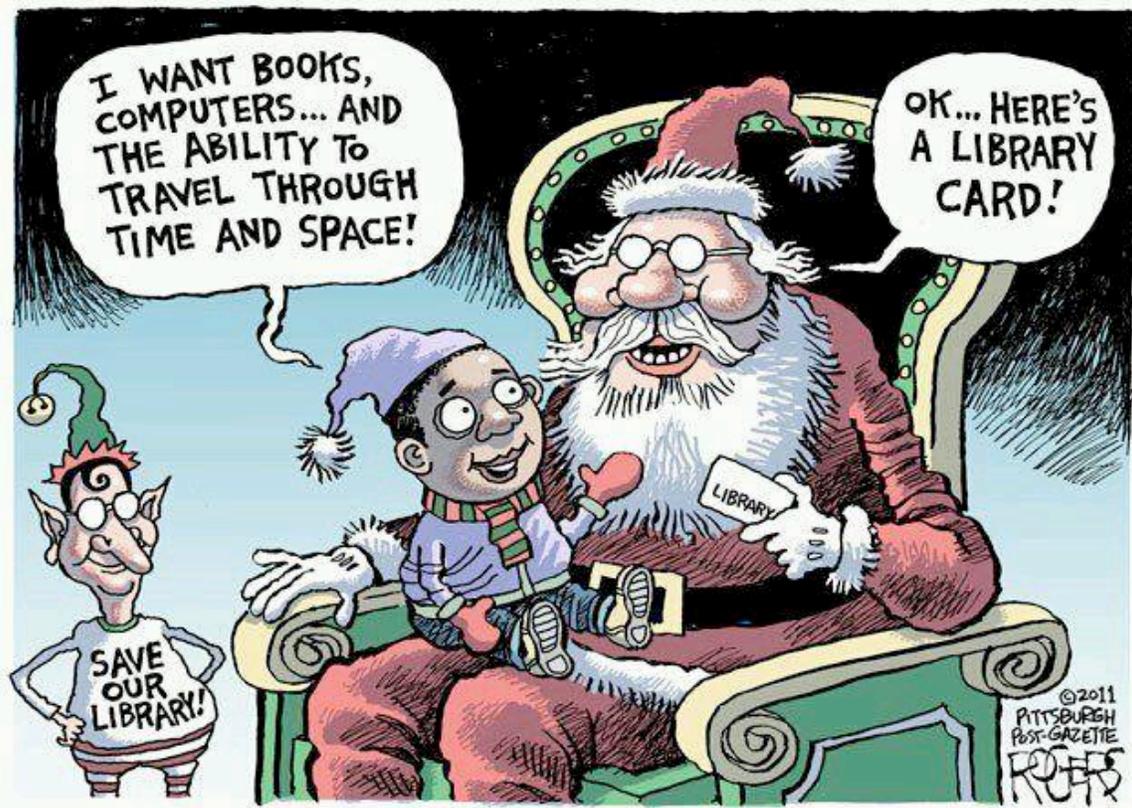


# Smythie

The monthly e-newsletter of the Smyth Public Library

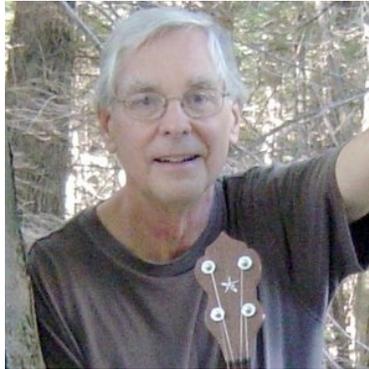
**December, 2015**

Volume 9, No.9



Events...Look at our holiday

line-up...



## **Happy Holidays Program**

**Tuesday December 8th, 6:30 PM**

**Ramblin' Richard Music will play and sing the songs and tell the stories about their origins, their times, and their significance.**



## ***PJ Story Time with Santa!!***

***Noooo...that's not SANTA in his PJs!***

**Special PJ Story Time with Santa and Mrs. Clause  
complete with milk, cookies and gifts for children**

**Friday, December 11, 6-7 p.m.**



## ***Gingerbread House Making Party!!***

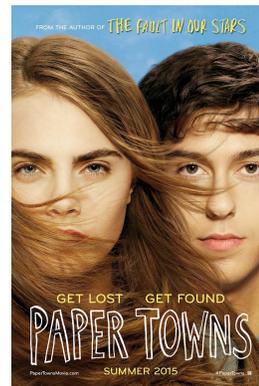
***ALL goodies provided!!***

***Just sign up ahead of time and bring your smiles***

**December 18, 6-7:30**



**Second annual Christmas cookie swap**  
**Drop off four dozen cookies on Friday, December 18 and take home a holiday assortment pickup on Saturday 11-1!**



**VACATION MOVIE NIGHTS**  
**Minions and Paper Towns**  
**December 28 and 29**  
**Free pop corn and candy!!**

Coming next month...



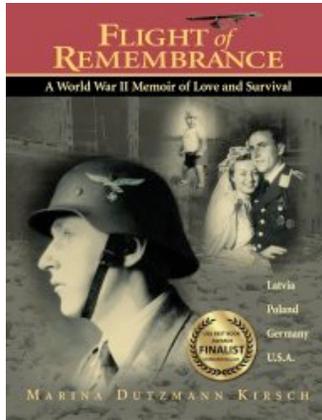
**Author Michele Albion**

“Adventure is worthwhile in itself.” -Amelia Earhart, 1932

A fearless pioneer and a record-breaking pilot, Amelia Earhart engaged the nation and the world when she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. Today people remember her most for her disappearance on the last leg of her round-the-world flight in 1937. But more than a record breaker or a ghost lost over the Pacific, Earhart was ambitious, driven, and strong at a time when all three of these traits were considered unfeminine. Earhart’s words and her example encouraged women to step beyond the narrow confines of their traditional roles.

The Quotable Amelia Earhart brings together statements from a variety of sources and covers a wide range of topics, including Earhart’s flights and her opinions on politics, work, religion, and gender equality. This definitive resource provides a concise, documented collection of Earhart’s quotations so that her words, as well as her achievements, may inspire a new generation.

