



*Friends
of the*
FRUITVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

OUT EAST

A Newsletter of the Friends of the Fruitville Library

Spring 2016

*Thanks to
All our
Volunteers*



Board Member Mary Hasselbring setting out the wild flower centerpieces for the annual Thank You Luncheon for Volunteers held at the Founders Club on February 3, 2016.



And the winner is ...

The top prize winner in Fruitville Library's 2016 Oscars® Prediction contest was Gayle Hermance, pictured right.

Gayle correctly predicted a whopping 9 out of 10 on our ballot sheet. She is a true movie fan! And she says she has watched the Academy Awards with her friend and neighbor Diane Thompson, pictured left, for many years.





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FRUITVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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***The Mission of the Friends of
the Fruitville Library is to
advocate the value of the
library to the community and
elected officials, promote
volunteering, and provide
financial support.***



*A Message from Beth
Cassell,
President of FFL*

The Friends of Fruitville Library celebrate the contributions of the more than 100 volunteers who shelf books, sort donated books, send books-on-hold to their correct destinations, read to children, pull books for holds, lead book discussions, and perform many other essential tasks. In 2015 volunteers donated 6,793 hours to library service.

We also thank the more than 30 Friends' volunteers who staff the bookstore, operate our eBay bookstore to sell valuable and collectible books, sort and mark donated books for sale, take donated items for consignment, arrange for engraved bricks for the reading garden, do the banking, keep the books, plan the annual thank you luncheon, keep you informed through our newsletter, website, emails, and other publications . . . and so many other things. And, of course, the Board is careful to make the most of our hard-earned funds. Our membership in the Alliance of Friends of Sarasota Libraries allows us to share our good ideas and learn from others.

Ann Ivey always says she would have to close the doors of our beloved library if it weren't for the dedication of our volunteers. She and her fabulous staff never fail to thank the Friends and the Library Volunteers for their invaluable help.

It's a big job to help make this great library even better, but we all agree it's the best job ever!

Beth Cassell

Greetings from Ann Ivey, Library Manager



It's here!!

The Friends of the Fruitville Library ordered a mobile computer lab for the library! Fruitville Library will now be able to offer HANDS-ON computer classes

Thank you to the Friends for their generous donation. It is through the constant support of the Friends of the Fruitville library that we are able to maintain our high level of programming.

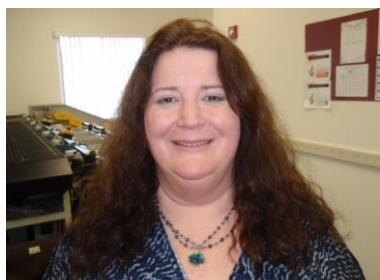
We are so pleased at the opportunity to expand our programming to include more computer classes: in addition to our regular classes like email and Microsoft Windows, we are adding classes on databases, e-books, and more. Please continue to check out our monthly calendar to find out what new classes will be available!

In addition to the computer classes, we have been able to add more musical and dramatic talent. **Easy Street Duo** was here in February and we enjoyed another fun-filled event with the return of **Sonny and Perley** in March.

If you get a moment, thank a FRIEND. Or better yet become one! We love our Fruitville Friends!!!!

Thank you!

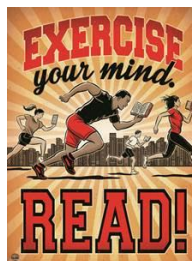
Ann Ivey



Programs for Adults At Fruitville Library

The Fruitville Library Readers

Join us the **first Thursday of each month: 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Please register at Fruitville Library reference desk or call 861-2518. Seating is limited; registration is required. Watch for the announcement of the next cycle of books selected by the group.



Get Ready for Adult Summer Reading! The program will run from June 1st through July 31st. Watch for more details in the coming months.

Master Gardener's Corner

Stop by the table to ask questions or pick up informational brochures about Florida-friendly gardening. **4th Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to Noon**

Conversation Café

Practice speaking English! Sponsored by the Literacy Council of Sarasota. Please call 941-955-0421 to register as an ESOL learner with the Literacy Council of Sarasota. **Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Conference Room**

Socrates Café

The Society for Philosophical Inquiry is comprised of philosophical inquirers of all ages and walks of life. Its members strive to form communities of philosophical inquiry.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Suncoast Mobile Career Center

An eleven-station computer lab on wheels with state-of-the-art equipment complete with Internet access has most of the resources available in the Resource Rooms of Suncoast Workforce, our local one-stop career center.

