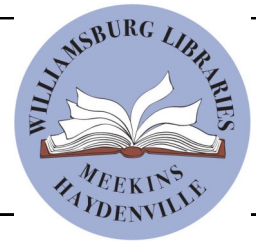


# Williamsburg Public Libraries

## Fall/Winter 2011 Newsletter



### October Events

Neil Hammer Gallery- Hawks-Hayden Room ~ "Our Animal Friends" Reception Saturday, October 22 2-4 p.m. call for a ride ~ see article

"Days of the Dead" altar & celebration ~ Bring in your photos, remembrances of friends, family and pets for our table- October 15-November 10

Thursdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Council on Aging Writing Group- all welcome

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. ~Pre-school story time with Rochelle Wildfong

October 13<sup>th</sup> ~7:00-8:30 p.m. Jim Wrobley of Broadstone Sustainable Green Design presents - "Prepping Your Home for Winter"

October 19<sup>th</sup>~7:30 p.m. "The Intentional Landscape: From Public Spaces to Private Inspiration~ **Creating Gardens in the Public Realm**, a talk by **Nicholas Dines** first of a three part fall garden series presented by the WMMGA. See article

October 22<sup>nd</sup>~10 a.m. "Best Kept Secrets about Writing Short-Stories" with short- story author Linda McCullough ~Hawks-Hayden Room

October 23<sup>rd</sup>~Sunday-10 a.m. - 4 p.m. – Friends of the Library CHILIFEST at the Grange and Williamsburg Arts & Crafts Festival

October 26<sup>th</sup>~ 7 p.m. Book Discussion~ **Talk Funny Girl** by **Merullo**, **State of Wonder** by **Patchett** and other summer reads - sign up please

October 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday - 3 p.m. ~ Last Spanish conversation and comida until March with Gloria Black.

October 31<sup>st</sup>! HAPPY HALLOWEEN- Stop by Meekins for a treat!

### Williamsburg Libraries Hours and Services

Mondays: 2:30-5:00 (Tweens/Teens only ages 11-18)

Tuesdays: 12-5

Wednesdays: 10-8

Thursdays: 3-8

Saturdays: 9-3

Serving the Williamsburg Schools Tuesdays and Thursdays

Haydenville Library Hours:

Open thanks to the work of volunteers- Call ahead for possible changes- 268-8406

Tuesdays: 2-4

Thursdays: 2-5

Dear Reader,

Welcome to our fall newsletter! Autumn's here and we are busy with all the usual activities and preparations each of us takes on every year as life's most colorful season finally turns toward the white stillness of winter's dark afternoons. ...ahhh - the perfect time for a good book, movie or music! At the library a time for staff and volunteers to organize & schedule new programs to entertain you during the coming seasons, also time to prepare fall's newest books, magazines, DVD's and books on CD for you to check out. And for those of you who want to try something new--soon you will be able to borrow e-readers such as the Nook, Kindle, and two different MP3 players at the Meekins Library.

The Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees, The Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Library Staff and Volunteers have put together this newsletter of information about how library support groups work, as well as news about what's happening here at the Williamsburg Libraries. Special thanks to Joan Coryat, Susan Farrell, Bobbin Young, Rochelle Wildfong, Michele Morales, Daria D'Arienzo and the Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees, George Fleck and Sienna Wildfield for contributions to the Newsletter.

Enjoy—and as always, happy reading!

Lisa Wenner  
Library Director

*WOOF WOOF ! Especially for Kids!*  
Reading to Dogs Returns to Meekins on Wednesdays



WHY READ TO A DOG? It's a fun relaxing way to practice reading out loud. Dogs are attentive listeners and never criticize you! There's still space to sign up for a 20-minute slot drop by Meekins or call the library at 268-7472. All dogs are registered therapy pets, certified through Bright Spots Therapy Pets, Inc. Through December.

## November Events

Neil Hammer Gallery- Hawks-Hayden Room~  
Todd Lynch oil paintings "Vegetable Portraits"  
opening reception on Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup> from  
1-3 p.m. in the Hawks-Hayden Room

Wednesdays at 10:30 p.m. ~Pre-school story time  
with Rochelle Wildfong

Thursdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Council on  
Aging Writing Group- all welcome ~

November 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:30 p.m. ~"The Intentional Land-  
scape: From Public Spaces to Private Inspiration~  
**Renovating the Older Landscape**, a talk by  
Barbara Ferrante Bricker presented by the West-  
ern Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association

November 15<sup>th</sup>~ 6:30-9:30 p.m. --- **The Im-  
portance of Creative Play in a Commercialized  
World with Dr. Susan Linn**, author of *The Case  
for Make Believe*. In an era when toys come from  
television and media companies sell videos as  
brain-builders for babies, Linn lays out the  
inextricable links between play, creativity, and  
health, showing us how and why to preserve the  
space for make believe that children need to be  
happy and to become productive adults. Dr. Linn  
will speak about her book and help generate ideas  
for preserving non-commercialized creative play  
especially around the holidays. Q&A session and  
book signing to follow. For more information  
email hilltownfamilies@gmail.com.