***January 14, 6:30***



## Author Marina Lirsch

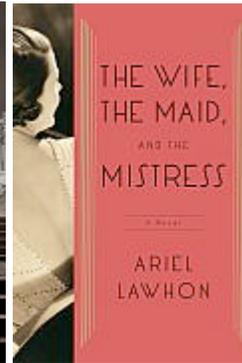
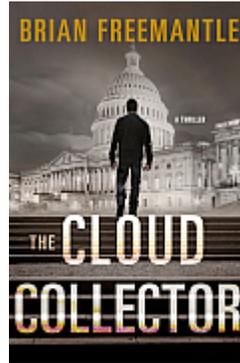
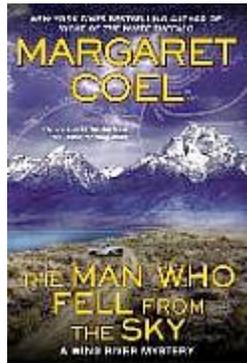
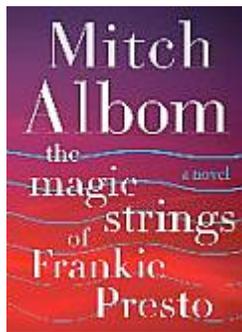
As World War II recedes into distant memory, great attention is being rightfully focused on the remaining Allied veterans. But what of those who served on the other side? For Rolf, the author's father and the main protagonist of *Flight of Remembrance*, a young, Latvian aeronautical engineering student of Baltic German descent, who was forced under the threat of execution to flee his homeland in 1939 before the first Soviet takeover, the only nation that would accept him was Nazi Germany. In 1940 Berlin, he meets a young German woman, Lilo, and a love story begins that will endure more than 70 years and across two continents. Rolf's worst fear comes to pass when he is drafted into the Luftwaffe in 1941. Despite the immeasurable evil, suffering and desolation of World War II, a synchronistic chain of events enables Rolf and Lilo to see their most cherished dreams materialize out of postwar catastrophe and ruin.

The author will discuss the book's subject matter, protagonists, inspiration, and special research accompanied by World War II era photographs.

**January 27, 6:00**

New on our shelves...

## **New Fiction...**

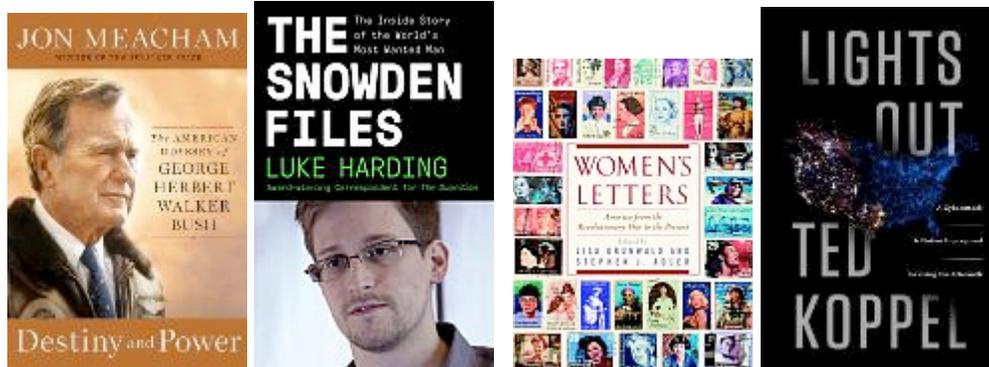


**The magic strings of Frankie Presto**  
**The heart mender: a story of second chances**  
**A spoonful of sugar: a nanny's story**  
**The guilty**  
**The immortal Nicholas**  
**The nesting dolls: a Joanne Kilbourn mystery**  
**Mrs. Jeffries takes a second look**  
**Iron wolf: a novel**  
**After the Crash**  
**Bohemian Gospel: a novel**  
**All dressed in white: an under suspicion novel**  
**Dead Water: a Shetland mystery**  
**The man who fell from the sky**  
**The crossing: a novel**  
**The promise**  
**We never asked for wings: a novel**  
**Potsdam station**  
**Silesian station**  
**Zoo Station: a novel**  
**Número zero**  
**Tricky twenty-two: a Stephanie Plum novel**  
**The Mistletoe Inn: a novel**  
**The survivor: a Mitch Rapp novel**  
**The cloud collector**  
**The Japanese lover: a novel**  
**Pursuit in Provence: a Jordan Mayfair mystery**  
**Benefit of the doubt**  
**Fates and furies**  
**Cleopatra's shadows: a novel**

**Albom, Mitch**  
**Andrews, Andy,**  
**Ashford, Brenda,**  
**Baldacci, David**  
**Beck, Glenn**  
**Bowen, Gail,**  
**Brightwell, Emily**  
**Brown, Dale**  
**Bussi, Michel.**  
**Carpenter, Dana Chamblee,**  
**Clark, Mary Higgins**  
**Cleeves, Ann**  
**Coel, Margaret**  
**Connelly, Michael**  
**Crais, Robert**  
**Diffenbaugh, Vanessa**  
**Downing, David**  
**Downing, David**  
**Downing, David**  
**Eco, Umberto**  
**Evanovich, Janet**  
**Evans, Richard Paul**  
**Mills, Kyle**  
**Freemantle, Brian,**  
**Allende, Isabel**  
**Gobbell, Phyllis C.**  
**Griffin, Neal C.**  
**Groff, Lauren**  
**Holleman, Emily,**

