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Selections:

The newsletter of the Sarasota County Library System

October, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

Welcome to *Selections*, the monthly electronic newsletter of the Sarasota County Library System.

Each month you will find stories related to local library news, national library events, book reviews, database news, and a variety of other topics. Produced by library staff from throughout the County, we will be highlighting different libraries and happenings each month.

Read *Selections* online, or [sign up here](#) to have it delivered to you by email.

This month brought to you by Selby Library Staff



Get Real! @ your library® during Teen Read Week 2005

Books selected by teens for the 2004 "Teens Top Ten" List



The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things

by Carolyn Mackler
Published 2003 by Candlewick Press (MA)
Hardcover, English.
ISBN: 0763619582 [More](#)

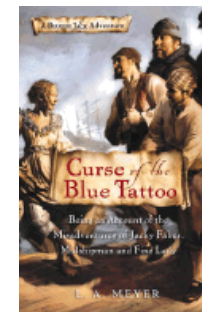
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Eragon: Inheritance, Book I

by Christopher Paolini
Published 2003 by Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers
Library Binding, English.
ISBN: 0375926682 [More](#)

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



Curse of the Blue Tattoo:

by Louis A. Meyer
Published 2004 by Harcourt Children's Books
Hardcover, English.
ISBN: 0152051155 [More](#)

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Area teens will be reading for the fun of it as the Sarasota County Library System celebrates the eighth annual Teen Read Week, October 16 – 22, 2005. They join hundreds of other libraries across the country that are encouraging teens to celebrate this year's theme, "Get Real! @ your library®." Teen Read Week is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association. This year's theme encourages teens to explore the world of nonfiction books, such as biographies, self-help books, strange but true stories, and more.

Keeping with the "Get Real! @ your library®" theme, local libraries hope to increase teen literacy by offering an essay contest. In original short essays, teens are encouraged to share a real life experience expressing their thoughts on growing up, friendships, relationships, school or social issues. Outstanding entries will be displayed in your local library. Students between the ages of 11 and 18 years old may pick up an entry form at any Sarasota County public library.

During Teen Read Week, teens are also urged to choose their favorite books for the 2005 "Teens Top Ten" list. The selected books have been reviewed and nominated by other teens. Teens may view the nominations and vote online at www.ala.org/teenstopten/ during Teen Read Week.

Parents of teens are encouraged to celebrate Teen Read Week at home. Marcia Boland, Young Adult Librarian at the North Sarasota Public Library offers these ideas:

- Visit the local public library with your teen to attend a program or to check out books.
- Set aside time each night for the family to read.
-

Give books or magazine subscriptions to your teen as a gift or reward.

- Share your favorite book with your teen.
- Surf the Internet with your teen to learn about new books or authors. A good place to start is www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists.
- Join a book discussion group at the school or public library.

Teen Read Week is held annually during the third week of October. An updated sponsors and supporting organizations list can be found at the Web site, www.ala.org/teenread.

Sign up to receive the monthly Teen BookNews Newsletter in your email [here](#).

Selby Library Special Event - Saturday, November 5



Sarasota Reading Festival 2005

The latest non-diet book, *French Women Don't Get Fat*, will be presented by its svelte author at the 2005 Sarasota Reading Festival. The widely-quoted book by Mireille Guiliano gives American women simple advice on how to live a life of health and wellness without sacrificing pleasure. Good wine, fine chocolates, and other "forbidden" foods are on the author's "bon appétit" list.

The Reading Festival also has a treat for youngsters. Mexican author and illustrator Xavier Garza will present his vividly drawn book, *Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask: A Bilingual Cuento*. Mexican Wrestling (Lucha Libre) comes complete with antagonists and protagonists cast in the leading roles. Heroes do battle with their rulebreaking counterparts and, unlike American wrestling, the good guys usually prevail. Mexican wrestlers conceal their identities with colorful and outrageous masks. To a child it would seem as if the heroes of their comic books have sprung to life and now walk among them as men. That is the appeal, the mystery and the innocence that has drawn thousands of fans to the incredible make-believe world of Lucha Libre over the years.

Also scheduled to appear are Michael Baden and Linda Kenney, authors of the new mystery novel *Remains Silent*; television chef Lidia Bastianich with *Lidia's Family Table*; author and poet Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni with her novel *Queen of Dreams*; Bruce Feiler, a returning author, with his new book, *Where God Was Born*; Eileen Goudge with her latest cookbook, *Something Warm from the Oven*; Andrea Mitchell, author of *Talking Back:...to Presidents, Dictators, and Assorted Scoundrels*; USF History Professor Gary Mormino, author of *Land of Sunshine, State of Dreams: A Social History of Modern Florida*; Mystery Writer Bob Morris, author of *Jamaica Me Dead*; actress and author Denise Nicholas with *Freshwater Road*; and Pulitzer Prizewinner Mirta Ojito with her memoir of the Mariel boatlift, *Finding Mañana, A Memoir of a Cuban Exodus*.

