

The Brooks Reader

Brooks Memorial Library
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Brattleboro, VT 05301



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The Brooks Reader

The Newsletter of the Friends of Brooks Memorial Library



Summer/Fall 2011

Notes from the Friends

Robert A. Oeser, Friends President

It seemed to me, as I kept remembering all this, that those times and those summers had been infinitely precious and worth saving. There had been jollity and peace and goodness.

E. B. White, "Once More to the Lake,"
Essays of E. B. White, 1979

As summer turns toward fall, and we start to feel breezes not yet cold, it is perhaps time to look back at some of the events of those warmer days:

- New officers of the Friends Board of Directors were elected at the Annual Meeting on May 15. They are **Robert Oeser, President**, **Frances Gibson, Vice President**, **Mary Ide, Secretary**, and **Connie Kimball, Treasurer**.



- At that meeting we were graced with performances by singer-songwriters **Susannah Blachly and Patti Casey**.

- The Friends of the Library raised just over \$5,100 at the book sale that began the day before the Strolling of the Heifers and continued through the month of June.

- The Friends provided \$395 this year for some printing costs associated with the Children's Room summer reading program, "One World, Many Stories."
- Some \$1,260 of the monies raised by the Friends was used to purchase museum passes, and to fund the software program to keep track of the checkout

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First Wednesdays Lecture Series Returns

When the trees turn their fall colors, a new series of the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesdays lectures begins in October at Brooks Library. Lectures begin at 7 p.m. in the library's **Main Room** on the **first Wednesday of each month**. Programs this fall are described below.

October 5 *The Great Wave: New England Misfits, Japanese Eccentrics, and the Opening of Old Japan*

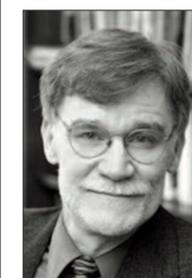


Mount Holyoke College professor **Christopher Benfey** considers how Gilded Age New England intellectuals, disaffected by America's materialistic culture, treasured the image of "Old Japan," while the Japanese looked to New England for how to Westernize their country.

November 2 *100 Years Since Triangle: The Fire That Seared a Nation's Conscience*



Dartmouth professor **Annelise Orleck** reflects on the 1911 fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in Greenwich Village, which killed 146 workers, mostly young immigrant women, and spurred major legal changes.



December 7 *American Oracle: The Civil War in the Civil Rights Era*

David Blight, Yale professor and acclaimed author of *Race and Reunion*, looks back to the Civil War's centennial to determine how Americans made sense of the suffering, loss, and liberation a century earlier—and explores the gulf between remembrance and

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On Exhibit at the Library

Main Floor

August **Green Mountain Club**, photographs & other material celebrating the anniversary of the Long Trail

September **Fermata Arts**, Latvian children's art

October **Ann Reed**, assemblage, photos

November **Brattleboro Camera Club**, black-and-white and color photos

Mezzanine cases

ongoing selections from the library's **Henrietta Loud Collection**

Second-floor Entryway cases

October/November **Brattleboro Mineralogy Club**

August **Exotic beetles and insects** from a local collector

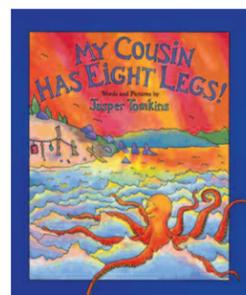
September selections from the library's **Fine Arts Collection**

Children's Book Illustrators cabinet (second floor)

August Continuing is **Jane Marinsky's** exhibit of her illustrations for *The Goat-Faced Girl*, an updated rendition of a traditional Italian folk tale written in an updated 21st-century version by her daughter.



September/October **Jasper Tomkins** is an award-winning author/illustrator of 11 books (so far), including *The Catalog*, *My Cousin Has Eight Legs*, and *The Camelback Dogs*. His bright, colorful illustrations reflect his lively interests in just about everything, especially nature.



Friend the Friends of Brooks
Memorial Library on Facebook!

