

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library

Newsletter

Focus on Fall 2014

President
Nancy English

Editor
Marilyn Sanborn



A Banner Book Sale with a Glitch Hurricane Arthur Wreaks Havoc

This year our Summer Book Sale coordinator, Bob O'Toole, ordered an extra large tent (40 x 80), two medium size tents (20 x 40), and one smaller tent (20 x 20). The Friends owns three small tents (10 x 20). These were all set out on the library lawn on Monday along with the tables. Tuesday we had about a hundred Volunteers arranging books after the Young Adults moved the boxes to the designated tables. On Wednesday our dedicated Staff was ready and our Sale Volunteers were eagerly awaiting their time selling or straightening books. The Customers were waiting to find their special book amongst the thousands that were set out on the tables. Excitement was in the air. Wednesday & Thursday we were all exhausted by the end of the day. Shoppers must have been tired also as they were carrying many books to their cars and some went to the Post Office to mail their books home.

Friday we cancelled the book sale for the first time ever. We were no match for Hurricane Arthur. Saturday morning our Volunteers arrived at eight o'clock because they knew there was work to be done. Two downed small tents and the end of the 40 x 80 ripped out of the ground. No one complained, and with the help of many hands, we managed to open on time minus about a thousand books and videos that were water damaged. In spite of the hurricane we sold over \$41,000 worth of books. So as President I would like to say, **"THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS OF OUR BOOK SALE and to the LIBRARIANS WHO PROVIDED REFRESHMENTS FOR THE VOLUNTEERS."**

You are always there for us.

~Nancy English

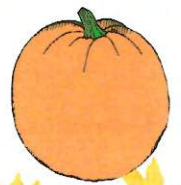


A small mountain of water damaged books & videos



Joy of Learning FALL SCHEDULE

EDUCATIONAL AND ENLIGHTENING COURSES
BEGINNING OCTOBER 7TH ~ DETAILS INSIDE





Schedule of Courses for Fall 2014

The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer five new courses which will begin Tuesday, October 7, 2014. The classes are free and open to the public.

TUESDAYS: October 7, 14, 21, 28 - 10:00 - 11:15am - Bay Room

MOVIES, MOVIES, MOVIES

A Calvacade of Favorites from **The African Queen** to **Zorba the Greek** including comedies, musicals, drama, and Alfred Hitchcock, the Master of Dread.

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

TUESDAYS: October 7, 14, 21, 28 - 11:30am - 12:30pm - Bay Room

VIGNETTES IN HISTORY will be on the **Middle East: A 60-Year Inferno**

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

WEDNESDAYS: October 8, 15, 22, 29 - Noon - 1:30pm - Bay Room

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

We will undertake a close reading of Dostoyevsky's first major novel in its cultural, historical, and philosophical aspects. (NOTE: This class is limited to 20 people.)

Robert Szulkin Professor Emeritus Brandeis University, M.A. & Ph.D. Harvard University

WEDNESDAYS: October 8, 15, 22, 29 - 2:00 - 3:30pm - Bay Room

PUCCINI and some of his tragic heroines: **Manon, Mimi, Cio-Cio-San, etc.**

Suggested reading: **Puccini, The Man and His Music** by William Weaver, E. P. Dutton

Louise T. Adler M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology & Immunology

(Music has been Mrs. Adler's lifelong avocation and a passionate pursuit.)

THURSDAYS: October 9, 16, 23, 30 - 10:00 - 11:15 am - Hermann Room

The Trouble With Africa: the "Dark Continent" from the mid-19th Century to the present.

This course will examine many of the countries of sub-Saharan Africa from their colonization during the "Scramble for Africa" to their emergence as independent nations in the 1960s, and their subsequent successes and failures. Amongst those studied will be Nigeria, the Congo, Rwanda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and South Africa.

Michael McNaught B.A. & M.A. Oxford University, M.A. Columbia University

Mike was an independent school teacher and administrator for 44 years before retiring to Falmouth. He has lectured previously in the Joy Of Learning program as well as the Falmouth Historical Society and Falmouth Academy. During his teenaged years he lived in Tanganyika (now Tanzania) where his interest in African history and politics developed.