The Sarasota Reading Festival is an annual **free** community event promoting literacy and celebrating

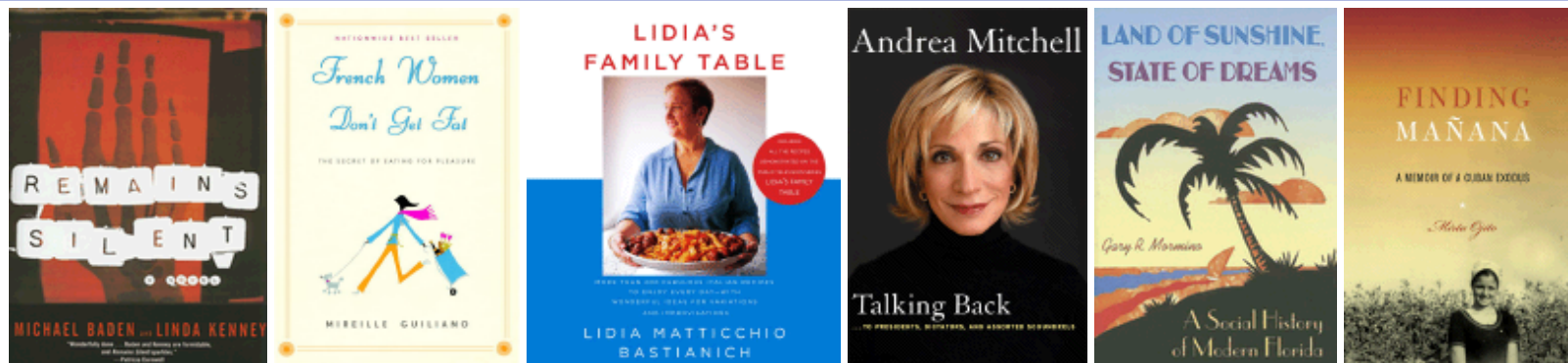
the pleasures of reading. The Festival is one of our area's special events that truly offers something for everyone! There are dozens of events, including readings and discussions by award-winning authors, book signings, food booths, inventive crafts, and children's activities.

The Festival is held each year in downtown Sarasota, and attracted over 18,000 people in 2004. The Festival is produced by Friends of the Selby Public Library, Inc., and New College Library Association, Inc. Presenting Sponsor is the Sarasota Herald-Tribune. The 2005 Sarasota Reading Festival will be held Saturday, November 5, in downtown Sarasota. Up-to-the-minute Festival information may be found at the Festival Web site, www.sarasotareadingfestival.com, or by calling (941) 906-1733.

The popular Friday night Author and Sponsor party, *A Novel Affair*, kicks off the Festival with a chance to meet and mingle with the guest authors.

November 4, 2005 6-8 p.m
Selby Public Library, 1331 First Street, Sarasota
Info: (941) 957-5109

[more information](#)



Featured Database of the Month



What Do I Read Next?

Includes over 117,000 recommended titles, more than 63,700 plot summaries, and awards information from 561 awards, all to help users uncover new reading adventures, find long-remembered favorites, and discover award-winning titles. Search by genre, subject, author, title, series, and more. A monthly highlights page allows the user to see selections of award winners, upcoming titles, and titles that revolve around different subjects each month.

Click on the [Electronic Resources](#) link on the Libraries' home page to access our complete database list, including *What Do I Read Next?*

Featured Internet Site of the Month



[Project Gutenberg Free eBook Library](#)

Project Gutenberg is the first and largest single collection of free electronic books, or eBooks. Michael Hart, founder of Project Gutenberg, invented eBooks in 1971 and continues to inspire the creation of eBooks and related technologies today. The Project Gutenberg online catalog contains 16,000 full-text works that can be browsed by author, title, language or date posted.

The top 100 authors' works downloaded recently include Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mark Twain, William Shakespeare and H.G. Wells. A few recent additions to the Project Gutenberg collection are Hayden Carruth's *Voyage of the Rattletrap*, Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, and Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure*.

Click on the [Recommended Web Sites](#) link on the Libraries' home page to access web sites by subject. The Literature and Books link will take you to the Project Gutenberg electronic book site as well as other online book sources.

What are you Reading?