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <b>The blood flag</b>   | <b>Huston, James W</b>          |
| <b>Avenue of mysteries</b>  | <b>Irving, John</b>             |
| <b>The golem of Paris</b>   | <b>Kellerman, Jonathan</b>      |
| <b>The bazaar of bad dreams: stories</b>  | <b>King, Stephen</b>            |
| <b>Tenacity: a thriller</b>   | <b>Law, J. S.</b>               |
| <b>The wife, the maid, and the mistress</b>   | <b>Lawhon, Ariel,</b>           |
| <b>The further adventures of Ebenezer Scrooge</b>   | <b>Lovett, Charles C.</b>       |
| <b>Mrs. Roosevelt's confidante: a Maggie Hope mystery</b>   | <b>MacNeal, Susan Elia</b>      |
| <b>The abbey: a story of discovery</b>  | <b>Martin, James</b>            |
| <b>Point blank</b>  | <b>Michaels, Fern</b>           |
| <b>A theory of relativity</b>   | <b>Mitchard, Jacquelyn</b>      |
| <b>The admissions: a novel</b>  | <b>Moore, Meg Mitchell</b>      |
| <b>Anompolichi: the wordmaster</b>  | <b>Morgan, Phillip Carroll,</b> |
| <b>Life for a life: a DCI Gilchrist novel</b>   | <b>Muir, Frank</b>              |
| <b>Ivory</b>  | <b>Park, Tony,</b>              |
| <b>Cross justice</b>  | <b>Patterson, James</b>         |
| <b>The Murder House</b>   | <b>Patterson, James</b>         |
| <b>Crimson shore</b>  | <b>Preston, Douglas J.</b>      |
| <b>The Year of Fog: a novel</b>   | <b>Richmond, Michelle</b>       |
| <b>Stars of fortune</b>   | <b>Roberts, Nora</b>            |
| <b>Rubicon: a novel of ancient Rome</b>   | <b>Saylor, Steven</b>           |
| <b>The muralist: a novel</b>  | <b>Shapiro, Barbara A.,</b>     |
| <b>Seating arrangements</b>   | <b>Shipstead, Maggie</b>        |
| <b>A Star for Mrs. Blake</b>  | <b>Smith, April</b>             |
| <b>The Andalucian friend: a novel</b>   | <b>Soderberg, Alexander</b>     |
| <b>Moonshadows: a Nellie Burns and Moonshine mystery</b>  | <b>Weston, Julie W.,</b>        |
| <b>Along the infinite sea: a novel</b>  | <b>Williams, Beatriz</b>        |
| <b>The gold eaters: a novel</b>   | <b>Wright, Ronald</b>           |
| <b>A knight of the seven kingdoms: being the adventures of Ser Duncan the Tall, and his squire, Egg</b> | <b>Duncan the Tall, and</b>     |
| <b>Slade house: a novel</b>   | <b>Martin, George R. R</b>      |
|   | <b>Mitchell, David</b>          |

## ***New Non-Fiction...***



- Destiny and power: the American odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush**  
Meacham, Jon
- The witches: Salem, 1692**  
Schiff, Stacy
- Mindware: tools for smart thinking**  
Nisbett, Richard E
- Mindset: the new psychology of success**  
Dweck, Carol S.,
- Fail, fail again, fail better: wise advice for leaning in to the unknown**  
Chodron, Pema
- Little victories: perfect rules for imperfect living**  
Gay, Jason
- The giving way to happiness: stories and science behind the transformative power of giving**  
Santi, Jenny.
- The ark before Noah: decoding the story of the flood**  
Finkel, Irving L.
- Women's letters: America from the Revolutionary War to the present**
- Strangers on a bridge: the case of Colonel Abel and Francis Gary Powers**  
Donovan, James B.
- The Snowden files: the inside story of the world's most wanted man**  
Harding, Luke,
- Bridge of Spies**  
Whittell, Giles.
- Act of Congress: how America's essential institution works, and how it doesn't**  
Kaiser, Robert G.,
- Just mercy: a story of justice and redemption**  
Stevenson, Bryan
- The man who saved the union: Ulysses Grant in war and peace**  
Brands, H. W
- Seventeen fathoms deep: the saga of the Submarine S-4 disaster**  
Williams, Joseph A.,
- Lights out: a cyberattack : a nation unprepared : surviving the aftermath**  
Koppel, Ted

**CRACK99: the takedown of a \$100 million Chinese software pirate**  
Hall, David Locke,

**Provenance: how a con man and a forger rewrote the history of modern art**  
Salisbury, Laney.

**My adventures with your money: George Graham Rice and the golden age of the con artist**  
Thornton, T. D.,

**Most likely to succeed: a new vision for education to prepare our kids for today's innovation economy**  
Wagner, Tony

**Circumference: Eratosthenes and the ancient quest to measure the globe**  
Nicastro, Nicholas

**The geology of the Mt. Pawtuckaway quadrangle, New Hampshire**  
Freedman, Jacob.

**The patient's playbook: how to save your life and the lives of those you love**  
Michelson, Leslie D.

**100 deadly skills: the SEAL operative's guide to eluding pursuers, evading capture, and surviving any dangerous situation**  
Emerson, Clint,

**Brain storms: the race to unlock the mysteries of Parkinson's Disease**  
Palfreman, Jon

**The lean farm: how to minimize waste, increase efficiency, and maximize value and profits with less work**  
Hartman, Ben,

**Cooking for baby: wholesome, homemade, delicious recipes** Barnes, Lisa.

**Leap: leaving a job with no Plan B to find the career and life you really want**  
Vigeland, Tess,

**Hipster animals: a field guide**  
Moe, Dyna,

**Apartment therapy: complete + happy home**  
Gillingham-Ryan, Maxwell,

**Celebrate: a year of festivities for families and friends** Middleton, Pippa,

**My year of running dangerously: a dad, a daughter, and a ridiculous plan**  
Foreman, Tom

**The sagas of Icelanders: a selection**

**A pirate of exquisite mind: explorer, naturalist, and buccaneer : the life of William Dampier**  
Preston, Diana

**100 places you will never visit: the world's most secret locations**  
Smith, Daniel B.

**The longest winter: Scott's other heroes**  
Hooper, Meredith

**Nom de plume: a (secret) history of pseudonyms**  
Ciuraru, Carmela.

**The Orpheus Clock: the search for my family's art treasures stolen by the Nazis**  
Goodman, Simon

**Flight of remembrance: a World War II memoir of love and survival**  
Kirsch, Marina Dutzmann.

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Onward we charge: the heroic story of Darby's Rangers in World War II</b>  | <b>Jeffers, H. Paul</b>          |
| <b>The last ridge: the epic story of the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division and the assault on Hitler's Europe</b>    | <b>Jenkins, McKay,</b>           |
| <b>The Lion of Sabray: the Afghani warrior who defied the Taliban and saved the life of Navy Seal Marcus Luttrell</b> | <b>Robinson, Patrick</b>         |
| <b>Thomas Jefferson and the Tripoli pirates: the forgotten war that changed American history</b>                      | <b>Kilmeade, Brian</b>           |
| <b>The remarkable rise of Eliza Jumel: a story of marriage and money in the early republic</b>                        | <b>Oppenheimer, Margaret A.,</b> |
| <b>The War of the nations: portfolio in rotogravure etchings</b>  | <b>(Reference)</b>               |
| <b>U.S. naval aviation</b>  | <b>Goodspeed, M. Hill.</b>       |
| <b>(Reference)</b>  |                                  |
| <b>World War II in cartoons</b>   | <b>Bryant, Mark,</b>             |
| <b>(Reference)</b>  |                                  |
| <b>World war II in pictures ..: Volume I</b>  | <b>Morris, Herman C.</b>         |
| <b>(Reference)</b>  |                                  |