NOTE - All classes are free and held at the Falmouth Public Library. Tuesday and Wednesday classes take place before the library opens. Please enter at Meeting Room entrance on Katharine Lee Bates Road: the door at the end, by the trash enclosure.

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
courses

☐ **MOVIES, MOVIES, MOVIES**

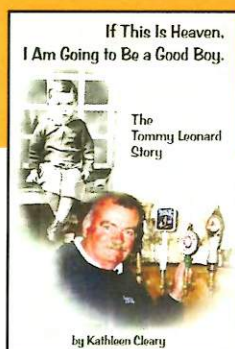
☐ **PUCCINI**

☐ **VIGNETTES IN HISTORY**

☐ **AFRICA**

☐ **CRIME AND PUNISHMENT**



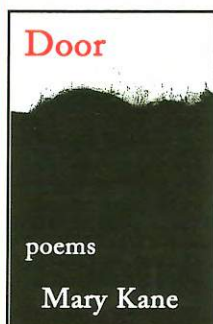


Self-Published Books

A New Collection at Falmouth Public Library

According to Library Journals Patron Profiles, "60 to 70 percent of patrons want self-published titles to be available in their libraries." ~ WE OBLIGE!

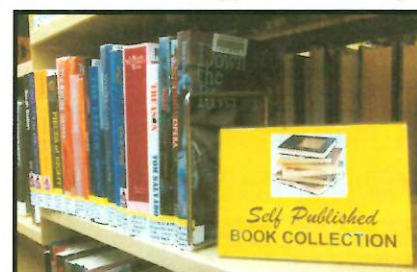
Self-publishing, or independent publishing, is the publication of an authors work without the traditional services of publishing houses. In other words, authors are responsible for the process themselves. There are, however, businesses that assist writers in getting their works out into the world: **Createspace** and **Xlibris** are two such businesses that manufacture the actual books, distribute them, and even market them.



Recently, a lovely book of self-published poems by Mary Kane, entitled **Door**, came across my desk; and while browsing the collection, I found: *If This is Heaven, I am Going to Be a Good Boy: The Story of Tommy Leonard*, by Kathleen Cleary, which many readers will recognize as a local who just happened to conceive of the Falmouth Road Race.

Yet these are just a few of the titles in our growing collection! Come browse the collection, which is located between where the fiction ends and the nonfiction starts. **You cannot miss the sign!**

~Kim Dewall, Head of Technical Services



Friends' Holiday Book Sale

Delight your Family and Friends with Gifts of Almost New Books!

Tuesday & Wednesday, Dec. 2ND & 3RD
• 1:30 - 8:00 pm •

Thursday & Friday, Dec. 4TH & 5TH
• 10:00 am - 5:00 pm •

Saturday, December 6TH--10:00 am to 2 pm

The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library supports a number of online learning opportunities for the patrons of the library.

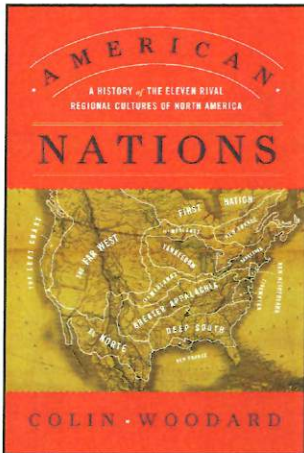


Mango provides self-paced foreign language instruction that is available twenty-four hours a day and is accessible anywhere with an internet connection and your Falmouth Public Library card. The online instruction uses a conversational approach and includes memory building exercises to be sure you retain what you are learning. You create your own "account" so you can always start up just where you left off in your last lesson. Brush up on the languages you have studied in the past or pick a brand new language!