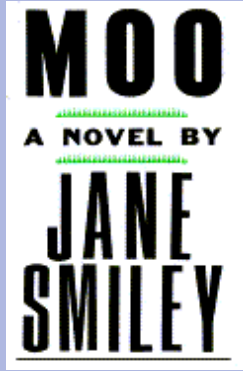
Moo

by Jane Smiley

Published 1995 by Alfred A. Knopf

Hardcover, English. ISBN: 0679420231

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)



Right now I'm reading *Moo* by Jane Smiley, a humorous look at American universities in the 1990s. A big sprawling satire, *Moo* is set in a fictional Iowa state university known as Moo U. As faculty, administrators and students vie for shrinking funds, grants, and promotion, Smiley sets her sights on the politics and escapades that keep Moo U spinning. From the self-centered novelist to the praise-hungry economist, *Moo* captures the feel of university life. As funders and faculty dream up schemes to grow giant hogs, mine in the rain forest, and raise cows that produce milk without having calves, the undertone of shifting allegiances, the balance between left and right-leaning politics, and the interplay at all levels has kept me both engrossed and amused. Andrea Ginsky, Selby Library

Our Volunteers



Spotlight on Ilse Moon, longtime Selby Reference Department Volunteer:

Why I volunteer

I believe that libraries should have a core of professionally educated librarians, that is, librarians with a master's degree from an ALA-accredited institution. This education provides understanding of the ethics of the profession, the principles of public service, and the basics of the literature and the practice that library work requires. I also believe that communities should be prepared to provide tax support for a library system that provides excellent services by such librarians. But having said that, now that I have been retired after many years as a professional librarian and educator of librarians, I am volunteering so that I can return something to the community by using the skills I have. It allows the library to provide the "extras" that are not affordable with the tax dollars available.

Volunteering returns as much to me as I do to the library. It allows me to meet a variety of people who seek information and enlightenment, keeping my brain active and my skills sharp. The younger librarians keep me in touch with new ideas and skills that they have learned. It is a joy to come to Selby and see how the ideals of my profession are still practiced every day.

Click [here](#) to find out more about volunteering in the libraries.

Community Connection



Johannes Werner, Sarah Hernandez and Martin

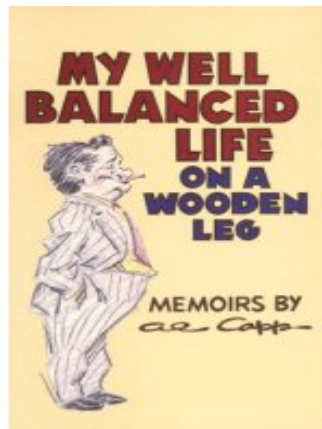
My wife, our three-year old son and I visit Selby Library at least once a week. Sometimes we come by bike, sometimes by car. Downtown is a major attraction for our son, and the library is the anchor. When he was younger, he liked to drop books in the return slots, ride elevators, walk up and down the stairs, and watch the fish in the aquarium. He also liked to participate in children's Spanish-language play activities Tuesday nights. Now, he's rather into picking videos, playing computer games and -- occasionally -- playing puzzles, or even glancing at a book. While he plays computer games, I like to browse in the biographical area of the children's section. I learned quite a bit about personalities from Louis Armstrong and Richard Nixon to Vladimir Putin, and Condoleezza Rice. Thanks!

Reference Question of the Month

I've heard that cartoonist and satirist Al Capp, of Li'l Abner fame, had a wooden leg. Can that be true?

Yes, it's true. In fact, *My Well Balanced Life on a Wooden Leg*, a book of his memoirs, was published in 1991.

Here's a great quote from the book:



"Losing a leg at nine is not all loss. For one thing, it made me a celebrity among the other kids, to whom I had previously been merely another vague and grubby menace. As for grownups, they suddenly noticed the spiritual qualities in me as a slow-moving, one-legged boy, which had been totally hidden from them when I was a hooting, howling fast-moving two-legger. Gifts poured in from formerly unenchanted, unprofitable, and unheard-of relatives. Yes, at nine, I reveled in the drama and distinction of that shocking pinned-up pants leg and those swagger crutches. With two legs I had been a nobody. With one leg I was somebody.

"Then came the day that had been hailed so glowingly by my doctor, my parents, and the local wooden leg salesman--the day when I could strap on my new leg and walk around again like everyone else. It was one of the most shattering letdowns of my life..."

Read the book to discover the avaricious adventure that cost him his leg at age nine!

Sarasota County Library System. Part of the Sarasota County Community Services Business Center. 6700 Clark Road, Sarasota, FL 34241

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