### **New Books on CD...**

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>Talk like Ted: [the 9 public speaking secrets of the world's top minds] CD (6)</b> | <b>Gallo, Carmine.</b>     |
| <b>Report from the interior CD (6)</b>  | <b>Auster, Paul</b>        |
| <b>Sons of fortune CD (5)</b>   | <b>Archer, Jeffrey</b>     |
| <b>The guilty CD (10)</b>   | <b>Baldacci, David</b>     |
| <b>All dressed in white CD (6): [an under suspicion novel]</b>                        | <b>Clark, Mary Higgins</b> |
| <b>The crossing CD (8)</b>  | <b>Connelly, Michael</b>   |
| <b>A colder war CD (10)</b>   | <b>Cumming, Charles</b>    |
| <b>Border War CD (9)</b>  | <b>Dobbs, Lou.</b>         |
| <b>Tricky twenty-two: [a Stephanie Plum novel] CD (5)</b>                             | <b>Evanovich, Janet</b>    |
| <b>The everyday gourmet: rediscovering the lost art of cooking GC CD (4)</b>          |                            |
| <b>True evil CD (5)</b>   | <b>Iles, Greg</b>          |
| <b>The laughing monsters: a novel CD (5)</b>  | <b>Johnson, Denis</b>      |
| <b>The golem of Paris/Jonathan Kellerman and Jesse Kellerman: CD (13)</b>             | <b>Kellerman, Jonathan</b> |
| <b>The bazaar of bad dreams CD (16)</b>   | <b>King, Stephen</b>       |
| <b>Cross justice CD (8)</b>   | <b>Patterson, James</b>    |
| <b>Crimson shore CD (9)</b>   | <b>Preston, Douglas J.</b> |
| <b>Cross Bones CD (5)</b>   | <b>Reichs, Kathy</b>       |

**Stars of fortune CD (9)**  
**The Cairo affair CD (10)**  
**Long live the king: a novel CD (8)**

**Roberts, Nora**  
**Steinhauer, Olen**

## ***New Video...***

The magic flute DVD 842 [PG]  
My friend Flicka DVD 843 [G]  
Duck Commander: Before the dynasty DVD 844 [PG]  
Glory road DVD 845 [PG]  
Troy DVD 846 [R]  
The patriot DVD 847 [R]  
Mad Max — Fury road DVD 848 [R]  
Bride wars DVD 849 [PG]  
Toy story that time forgot DVD 850 [G]  
Jurassic world DVD 851 [PG13]  
Before we go DVD 852 [PG13]  
The sandlot DVD 853 [PG]  
4 film favorites: DVD 854 [PG13] — Romance collection  
Firewall DVD 855 [PG13]  
The bank job DVD 856 [R]  
Vacation DVD 857 [R]  
Taken 3 DVD 858 [PG13]  
Tomorrowland DVD 859 [PG]  
Pixels DVD 860 [PG13]  
The avengers: DVD 861 [PG13] — Age of Ultron  
The age of Adaline DVD 862 [PG13]  
Spy DVD 863 [R]  
Short circuit DVD 864 [PG]  
Shaun the sheep movie DVD 865 [PG]  
Ricki and the flash DVD 866 [PG13]  
No escape DVD 867 [R]  
Ryan's well DVD NF 177 [G]  
Arctic mission: the great adventure DVD NF 919 [G]

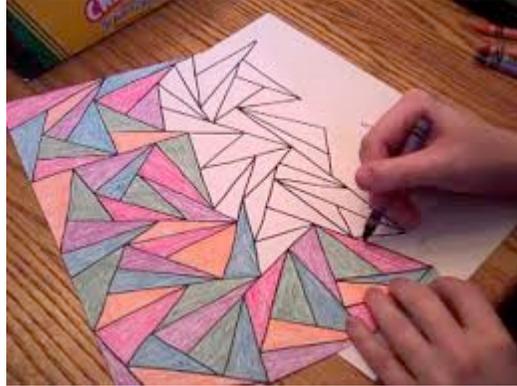


*My lunch leaked all over my  
schoolbooks.*

*I now have the only geography book  
where the map of Turkey is covered  
with gravy.*

Events at the Library...

NEW...



Coloring night for all ages,  
all supplies provided,  
every Friday 6-7 pm



### **Knitting & Crochet Circle**

Help with the cap, blanket, and scarf charity project, work on your own items, or just come to learn. Call Lisa 587-0603 for more info.

Third Thursday of the month, 7pm



## Writers' group

Last Friday of every month, 6:30pm

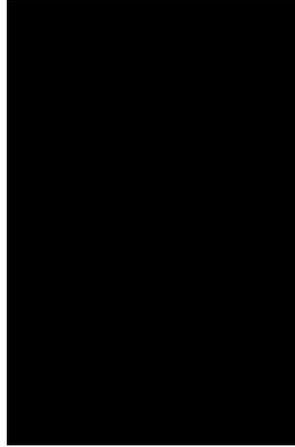
The Smyth Public Library hosts a gathering of writers once or twice a month where we work together on timed writing exercises using prompts and other sources of inspiration. The writing periods will be followed by sharing some of the work with each other.

The goal of the group is to loosen up and get the pen moving on paper. We don't seek to have a finished work by the end of the session and you don't need to arrive with a finished piece of writing to share. The writer's group is a place to meet with other writers and to flex your writing muscles.

Please come ready with a writing medium of your choice: paper and pen/pencil, computer, tablet, etc.