A New Strategic Plan for the Library

Jerry Carbone, Library Director

Back in 1991 the library had one or two computers for the staff and a couple of public access computers; there was no Internet, nor were there CDs or DVDs to check out. But we knew that change was on the horizon, so a planning committee was established by the library's board to create a vision of what the library would look like in 1995. At that time people were satisfied with books, videotapes, audio cassette tapes, and a phone call to the reference librarian to look something up. Libraries—and the world—have changed dramatically in the past 20 years.

Four strategic plans later, in 2011 a new Strategic



Planning Committee of trustees, staff, and citizens is once again looking at the library's place in the

community and attempting to create a vision for the upcoming years. In 2007's strategic plan, the Board of Trustees adopted six library service responses to guide our activities for the following five years. Throughout this year and into 2012, we will be examining and evaluating these responses to see if they need updating, and considering whether new ones need to be addressed in the new plan

The committee will review newly released 2010 census data and assess library statistics such as circulation, library visits, registered borrowers (both resident and nonresident), program attendance, reference transactions, resources, and availability. We will also look at trends in demographics, technology, and service delivery.

In addition, the committee will certainly consider how space is allocated in the library. The building will be 50 years old in 2017. Although its footprint has not grown since 1967, its interior space has been reconfigured several times over the years, to allow for new services and resources without additional construction.

Considering the future

Twenty years ago we could little imagine what is available to us now: access to high speed Internet, downloadable eAudio and eBooks, and streaming video. The library presently has 20 public access computers that are busy from opening to closing. Although the speed of these computers is sometimes sluggish, fiber optic connectivity, on the horizon because of the stimulus fund grants of 2010, will spur demand for new services and hardware. Opportunities will

open for remote classes, lectures, and workshops, as well as for using the technology for collaborative meetings.

What skills will the typical library staff worker need to be successful? And what will the growth of mobile technology mean for resource delivery? What new demands and expectations will arise with the proliferation of powerful mobile devices that are constantly "on"? As futurist thinker Alvin Toffler put it, "The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."

However, the new plan will need to take into account the murky fiscal picture for Brattleboro, including contractions in the Grand List and little economic development, as well as a slight decline in the town's population. We are also aware that the state's population is aging. What does this mean for future financial support and for the services the library will be able to deliver?

Community input

We look to the community to help us plan for the future. In order for the new strategic plan to be effective, we will focus on results—service to the community and what people get in return for their support—and we will insure that the plan's development is a group process, build evaluation into the plan, and make sure the plan is ongoing and continuous.

To accomplish these goals and implement the process, the Strategic Planning Committee will gather and synthesize information from library users and the community. A Library Community Task Force will be established, whose members will be selected to represent different populations and interests within the community.

The Task Force will participate in a four-hour focus group—style forum on Thursday, September 29. Facilitated by Amy Howlett of the Vermont Department of Libraries, the forum will address three questions: What is the library doing well? What could be improved? and What should the library's priorities be in the next few years?

The library staff will also be asked for suggestions, and for their reactions to the information resulting from the community forum. In addition, a survey will be made available to all, at the library and online, during October.

Then the Committee will host a second community forum for the Task Force on Thursday, November 3. Following that meeting, the Committee will synthesize the data from all sources and build goals and objectives into the new plan.

The Committee has set a goal to have the 2012–16 strategic plan approved by the Board of Trustees at its June 2012 meeting.

Pamela Becker, New Library Trustee

I have been a Brattleboro resident since 1977, when I moved here while attending Antioch New England University to get a masters degree in education. From the time I began teaching in 1978 until retiring last year, I worked in the Brattleboro public schools as a teacher of kindergarten or first, second, or third grades.

My undergraduate degree was in English literature from Brooklyn College in New York City. Prior to moving to Vermont, I was a Peace Corps volunteer for two years in South Korea, where I taught English as a second language and then worked as a trainer for new Peace Corps volunteers for another year.

For the past two years, I have been a member of the library's Trivia Contest committee. That service taught me more about the behind-the-scenes work involved in fundraising for programs. I am very pleased to be the newest member of the library's Board of Trustees and look forward to serving the community while enjoying this new experience.

