which inserts a strong but subtle racist theme and destroys his father's dream. Jane Smiley's writing style is minimalist, often stark. She employs the old advice to beginning writers, show, don't tell. Her dialogue is perfection



**Ordinary Love:** Another family. The 27 year old mother is an apparent "angel in the house" type who likes nothing better than to nurse her twin boys while the other children and the dogs frolic over the bed. Her husband, a celebrated pediatric researcher, accepts no limit on the number of children a couple should have, but is adamant about a nightly family dinner. Nothing prepares the reader for mom's announcement that she is sleeping with a neighbor's husband which causes her husband to slam her around, knock her down and ultimately abscond with the children. Her lover never speaks to her again. Put this plot in the hands of a superlative writer like Smiley and you are in for a treat. Both of these novellas are narrated by who else? The mothers.



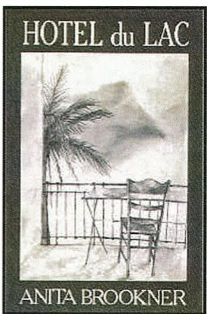
I own all of Joanna Trollope's novels because I fell in love with her first book, **The Rector's Wife** as well as the film done by Masterpiece Theater. None of her subsequent novels are as good as that first one, but **The Choir** comes very close. I must have been in my "British only" period at the time. Their particular brand of academic life gets me every time, so proper, so subdued, so understated. It is hard to believe that the private school (they call them public schools) boys were whipped regularly, and wasn't it those whippings that produced the kind of men that kept Britain from being overrun by the Nazis, something about the "playing fields of Eton" I think.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

# BOOK REVIEWS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Personally, I prefer Mr. Chips. Trollope tells a great story and she is light reading for those times when you just can't face struggling with Virginia Wolff. I read somewhere that Joanna is related to Anthony Trollope way back. That DNA is great stuff isn't it?

**Hotel du Lac** by Anita Brookner. While we are on the subject of understated British novels, we can't overlook Brookner. I used to admire her greatly and I still do. Edith Hope, a writer of romance novels under a pseudonym (I would do the same thing if I were writing bodice rippers), finds things too hot to handle in her private life, and makes her escape to the quiet sedate Hotel Du Lac in Switzerland. She hopes that her peaceful surroundings will restore her to her senses. You will have to read the book to find out what happens. Being Brookner, it will be satisfactory. This book is one of the selections of the Falmouth Public Library Book Club this fall.



And one of my all time favorites - **Cold Comfort Farm**. This has to be the British at their most humorous and it is delightful. Some have called it the funniest book ever written and I would not argue with that. To watch and read about Flora Poste trying to bring order to the chaotic lives of all her uneducated relatives at **Cold Comfort Farm** is just plain hilarious. If you have missed it, get it at the library. I hate to keep mentioning this but the movie is excellent also.

~Marilyn Sanborn



All the books reviewed in this issue can be found in CLAMS.



## Children's Room - So Busy in the Summer



**Summer is always a busy time of year** for any library and the Falmouth Public Library was no exception. This year we had 770 children sign up for the Summer Reading Program. We planned 49 summer programs with 2,681 participants. We expect this number to exceed 3,000 once we get the final numbers from the branches and all the programs are completed.

**We would like to thank the Friends** for funding the Art Programs with Tobai Leighton. She did four drop-in workshops. All of them were well attended and very successful, including Nature Drawing Class and Pastel Art Workshop to name a few.

**The Children's Room** is currently preparing to go to a self check out system. In order to participate in this system, each item in the Children's Room needs to be coded and tagged individually. We have used the wonderful volunteers from the Friends to help us in this process.

*Friends of the Falmouth Public Library*

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Joy of Learning

New Courses starting in October  
SIGN UP TODAY