**LOVE TO SHARE A GOOD  
BOOK?**

**How about sharing your thoughts on a book at the  
friendly monthly book discussion group?**



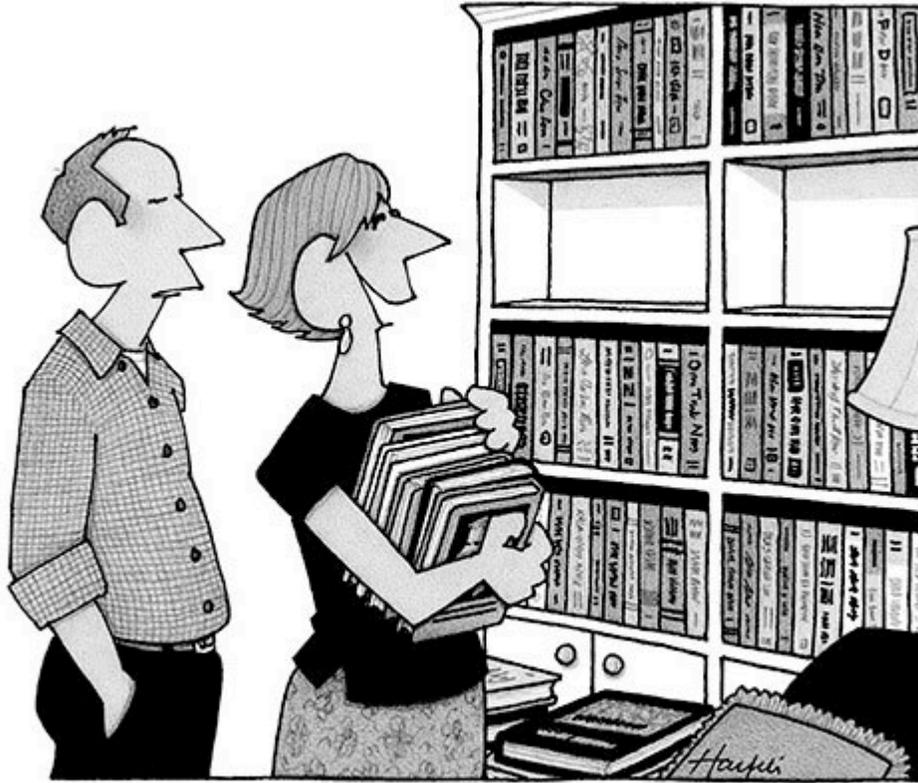
**The Invention of Wings**  
*Sue Monk Kidder*

***December 17th, 7:30***

\*Extra titles of this book are available at the front desk

## ***Ongoing Book Sale!***

You can browse at your leisure now and bring home a favorite to keep or to give away to a friend. Just look for the bright signs just inside our main doors on the left. Pay at the front desk. Only \$1 for hardcover and \$.50 for paperbacks. Proceeds go to the Friends of Smyth Library. Come find a treasure or two or more for your very own.



*"Who should we have at eye level this month?"*



## *Tip from the front desk*

### **Vacation/Holiday Break To do list:**

- 1. Get in shape for the holidays-(mental and physical)!**
- 2. Go to the Library for materials to get in shape!**

### **TRY IT: Read to learn**

“If you don’t challenge your brain to learn new things-helping kids with their homework, say, or assembling IKEA furniture-it gets flabby. In one study, older adults who frequently did stimulating leisure activities were less likely to develop dementia over 21 years compared with those who did so less often. **Reading**, playing board games, practicing musical instruments, and

working on puzzles at least several times a week may encourage the growth of new brain cells and connections between them. **Reading can fill your mind with knowledge.** This fuels what some brain scientists call cognitive reserve, or a buffer against dementia symptoms. Choose fiction and nonfiction; try new topics. Take notes..as you read to better recall details.”

**TRY IT: Learn how to draw, paint, or sculpt. (or color)**

“People who took up painting, **drawing**, or sculpting were 73 percent less likely to develop mild cognitive impairment over a period of four years than were people who did not engage in artistic activities, found a recent Mayo Clinic study. These activities encourage you to focus your attention.” (Excerpt from rd.com 11-2015)

*So, come to Smyth Public Library for books of all kinds, even coloring books, and exercise your brain for a rich, vibrant holiday and life.*

Heidi Deacon, director



## ***Monthly Lego Night!***

EVERY third Friday 6:30-7:30 for all ages

***& more***

EVERY THURSDAY, 5:00-6:00 for ages 6-9



# *Did you Know???*

Sting wrote the song 'Every Breath You Take' at the same desk Ian Fleming used to write his James Bond novels. Specifically, this was at the 'Fleming Villa' at GoldenEye on the island of Jamaica.

Library Assets...

ART

WANTED!!!

Our art gallery is always available for the works of local artists. Just see Heidi at the front desk to display your works



## Making Your Life Easy:

By going to our website, you can search our entire catalogue for books, CD's, DVD's and movies. Once found, you can check to see if what you want is in. If so, just to our website and reserve the book. The next time you come in, it will be waiting for you at the front desk. WITH OUR NEW WEBSITE YOU CAN DO IT WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

**PLUS!! Check out our [smythpl.org](http://smythpl.org) website updates and Smyth Library's new Public Catalog featuring:**

- A crawl of new items.
- "What's Hot" now covers several choices.
- "Most Popular" titles (a combination of checkouts and reserves are used to determine this list).
- "More Search Options" includes Medium that lets members search by DVD or Large Print, etc.

## More Research Options:

Full text articles from thousands of magazines, journals and national newspapers, plus NoveList. Call or e-mail us and provide your name and your library card number, and we'll give you the password.



**We're on Facebook!**

**Like** the Smyth Public Library

**Look** at our page on Facebook for events and updates about our library!

**Downloadable Books!!!**

Ipods and Kindle work

Order right from our new website!

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Smyth  
Library



*Did you Know 2???*

As a schoolboy, Roald Dahl was a taste-tester for Cadbury's chocolate. This may have been the later inspiration for *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

*PASSES....PASSES....PASSES*



*NEW!!!*

*Strawberry Banke*

# Kids' Stuff...

*Always hit the **“Children”** tab on our site for details and to see the newest events and activities for children*

## **Exciting Children's programs:**

- **\*CALDECOTT CHALLENGE** - read through the award winning titles on your own or with a friend
- **\*1000 BOOKS before Kindergarten-** memory registers will be made available for parents



## ***Pajama Story Night***

2nd Friday of the Month, 6:30 pm

Join us monthly for a night of storytelling and treats!

## ***Math Clubs***

**K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade**

**Mondays, 3:00-4:00**

## **FUTURE ENGINEERS AND BUILDERS!!**

Every second Friday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 we break out our snap circuits! Build exciting projects including computer interfaced experiments and solar cell applications. This event is for ages 8-14 and signups are required.