Job seekers may use the Mobile Career Center to conduct an online job search, receive referrals to employers with available positions, write resumes and cover letters, evaluate work skills, study software applications with Microsoft Tutorials, and much more. All services are available at NO COST to job seekers.

First Monday of each month: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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found in the Friends Bookstore.

For more information, go to our website at:

www.friendsofthefruitvillelibrary.org.

See You at the Library~~

There are so many Reasons to Visit Fruitville Public Library!

Computer Classes

Classes are held in the Meeting Room of the Fruitville Public Library. Classes are lecture style and last approximately one hour. For a schedule, more information about specific classes, and to register for any of these classes stop by the Reference Desk or call (941)861-2518

Programs for Children and Teens

The Friends of the Fruitville Library support programs year round for children of all ages and for teens. Because of their popularity, many programs require registration. See a librarian for postings and to reserve a place.

Adult Knitting and Crochet Club

All skill levels are welcome. Use our materials or bring your own. (Instructor-supplied yarns and needles or hooks remain with the instructor.) Knitting is every Monday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Crocheting is every Wednesday from 10:15 to 12 noon.

A Community Resource

Did you know? Fruitville Public Library makes meeting rooms available to neighborhood non-profit organizations. Last year about 60 not-for-profit organizations held a total of 569 meetings. For reservations for your meeting, contact Ann Ivey, Library Manager.

Recent Programs Sponsored by the Friends of Fruitville Library



Actress Jenny Aldrich portraying the American Impressionist Painter Mary Cassatt with librarians Ana Feliciano Chico (left) and Lisa Backer.



Favorites Sonny and Perley Return to Fruitville Library in March.

IN THE READING GARDEN

Butterflies Are Free



Transformation has been a prevailing theme this year at Fruitville Library. The theme for the annual Volunteer Luncheon was **Butterflies** and how volunteers transform the library. The Reading Garden just completed a minor transformation with the refreshing of the paint on the walls and house.

The Friends of the Fruitville Library also sponsored the Recertification of the Butterfly Garden. Certifying the garden re-commits the library and the Friends to continuing to promote a habitat for butterflies as well as other pollinators. Requirements to receive certification include having at least 3 different native caterpillar plants and at least 3 different native butterfly nectar sources and not using harmful pesticides.

The Master Gardeners work tirelessly in the Reading garden trimming, pruning, weeding, and sometimes watering. If you have not been into the garden recently, stop by and see our new Butterfly certification sign and enjoy the spring weather!

The Honor Roll of Friends

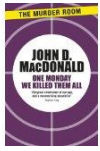
We want to acknowledge the following returning and new members of the Friends of Fruitville Library. If you don't find your name here, please let us know that you want to continue to support the Fruitville Library through membership in the Friends. If you have acquaintances who are not members of the Friends, please let them know that you value your library and support it in this way.

The Sarasota County Library Foundation * Joe & Susanne Amico * Ann Angars * Alfonso Bardales * James Brady * Don & Carol Anderson * Elizabeth Anderson * Norma Barada * Pat & Shelby Black * Ellen C. Blumenstein * Claire C. Bolger * Brook Bowman * Joan & Richard Boyce * Frank & Elizabeth Cassell * Belinda Chase, Pat Chattaway * Patrick Cosgrove * Karen Crawford * Ida Cuthbertson * Janet Daylor * Ingrid Dean * Fran Delapenha * William & Evelyn Eddins * Douglas Ferry * Patricia Forbush * Sheri Francis * Samuel & Rona Gahr * Mackarness Goode * Linda Gorden * Marilyn Gormley * Ruth Grain * LeRoy & Mary Hasselbring * Mary Hill * Denise Hodgson * Dee Homer * Georgia & Mike Huff * Alvin Hyman * Ann Ivey * Janet Jelinek * Carol Jensen * Rosann Kelly * David Kessler & Susan Serling * Mindy Kates Leviton * Rebecca Ann Litwiler * Mary Kehoe * John & Barb Kerwin * Melvin & Karen

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Book Notes by Valerie Oakley

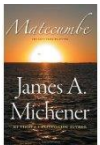
Because of the county-wide celebration of John D. MacDonald's 100th birthday, I dipped into two of his books: *One Monday We Killed Them All* and *The Deep Blue Good-bye*. Those led me to look at other Florida books by authors not necessarily known for writing about Florida, including James Michener and William McKeen.



