

## HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 10: NUMBER 9.....SEPTEMBER, 2015

### The Edge of Discovery

It is startling to realize that our Apollo astronauts went to the moon with only a small fraction of the computing power than now resides in the average cell phone. Exploration and discovery seem always to exist at the thinnest margin of what technology makes possible. Ages later we marvel at the accomplishments of an earlier time and the daring it took for explorers to make those small steps into the unknown that translate throughout history into gigantic leaps for mankind --even those that sometimes landed in mid-air.

### Featured this Month

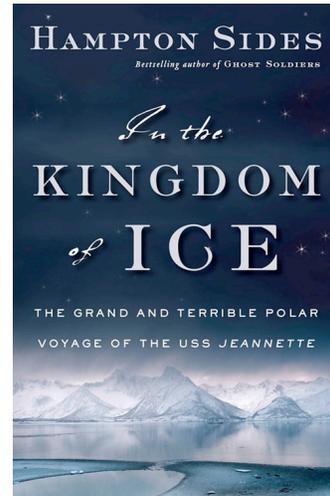
#### In the Kingdom of Ice by Hampton Sides

Santa Fe historian, journalist, and writer Hampton Sides tells the history of the expedition of the *USS Jeannette* from 1879 to 1881 as the stories of the men who collaborated on this fateful quest to become the first to set foot at the North Pole.

We meet first the romantic figure of the expedition leader, George DeLong, a US Navy captain, popular and charismatic and deeply in love with Emma Wotton, soon to become his wife. However, DeLong develops a passion also for the Arctic regions, ironically, while leading a rescue mission of the unsuccessful *Polaris* Arctic expedition. DeLong soon begins researches and lobbying directed at leading his own expedition to discover the North Pole.

The money man is to be James Gordon Bennett Jr., the wealthy and wildly eccentric owner/editor of the New York *Herald*, a publicity hound for whom an Arctic adventure is perhaps one of his milder antics.

The plan is furthered intellectually by August Peterman, a famed and authoritative (armchair!) geographer, who theorized that the Arctic icepack was but a perimeter surrounding a warm Polar Sea with a "thermometric gateway" through which a ship might be sailed to the Pole itself.



Bouyed by such "science" and easy money, a crew is assembled including a seasoned second-in-command Charles Chipp, veteran of the *Polaris* rescue mission; an expert engineer in George Melville; an insightful ship's surgeon, James Ambler; and a fervent, well-connected navigator, John Danenhower, who harbors a risky secret.

A ship is found -- *The Pandora* --reconditioned and rechristened *The Jeannette*, and her expedition starts out with great fanfare from San Francisco on July 8, 1879-- missing by just a couple of months two crucial pieces of news. It will not be the only bad luck or mis-timing or chilling twist of fate that the expedition comes to know in a fearful adventure that would not come to closure until April 7, 1882.

Part of the book's fascination is its glimpse into Victorian era society, particularly its scientific thought and popular culture. One easily finds modern parallels and ironies in today's climate science debate and the practices of the tabloid press, for example.

Though it is clear that this is a disaster tale in which only some of the characters will survive, Sides's narrative cranks up the suspense as the reader roots for the dauntless adventurers against a pitiless Mother Nature.

Review by Mary Anne Ciancia

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## New at the Library

### Nonfiction

**Bonsai Basics** by Christian Pessey and Remy Samson  
**The Monk in the Garden** by Robin Marantz Henig  
**Desert Wife** by Hilda Faunce  
**People of the Lake** by R.E. Leakey and Roger Lewin  
**The Wright Brothers** by David McCullough

### Fiction

**Stay Close** by Harlan Coben  
**Natchez Burning** by Greg Iles  
**Requiem** by Frances Itani

### Classics

**The Spoils of Poynton** by Henry James  
*Classic Novels by P.G. Wodehouse:*  
**Do Butlers Burgle Banks? ... Leave It to Psmith**  
**A Gentleman of Leisure ... The Mating Season**  
**The Luck of the Bodkins ... Mulliner Nights**  
**How Right You Are, Jeeves ... Right Ho, Jeeves**  
**The Man with Two Left Feet and Other Stories**  
**Psmith, Journalist ... Summer Lightning**  
**The Code of the Woosters**

### Large Print

**The Old Wine Shades** by Martha Grimes  
**TailSpin** by Catherine Coulter  
**Third Degree** by Greg Iles  
**Jack in the Pulpit** by Cynthia Riggs  
**Touch-Me-Not** by Cynthia Riggs

### Films on DVD

**Anger Management ... Easy Rider**  
**Spider-Man ... Unshackled**  
**Agnes Martin ... A Chorus Line**  
**Don't Say a Word ... The Jewel of the Nile**  
**Romancing the Stone ... The Sentinel**  
**Wall Street ... The War of the Roses**

### Western

**Fighting for Air: *the Unknown Adventures of Young Doc Holliday*** by Jack Kincade

### Mystery

**Path of the Assassin** by Brad Thor  
**Hidden Order** by Brad Thor  
**Truth or Die** by James Patterson & Howard Roughan  
**Dry Bones** by Craig Johnson  
**Badlands** by C. J. Box  
**The Monster** by Ruth Rendell  
**Portobello** by Ruth Rendell  
**The Vault** by Ruth Rendell  
**The Rottweiler** by Ruth Rendell

### Notes from the Library Board

Don't forget, while you're looking in at the Antiques Festival on Saturday, to stop by the Library Bake Sale in front of the Post Office for all your favorite goodies. The Antiques Festival, BTW, will be on all Labor Day weekend from Friday through Monday for the benefit of the Hillsboro Historical Society.

### Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed  
Tues. 3:30 - 5:30pm Wed. 1:00 - 4:00pm  
Thurs: 3:30 - 5:30pm Fri: 10:00am - 1:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

### Published by

THE HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
P.O. BOX 205, HILLSBORO NM 88042 (575-895-3349)

### Bookmobile Schedule

**Wednesday, September 16**

Hillsboro: 1:00 - 2:00 pm Kingston: 2:30-3:30 pm

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit  
<http://www.hillsborocommunitylibrary.com>