— Pam Becker

A New Addition

In December, Assistant Children's Librarian **Lindsay Bellville and her husband, Jim**, welcomed their first child, a son, whom they named **Greyson Joseph**. Greyson made his debut a bit earlier than expected, but has been growing by leaps and bounds to make up for it and is keeping mom and dad (and grandmothers Loretta and Sue) on their toes! His favorite books are *Pajama Time* by Sandra Boynton, *Tubby* by Leslie Patricelli, and *That's Not My Bear* by Fiona Watt.



procedure for those passes, which are available to Brooks Library cardholders. A casual check of the library's website (www.brooks.lib.vt.us) on a recent day showed that 300 passes to 12 museums and state parks were available for checkout 30 days in advance. However, if one were to wait to the last minute to reserve, only about 10 possible passes were then available for checkout. The moral to this story: Reserve your museum passes early; don't miss out!

- Appeals have been sent out to community organizations to enlist sponsorship of the popular First Wednesdays program for the 2011–12 season, which begins October 5. The Friends have contributed \$2,500 a year in past years to support this program and undoubtedly will provide support again this season.

- In the past year, the Friends contributed \$3,900 in matching funds to secure the Gates Foundation grant for enhancing computer services at the library.

- Funds raised by the Friends also underwrite the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter, as well as providing other equipment, sundry supplies, and other services in support of library programs.

- A major source of revenue for the Friends is memberships; this year the membership total stands at \$4,615, down 12% from last year. If you are not already a member, please consider joining. **See the membership form on page 5.**

reality. A VERMONT READS/BIG READ* EVENT SPONSORED BY THE BRATTLEBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS PROGRAMS ARE SPONSORED IN PART BY THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES THROUGH THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES. ADDITIONAL SPONSORS ARE (FOR THE VHC) BRATTLEBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY, DAKIN & BENELLI, P.C.; AND KSE PARTNERS, LLP; (FOR BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY) BRATTLEBORO SAVINGS AND LOAN; DOWNS RACHLIN MARTIN, PLLC; THE FRIENDS OF BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY; AND WINDHAM WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VERMONT.

* *Big Read* is a community reading program, similar to the Vermont Humanities Council's Vermont Reads, funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.



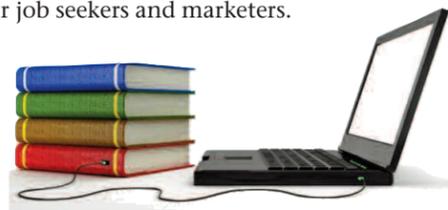
In fiscal year 2011, Brooks was able to upgrade its online resources at no additional cost over 2010 thanks to statewide buying power, support from the Department of Libraries, and our own local negotiations with vendors. The VOL expanded, adding a *Career Resource Center* and a biography database that enabled us to drop a local subscription to a product with similar content. And we negotiated with our long-term vendor ReferenceUSA for better pricing on their directory database, which is a valuable tool for job seekers and marketers.

With the money saved, we invested in a bigger, more useful version of the popular *NoveList* database, a fun and informative source to help readers find their next great book. Our previous *NoveList* subscription was limited to fiction, but *NoveList Plus* includes nonfiction, and there is a companion database, *NoveList K-8*, with a kid-friendly interface.

We also added another online book to our Gale Online Reference Library. Called the *Gale Encyclopedia of Diets*, it's a great first stop if you're asking the question Would the Atkins/Ornish/Raw Food/Vegan (fill in the blank) diet be helpful for me? It gives basic info on each diet, including origins, benefits, precautions, and summaries of important research, with citations to specific articles. It reports on benefits and potential hazards of specific foods and explores topics like the "French Paradox" (i.e., how can the inventors of crême brûlée have lower rates of heart disease?).

Recently the Department of Libraries announced that we can expect another gift in the fall: VOL libraries and their patrons will have access to *Universal Class*, a product that enables lifelong learners to take online classes for personal enrichment and for professional training and licensing.