November 17<sup>th</sup> ~7:30 p.m. "The Intentional Land-  
scape: From Public Spaces to Private Inspiration~  
**Materials, Methods and Maintenance for a  
Lasting Landscape**, a talk by G. Jay Vinskey,  
presented by the WMMGA

**November 19<sup>th</sup>~ Meekins Market and Our An-  
nual Food and Clothing Drive for People and  
Pets** ~ The Meekins Market returns for its 4th  
year from November 19th through December  
31st, 2011. Find a gift for someone special,  
donate a coat or sweater to keep someone warm,  
add some hearty food items to the Hilltown  
Pantry and Northampton Survival Center, and  
bring a treat for our furry friends at the Dakin  
Animal Shelter. Stop in for these gifting and  
giving opportunities.

## Get ready for



### Introducing Evergreen – our new circulation and Public Access Catalog system

As we get ready to migrate to the new Evergreen system over the New Year's holiday, there are some things you need to know about the new catalog. **Some functions cannot be moved from the current system to Evergreen.** Patrons should make note of the following changes:

**Reading History and Wish List:** Unfortunately due to patron privacy we will not be able to move these lists over to the new system. **You can save** both your Reading History and your Wish Lists **by using the "Export List" button** when you are in your account. **Do this BY THANKSGIVING 2011.** We recommend using the **"Brief Export" option:** this will give you the Title, Author, and Published lines for the titles in your lists. You can either display these on your screen to print or have them emailed as a text file to your email address.

**Virtual Catalog:** On **November 1st**, the connection to the Massachusetts Virtual Catalog will be disabled. Patrons will still be able to request titles from their local catalog. Connection across the network will be reset when we finish moving from our present system to the new system.

#### Highlights:

**Only one catalog!** All C/W MARS libraries, Central and Western, will be shown in the new catalog.

**Patrons will have the option to create a username.** You will have the option to use either your library card or create a username for login to the catalog.

**Current PIN.** When you log into the new catalog for the first time, you will use the *last four digits of your library card number as your PIN.* You will be asked to create a new password at that time.

**Public lists.** Want to show off that new reading list? You will have the option to make your lists available on the internet through an RSS feed.

**Outstanding holds.** Patrons will have any outstanding holds moved to the new system.

Patrons of public libraries will use the current catalog through the fall, and a final switch-over date will be announced later on. Up to date information will also be available on the C/W MARS website.

Bobbin Young, Technical Services

## December Events

Neil Hammer Gallery- Hawks-Hayden Room~  
Shirley Cranston's Winter Wonderland & Candles  
by Christiana Brohaugh

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. ~Pre-school story time  
with Rochelle Wildfong

Thursdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Council on Ag-  
ing Writing Group- all welcome-Call 1st

December 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 9-10 a.m.

HilltownFamilies.org hosts a Board Game Swap.  
All invited to bring board games to swap with  
other families. Kindly make sure the games have  
all their pieces.. This community swap is free and  
open to all families. For more information email  
hilltownfamilies@gmail.com.

December 4<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m. Join friends and  
neighbors for the Meekins annual reading of  
holiday classics --everyone is welcome. Come  
read or listen and enjoy holiday treats and warm  
drinks. Call for a ride

December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Lori Szepelak author of  
"An Angel on My Shoulder" talks about how  
her book was inspired by her belief in guardian  
angels.

December ~ Meekins Market through end of  
month

## January Events

Neil Hammer Gallery- **Connecticut River Art  
History** Contact: Joy Kinigstein, Art teacher ~  
Work by last year's students in the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades  
at the Hilltown Cooperative Charter School.  
Eleven individual three-dimensional illustrations  
of three tiered landscapes depict examples of river  
use over time. More complete information online  
at [www.meekins-lilbrary.org](http://www.meekins-lilbrary.org)

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. ~Pre-school story time  
with Rochelle Wildfong

Thursdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Council on  
Aging Writing Group- all welcome

January 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. ~  
George Fleck- "Writing and Publishing a Local  
History; sources and contexts" by George Fleck,  
author of *Morrison Homestead Salamonie  
Township Huntington County Indiana* published  
IMPRESS Group, Northampton, Massachusetts  
2011~ Please see article



## *Our Animal Friends Exhibition*

*October 1 - 31*

The Our Animal Friends exhibition commemorates, memorializes and celebrates the domestic and wild creatures that are par of our lives here in Williamsburg and Haydenville. We are devoted to our beloved pet cats and dogs, keep farm chickens, wooly sheep and regal horses, feed all kinds of birds, see foxes in the snow, and are visited by bears across the seasons. Animals touch our lives daily and they inspire our creativity and are an integral part of our community.

