

Our
25th Season!

2011 – 2012 Schedule

Books Between Bites at



Order a lunch in
advance from
10 South
Coffee House
630/406-8870
Pick up when you arrive

Noon – 1:00 PM Third Thursday of the Month

Batavia Public Library, 10 South Batavia Avenue

Bring or purchase lunch at the 10 South Coffee House to enjoy during the program



This symbol by a date
indicates the author's
book will be available
for sale and signing

Thursday, September 15, 2011



**Alice I Have Been and
The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb**
Author/Presenter: **Melanie Benjamin**

Inspired by the photograph of a young Alice Liddell, taken by the man who would one day immortalize her as the little girl who fell down a rabbit hole, *Alice I Have Been* is a love story and a literary mystery. *The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb* is the story of Mercy Lavinia Warren "Vinnie" Bump, who was only 32 inches tall—but her legend reaches out to us more than a century later. "Never would I allow my size to define me. Instead, I would define it."

Thursday, October 20, 2011

A Short History of Nearly Everything
by **Bill Bryson**
Presenter: **Tom Parisi**

Bryson, known for his humorous books on travel, tries his hand at writing about the history of science. The result is a fascinating, funny, accessible, and hugely successful book that ought to be used as a primer for high school science. Parisi, a longtime Fox Valley journalist, has worked at the *St. Charles Republican*, *Beacon News*, and *Batavia Sun*. He currently works in media relations for Northern Illinois University, where his duties include working with science reporters nationwide.

Thursday, November 17, 2011



The Pilgrims' Thanksgiving from A to Z
Author/Presenter: **Laura Crawford**

Laura Crawford is a reading specialist at Sleepy Hollow Elementary School. She has enjoyed exploring science and social studies along with her students, and has written six picture books, including *The Pilgrims' Thanksgiving from A to Z*, *The American Revolution from A to Z*, and *In Arctic Waters*. Her series, *Postcards from Washington*, *Postcards from Chicago*, and *Postcards from New York City* introduces elementary students to the historic and entertaining aspects of these important cities.

Thursday, December 15, 2011

**My G-String Mother: At Home and
Backstage with Gypsy Rose Lee**
by **Erik Lee Preminger**
Presenter: **Jim Edwards**

Two great entertainment genres were created in the United States—jazz and burlesque. When these two met, the masses had their art form, a new version of ballet. If opera had Salome's "Dance of the Seven Veils," then Minsky's Follies had Gypsy Rose Lee to wow audiences. Gypsy Rose Lee's son's book tells all about his mother and her life. Jim Edwards, a music critic and former high school American Studies instructor, is a writer for the magazine, *Clavier Companion*.

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Ernie Banks: Mr. Cub and the Summer of '69
by **Phil Rogers**
Presenter: **Lester Munson**

Nationally known commentator and writer, ESPN editor Lester Munson returns for his annual visit to share his impressions of this new book. It is a brilliantly researched and well-written profile of one of Chicago's most beloved sports heroes, combined with a compelling account of the tragic 1969 season. In addition, Munson is sure to mention other good sports books he has recently discovered.

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Batavia Literary Highlights, Part 5
Presenter: **Mayor Jeff Schielke**

Mayor Jeff Schielke continues sharing his discoveries in literature, both new and old, which feature Batavia, Illinois, and Batavians. The highly entertaining pieces are sure to catch the interest of local readers.

Thursday, March 15, 2012

A Night to Remember by Walter Lord
Presenter: **R. J. Lindsey**
One Book, One Batavia selection

The *R.M.S. Titanic* sank 100 years ago and this "One Book" selection is a nonfiction account of the event. Lindsey, an historical dramatist, shares with us the research he did to create his portrayal of *New York Times* Managing Editor Carr Van Anda as he reacts to the sinking of the *Titanic*. (In addition, Lindsey will present his actual portrayal at 7 p.m. on March 15 at the Library.)

Thursday, April 19, 2012



**Ghosts of the Fox River Valley
and Ghosts of Interstate 90**
Author/Presenter: **Donna Latham**

Join local author and ghost tour guide Donna Latham as she tells shivery tales from her collections, *Ghosts of the Fox River Valley* and *Ghosts of Interstate 90*. She'll share the area history that inspired her works. Her newest book is entitled *Garbage: Investigate What Happens When You Throw It Out*.

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The Jane Austen Book Club by Karen Joy Fowler
Presenter: **Barbara Kalina**

According to Batavia education consultant Barbara Kalina, Jane Austen had it right two hundred years ago. Through their characters, great authors move us beyond their murky present into a reasoned understanding of life. Austen's characters are like us, with the external variables changed. Similarly, Fowler's characters reveal themselves as they interpret Austen's characters through their own prisms. They address what all of us ultimately recognize as the essence of our selves: our relationships.

Betty Moorehead
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Co-sponsored & hosted by
Batavia Public Library
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Website: booksbetweenbites.com