For free access to all these riches, visit the library's website www.brooks.lib.vt.us. If you're searching from home, have your library card handy, because you will need your card number to access the databases. Mobile users, check the app store for some of the library's database vendors, including Gale, EBSCO, and Mango. And don't hesitate to call or e-mail the Reference Desk if you have questions: 802-254-5290 x109 or asklibrarian@brooks.lib.vt.us.



On the Road with Porter Thayer and the History of the Town Photographer

Staff member **Jessica Weitz** and her husband, local photographer/historian **Forrest Holzapfel**, are taking the Porter Thayer Digital Project on the road this late-summer and fall at three locations. Please join them for free public talks and discussions about the work of Windham County photographer Porter Thayer and the history of local town photographers across the United States at the turn of the 20th century:

Friday, August 26, 6:45 pm

Historical Society of Windham County, Newfane, Vt.

Thursday, September 29, 7 pm

Wardsboro Town Hall, Wardsboro, Vt.

Sunday, October 23, 3 pm

Townshend Historical Society, Townshend, Vt.

Weitz, collaborating with staff at the University of Vermont's Center for Digital Initiatives, has been cataloging and digitizing the 1,300 images left by area photographer Porter Thayer (1882–1972). Held in the collection of Brooks Library, Thayer's photographs have been available to the public only through microfilm. By digitizing these stunning large-format images, the library means to create free and open access for the general public. In addition, the library hopes to collect new information from the local public about the people and places shown in the pictures.

Holzapfel's slide presentation, "The Town Photographer in Vermont," will put Thayer's work in the context of photography at that historical point, and show how his photographs have defined Vermont's social and landscape history.

This project is funded with grants from the Windham Foundation and supported in part by the Vermont Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or the Vermont Humanities Council.

Boy Scouts Fishing on South Pond, Marlboro. Porter Thayer Collection, in Local History/ Genealogy Collection, Brooks Memorial Library



Magazines: Comings and Goings

Jessica Weitz, Serials Clerk and Technical Services Assistant

The world of magazines is in flux these days, along with the rest of the publishing world. Some magazines have ceased their print publications but continue to create digital issues. Some have folded into other titles, unable to continue existing on their own. Here is an update on the changes to our magazine holdings, including new titles we have subscribed to:

New Magazines



• *Everyday Food* by Martha Stewart; on the mezzanine, 641.5 EVE.

• *Living Crafts*; on the mezzanine, 746 LIV.

• *Islamic Horizons*; on the magazine shelves.



Changing Magazines

• *Mothering* magazine has ceased publication and is being replaced by *Natural Life*; on the mezzanine, 649 NAT.



• *Pack O' Fun* has ceased publication and is being incorporated into *Crafts 'n Things*; on the magazine shelves.

• *Ski* magazine has ceased publication.

• *Living* magazine has ceased publication.

• *Antiques and Collecting* has ceased publication and will be incorporated into a new magazine called *Treasures*, which we should start receiving this month.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Weitz at Jessica@brooks.lib.vt.us for questions relating to print magazines, and Jeanne Walsh at Jeanne@brooks.lib.vt.us for database access to magazines and other periodicals.



Weekly Reader at Hilltop House

Carol Corwin, Friends member

I stopped at Hilltop House one Wednesday afternoon to see my friends Winnie and Lois. They were in the parlor for their weekly reading time with **Marshall Wheelock**. In his strong voice he was reading an article from the *Brattleboro Reformer*. After some other news items, he closed the session with some poetry that everyone listened to attentively.

Marshall, a volunteer from Brooks Library, has been doing this for two years. He says it takes two or more hours each week to prepare. He reads through the *Reformer* every day and chooses articles that he feels will be of interest to his listeners, and that might inspire some discussion afterwards.

Lois Sinclair, probably like many of the other participants, has failing eyesight which prevents her from reading, so she very much enjoys this time, especially the poetry. She recited *Abou Ben Adhem** from memory for Marshall after he read it to the group, and then later for me.