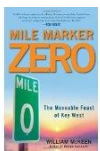
The MacDonald books are good beach reading. *One Monday We Killed Them All* is narrated by a police lieutenant in a small panhandle town, whose brother-in-law has recently been released from prison where he'd been incarcerated for manslaughter. Some reviews called it ponderous; and there is indeed a lot of information about law enforcement, the judicial system and what makes a man do evil things. However, MacDonald's turns of phrase kept me going. Describing the felon, the narrator says "Where a man doesn't fit in the pattern of most people, you might as well try guessing how high a bird will fly on Tuesday." He describes his wife this way: "She was a girl to stand tall and proud against you, filling your arms and your heart." And on the Monday in question, one character described the national media concentration on the final shoot-out: "while it was going on, it was like being trapped in a fireworks factory along with a thousand starving ducks, after being rolled through an acre of poison ivy."



The Deep Blue Goodbye introduces us to Travis McGee: "salvage consultant...knight errant." It sets the stage for the 21 books that follow: lots of beautiful women, some damsels in distress, expensive boats, and cars, and extravagant life styles. In contrast, Travis lives aboard his boat, the Busted Flush, in a Fort Lauderdale marina. (There is a plaque at Slip F16, dedicated to the barge-like boat, designated a Literary Landmark in February, 1987). It is not really a case of "you've read one, you've read them all," but you can count on the basics, which, in my opinion, adds to the growth and development of the character. You know Travis McGee by the end of the first book (or even before the end) and you know that he will do whatever he can to save the damsel, sail the boat, drive the car, bring the bad guys to justice, rough or legal.



Another FL book, is *Matecumbe*, by James Michener. The back story is almost better, for me, than the main work. *Matecumbe* tells the story of two women, mother and daughter, both of whom are divorced and looking to find their own way in an uncertain world. Mary Ann, the mother, struggles to keep her four girls clothed and fed after her husband leaves her. Her oldest daughter, Melissa, becomes a reference librarian in Philadelphia, and it is her story we hear. The afterword, written by Joe Avenick, details the development of *Matecumbe*, and his involvement with this and other works of Michener's. He ghost-wrote parts of Michener's major novels, including *Chesapeake*, and "several magazine articles that appeared under [Michener's] name in *The Saturday Evening Post* and in *Reader's Digest*." After Michener died, Avenick submitted *Matecumbe* to the University Press of Florida. He says Michener was inspired by the symbolism and allegory of Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* and felt "Instead of a fisherman, I finally have found my vehicle – two divorced women...I need *Matecumbe* to exhale slowly all of the symbols and allegories." Avenick feels the resulting novella is not exactly Michener, but "Michener Plus" and suggests readers weigh "possible alternate/hidden meanings," such as the recurring mention of the color blue. There are a number of other things to look for, and reading the afterword first may strengthen the main work for you.



For a completely different look at Florida and the Keys give *Mile Marker Zero* by William McKeen a try. The subtitle "The Moveable Feast of Key West" gives a clue to its contents and the jacket blurb says it all: True tales of writers and pirates, painters and potheads, guitar pickers and drug merchants in America's southernmost city. Hunter S. Thompson, Jimmy Buffet, Thomas McGuane and a whole boatload of artists and writers "wove a web of creative inspiration," and through it all built lasting friendships. The parties and bed-hopping tend to wear the reader out, but they are all part of what makes Key West Key West. Now the large cruise ships dock for the day and flood Duval Street with even more tourists, but I suspect you can still rub elbows with some pretty interesting people. In 1991 I had the good fortune to attend one of the Key West Literary Society seminars, where William Stryon, Peter Matthiessen, Jan Morris, Patrick Smith, Calvin Trillin, Thomas McGuane, Robert Stone and others spoke, mingled and were generally accessible in typical "Florida friendly" fashion.

Two other books on Florida are worth mentioning: Lee Standiford's *Last Train to Paradise: Henry Flagler and the spectacular rise and fall of the railroad that crossed the ocean* and *A Land Remembered*, by Patrick D. Smith.



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FRUITVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Fruitville Public Library www.friendsofthefruitvillelibrary.org
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Our Membership Year Runs from October 2015– October 2016, but it's never too late to join and support the Friends.

*** * * Membership Fees Are Tax Deductible * * *THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**