Created for American Archives Month, this exhibition is part of the Meekins Library's "living archives" program called "Lives of the Valley," created to tell the stories of this town and our place in this Valley and hills. That program kicked off in 2009 with the exhibition From Our Other Lives: An Exhibition Celebrating All Those Who Work on Behalf of the Library.

Our Animal Friends would not have been possible without the contributions of every person who shared their photographs and stories.

## **The Intentional Landscape Gardening Series Offered at Meekins this Fall**

The Western Massachusetts Master Gardeners Association will offer a three part Fall Garden Series, The Intentional Landscape.

The first talk is on Wednesday, October 19, at 7:30 p.m. titled "From Public Spaces to Private Inspiration" featuring Nicholas T. Dines, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, U-Mass., Amherst, Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects and co editor of Time-Save Standards for Landscape Architecture: Design and Construction Data. He currently serves as the technology editor for Landscape Architecture Magazine.

Dines, a Williamsburg resident maintains the gardens at the Meekins Library, as well as the Williamsburg Market, roadside plantings along route 9, and the Quiet Reflections Garden in Williamsburg, all of which he designed and cultivates continually through the seasons.

Dines will speak on the history of public gardens and parks in communities, and his work creating gardens in the public realm touching everyday community activities such as shopping, banking, and dining, with the intention of connecting lives to nature. Learn how the glorious public gardens of Williamsburg can be translated in your garden.

## February Events



Neil Hammer Gallery ~ Hawks-Hayden Room ~ Ed O'Brien "Oil Paintings of Nature's Peaceful Places"~ Reception for the artist on Saturday, February 11 from 1:30pm -3:30pm

Wednesdays at 10:30~Pre-school story time with Rochelle Wildfong

Thursdays from 10-12am Council on Aging Writing Group ~ All welcome

February- Writers Workshop with Roland Merullo author of: *The Talk Funny Girl*, *Breakfast with Buddha*, *A Little Love Story*, and other books available at the Meekins Library and your local bookstore. Merullo will address strategies for getting published, how to cope with publisher's rejections and answer participants' questions about writing. There will be a charge for the workshop—through the kindness of the author all proceeds will go to the Meekins Library annual fund. Watch for more information later this fall.

February 5<sup>th</sup>, Sunday afternoon~ Cross Generations Conversations ~ Watch for more information - co-sponsored by the Williamsburg Libraries, Williamsburg Council on Aging, and the Williamsburg Historical Society

February 19<sup>th</sup>, Sunday afternoon~ Cross Generations Conversations ~ Watch for more information - co-sponsored by the Williamsburg Libraries, Williamsburg Council on Aging, and the Williamsburg Historical Society



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~Learn to Use the CW/MARS DIGITAL CATALOG~ Download e-books, audiobooks, music and movies to your portable digital device..... ipod, ipad, Nook, Kindle, MP3 player, droid phones etc...

You can, in this digital age, download e-books and audio books directly to your computer, and then load them to your portable digital device—iphone, ipod, ipad, Nook, Kindle, droid phone, and to many MP3 devices.


From the Meekins homepage [www.meekins-library.org](http://www.meekins-library.org) click on:

### C/W MARS Digital Catalog

under the   library catalog logo, or you can go to <http://www.cwmars.org>. The CW/MARS audio collection is growing every day and the e-book collection is very large. From the Digital Catalog you can check on device compatibility/supported devices.

You may need to download the Adobe Overdrive software for audio books to your computer or device. This software is free and instructions are also found on the Digital Catalog page.

Something to keep in mind: In navigating your account online you must 1) Order an item; 2) If it is available check it out, if not wait for the e-mail they will send once it is free; (this could take a while for popular titles); and 3) Download the item. (Beware! once checked out you have 30 minutes to download, if not you may have to put yourself back on the waiting list!!)