This is just one more of the library's wonderful programs, started a few years ago, that many people aren't aware of.

* by James Henry Leigh Hunt (1784–1859)

Online Resources: Getting More for our Money

Jeanne Walsh, Reference Librarian

Lending libraries are a great resource for tightwads and penny-pinchers. Our traditional role is to buy one copy of something and share it around. When we don't own a title, we borrow it on interlibrary loan, and, because fair is fair, we lend our materials to other libraries so their patrons can share in the wealth. In the long run, all this sharing helps create a literate society, which is good for our communities and good for the publishing industry, too.

Sharing and frugality are still core library values as information migrates from print to online and mobile formats. For example, the library subscribes to *General Onefile* and the *Auto Repair Reference Center* so that our patrons can obtain free online articles from magazines and journals and free online instructions for fixing their cars. Anyone can search these databases at the library, and cardholders can also search them from home. Some databases also have apps for smart phones and other mobile devices. So the tradition continues: the library invests, and the whole community benefits.

We take frugality to another level by uniting with other libraries to secure good rates for these online and mobile resources. For example, we obtain downloadable e-books and audiobooks, plus the Mango languages database, through the Green Mountain Library Consortium, a project started by some enterprising Vermont librarians several years ago. And the Vermont Department of Libraries, with limited but valuable federal support, offers resources at reasonable prices through a consortium called the Vermont Online Library (VOL). *continued on page 10*



VOLUNTEERS

Therese Marcy, Volunteer Coordinator

As I reflect on the volunteer statistics for the first half of 2011, I note that 51 volunteers have worked 1,772 hours. I also realize that many of them have been volunteering for years. Most perform a specific job on a weekly basis, while others work as needed on special projects. All told, I calculate the equivalent of 223 years of service among our current volunteers.

I decided to look at some of the reasons given for wanting to volunteer at the library as stated on the volunteer applications:

"I have had a great appreciation for books for as long as I can remember."

"I love libraries! J"

"To contribute to a vital community service."

"Wow—because we need to keep the library available for all."

"I like books and putting them in order."

"Looking to get to know my Brattleboro neighbors. I love the library and want to help support it."

"I want to support local community...especially the library as a resource."

"Because the library is an active and friendly place and I love books."

"I like being around books and people and this is a good way to do both."

"Libraries have helped me out with so much and I'd like to pay it forward. Plus, any library with a Children's Room like this one has to be cool."

"I wish to both 'give back' to the library which has provided services to me for decades and 'help out' the professional staff."

As the role of libraries in the 21st century changes, so do the roles that volunteers play. Here are some of the latest volunteer contributions:

- helping to determine an appropriate sound system for library programs and setting it up for First Wednesdays
- making the library catalog searchable from Brooks's home page on the Web
- making a QRM (Quick Response Matrix barcode) that is readable with a smart phone
- assisting with workshops to introduce patrons to downloadable audiobooks and e-books
- fashioning hooks for displaying the Holocaust posters from the mezzanine
- designing program posters and bookmarks

- filming and editing the First Wednesdays programs for BCTV and making the DVD available for circulation at the library
- collaborating with doctors and healthcare professionals to have resources that are recommended by them available for circulation at the library as well as promoting the library collection, databases, and resources
- staffing the Local History Room on Saturdays (Brattleboro Historical Society volunteers)

It is clear that the library volunteers do what they love, love what they do, and do it well. By sharing their talents and time, they make a big difference in the quality of service and in the day-to-day operations of the library. For this, we cannot thank them enough.

I would also like to thank two volunteers who are now members of the staff. **Jay Fee** volunteered 189 hours in less than two years before being hired as part of the circulation staff. **Jiyl Barrows** volunteered 200 hours in a year and a half before becoming a member of the custodial staff.

We welcome 10 new volunteers this year: **Eric Bloomquist, Julia Etter, Natalie Harding, Melissa Hays, Daniel Kaznitz, Peg Lopata, Marcella Pearl, Josh Rosenblum, Kathryn Turnas, and Elin Waagen.** We have bid farewell to **Robin Allen, Robin Harney, Mike Horan, Stephen Howard, Pindaro Lockhardt, and Stephen Washkevich.**

Thank you!

IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

Lindsay Bellville, Assistant Children's Librarian

We congratulate the children and thank the community for making this year's Summer Reading Program a success. One hundred sixty-six children ages birth to nine participated in our "One World, Many Stories" program, and 29 children ages 10 to 12 participated in the Children's Room's "You Are Here" program. Congratulations to all the children on a job well done, and a big thank-you to their parents who helped to motivate them to read all summer long.

This summer we traveled the world, at least according to our "passports"! Each week, children searched for a small paper suitcase hidden somewhere in the Children's Room. When they found and opened it, and told a staff member what item was packed inside, they received a stamp and sticker in their passport corresponding to the continent featured that week. The more they visited the library, the more stamps and stickers they received.

We made didgeridoos, maracas, and tambourines at our "Making Music" craft workshops, and sun catchers and mini mirror balls out of old CDs at our "Junktastic" workshop. Children helped to brighten the Children's Room by decorating paper hot air balloons that encircled the ceiling.

Continuing the travel theme, our Monday Movie Matinees featured *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa*, *Mulan*, and *Around the World in 80 Days*. The summer wrapped up with an Around the World party, which had children globe-trotting around the world again, this time in under two hours!

Thanks to all the people, companies, and organizations the Children's Room depends on to help make our summer reading program a success year after year. It is only through the continued support from our community that we are able to provide this valuable summer program. Our sincere appreciation goes to

★ our Children's Room volunteers **Wendy Houlihan, John Kristensen, Gabriel Lurz, Katie Reynolds, Marybeth Sweeney, Teddi Tucci, and Grace Willingham** for all the help and extra hours they put in during the summer—from keeping up with the increased shelving demands as circulation increases to helping out at special events;

★ the **Friends of Brooks Memorial Library** for their generous support, from printing the flyers and bookmark that are sent to area schools, to purchasing decorations for the Children's Room, to supporting the weekly craft tables, to funding new costumes for the dress-up carousel;

★ **Coldwell Banker Bellville Realty** for sponsoring our "Monday Movie Matinee" series for the fifth year in a row. The movie matinee program is made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Vermont Department of Libraries, which purchases the movie license allowing us to show the movies;

★ **Domino's Pizza** for their continued support by donating coupons for free pizza to every child who met his or her reading goal;

★ I personally thank my fellow Children's Room staff members **Sandra King, Sue Meachem, Marybeth Fleming, John Kilduff, and Judy Koopmann** for all their hard work during our busiest time of the year;

★ and thank you to the **Vermont Department of Libraries** and the **Collaborative Summer Library Program** for developing such a fun and interesting program!

2011 Summer Reading Program



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The Friends is a nonprofit volunteer organization supporting Brooks Memorial Library through annual Book Sales; by funding purchases of materials, equipment, furniture, and fine arts; by sponsoring children's programs and author programs; and by publishing this newsletter.

2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP (January–December): Friend \$15–\$49; Student/Senior \$10. Membership forms available at the library's main desk.

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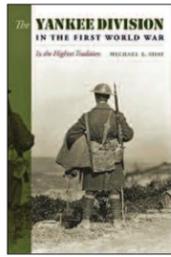
* Friends liaison



eye-opening"). A popular speaker and instructor at writing conferences around the country, she is also the author of *Toxic Feedback: Helping Writers Survive and Thrive*.

She lives in Vermont with her husband, two daughters, aloof cat, and devoted dog.

Stout-Hearted Lads: Maj. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards and the Yankee Division in the First World War



Michael E. Shay is a superior court judge for the State of Connecticut. He is also an avid historian and the author of *The Yankee Division in the First World War: In the Highest Tradition*. Please join Judge Shay on **Wednesday, November 9, at 7 p.m. in the Meeting Room** for a reading and discussion of

his book, which tells the division's story from the viewpoint of the doughboys themselves through their letters and diaries.