Check our Facebook page for some cool snap circuit projects

## **3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade BOOKCLUBS!!**

**First Wednesday of the month**

3:30-4:30 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> graders  
5-6<sup>th</sup> grade 6-7 pm with free pizza!



# SEWING CLUB

Takes a break for the holidays, but resumes in January on the First Monday of the month at 6:30. Please sign up ahead of time. Limited class size and \$5 material fee.



***Read to Simon now at regular times...***

***Mondays and Thursdays 3-4 p.m.***

*Why is reading to a dog educational and fun? Because Simon is soft, furry and warm and he loves the attention you give him when you practice your reading out-loud skills! Sign up for a fifteen minute time slot between 3:00 & 4:00.*

*Reading is In the Children's Library Room and is one-on-one with Ms. Gwen and Simon present. Parents and others must wait outside for their reader. The last two minutes can be for meeting and spending time with Simon. Sign-ups start Thursday, February 12th at the front desk. Simon and Gwen Paprocki are certified through Therapy Dogs International.*

## ***New books for children...***

**Oh, baby!**

**The true story of Christmas**

**Larry gets lost in prehistoric times: from dinosaurs to the Stone Age** Skewes, John,

**Green smoothie magic**

**The animals' Santa**

**The turnip**

**The steadfast tin soldier**

**The day the crayons came home**

**Talk, listen, connect E DVD 027: deployments and homecomings, changes = Hablen, escuchan, conecten : partidas militares y bienvenidas, cambios**

**Talk, listen, connect E DVD 028: when families grieve = Hablen, escuchan, conecten : familias en la aflicción**

**Larry gets lost in Boston**

**The tree that came to stay**

**The Berenstain Bears' family reunion**

**Driving buddies**

**Mystery map**

**Phineas and Ferb — Big-top bonanza**

**Cycling champion**

**Gold medal swim**

**The magic school bus arctic adventure**

**Lost in the labyrinth**

**I am not going to get up today!**

**Geran, Chad.**

**Navillus, Nell.**

**Boutenko, Victoria.**

**Brett, Jan**

**Brett, Jan**

**Delamare, David.**

**Daywalt, Drew**

**Mullin, Michael.**

**Quindlen, Anna**

**Berenstain, Stan**

**Jordan, Apple.**

**Dixon, Franklin W**

**Grace, N. B.**

**Maddox, Jake.**

**Maddox, Jake.**

**Herman, Gail**

**Peacock, L. A.**

**Seuss, Dr**

## ***New books for young adults...***

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>The keeper</b>                                      | <b>Baldacci, David</b>        |
| <b>Mechanica</b>                                       | <b>Cornwell, Betsy</b>        |
| <b>Petra K and the Blackhearts: a novel</b>            | <b>Ellis, M. Henderson.</b>   |
| <b>The curious case of Benjamin Button</b>             | <b>Fitzgerald, F. Scott</b>   |
| <b>The grownup: a story by the author of Gone girl</b> | <b>Flynn, Gillian</b>         |
| <b>Where's Karl?: a fashion-forward parody</b>         | <b>Caldwell, Stacey.</b>      |
| <b>(Graphic novel)</b>                                 |                               |
| <b>V for vendetta</b>                                  | <b>Moore, Alan</b>            |
| <b>(Graphic novel)</b>                                 |                               |
| <b>Final crisis</b>                                    | <b>Morrison, Grant.</b>       |
| <b>(Graphic novel)</b>                                 |                               |
| <b>Gandhi: my life is my message</b>                   | <b>Quinn, Jason,</b>          |
| <b>(Graphic novel)</b>                                 |                               |
| <b>Autumn's promise</b>                                | <b>Gray, Shelley Shepard</b>  |
| <b>Another day</b>                                     | <b>Levithan, David</b>        |
| <b>Lorie's heart</b>                                   | <b>Lillard, Amy</b>           |
| <b>The fall of five</b>                                | <b>Lore, Pittacus</b>         |
| <b>The fate of ten</b>                                 | <b>Lore, Pittacus</b>         |
| <b>The revenge of Seven</b>                            | <b>Lore, Pittacus</b>         |
| <b>The lost summer of Louisa May Alcott</b>            | <b>Mcnees, Kelly O'Connor</b> |
| <b>The center of everything</b>                        | <b>Moriarty, Laura</b>        |
| <b>Angel of the cove</b>                               | <b>Robbins, Sandra</b>        |
| <b>Lean in: for graduates</b>                          | <b>Sandberg, Sheryl</b>       |
| <b>The amber photograph: a novel</b>                   | <b>Stokes, Penelope J.</b>    |

## ***New books for juniors...***

|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>The science of soldiers</b>   | <b>Raatma, Lucia.</b>     |
| <b>A child's Christmas in New England</b>                                    | <b>Sullivan, Robert</b>   |
| <b>Thing explainer: complicated stuff in simple words</b>                    | <b>Munroe, Randall,</b>   |
| <b>The science of weapons</b>  | <b>Tougas, Shelley.</b>   |
| <b>Alexander the Great: the conqueror</b>                                    | <b>Casati, Giampaolo.</b> |
| <b>Most wise &amp; valiant ladies</b>  | <b>Hopkins, Andrea.</b>   |
| <b>World War I: an interactive history adventure</b>                         | <b>Swain, Gwenyth,</b>    |
| <b>The slightly odd United States of America: wacky facts, great country</b> |                           |
| <b>World War II on the home front: an interactive history adventure</b>      | <b>Gitlin, Marty</b>      |
| <b>The Adventures of Shola</b>   | <b>Atxaga, Bernardo.</b>  |
| <b>Old wolf: a fable</b>   | <b>Avi</b>                |

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Return to Titanic — 1, — Time voyage /  | Brezenoff, Steven.     |
| Return to Titanic — 2, — Stowaways /  | Brezenoff, Steven.     |
| Chasing secrets   | Choldenko, Gennifer    |
| Charlie's raven   | George, Jean Craighead |
| The good little devil and other tales   | Gripari, Pierre,       |
| Rush Revere and the star-spangled banner: time-travel adventures with exceptional | Limbaugh, Rush H.,     |
| Americans   | Lupica, Mike           |
| Fast break  | Lupica, Mike           |
| QB 1  | Marsh, Katherine       |
| The night tourist   | McGhee, Alison         |
| Firefly Hollow  | McGuire, Sarah,        |
| Valiant   | Palacio, R. J          |
| Auggie & me: three Wonder stories   | Davidson, Robyn        |
| The Princess bride: a celebration   | Sandén, Mårten,        |
| A house without mirrors   | Selznick, Brian        |
| The Marvels   | Wood, Paula Casey.     |
| The barefoot farmer of Pawtuckaway, [the story of Pawtuckaway Park]: the story    | Tarshis, Lauren        |
| of George Goodrich  |                        |
| I survived the attacks of September 11, 2001                                      |                        |

