



# HILLSBORO COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

...VOLUME 4: NUMBER 2.....FEBRUARY, 2009

## Classics

Have you checked our library's classic collection lately? How long has it been since you read *Huck Finn*, or *Moby Dick*? How about *Animal Farm* or *Return of the Native*? Ask the volunteer to open the Betty Reynolds reading room for you and you can browse in comfort. (That room is always warmer in the winter than the library.)

## Featured This Month:

### Novels of the Western Plains by Willa Cather

Willa Cather's family moved to Nebraska from Virginia when she was only nine years old. The cultural and environmental shock led to the themes of many of her stories. The Plains novels, discussed below, are based on actual events or stories related to her from neighbors in their mutual efforts to flourish in the cold, windy, treeless plains of Nebraska. Cather was a feminist before there was such a thing. All of her women characters are strong individuals sometimes connected to weak or ineffectual men.

In my reading of a modern novel, Willa Cather's *Song of the Lark* was often quoted and so I began my first reading of her novels. *Song of the Lark* was written for a dear friend who was well known performer in the Pittsburgh theater circles. Cather relates the triumphs and pitfalls of a young countrified talented singer finding the voice that would make her an international star.

*My Antonia*, loosely based on Cather's childhood, describes in detail the struggles of one young girl and her friends to overcome the prejudices towards immigrants in rural Nebraska in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*O Pioneers* relates the story of three immigrant families, each from different European countries, with different languages, talents, religions and skills; how each family learns to cooperate and share in the good and the bad times. Each family must learn the hazards of the windy plains of Nebraska, embrace a new way of life, develop new skills and talents to survive and prosper, or go back East, or die.

*A Lost Lady* tells the tale of Mrs. Forrester, a young woman who marries a man 25 years her senior and moves to a sleepy little western town. Her husband is a railroad contractor thriving during the railroad hay-days. Mrs. Forrester occupies herself by throwing lavish parties for railroad dignitaries. The townspeople treat her as an



aristocrat and compete for her attention. Some critics have said it is the answer to *Madame Bovary*.

One volume in the classic collection contains Cather's *My Antonia*, *The Troll Garden*, and selected short stories. This one book should serve well in introducing Willa Cather to the casual reader. Enjoy.

*Reviewed by Robbin Brodsky*

## Special Events:

### Hillsboro BookFest 2009

**Saturday, March 14 - 9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m.  
Hillsboro Community Center**

Local authors and poets with selected readings, slide presentations and book signings! Booksellers with reasonably priced, hard-to-find, often-rare publications on a wide range of subjects!

**Free Admission - Light refreshments  
Local cafes and art galleries open during the day.**

### Library Hours:

Sunday & Monday: closed  
Tues. 6:30 – 8:30pm    Wed. 1:00 – 4:00pm  
Thurs: 6:30–8:30pm    Fri: 10:00am – 1:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am–2:00pm

### Bookmobile: Wednesday, February 18

Hillsboro, 1:00–3:00 pm    Kingston, 3:30 - 4:30pm



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### New at the Library:

#### Mystery

**Sleeping with Fear** by Kay Hooper  
**Up Close and Dangerous** by Linda Howard  
**Hyde** by Dan Mahoney  
**The Ape Who Guards the Balance** by E. Peters  
**Three Shirt Deal** by Stephen J. Cannell  
**Dying for Chocolate** by Diane Mott Davidson  
**The Grilling Season** by Diane Mott Davidson  
**The Main Corpse** by Diane Mott Davidson  
**Prime Cut** by Diane Mott Davidson  
**Bleeding Hearts** by Ian Rankin  
**Mortal Causes** by Ian Rankin  
**Witch Hunt** by Ian Rankin  
**Extreme Measures** by Michael Palmer  
**The Fifth Vial** by Michael Palmer  
**Flashback** by Michael Palmer  
**Miracle Cure** by Michael Palmer  
**Devil's Corner** by Lisa Scottoline  
**For one More Day** by Mitch Albom  
**Cutline** by Bonnie Hearn Hill

#### Fiction

**Water for Elephants** by Sara Gruen  
**Never Sniff a Gift Fish** by Patrick McManus  
**Blackberry Wine** by Joanne Harris  
**Balance of Power** by Tom Clancy & Steve Pieczenik  
**Divide and Conquer** by Tom Clancy & Steve Pieczenik  
**Drink with the Devil** by Jack Higgins  
**Flight of Eagles** by Jack Higgins  
**Cloud Mountain** by Aimee E. Liu  
**Empires of Sand** by David Ball  
**The Running Mate** by Joe Klein  
**1812** by David Nevin  
**The World Still Melting** by Robley Wilson  
**Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress** by Sijie Dai  
**Atonement** by Ian McEwan  
**Digging to America** by Anne Tyler  
**The Story of Edgar Sawtelle** by David Wroblewski  
**Gilead** by Marilynne Robinson  
**Anybody Any Minute** by Julie Mars  
**The White Mary** by Kira Salak

### Films on DVD

**Royal Wedding/Second Chorus (double set)**  
**Hope Floats/Speed (2 disc set)**  
**The Big Lift/Indiscretion of an American Wife**  
**The Five People You Meet in Heaven**  
**Casualties of War ... Gothika**  
**Major League II ... The Mothman Prophecies**  
**The Terminal ... Rules of Engagement**  
**Buddy (Juvenile)...The Last Mimzy (Juvenile)**

### Non Fiction

**The Spanish Language of New Mexico and Southern Colorado: A Linguistic Atlas** by Garland D. Bills and Neddy A. Vigil  
**The Snow Geese** by William Fiennes  
**No Regrets and other True Cases Vol. II** by A. Rule  
**The Little Book of Phobias** by Joe Kohut  
**Tales Told in Sketches: Kingston, New Mexico** by Inez Barratt and Vene Smith  
**A Walk on the Beach: Tales of Wisdom from an Unconventional Woman**, by Joan Anderson.  
**The Last Season**, by Eric Blehm.  
**Last Wish**, by Betty Rollin  
**Western Images-Western Landscapes** by Thomas and Geraldine Vale  
**Willa Cather in Europe: Her Own Story of the First Journey**  
**The Fifth Book of Peace** by Maxine Hong Kingston  
**The Man Who Painted Trees** by Jean Giono  
**Hegemony or Survival, America's Quest for Global Dominance** by Noam Chomsky  
**Yamsi, A Year in the Life of a Wilderness Rancher** by Dayton Hyde  
**What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception** by S. McClellan  
**The Best of Three Rivers Sketchbook, Volume III** by Fredric Cowart  
**Sundipped Memories of Frank Pinkley** by Dietemar Schneider-Hector  
**Salinas, Archeology, History, Prehistory** by various authors of the School of American Research

For a complete listing of Library materials, visit

<http://www.zianet.com/hbolib>

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