The 26th ("Yankee") Division of the New England National Guard was the first fully formed division to assemble "over there." It and three other divisions were in all of the battles fought by the American Expeditionary Forces, and of 29 combat divisions, these four suffered almost 30 percent of all the casualties.

They were formed and brought to France by Maj. Gen. Clarence Ransom Edwards, who had a long and distinguished military career. However, he is best known for earning the enmity of John J. Pershing, who relieved him three weeks before the Armistice. The Yankee Division suffered from this, and from the fact that Pershing did not like National Guard troops, often publicly referring to them as "Boy Scouts." The reputation of both the division and the man are inexorably entwined, and Shay's talk will explore this relationship, as well as the gallant service of the New England National Guard in France.

Michael Shay holds a masters degree in American studies. His lifelong interest in history and genealogy led him to write his first book on the Yankee Division, *A Grateful Heart: The History of a World War I Field Hospital*, about the 103rd Field Hospital in which his grandfather served. He is currently at work on two other books, one about the Philippine War (1898-1902) and another one on the Yankee Division.

Author Nancy Kilgore Reads from *Sea Level*

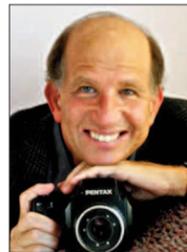


Nancy Kilgore will discuss her novel, *Sea Level*, in the library's **Meeting Room on Wednesday, November 16, at 7 p.m.**

Sea Level begins in 1980 when Brigid Peterson becomes the first woman minister in a remote town in Virginia. Women's roles are in flux, and Brigid's parishioners are apprehensive about their new minister. When she preaches about the female aspect of God, the church is thrown into turmoil. Brigid becomes submerged in conflict and has to dive deeper into her own spiritual life to find the way out.

Nancy Kilgore lives and writes in Vermont and works as a pastoral psychotherapist in Hanover, New Hampshire. She is an ordained minister and has served as interim pastor of Congregational, Presbyterian, and Unitarian churches. Kilgore studied writing at Columbia University and the Radcliffe Seminars and has published short stories in several journals. *Sea Level* is her first novel.

Peter Simon: A Visual Record of His Generation



Photographer and author **Peter Simon** will present a slide show of his photographs, taken for his 2001 book, *I and Eye: Pictures of My Generation*, in the library's **Meeting Room on Friday, November 18, at 7 p.m.**

I and Eye is an astonishing record of the far-ranging experiences of Simon's generation, in which he has captured many of the major figures and events—in both the mainstream and the counterculture—of the past 40 years. Among his many eclectic subjects are the "New Age" quest for spirituality, reggae culture, the Grateful Dead, the New York Mets, and life on Martha's Vineyard.

Peter Simon is a nationally acclaimed photographer, photojournalist, author, music historian, and instructor who has turned his enthusiasms into a highly entertaining and insightful career of articles, books, CDs, fine art prints, and calendars. His work has been published in many newspapers and magazines, including *Time*, *Newsweek*, *People*, *Village Voice*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Cape Cod Life*, *Boston Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and *Rolling Stone*.



Friends of Brooks Memorial Library Annual Membership

I want to become a member or renew my membership in the Friends of Brooks Memorial Library for January through December 2011.

Membership categories \$10 Student/Senior \$50-\$99 Sponsor
New Renewal \$15-\$49 Friend \$100+ Benefactor

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PHONE () _____ () _____
day evening

E-MAIL(S) _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____ (Any contribution above the \$15 Friend membership is tax deductible.)

Please make checks payable to *FRIENDS OF BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY* and mail to us at *Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301*.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to help with activities sponsored by the Friends, please check your preferences below.

- Serve on the Friends of the Library Board**
- Set-up and clean-up at annual meeting**
- Make refreshments**
- Write articles for newsletter**
- Newsletter mailing**
- Annual Book Sale**
(feel free to check more than one!):
 - Presort books into categories
 - Publicity
 - Set up the day before the sale
 - Sell books during the sale
 - Help with clean-up and disposal of unsold books