If you love the idea of digital borrowing but alas  our catalog does not have the material you desire, you can use your local library card number and request an online borrowing card from the Boston Public Library digital catalog to reap the benefits of their far more vast collection. See: <http://bpl.org> Good luck, and if you need any help, ask a librarian for help at the Meekins.

## *Your Public Library Board*

Greetings from the Trustees of the Williamsburg Libraries! Your publicly elected library board has charge of both the Meekins and Haydenville Libraries. We meet once a month on the third Monday of each month at 7:30pm. The meetings are open to the public and we love to have visitors.

### *What Does a Library Board Do?*

Trustee responsibilities are generally divided into six major categories:

- ~ Legal~ Responsible for custody & management of library facilities
- ~ Human Resources~ Employs library director
- ~ Planning and Evaluation~ Approves goals and objectives for library services
- ~ Governance and Policy making~ Sets library policies. In charge of library building, contents and grounds
- ~ Financial~ Develops and requests an adequate annual budget for library. Works with other municipal officials. May undertake fundraising. Acts as public advocates for library service
- ~ Continuing Education~ Provides or supports staff continuing education as well as continuing to seek continuing education as a trustee

A governing board is legally responsible for administrative policy-making in areas such as budget, personnel and contracts, as is specified by state law and local ordinances.

(Excerpted from the Massachusetts Public Library Trustee Handbook)

### **Library Board Members**

Anne Haxo - Chair  
Connie Fitzgerald - Treasurer  
Patricia Billingsley  
Joan Coryat  
Christopher Loring  
Eileen Stewart

## *Williamsburg Libraries Annual Fund*

In September of 2008, the Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees began the first library Annual Fund campaign. In order to bring back vital library hours lost during earlier budget cuts, and to keep up with the demand for library services, the Board saw the need to ask the greater Williamsburg community to make a contribution to the library Annual Fund each year.

Each year the base of the library budget comes from Williamsburg residents through a town appropriation. The provision of all library services depends on a combination of additional funding sources, including donations and volunteer efforts. Along with town funding, the following sources are important to maintaining current library services:

- ~ Annual Fund ~ funds up to 86% of books & materials
- ~ Friends of the Library ~ funds items outside budget
- ~ School Library Contract ~ funds costs of School Library program
- ~ Annual State Grant
- ~ Meekins Trust
- ~ Local Donations

### **The Annual Fund is vital to the continuation of basic services at the Meekins Library.**

If you live outside Williamsburg, and use the Williamsburg Libraries, it is especially important that you, too, contribute to the Annual Fund. Williamsburg's tax dollars will go only so far to support the library we all care for. The library has been lucky to be able to offer out of town patrons the chance to grow their donation through the Hilltown Challenge sponsored by Kay Warren of Goshen. We hope that everyone who cares about libraries will give to the Williamsburg Library Annual Fund. Watch for your letter in the mail or speak to the Library Director.

Williamsburg Board of Library Trustees

## *The Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Inc.*

The Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries, Inc. is a group of citizens who join together to support, improve and promote the Meekins and Haydenville Libraries.

In this spirit, we raise funds yearly with our biannual book sales on Memorial Day and Columbus Day weekend, Move it for Meekins, a fun family event that keeps us fit, special garden and farm tours which emphasize local produce, flowers and animal husbandry, the Fall Chili Fest, and last year's rousing Swing Dance at the Grange.

We raise funds to augment town budget and provide items and services that the libraries need. Included are: the annual summer reading programs for teens, tweens and adults, the new book drop in the Meekins parking lot, a new copier/printer, outdoor furniture on the Meekins patio, cleaning and painting the Haydenville Library interior, the beautiful fencing along the river and of course books and other materials.

We are Friends because we love our libraries and our town and wish to promote goodwill. For this reason, we hold events in the new Meekins Hawks-Hayden Community Room that offer cultural events free to our citizenry. In this spirit, Nel Wijnhoven created a music series over fifteen years ago that is grant driven by our local and neighboring cultural councils. Free concerts by local musicians during the hard winter months of January through March have included such fine musicians as Phillip de Frenergy, Peter Blanchete and, the a cappella jazz group from the Pioneer Valley Performing Arts high school.

Come join us and help keep our libraries running. Contact Susan Farrell at 268-9298 or farrellsings@comcast.net



### *Digital Treasures*

On September 1, 2011, the Meekins Library and the Williamsburg Historical Society finished their joint Digital Treasures grant—their first step in creating digital images of local history collections to share online. The Meekins and the Historical Society were awarded a \$2000, 3 to 1 matching grant in 2010, with the match provided by the Friends of the Williamsburg Libraries.