# *Trivia Time!*

**Every month we will ask the trivia question. If you know the answer, drop it off at the front desk or e-mail it using our website. We will randomly select the winner from the correct answers and**

**the**

**WINNER**

will win **ONE FREE WEEK** of **OVERDUE  
FINE AMNESTY ON ONE  
BOOK**

**August's question and answer  
correction:**

**Q. What is the subtitle of Uncle Tom's Cabin?**

**A. Life Among the Lowly**

***Winner!!!***

**Marlene Ranfros**

This

Month's

# Trivia

## Question:

*What novel begins...* "If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my lousy childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of crap, but I don't feel like going into it, if you want to know the truth"?

**New!!!**



# *Staff Picks (get it?)*

*This month's picks come from Julia  
McKenna...*

My all-time favorite book is hard, but I'm going to have to go with the Song of the Lark by Willa Cather. Super tragic and definitely a classic!

The last book I read was Fever by Mary Beth Keane, which I also loved. It tells the story of Typhoid Mary from her perspective and creates a unique twist on the story.

From the New and Recent  
Shelves~

We (being I) are always looking for contributors to this reviews section. The editor has a limited range of taste,

so any reviews would be more than welcomed. Just e-mail them in reply to this, or to [librarian@smythpl.org](mailto:librarian@smythpl.org)

## *Intriguing premise...*



The premise for this mystery is a good one. In After the Crash by Michel Bussi, a plane crashes in the mountains of France. On the plane were two three month old babies and their parents. All on the plane are killed except for one "miracle" baby. Could she be the rich child or the poor? The rich family hires a private detective to figure out which one she is for a fortune of a contract that will pay him until the child's 18th birthday. The book is told have in the present and half through the notebook account of the private detective. The main present day players are the poor child's brother, who loves her in a very unbrother-like way and the rich child's psychotic sister. All the grandparents, who either raise the or want to raise the miracle baby are involved,"

The mystery was a good one and, although others have not liked the ending, I thought it was very good.

What brought the book down to me were the characters. Perhaps it was the translation, but they all came through as cold and unsympathetic, which is certainly not how the brother should have been. The private detective was the most complex of the players, but somehow the rendition of him was distant and more analytical than lovable or loathsome.

All-in-all an intriguing premise that carries the book.

# More fiction...



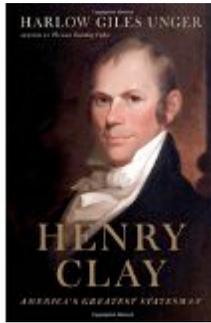
One star reduction for Charles Belfrage's house of Thieves being 50-60 pages too long.

This is the story of an upper crust New York City family who, in 1895, for various reasons all become, separately, intertwined with the lower crust. The patriarch is an architect, the son an inveterate gambler, the ten year old boy is cool, the mother all about coming out balls and the 17 year old daughter the somewhat typical girl of novels who wants to be more than arm candy.

The plot line is a good one. The father needs to repay the son's gambling debts to protect his family from thugs. Thus begins his trek into the netherworld of the city. The architectural points are extremely interesting. The characters are a bit predictable and stereotypical, but not enough to be insulting. All of the very private bucking of high society is also a bit predictable, but again, it does not ruin the book. Mr. Belfrage captures the flavor of the city at the end of the century well. He captures how it was on the cusp of technological innovation while still dirty, mucky and partly uncivilized.

The book is diminished by the very long, tedious and redundant descriptions of the material assets in the upper class homes and offices. Additionally, Mr. Belfrage must have repeated at least a dozen times that any scandal in one of New York's finest families would ostracize that entire family for all time. This was just the most glaring of the redundancies. Take out the long-winded and often times superfluous descriptions and the repetition and the book would have been a good taut thriller with an interesting side education in architecture.

# Non-fiction ...



## HENRY CLAY AMERICA'S GREATEST STATESMAN

By Harlow Giles Unger

Born a few months after the Declaration of Independence announced the beginning of the American Experiment, Henry Clay came of age in an era when the success of that experiment was by no means assured. By nature of his temperament and his unfailing commitment to the unification of the various states and factions and forces competing with the notion of one united nation Henry Clay, later heralded as The Great Pacificator, is one of the forces that guided this nation through its infancy. This book by Harlow Giles Unger is satisfying on many levels: it depicts the early political challenges confronting the nascent federal political structure as well as providing a window into the lives of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Americans.

Born with no particular advantages to a Virginia slaveholder, Clay's first job was an errand boy in Richmond, Virginia. By dint of hard work, determination and some luck, Clay studied law and at the age of 20 followed the westward migration to Kentucky where he would marry and father 11 children.

An eloquent speaker, Clay established a successful law practice, gaining notoriety for defending Aaron Burr for his role in the duel with Alexander Hamilton. Political success followed: he was several times appointed to the US Senate (before the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment) but also served as Speaker of the House of Representatives; a Commissioner to the US Peace Commission in Ghent, Belgium; Secretary of State; and a three time candidate for the presidency.

This early nation of ours struggled with three seeming irreconcilable issues: slavery, state's rights, and the political implications of westward expansion, expressed as Manifest Destiny. Add the uncertainty produced by competing economies, fractious inter-state and regional

relationships and a federal political structure barely 30 years old and the result was a union constantly tottering on the brink of dissolution. To the preservation of that Union Clay pledged his life, his fortune, his sacred honor.

This is where Henry Clay earned his acclaim as America's Greatest Statesman. Example: The issue of whether the practice of slavery would be permitted in the territories settled by those westward bound pioneers found compromise and resolution in the Missouri Compromise engineered by Henry Clay. Both sides of the abolition debate were temporarily mollified but the Union was preserved.

Besides protecting the Union from its many challenges, Clay advocated for its promotion through his "American System", a program designed to develop our infrastructure to enhance commerce and social and cultural integration among the states. This, Clay believed, would promote the stability of the Union as much as any political gesture.