Lynda.com is a more recent addition and provides a broad array of video tutorials that can be accessed in the library. You can learn about photography and digital cameras, or you could study animation and video or music editing. There are courses in most of the standard software programs such as Excel or Word. You can also learn to use products such as QuickBooks or Family Tree Maker. There are thousands of courses for all skill levels and all interests. How about setting up a Facebook account? There is a Lynda.com tutorial that will help you get on Facebook quickly and safely. Find out what your friends and family are up to, and share pictures and news with them—all without compromising your privacy. Come to the Library, the Reference Librarians will be happy to get you started!



lynda.com



American Nations

A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America

by Colin Woodard

On the recommendation of a relative, I just read *American Nations* by Colin Woodard and found it was a book I had a hard time putting down. It is American history (970.004) but it is more than that as it attempts to explain why states and, therefore, elections go the way they do. The subtitle is "A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America" with the emphasis on The United States.

The United States of America is a political state having ten of the eleven major regions that were and still are affected by how they were founded. Later migrations were absorbed into them.

- **Yankeedom** includes New England through upper New York and the upper Midwest as far as Minnesota. For these inhabitants education, local political control and the common good of all are most important to them, starting with the Puritans.
- **Due to the Dutch**, New Netherland or the greater New York City area has the emphasis on commercial trading and diversity.
- **The Midlands** stretch from the east coast to the plains and branch north to southern Canada above the Great Lakes and south to the top of Texas. They are a moderate, middle class people and treasure peace. The early background was Quaker or German.
- **The Tidewater** area honors its Cavalier or Norman and Royalist background, thus continuing to be conservative.
- **Appalachia** was founded by those from war-ravaged borders of the British Isles and the people were named Borderlanders. They tend to be clannish and want individual liberty. They also make great soldiers. This area stretches from outside Tidewater above the Deep South to Northern Texas.
- **The Deep South** is where cotton could grow well. Coming from a background of slavery, they still want that ruling class or oligarchy.
- **New France** is in Canada and around New Orleans. They came from France but often intermixed with the Native Americans.
- **El Norte** is mostly Northern Mexico to Southern California. It has always been a porous border but the Old South often outnumbered the Hispanics.
- **The Left Coast** is on the far side of the high mountains from mid California to Juneau, Alaska. Settled first by Yankeedom, they want good government, social reform, self-exploration, with newly added interests of ecology and technology.
- **Movements from the East** eventually settled the high, dry and remote Far West. Corporations or cartels own much of the area. They want freedom but also federal money.

After explaining these groups the book reviews history from before the Revolution to the present. The role of religion or religions is much discussed, and elections have been studied.

The author concludes, on page 295, that since 1877: "Ultimately the determinative political struggle has been a clash between shifting coalitions of ethno-regional nations, one invariably headed by the Deep South, the other by Yankeedom." The swing nations are the Midlands wanting cultural pluralism but opposing activism, the Far West opposing Northern dominance but maintaining federal dollars, and the growing influence of El Norte.

4 **While there may be generalizations** in the book, I do think it is a must read for considering elections and outcomes.

All Quiet on the Western Front

by Erich Maria Remarque



When I was a small child I asked my mother why Uncle Russell coughed like that and my mother said, "he was gassed in the war". I never asked her to explain, but I thought about it a lot. I asked for more stories about "the war" and I was told all about influenza. By now I had conjured up a picture in my mind of something very bad. When many years later I read *All Quiet on the Western Front* (in print world wide for seventy years), the last piece of the puzzle fell into place. I was right. It was very bad. Rereading the book, it is still bad.

Erich Maria Remarque was a German writer known world wide for his great anti-war novel, *All Quiet on the Western Front*. He was born in 1898, just in time to be drafted, at eighteen, into the German Army in the midst of the Great War. His life until then had been uneventful. He grew up and went to school in the town of Osnabruck, Westphalia. His parents were lower working class, his mother a strict Catholic who wanted Erich to be a teacher, his father a book binder and a machinist.

The war changed everything. A few months after entering the Army as an infantryman, Remarque's company advanced to Flanders for some of the most savage fighting of WWI. His experiences are well documented in his novel, *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1929; the original cover is illustrated above), experiences which influenced both him and his books for the rest of his life. He was badly wounded at Flanders rescuing a wounded comrade, and spent the rest of the war in a hospital recovering.