Local Historian, Eric Weber, and Meekins Archivist, Daria D'Arienzo, selected more than 50 items to create the 42 digital entries—with detailed descriptions that are up and ready for viewing at:

<http://dlib.cwmars.org/cdm4/browse.php?CISOROOT=%2Fwilliamsbrg>

Check out stereographs of the 1874 flood; take a look at the faces of people who lived in the town in the last century; read Mary Graves dowry list from 1830; look at photographs of the Meekins Library and the Nash Hill Schoolhouse. Enjoy virtually exploring Williamsburg and Haydenville history. Eric Weber, who is also a professional photographer, created most of the digital images of local items that you will see on the site.

Digital Treasures is a cooperative digital library project designed by the Central/Western Massachusetts Resource Sharing library network. Participating libraries have created a digital collection of the cultural, agricultural and industrial history of Western and Central Massachusetts.

## New in the Local History Area and to Check Out and Take Home

New on the Meekins shelves: *Morrison Homestead: Salamonie Township, Huntington County, Indiana*, by Williamsburg's George Fleck and his sister Carolyn Jevelian. It is a documented story of frontier European settlement in southwestern Ohio and then in northeastern Indiana in the early 1800s. It is a story of complex loyalties in Civil War times. It is a story of conversion of primeval forests into tillable croplands. It is a story of transformations of trails and rivers into roads and canals, and then into highways and railroads. It is a story of rural midwest – schools, churches, and the small towns that came and went.

George Fleck will speak on writing a local history Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 in the Hawks-Hayden Room.

***Psssst-- Summer Reading is over, but, you can still read this summer's highlights.... All winter long!***

Book Discussion set for October 26 at 7PM-Sign up Now

- ~ Roland Merullo's *Talk Funny Girl*, set in New Hampshire tells the story of how a resilient young woman endures and overcomes her difficult, dangerous home and grows into a strong woman.
- ~ Ann Patchett's *State of Wonder*, starts in a Midwest winter, proceeding quickly to the wilds of the Amazon where our heroine seeks to discover the truth about her dead colleague only to find even more unexplainable mysteries in the jungle.
- ~ David McCullough's *The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris, 1830-1900*, McCullough tells the saga of American artists, physicians, writers and diplomats experiencing the City of Light through changes in government, the renovation of the Paris under Napoleon III, the Siege of Paris by the Germans, and highlights the lives of 3 major American artists while in living in Paris, Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent and Augustus Saint Gaudens.

### ***Rochelle's Recommendations for Children***

#### ***Picture Book Room:***

*HOW ROCKET LEARNED TO READ*, by Tad Hills – Rocket the pup is literally taken under the wing of a little yellow bird that's looking for a reading student.

*GRANNY GOMEZ & JIGSAW*, by Deborah Underwood – Granny Gomez's piglet, Jigsaw, gets too big for Granny Gomez's house. What's Granny to do?

#### ***Riverside Room:***

*DIARY OF A WIMPY KID*, by Jeff Kinney – An excellent choice for reluctant readers. Greg Heffley is a middle school student writing laugh out loud scenarios in his diary (5 of them).

*THE GIRL WHO LOVED THE WIND, THE GIRL WHO CRIED FLOWERS*, by Jane Yolen – a local treasure she knows how to tell a tale--thoughtful original fairy tales of quality.

#### ***New Non-Fiction:***

*SEABIRD IN THE FOREST: The Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet*, by Joan Dunning

*HENRY AARON'S DREAM*, by Matt Tavares

Come on in and do some fun browsing!!

***Keep up with what's new at the Williamsburg Libraries and beyond!  
Information sources beyond your wildest dreams – See new materials first!***

Using the library webpage: [www.meekins-library.org](http://www.meekins-library.org) you can:

- ~ Search the library catalog and make requests
- ~ Instructions for downloading e-books and digital materials
- ~ Search for Williamsburg's Historic Digital Treasures
- ~ Information on programs & services
- ~ Find out about Meekins Discovery Kits
- ~ Keep up with the Friends of the Library
- ~ Access an array of statewide databases from Proquest- ask us how
- ~ Subscribe to WOWBRARY! Get a list of new library items sent to your email inbox each week
- ~ Join us on Facebook~ News about new activities and programs, thoughts on libraries and books, join the discussion!  
<http://www.facebook.com/meekinslibrary>
- ~ Expand your benefits as a citizen of Massachusetts! You are entitled to a Boston Public Library Card with multiple benefits - ask our staff how to get one

**We hope you enjoy our first newsletter in 6 years! Read the latest Newsletter online at [www.meekins-library.org](http://www.meekins-library.org) along with additional information about many programs**

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