Although beset with many political challenges in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the foundation for most of them was the practice of slavery and its corrosive influence on the relationship between northern and southern states and its inherent and ongoing violation of the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence. The slavery issue permeated the politics involved in determining the composition of the nation as it expanded westward. The Missouri Compromise was but the first of many accommodations that were made to placate both sides of the issue. Both sides of the issue were implacable and Clay's efforts would merely postpone the issue's ultimate resolution.

The issue of state's rights involved conflicting interpretations of the Constitution as a binding political treaty. One side regarded states as sovereign nations unto themselves, bound by a treaty with other states similar to the Articles of Confederation (which the Constitution displaced) while others regarded the nation as the sovereign entity with the states subordinate to it. Henry Clay threaded this needle with the Compromise of 1850 among many other diplomatic and legislative successes.

Fascinating as was the book's description of the early political challenges in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America, the glimpse it provided into daily life was just as interesting. Communication, for example, seemed to work just fine even without our modern gadgets. The electorate was informed of the issues and the politicians responded accordingly. How word got around is the mystery. Transportation is another feature that inspires curiosity. Clay travelled freely between Lexington, KY and Washington, DC, across the Appalachian Mountains with nary a complaint or hint of inconvenience. He travelled all over New York and the middle states, all on a horse or in a wagon.

Where the book really inspires respect and awe for our forebears is in the eloquent and formal language attributed to them throughout the book.

That Henry Clay truly earned the book's subtitle, "America's Greatest Statesman" any reader will agree upon reading it. And who delivered his eulogy on June 29, 1852? America's Greatest President whose commitment to the preservation of the Union was inspired by Henry Clay: Abraham Lincoln.

Submitted by Boyd Chivers

**Ever want to be one of those know-it-all reviewers?**

**Got a book to recommend?**

**Want to write a blurb?**

**Have a child with a favorite book who would like to contribute to the Smythie?**

We welcome contributors (less for us to write!), especially children and teens to review and recommend favorite books. Just drop Heidi Deacon an e-mail at [librarian@smythpl.org](mailto:librarian@smythpl.org) or "reply" to this and we'll include it here. It need not be a new book — it can be a golden oldie, a classic, a trashy beach book or whatever you have enjoyed.

*I hope you have enjoyed this edition. Comments, suggestions and, of course, reviews are always welcomed.*

*Rick Mitchell*

**The Smythie is now over 600 subscribers strong!!**

**But...** We may not be for everyone. If you do not want to be on this e-mail list, just reply and tell us to remove your name.

HENRY CLAY

AMERICA'S GREATEST STATESMAN

By Harlow Giles Unger

Born a few months after the Declaration of Independence announced the beginning of the American Experiment, Henry Clay came of age in an era when the success of that experiment was by no means assured. By nature of his temperament and his unfailing commitment to the unification of the various states and factions and forces competing with the notion of one united nation Henry Clay, later heralded as The Great Pacificator, is one of the forces that guided this nation through its infancy. This book by Harlow Giles Unger is satisfying on many levels: it depicts the early political challenges confronting the nascent federal political structure as well as providing a window into the lives of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Americans.

Born with no particular advantages to a Virginia slaveholder, Clay's first job was an errand boy in Richmond, Virginia. By dint of hard work, determination and some luck, Clay studied law and at the age of 20 followed the westward migration to Kentucky where he would marry and father 11 children.

An eloquent speaker, Clay established a successful law practice, gaining notoriety for defending Aaron Burr for his role in the duel with Alexander Hamilton. Political success followed: he was several times appointed to the US Senate (before the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment) but also served as Speaker of the House of Representatives; a Commissioner to the US Peace Commission in Ghent, Belgium; Secretary of State; and a three time candidate for the presidency.

This early nation of ours struggled with three seeming irreconcilable issues: slavery, state's rights, and the political implications of westward expansion, expressed as Manifest Destiny. Add the uncertainty produced by competing economies, fractious inter-state and regional relationships and a federal political structure barely 30 years old and the result was a union constantly tottering on the brink of dissolution. To the preservation of that Union Clay pledged his life, his fortune, his sacred honor.

This is where Henry Clay earned his acclaim as America's Greatest Statesman. Example: The issue of whether the practice of slavery would be permitted in the territories settled by those westward bound pioneers found compromise and resolution in the Missouri Compromise engineered by Henry Clay. Both sides of the abolition debate were temporarily mollified but the Union was preserved.

Besides protecting the Union from its many challenges, Clay advocated for its promotion through his “American System”, a program designed to develop our infrastructure to enhance commerce and social and cultural integration among the states. This, Clay believed, would promote the stability of the Union as much as any political gesture.

Although beset with many political challenges in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century, the foundation for most of them was the practice of slavery and its corrosive influence on the relationship between northern and southern states and its inherent and ongoing violation of the principles enunciated in the Declaration of Independence. The slavery issue permeated the politics involved in determining the composition of the nation as it expanded westward. The Missouri Compromise was but the first of many accommodations that were made to placate both sides of the issue. Both sides of the issue were implacable and Clay’s efforts would merely postpone the issue’s ultimate resolution.

Page Two

The issue of state’s rights involved conflicting interpretations of the Constitution as a binding political treaty. One side regarded states as sovereign nations unto themselves, bound by a treaty with other states similar to the Articles of Confederation (which the Constitution displaced) while others regarded the nation as the sovereign entity with the states subordinate to it. Henry Clay threaded this needle with the Compromise of 1850 among many other diplomatic and legislative successes.

Fascinating as was the book's description of the early political challenges in 19<sup>th</sup> Century America, the glimpse it provided into daily life was just as interesting. Communication, for example, seemed to work just fine even without our modern gadgets. The electorate was informed of the issues and the politicians responded accordingly. How word got around is the mystery. Transportation is another feature that inspires curiosity. Clay travelled freely between Lexington, KY and Washington, DC, across the Appalachian Mountains with nary a complaint or hint of inconvenience. He travelled all over New York and the middle states, all on a horse or in a wagon.

Where the book really inspires respect and awe for our forebears is in the eloquent and formal language attributed to them throughout the book.

That Henry Clay truly earned the book's subtitle, "America's Greatest Statesman" any reader will agree upon reading it. And who delivered his eulogy on June 29, 1852? America's Greatest President whose commitment to the preservation of the Union was inspired by Henry Clay:  
Abraham Lincoln.

Submitted by Boyd Chivers