The concept of trench warfare was developed during WWI. Two lines facing each other, each with its own trenches, where the soldiers stood with their guns and canons staring at the enemy across what came to be known as "No Man's Land." When the signal was given to move, the men climbed over the top and advanced becoming easy targets for the enemy shooting from their trenches across the way. Disaster occurred and continued to occur. Thousands were simply mowed down by machine guns and shell fire. One would think that after a few advances like that, the generals would decide to change their methods and perhaps devise something less likely to kill so many of their men so quickly. But no. The trenches remained for not one, not two, but until the end of the war years later. There was one change. That was when the Americans came into the war in 1917. Not willing to be mowed down, the American generals devised less confrontational methods of warfare with some success.

Remarque left little to the imagination in describing the fighting. He was merciless in his short terse style. You can open *All Quiet on the Western Front* almost anywhere and find nothing but the horror of the trenches, the screams of the wounded and always the dead:

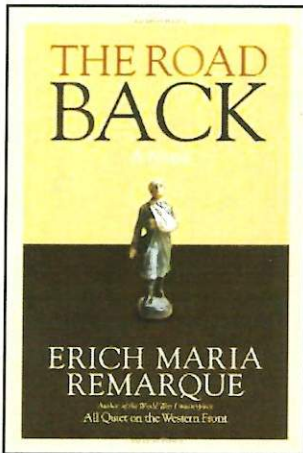
"The days are hot and the dead lie unburied. We cannot fetch them all in, if we did we should not know what to do with them. The shells will bury them. Many have their bellies swollen up like balloons. They hiss, belch and make movements. The gases in them make noises."

And the new recruits who know nothing:

"Their pale turnip faces, their pitiful clenched hands, the miserable courage of these poor devils who are so terrified that they dare not cry out loudly but with battered chests and torn bellies and arms and legs only whimper softly for their mothers."

The average height of a WWI soldier was 5' 3". In one of Pat Barker's books, an officer spoke of the recruits lining up behind him with the first one in line holding on to him and the rest holding on to each other. Think how much we've progressed since then. The soldiers of today look enormous in their camouflage outfits and the many pounds of equipment each one carries.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



All Quiet on the Western Front was published to great acclaim in 1929. An English newspaper called it "the most wonderful and terrible book, at last the epic of the lowly soldier in the line, the true story of the world's greatest nightmare."

In 1930, Remarque published a sequel, *The Road Back*. It describes what happened to a group of veterans when they returned home from the war. Their reception was not what they had expected. They felt alienated from their families and turned to each other, their comrades who had been with them in the trenches.

In *The Road Back*, Ernst, like Paul Baumer before him, continues to write of his comrades. These once strong healthy men came home to a beaten, disillusioned Germany in turmoil with fighting between Communists and Fascists to control the postwar government, the Weimar Republic, Germany's first attempt at democracy. To have lost the war was intolerable, but to return and find their families close to starving and some even blaming the veterans for their plight, was more than they could take. The Kaiser may have escaped to Holland, but they were left to deal with a country in which cities were nothing but rubble, jobs were all but nonexistent and hopes for the future bleak.

Remarque escaped from the Nazis on the day that Adolph Hitler became Chancellor of Germany, and spent the second half of his life in Hollywood with periodic visits to the home he still maintained in Switzerland. He wrote many more novels some of which became best sellers in the U.S. and Germany. The best known is *Arch of Triumph* about a German refugee in Paris trying unsuccessfully to evade the French who would deport him back to Germany and a concentration camp. Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer starred in the movie.

He married one of Hollywood's biggest stars, Paulette Goddard, after having a lengthy affair with Marlena Deitrich.

Remarque with actress Paulette Goddard



The reclusive Marlena Deitrich and the author



Erich Maria Remarque is currently revered in Germany as a literary giant. Here in the U.S. he will always be remembered as the author of *All Quiet on the Western Front*. The movie starred Lew Ayres and is available in CLAMS; a later version starring Anthony Hopkins was made in 1978.

There are many wonderful books having to do with WWI in many forms: fiction, nonfiction, poetry. Here are a few. My favorite is in larger print. They all (plus more) live on my bookshelves but CLAMS also has all of them.

The award winning trilogy by Pat Barker: *Regeneration*, *The Eye in the Door*, *The Ghost Road*
The Collected Poems of Wilfred Owen

Memoirs of an Infantry Officer by Siegfried Sassoon

Goodbye to All That by Robert Graves

Flower of Battle by Hugh Cecil

Doing Battle by Paul Fussell

The Great War in Modern Memory by Paul Fussell

The First World War by John Keegan

11th Month 11th Day 11th Hour, Armistice Day, 1918 by Joseph Persico

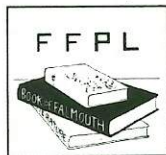
~ Marilyn Sanborn



Erich Maria Remarque
 1898-1970

Always Seeking New Friends

Friends of Falmouth Public Library



P.O. Box 480
Falmouth Massachusetts, 02541
508-457-2555 - ext 2918
www.FalmouthPublicLibrary.org

Dear Patron of the Falmouth Public Library

We encourage you to join the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, a nonprofit organization with all membership fees and donations going to support the Falmouth Public Library. The Friends provides many services and materials to the Library, such as Joy of Learning classes in many subjects; a newsletter containing FFPL event notices, book reviews and articles about Library services; CDs, DVDs, museum passes and rental of current bestsellers. In the past year the Friends has added several new features including online Consumer Reports and the Mango language learning system. Much of this has been made possible by the generous contributions of Library patrons.

For memberships and donations, please clip and return the bottom portion of this sheet to the address above or hand it in at the circulation desk in the main Library. If you have a non-Falmouth address for part of the year, please let us know below so we can send the winter newsletter to the right place.

Thank You,
Bill English, Membership Director

Please make your checks payable to

Friends of Falmouth Public Library

The Friends Newsletter can be seen on the Falmouth Public Library website:

www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org

Then click on "About Us" and find the FFPL in the menu

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library - 2014-2015 Membership Form

Name _____

Local Address _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Other Address _____

FROM _____ TO _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY Please check

☐
☐
☐

\$15 Individual

\$120 Individual Life Membership

\$150 Family Life Membership

☐
☐

\$20 Family

Donation \$ _____

I would like to volunteer to help with the Summer Book Sale ☐ or other ways ☐

A Tribute to Mrs. Mildred Allen



Mildred Nicoletta Allen 1908 ~ 2014

Reference Patron Extraordinaire

As many of you may know, Mrs. Mildred Allen, at age 105, died this summer. As many of you may not know, Mrs. Allen was one of my favorite reference regulars. She used to call the reference desk at least twice a day, every day. Let me share with you one story about Mrs. Allen. One day in May a box of Godiva chocolates was delivered to me at the reference desk by an acquaintance of Mrs. Allen. The note with the box of chocolates began, "Lady Jill." Mrs. Allen is the only person I know who ever called me "Lady Jill." She also called me her "Reference Life Line." The box of chocolates was just a thank you for the help the reference department

librarians had given her. In fact we had recently found an 800 number for her for Godiva chocolates, and we couldn't imagine why she needed that information, until the letter with the chocolates told us that she had called them to make sure the chocolates she had been given at Christmas were still safe to eat! They assured her they were.

I have found Italian phrases for her, and tracked down the names of towns in Italy she once visited, or restaurants in New York City that have long since closed at which she once ate. Mostly I reminded her how to spell words, as she could no longer see to read her dictionary. She had questions about pink martins, grammar questions, and lots and lots of questions about particular people and on what date they had been born and on what date they had died.

For me Mrs. Allen was my link to the Ready Reference that used to be such a big part of everyday at the Reference Desk prior to the invention of the Internet, but that now barely exists. It was such a sweet thing to have people call us with questions about spelling and grammar and congressional addresses or the time the sun would set on a particular day or when a tide would be high. Someone would need a recipe, and tell us we had saved their lives when we found the right cookbook on the shelf with the right recipe. It all seems sort of unbelievable now to those that have grown up searching the web for answers, no matter how wrong those answers might be. Wherever Mrs. Allen is now, I hope she has a good dictionary by her side.

~ "Lady Jill" Erickson Head of Reference & Adult Services

JOY OF LEARNING
New Courses starting October 7, 2014
SIGN UP TODAY



Change Service Requested

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